



National Beach Safety Council

Minutes of the NBSC meeting (11th executive meeting) held on Friday 29 October 2004 Venue: RNLI College

44 representatives attended (Local Authority 20, Other 8), schedule attached – 10 Apologies received.

1. Welcome and introductions

The Chairman, Tony Jones welcomed all those attending the meeting. A round table introduction then commenced.

2. Apologies

10 apologies received – schedule attached

3. Minutes of previous AGM meeting held at the RNLI HQ, Poole, on the 16 October 2003

Minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record.

4. Election of new officers

4.1 Chairman 2002/3

At this point the Chair of the meeting was passed to Peter Cornall.

It was proposed by Dave McAleavy that Tony Jones continue as Chairman.

Agreed by substantial majority.

The Chair reverted to Tony Jones.

4.2 Vice Chairman

It was proposed by Ash Curle that Paul Castle be elected as Vice Chairman.

Agreed by substantial majority.

4.3 Secretariat

Post meeting note: After the election of the Chairman and Vice Chairman the appointment of the Secretariat took place. The Chairman and Vice Chairman have subsequently proposed that RNLI continue as Secretariat until the next meeting which is likely to be an EGM to consider the findings of the working group on the new Constitution and Terms of Reference.

5. Proposed revision of name, Constitution and Terms of Reference

Michael Vlasto (RNLI Operations Director) entered the room to welcome the delegates. He outlined the changes to the National Water Safety Committee. This has become the National Water Safety Forum. Above the NWSF, the Government Interdepartmental Group (GIG) will house 7 different departments including the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM), the Department for Transport (DfT), the home office and the Health and Safety Executive (HSE).

There is a clear opportunity for the National Beach Safety Council (NBSC) through the new National Water Safety Forum (NWSF) to influence government policy and strategic thinking. For the NBSC to act as the advisory group to the NWSF there needs to be some re-alignment of Constitution and Terms of Reference. Peter Cornall showed the importance of this with an example of recent key parliamentary questions on beach safety, citing the NWSF and NBSC as a source of information. A task group was proposed to undertake the revision of the Constitution and Terms of Reference, and to report to the next meeting. Members of the task group are as follows, supported by the secretariat.

- Tony Jones
- Paul Castle
- Peter Cornall
- Richard Allen

6. Minutes of 10th NBSC meeting, held at West Pier Hilton, Brighton on the 28th March 2004.

Agreed minutes were a true and accurate representation of the meeting.

7. Matters arising not on the agenda

Item 4, Matters arising not on the agenda

RNLI Competency Based Training Framework

Adam Wooler reported that there would be a 6 month review period with the SLSA and RLSS being consulted and although that it couldn't be presented at this meeting, he hoped to present it to the NBSC at the next meeting.

8. Regional Reports

Tony Jones requested that in future meetings an A4 page of written reports be provided to the secretariat to aid the administration of the meetings. Verbal reports would be accepted for this meeting and in future to support the written reports.

South East Region

Chris Holm reported that the South East continue to have meetings twice a year to look at any issues, anti social behaviour, by-laws etc. Also they are taking a great interest into the issues with windsurfers and kitesurfers. The next meeting is on the 12 November, venue is TBC. Chris also reported that he is happy to post minutes of the meeting on to the web.

North East Region

Paul Castle reported that the group has expanded to include Scarborough, Bridlington, Berwick local authorities and Humber CG. The group's coverage now extends from the Scottish Borders down to the River Humber, incorporating ENCAMS, the Coastguard and the Marine Police. Individual firms have been approached to attend meetings that have resulted in deals for the local authorities. There have been no major incidents this year.

South West Region

John Broad reported that no South West regional meetings had taken place, however he could report on a local meeting. The Newquay Beaches Management Group highlights the pure beach safety aspects along with beach management. Restormel have issued licensing for all surf schools, tutors need to be BSA accredited and have CRB disclosure checks. As the schools are providing tutorials for a price, the trading by-laws have been applied. Peter Cornall highlighted the case of the HSE at Polzeath, where the question, "How do local authorities resolve too many surfers and swimmers?" was asked.

John Parkinson reported that North Devon has a local group, the North Devon Beach Management Group including the Environment Agency, SW Water, The National Trust, and the local authorities. North Devon district council has decided not to fund lifeguards on private beaches, as of the end of September there will not be any provision. John agreed that for website users to have access to a password guarded notice board to discuss issues such as legal definitions of duty of care would be very useful.

Garry Foyle reported that Christchurch council has entirely cut their lifeguard budget as they are looking to cut services that aren't statutory. A clear-cut definition of duty of care is needed to argue the case. Chris Holm said that where lifeguards are withdrawn, when was the beach last risk assessed is very important.

Richard Allen, Kerrier District Council representing West Cornwall highlighted the issues of lifeguards being provided on privately owned beaches. Recognising the economic value of lifeguards, bringing in tourism is essential. Also out of season lifeguards have been in-situ at Kerrier since 1999 covering all weekends, bank holidays and school breaks such as October half term.

RNLI Lifeguards

Matt Horton reported that he chairs a local group – the Poole Bay Beach Safety Management Group which involves Poole, Bournemouth, Weymouth, Christchurch, Studland and Swanage Local Authorities, the MCA, RNLI, Police, Life Saving Clubs and various user groups. The issues discussed at the group involve flagging of the beaches, and standardisation of the bylaws of the bay to ensure some continuity.

Tony Jones made a plea for all these small groups to combine to form regional groups that could properly represent the NBSC.

8 NBSC Website - update

Dave Walker provided an overview of the NWSF website including the NBSC area. Information such as NBSC members contact details shown by highlighting an area within a map was shown to the council for comments and feedback. Dave emphasized the fact that this wasn't a live site and was still in development so any changes to layout and information could still be implemented. Differing levels of access for NBSC members and the public were discussed along with password guarded notice boards.

A task group to oversee web development was proposed with members possessing either technical or creative skills. Initial members of the task group who came forward at the meeting are as follows:

- Garry Foyle
- Rick Lewis
- Jane Cooper

9 National Beach Lifeguard award - update

Danny Bryant reported that at the last meeting the RLSS and SLSA announced they were not going to move forward with a national award and nothing had changed since then. The SLSA are to develop their award incorporating the recent findings of Professor Tipton's research at Portsmouth University and the RNLI's Competency Framework. The RLSS had recently launched their own new award and that local authorities would have a choice of awards as usual.

10 AOB

Rick Lewis, Pembrokeshire County Council reported that ENCAMS have requested that kite buggying and land yachting is banned within the blue flagged areas. The council has taken this action but is unsure why the ban was requested. It was discussed that this council could be a vehicle for asking those pertinent questions.

John Hawkins, Canterbury City Council requested that a wiring diagram of the NWSF and GIG group be sent out with the minutes.

Chris Holm expressed his concern at the rules and regulations that the DEFRA Coastal Management document contained.

Ash Curle, City of Sunderland inquired as to buoyage and if there were any plans for standardisation. Steve Wills said that BSI will be standardising buoyage after flags and

signage. It was noted that standardising buoyage wouldn't involve navigational buoys, as there are already IALA precedents in place, only recreational buoyage.

11 Next meeting date

It was agreed to hold the next meeting to coincide with RoSPA's National Water Safety Conference that would be held in Bournemouth on 14th and 15th March. The exact date and time will be advised later. This was a consideration of attendees to 'add value' and would save duplication and the expense of an additional meeting.

ATTENDANCE / APOLOGIES SCHEDULE.

Eleventh National Beach Safety Council

Hosted by RNLI
Friday 29th October 2004
RNLI COLLEGE, POOLE

Attendance List

TERRY ROGERS	BLACKPOOL BOROUGH COUNCIL	
RAY TURNER	BOROUGH OF POOLE	
BRIAN CUMMINGS	BOURNEMOUTH BOROUGH COUNCIL	
CHRIS HOLM	BRIGHTON AND HOVE DISTRICT COUNCIL	
DAVID NEAME	CANTERBURY CITY COUNCIL	
JOHN HAWKINS	CANTERBURY CITY COUNCIL	
ROLO DEARDS	CARRICK DISTRICT COUNCIL	
GARY FOYLE	CHRISTCHURCH BOROUGH COUNCIL	
ASH CURLE	CITY OF SUNDERLAND	
JAMES KEILLOR	CITY OF SUNDERLAND	
S BRISTOW	CITY OF SUNDERLAND	
DEBBIE WOOD	HARTLEPOOL BOROUGH COUNCIL	
	HAVANT BOROUGH COUNCIL HAYLING ISLAND	
CORAL HYNARD	KERRIER DISTRICT COUNCIL	
RICHARD ALLEN	KERRIER DISTRICT COUNCIL	
ROY LAWFORD	NORTH DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL	
JOHN PARKINSON	PEMBROKESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL	
RICK LEWIS	REDCAR AND CLEVELAND	
PAUL CASTLE	RLSS UK	
JANE COOPER	RNLI (NBSC SECRETARIAT)	
JO BOON	RNLI BEACH LIFEGUARDS	
ADAM WOOLER	RNLI BEACH LIFEGUARDS	
BARRY HEATHFIELD	RNLI BEACH LIFEGUARDS	
BOBBY RENAUD	RNLI BEACH LIFEGUARDS	
GREG SPRAY	RNLI BEACH LIFEGUARDS	
JOHN BROAD	RNLI BEACH LIFEGUARDS	
MATT HORTON	RNLI BEACH LIFEGUARDS	
PAT RENAUD	RNLI BEACH LIFEGUARDS	
PAUL BENNEY	RNLI BEACH LIFEGUARDS	
TONY CLARE	RNLI BEACH LIFEGUARDS	
DAVID GORMAN	RNLI BEACH SAFETY	
STEVE WILLS	RNLI BEACH SAFETY	
DAVID WALKER	ROSPA	
PETER CORNALL	ROSPA	
STEVE BENN	ROTHER DISTRICT COUNCIL	
DANNY BRYANT	SLSA of GB	
ALISON STOCKLEY	SWANAGE TOWN COUNCIL	
JOE MCCARTHY	THANET DISTRICT COUNCIL	
GRAHAM WALL	THANET LEISURE FORCE	
SUE HOLT	WEST WITTERING ESTATE	
TONY JONES	WIRRAL BOROUGH	
REBECCA WILLCOCKS	MCA	FRIDAY ONLY
THOMAS BUTLER	MCA	FRIDAY ONLY
KIM PERREE	MCA	FRIDAY ONLY
TOM BELL	MCS	FRIDAY ONLY
PETER BRADLEY	RNLI	FRIDAY ONLY

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Apologies Received

MIKE CUNNINGHAM

STEVEN CLOUTING

IAN HARRISON

DAVID PIPER

DAVE MCALEAVY

MARJORY HALL

JAMES ORTIZ

STEPHEN TOOKE

KEVIN GOOD

KEELEY FOX

GARRY PAUNCEFORT

CITY AND COUNTY OF SWANSEA

WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL

WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL

WEST WITTERING ESTATE

SEFTON COUNCIL

SOUTHEND ON SEA BOROUGH COUNCIL

NORTH CORNWALL DISTRICT COUNCIL

SALCOMBE HARBOUR MASTER

WEYMOUTH AND PORTLAND BOROUGH COUNCIL

CHRISTCHURCH BOROUGH COUNCIL

CANTERBURY CITY COUNCIL