

**National Beach Safety Council
Southern Region Meeting – 22 November 2006
Branksome Dene Community Room**

1. Apologies & Attendees

Apologies received from;

Matt Ryan (Weymouth), Coral Hynard (Havant),
Gary Foyle (Xchurch), Alison Holmes (Swanage),
Matt Horton & Barry Heathfield (RNLI), Pip Hall (MCA)

Attendees

Chris Saunders (Chair) Bournemouth Borough Council
Ray Turner – Poole Borough Council
Brian Montgomery – Rockley Sands
Brian Cummings – Bournemouth Borough Council
Peter Sunderland – West Dorset
Kevin Good – Weymouth & Portland
Chris Lewis – PBLCSA
Dave VB – RNLI
Darren Lewis – RNLI
Julie Woodhouse – Bournemouth Borough Council
Emma Wright – National Trust (Studland)

2. Review of previous notes

Point 5 Beach Lifeguards – It was reported that there was a House of Commons debate held on 16th October 2006. Copy of debate attached and provided link on emails.
All other items dealt with on the agenda

3. NBSC Website and E-mail

E-mail from David Walker circulated

All confirmed are happy (as previously agreed) to follow NBSC's constitution

All to forward photos of sites for inclusion on NBSC website

All happy with the content of the NBSC web page (photos to be added)

Contact list to be added to the web site (list to be sent to David Walker)

Ideas on other invitees – Isle of Wight, Crown Estate, Poole Harbour Commission, Marine Police.

4. RNLI End of season review

Dave VB/Darren Lewis gave an update on the season in general. Some issues with the very good weather early July when staffing levels were not at the maximum.

Incident figures almost identical to 2005. Some issues with kite surfers. Kevin Good to send CS BKSA protocol for circulation with notes of meeting.

Peter Sunderland reported a death of a 16-year-old boy in West Bay. Weymouth had a jet-ski related death.

Pre-trials are continuing.

Lifeguard towers being built and should be on site for a trial for next season

Rebranding from "Beach Lifeguards" to "Lifeguards"

5. Byelaws Update

CS updated the goings on byelaw discussions with the MCA

Boats cannot be excluded from the eight knot buoyed area (in Poole Bay), but MCA would support a speed reduction

CS confirmed that local authorities have the powers to control speed up to 1000 metres from shore.

West Dorset putting model byelaws together and harbour revision order for Bridport.

Byelaw issue still high on the agenda for all concerned – Cleaner Neighbourhood Act will help.

6. Beach Wheelchair Trial

Julie Woodhouse/Brian Montgomery updated the group on the Tirlo Beach wheelchair trial.

Concluded that there are too many variables and problems to allow safe use and that it is not recommended for use in the sea.

General consensus was that water based craft are not suitable for a local authority or landowner to purchase and offer for use to the general public. All wheelchairs should be land based.

7. Hypodermic Syringes

CS asked the group for feedback on syringes found on the beach.

Some acknowledged they have had problems with this, some said the problem was minor. All sites have needle registers.

Concluded that it cannot be stopped but best was to try and manage it. Registers to be sent to Police to help them target problem areas.

8. QCA

None of the authorities present at the meeting were applying for the QCA under the current guise. UKBMF not currently supporting it.

9. AOB

Gosport are trying to prosecute a Jet Skier with an ASBO!

Weever fish issue to be on next meeting agenda.

Studland have had two cases of indecent behaviour/incidents whereby they are seeking an injunction.

Need to update other Police contacts in case of migration of the problem.

UKBMF website on line and the chat/message forum will be active shortly.

West Dorset putting together Beach Strategy. CS to send Peter a copy of the Bournemouth Strategy. West Dorset maybe looking at providing direct beach management in the future.

Date of next meeting Wednesday 2nd May 2007 at **11.00am** - (note the time change)
Venue – Studland Beach