



Minutes of the National Beach Safety Council meeting held at 1300hrs on 16 March 2007 at RoSPA, Birmingham

24 representatives attended, schedule attached – 11 apologies received.

Chair: Tony Jones
Secretary: Peter Dawes
Minutes: Cheryl Lammiman

1. Welcome and Apologies

Tony Jones opened the meeting and welcomed attendees.

2. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting were approved as an accurate record.

3. Beach Lifeguarding 'responsibility issue' – update

The requirement for landowners to conduct appropriate risk assessments has been focussed on as the core issue. The RNLI has suggested a way forward which would ask Government to make a clear statement that:

- Identifies who has duty of care for the public on beaches, in particular those where the owners actively encourage their use.
- Encourages the beach owner (private or Local Authority) to carry out a formal risk assessment which takes into account beaches and associated swimming areas.
- Encourages the Local Authority or private landowner to put in place any reasonable safety measures identified by the formal risk assessment.
- Nominates an appropriate government body and empowers it to identify responsibility for conducting risk assessment and implementing safety measures.

Action: Refer to NWSF, monitor outcomes and encourage access to the expert advice that is available from the RNLI, RoSPA, RLSS and SLSGB.

4. PWC - issues

Tony Jones has compiled a Questionnaire. The questionnaire is available to complete online via the NBSC website. It is recommended that the training programme would need to be in three levels:-

1. Inland / Non coastal
2. Open water/tidal requirement
3. Commercial operations and the hiring of craft

Peter Brown stated that the RYA are the National Governing body for PWC's. It was suggested that the RYA should be invited to address the group at the next meeting, but Tony Jones suggested that the RYA should address the NWSF rather than this group. David Walker agreed to have this included as an agenda item at the next NWSF Meeting.

The MCA have commissioned research to look at what regulations are in place in other countries. The research has been given a four month timeline.

Sharon Wilson stated that Lancaster City Council have received a request from a commercial supplier who wants access to their slipways for demonstration purposes. The issue of insurance was discussed. It was suggested that the scope of insurance is looked at very carefully when being presented with insurance details.

David Walker suggested that the Group come up with a generic guidance document. This was added to the Group Position Table.

It was suggested that refuelling problems could be included in the questionnaire.

5. PRE project update – RNLI (Kelly Keating and Peter Dawes)

See attached

Peter Dawes produced samples of the two items of PRE which after thorough research the RNLI will be recommending.

6. Kite Surfing - issues

David Walker to upload Richard Gowers document to website.

Robert Chalmers stated that NE Lincolnshire Council have developed a code of conduct with local kite surfers.

Brian Cummings reported that there had been a kite surfing fatality at Bournemouth last year, but the cause has still not been ascertained.

It was agreed that Annual Review of Kite Surfing should be included as agenda item for future meetings in the early part of the year.

7. NBSC website update (David Walker)

Verbal report given, no written report supplied.

8. NWSF update (David Walker)

Verbal report given, no written report supplied.

Tony asked if David Walker in his role as Secretariat could notify NWSF members with the specific request that meetings are not programmed to coincide with school holidays.

9. RLSS UK update (Cliff Nelson)

See attached

10. SLSA of GB update (Danny Bryant)

See attached

11. RNLI update (Peter Dawes)

Extranet website address: www.rnli-extranet.org.uk/lifeguards

Questions were raised regarding environmental issues, size, price and planning consent relating to the Lifeguard facilities currently being trialled. Peter Dawes offered to provide full details upon request.

John Owen of Anglesey requested information on the Beachwise Campaign. Kelly Keating to provide details.

12. MCA update (Peter Brown)

See attached

It was agreed that a 20 minute slot should be included in the Agenda for the next meeting for the MCA to talk about statistics.

13. Issues from Regional Reports - previously posted on website

No issues recorded

14. Matters to take forward to NWSF 12th April, Warwick - discussion

Agreed as per Information Group Position Table.

15. AOB / Date & venue of next meeting

It was agreed that 'PWC One Day Workshop' should be added to the agenda for discussion at the next meeting.

The next National Beach Safety Council meeting will be hosted by the RNLI at 11am Monday 15 October 2007 in the Auditorium at The Lifeboat College, Poole. This will consist of our normal meeting in addition to our AGM.

These Minutes will be the last paper Minutes posted out. In future NBSC members should draw their own copy of Minutes from the website.

<http://www.nationalbeachsafety.org.uk>

Present

1. Alison Ellis	ENCAMS
2. Anthony Jones	Metropolitan Borough of Wirral (Chairman)
3. Brian Cummings	Bournemouth BC
4. Brian Montgomery	Rockley Park, Poole
5. Chris Saunders	Bournemouth BC
6. Chris Ward	East Riding of Yorkshire Council
7. Cliff Nelson	RLSS
8. Danny Bryant	SLSA GB
9. David Piper	West Wittering Est PLC
10. David Walker	RoSPA
11. Jayne Babb	Brighton & Hove City Council
12. John Owen	YNYS Mon Conway Council
13. Matt Stickels	Canterbury City Council
14. Peter Brown	MCA
15. Peter Dawes	RNLI
16. Ray Turner	Borough of Poole
17. Sharon Wilson	Lancaster City Council
18. Terry Rogers	Blackpool BC
19. Vicki Miller	Brighton & Hove City Council
20. Kelly Keating	RNLI
21. Lee Fisher	RNLI
22. Robert Chalmers	North East Lincolnshire Council
23. C Walker	RoSPA
24. Joe McCarthy	Thanet District Council

Apologies for absence

1. Ash Curle	Sunderland City Council
2. Chris Corcoran	Keep Wales Tidy
3. Chris Lewis	RLSS
4. Di Cooke	RLSS
5. Freda Devonshire	Havant Borough Council
6. Marjory Hall	Southend-on-Sea Borough Council
7. Martin Watherston	Scarborough Borough Council
8. Niall Benson	Durham Heritage Coast Partnership
9. Paul Castle	Vice Chair, NBSC
10. Rick Lewis	Pembrokeshire County Council
11. Ruth Staddon	Torridge District Council