



## North East Beach Safety Council

Meeting held at Dawdon Community Centre.  
On Wednesday 7 March 2007.

**PRESENT: 32** representatives attended, schedule attached.

ITEM	DISCUSSION																						
	<p><b>Election of Officers:</b> An election of officers took place to serve for the following year: Warren Taylor from North Tyneside Council was elected as Chairperson. Ash Curle from Sunderland City Council was elected as secretariat.</p> <p>Thanks go to Paul Castle the outgoing Chairman for his diligence and service. Paul had offered to stand as chairperson only if no other nominations were received as he is experiencing problems at present attending meetings.</p>																						
1.	<p><b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:</b> Received from:</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">Arthur Cranson</td> <td style="width: 50%;">Blyth Valley</td> </tr> <tr> <td>John Tuttiett</td> <td>Blyth Volunteer Lifeboat Service</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Fred Walkington</td> <td>East Riding of Yorkshire Council</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Debbie Wood</td> <td>Hartlepool Borough Council</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mike Nicholson</td> <td>Port of Tyne</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Duncan Gomes</td> <td>Durham Heritage Coast</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mark Ellis</td> <td>M.C.A</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Stuart McGill</td> <td>MCA Sector Manager Tyne</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Andrew Ashton</td> <td>RNLI</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Paul Castle</td> <td>Redcar and Cleveland B.C</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ian Graham</td> <td>Wansbeck District Council</td> </tr> </table>	Arthur Cranson	Blyth Valley	John Tuttiett	Blyth Volunteer Lifeboat Service	Fred Walkington	East Riding of Yorkshire Council	Debbie Wood	Hartlepool Borough Council	Mike Nicholson	Port of Tyne	Duncan Gomes	Durham Heritage Coast	Mark Ellis	M.C.A	Stuart McGill	MCA Sector Manager Tyne	Andrew Ashton	RNLI	Paul Castle	Redcar and Cleveland B.C	Ian Graham	Wansbeck District Council
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	<p><b>MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:</b> Held Wednesday 8 November 2006 at North Tyneside where accepted as a true record.</p>																						
3.	<p><b>MATTERS ARISING NOT ON THE AGENDA:</b> All items were covered by the Agenda.</p>																						
4.	<p><b>POST SEASON REPORTS:</b> Reports were given by the following: North Tyneside Council – Marcus Jackson Easington District – David Walker Sunderland City Council – James Keillor * North East Lincolnshire Council - Robert Chalmers Northumberland Coast A.O.N.B. - Ian Robson Castle Morpeth Borough Council - Sam Talbot Berwick Upon Tweed – Gary McBride East Riding of Yorkshire Council – Chris Ward Scarborough Borough Council – John Stansfield Port of Tyne - Mike Nicholson South Tyneside Council – Allan Maving</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Indicates that these organisations have forwarded a copy of their report as requested and a copy is attached for information.</p>																						

5.	<p><b>NATIONAL BEACH SAFETY COUNCIL MEETING UPDATE:</b> The chairman requested A. Curle to give a brief summary from the National meeting that had been on 08/10/06. A. Curle apologised to the Secretariat and Chairman of the National meeting for circulating the National minutes prior to them being authorised.</p>
6.	<p><b>RESCUE EQUIPMENT REVIEW:</b> Mr Steve Wills from the RNLI gave an update to the meeting. The new guidelines are hopefully going to be launched very soon. The Review covers Coastal areas but not inland waterways, which will be addressed by other organisations in the near future. There will probably be three or so pieces of rescue equipment aimed at specified water rescue situations. The recommendations will suggest removal of equipment if it is not relevant and poses an increased danger to the rescuer or person being rescued. The research will also look at the use of emergency telephones or similar communication systems.</p>
7. 7.1  7.2	<p><b>RNLI:</b> <b>SEA SAFETY UPDATE:</b> Some excellent resources are available from the RNLI, which can be obtained by contacting Tony Clare. Members were asked to keep in touch with their local RNLI station so everyone can be made aware of local developments and events. The majority of stations should have a volunteer Sea Safety Officer by the end of the year. The Sea Safety Roadshow is available again this year and anyone interested in requesting it to visit their area should contact Tony. The bouyage and anchoring used at Tony's home patch has worked extremely well and he is quite happy to send information to any interested parties.</p> <p><b>BEACH LIFEGUARD OPERATION:</b> Steve Wills informed the meeting that the RNLI is putting the majority of its information on a web site that will be accessible to local Authorities that want it. You will need to register first to be issued with a password for access. They plan to run a Beach Wise education campaign pushing the message "Swim Between the Flags". This media promotion will take place over the six weeks summer holidays. The RNLI is expanding its Beach Lifeguard Service into Norfolk. The RNLI is hoping to start discussions with several Welsh Local Authorities this year. Sunderland City Council has shown an interest in going to the support level initially with the possibility of reaching the Provide level in the long term. The RNLI are running a pilot scheme called "Hit the Surf" in Sunderland this year. This is aimed at 8 – 12 year old school children and involves groups of school children visiting the beach and being involved in a fun and practical water safety education session.</p>
8.	<p><b>ENCAMS update:</b> Alison Ellis from ENCAMS addressed the meeting giving an update on the current situation regarding the Quality Coast Award. Any organisation wishing to apply for one of the Winter awards has until the end of March 2007 to do so. Members were made aware of the new bathing water directive and the implications this may have. After discussion members asked Alison to take concerns regarding dog ban issues and feed them into the Q.C.A. review process, an update is hoped for at the next meeting.</p>
9.	<p><b>RECOGNISED BEACH LIFEGUARD QUALIFICATIONS:</b> Marcus Jackson from North Tyneside Council informed the meeting that he had been approached by a Polish Lifeguard for employment and the Qualification that the prospective employee had gained was not deemed to be to the required standard. Discussions took place regarding how the required standard is set and where this information can be accessed. Steve Wills from the RNLI gave guidance from their working practices. It was suggested that a link to the relevant page on the National Federation for Qualified Lifeguards be added to the National Water Safety Forum web</p>

	site. <a href="http://www.nationalwatersafety.org.uk/aboutus/index.htm">http://www.nationalwatersafety.org.uk/aboutus/index.htm</a>
10.	<b>R.Y.A – POWERBOAT QUALIFICATIONS:</b> The meeting discussed the concerns raised that some qualifications gained in inland waters being used as a guide of confidence in coastal waters. The different knowledge and skills required was discussed and it was agreed to ask the National meeting to look at the issue and feed any results back.
11.	<b>PWC – CONTROL MEASURES:</b> The meeting was given an update of the current progress of the Personal Watercraft Forum. A copy of their minutes is attached for members' information. Notes and recommendations from the discussion table at RoSPA's Water Safety Congress were discussed and a copy is attached for members' information. Debbie Wood From Hartlepool has circulated plans for discussion and members were asked to look at the information and feed any comments directly back to Debbie by 13 April 2007.
12.	<b>ANY OTHER BUSINESS:</b>
12.1	<b>SHORELINE MANAGEMENT PLAN:</b> Niall Benson from Durham Heritage Coast updated the meeting as he had attended a presentation the previous evening by Royal Haskoning, a consultancy group that has put forward the final draft of the Shoreline Management Plan. This document covers the section of coast between the river Tyne to Flamborough Head. Members were advised to have a look at the website and recommendations for managing their coastline. <a href="http://www.northeastmp2.org.uk/">http://www.northeastmp2.org.uk/</a>
12.2	<b>APPROVED SUPPLIERS LIST:</b> Members were asked to update the approved suppliers list, a copy of the current list is attached for information. Any recommendations to include companies that members wish to recommend should be forwarded to the secretary. Any member that has experience of fitting permanent outdoor public address systems was asked to contact A. Curle from Sunderland City Council who is exploring the possibility of installing a system.
12.3	<b>LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION:</b> <a href="http://www.coastalsig.lga.gov.uk">www.coastalsig.lga.gov.uk</a> The members were made aware of the issues this organisation deals with and that it seems to be able to influence Government on certain issues. Two members have received information from this organisation regarding Risk Assessment and wanted to make members aware.
12.4	<b>EMERGENCY TELEPHONE PROVISION:</b> The RNLI has been paying the line rental for an emergency phone near Berwick. Members were asked if any other emergency phones were in existence and who pays the bill. It was agreed that the responsibility for emergency phone provision is not the responsibility of the RNLI. Any emergency signage or equipment should be identified by risk assessment and provided by the Local Authority or landowner.
13.	<b>DATE, TIME, VENUE FOR NEXT MEETING:</b> Wednesday 26 September 2007, at Blyth (venue to be confirmed). 10.45 for a prompt 11.00 start.

Steve Lidgett from Wearside Communications addressed the members explaining what products and service his company can supply. [www.wearside.biz](http://www.wearside.biz) or contact Steve:  
Email: [steve@wearside.biz](mailto:steve@wearside.biz) Telephone 08451300075.

After the meeting, members enjoyed a tour round the Seaham section of Durham Heritage Coast.

Thanks go to Durham Heritage Coast, for providing the venue, lunch and tour.  
Minutes compiled by A Curle  
[ash.curle@sunderland.gov.uk](mailto:ash.curle@sunderland.gov.uk)

**Attendance List:**

Warren Taylor (Chairman)  
Ash Curle (Secretary)  
Marcus Jackson  
Gary McBride  
Chris Ward  
Penney Wilkinson  
Allan Maving  
Tony Clare  
Alan McPherson  
John Stansfield  
Mike Bill  
Niall Benson  
Ian Robson  
Steve Wills  
Lee Wright  
David Walker  
Adrian Carey  
Sam Talbot  
Fiona Scully  
James Keillor  
Robert Chalmers  
Matt Horton  
David Gorman  
Mark Frain  
Paul Robinson  
Alison Ellis

North Tyneside Council  
Sunderland City Council  
North Tyneside Council  
Berwick upon Tweed Borough Council  
East Riding of Yorkshire Council  
South Tyneside Council  
South Tyneside Council  
RNLI  
Port of Tyne  
Scarborough Borough Council  
M.C.A  
Durham Heritage Coast  
Northumberland Coast A.O.N.B.  
RNLI  
District of Easington  
District of Easington  
RNLI – DDI  
Castle Morpeth Borough Council  
Durham Heritage Coast  
Sunderland City Council  
North East Lincolnshire Council  
RNLI  
RNLI  
Durham Heritage Coast  
Durham Heritage Coast  
ENCAMS

**Suppliers:**

Jeff Gibson  
Jason Walker  
Sheila Williams  
Ian Crampton  
Steve Lidgett  
Paul Wrightson

Hydrosphere UK Ltd  
Glasdon UK Ltd  
Ocean Safety Ltd  
Cosalt Plc  
Wearside Communications  
ASPLI Safety