

East Head Coastal Issues Advisory Group Meeting Minutes

17th March 2022 West Wittering Estate

Present:

Dominic Henly	Chichester District Council
James Crespi	West Wittering Estate PLC
Max Ambrose	West Wittering Estate PLC
Uwe Dornbusch	Environment Agency
Angela Marlow	Natural England
Lee Walther	National Trust
Lisa Trownson	National Trust
Nicolette Pike	West Wittering Parish Council
Richard Craven	Harbour Conservancy
Andy Pearce	Coastal Partners
David Lowsley	Former CDC

Apologies :

Stuart Dobbin	Woodger Trust
Keith Martin	West Wittering Parish Council
Patrick Byrne	West Wittering Estate

1. Site Visit to East Head

The group visited the recently completed work at Groyne 19

2. Changes / update from WWE

Max Ambrose briefed the group on the recent work undertaken around G19. The installation of a shingle bund and additional winter parking is now complete and overall has been a success. A natural beach is starting to form, old infrastructure has been removed and in general, the area looks clean and natural. MA mentioned that fencing/posting work is still to be complete along with the installation of dog and general waste bins, bird awareness signage has been positioned and WWE working with NT will look to install a 'welcome to East Head' sign.

JC commented that the area has been well received and from WWE's point of view, the additional winter parking spaces have been hugely beneficial.

LW mentioned that the excavation site has replenished well.

JC thanked the group and key members involved in the process.

3. Storm Eunice

MA and JC explained that the new bund held up well over Storm Eunice. It was noted that the storm was perhaps not a 'direct hit' due to wind direction but still, the new area performed well with minimal over washing. The beach level south of the bund has started to replenish, and a natural beach is forming.

4. Next Steps – Action / Monitoring

It was noted that no action is required from C24 round to C20. MA proposed to the group that the short piece of remaining breastwork at C19 be removed as he felt it was hindering the area building up with shingle. The group agreed to remove this final section and also lower the groyne so the top plank is the same level as the shingle there now. WWE will action this.

The area will continue to be monitored. DH to approach Coastal Monitoring Programme to see if a level survey can be undertaken.

WWE noted that the C19 area is a pressure point, AP from coastal partners commented that this point may move further down – WWE will continue to monitor.

5. Public Engagement

AM mentioned that she had noticed a few people still unaware of why the recent work had been undertaken. JC stated that WWE will release a post for social media in the coming weeks explaining the work is finished and reiterate why it was done. WWE will present at the WW Parish Council AGM as well as its own and use the opportunity to brief attendees.

6. AOB

UD stated that he plans to submit a paper to the Royal Geographic Society regarding the adaptive management/roll back processes that have taken place.

WWE will look to make aerial photos available to the group and produce before / after images.

7. Date of Next Meeting

Early November discussed, exact date to be confirmed.