



# Minutes

Name of Meeting	IWC Public Realm and Coastal Meeting – West Wight	
Date and Time	04/09/2025 10.30	
Venue	Microsoft Teams	
Attendees		
	Alaster Sims [AS]	Kate Scragg CTC [KS]
	Emily Tapsfield [ET]	Penny Acton GPC [PA]
	Ian Dawson [ID]	Lora Peacey-Wilcox [LPW]
	Abigail Reynolds [AR]	Sue Chilton ECTC [SC]
	Bonny Pettinger [Note Taker]	

<b>1. Welcome/Apologies /Housekeeping</b>	
Emily gave apologies for Kristian Horlock.	
<b>2. Update from Coastal</b>	
ID – Fairly quiet for coastal, health and safety checks and works over August.	
Coming up in West Wight we have Groyne refurbishments at Colwell Bay which will be starting next week or early the following week. There will be car park movement down to the beach from contractor MMC, but I am confident that this will be minimal and run smoothly.	
The Meeting this week with Freshwater Bay Residents Association went ahead, discussions to continue regarding the stone removal and groyne by the life boat station. Additional meeting to be set up regarding the groyne removal.	
We have been advised there is a boat aground at Totland Bay which is on private land, we are aware. This is down to the responsibility of the landowner.	
AS – Responded that a couple of boats have washed up recently, we are working alongside the EA regarding legislation relating to this to be looked into to see if we can enable something better to happen.	
PA- Responded that they have sent out a couple of letters regarding Luck and the access over the bridge, low tide makes it difficult due to old ship wrecks. We have not yet found who is responsible, we will approach the Town and Parish Council for potential assistance. Is anyone able to offer advice?	
AS – Responded that this is a really complex area, we have started to do a lot of research into this when the Sulley wreck was abandoned in Totland, we do not yet fully understand the roles of everybody. Our MP will be raising this with the secretary of state. Historically the people that own the land of where the vessel arrives are responsible for the removal, however we have questioned under what legislation? The costs to remove are thousands of pounds. Wrecks of vessels will increase, and the burden should not fall to the local authority. I am happy to work with you on this. I will need to investigate further before I can give a definitive answer.	

PA – as a sailor this is going to come a worldwide problem increasingly, I have experienced this all over. On the itching study on plastic pollution fibre class is a large source, from boats.	
PA – The issues here are they are not new vessels, but yes, I will be happy to pick this up together separately, thank you.	
LPC – advised that AS speak with the Harbour Master in Newport as he has been really helpful. Cowes Harbour commission has been transferred this.	
AS – Responded that the slight difference is that the harbour in ports have different legislations, they have a defined process in place to in act that removal. Beaches do not have this same process and we need to work on this. Which I believe, in my opinion, that responsibility should be held to the removal of them. This is a National issue and has danger of becoming a burden on Local Authorities.	
AR – Responded that we are having similar issues within waste with small boats being left on our land and the Authority are having to spend out to have them removed and disposed of correctly.	
PA – As a sailor this is going to become a worldwide problem increasingly. I have experienced this all over. On the Itching study on plastic pollution, fibre glass is a large source, from boats.	
<b>3. Update from Public Realm</b>	
ET – Provided an up for Public Realm - business as usual, grass cuts have gone ahead and continued as planned.	
We are nearing the end of Bird Nesting season to be able to begin hedge cuts in October.	
We have come to the decision that the benches at Freshwater Bay will be taken in over the winter period (October). The benches will be refurbished and placed back out in the springtime after the storm season ends.	
<b>4. Pre-submitted Questions</b>	
PA – Planning enforcement on Gurnard Beach	
ET – Responded – that we have a series of questions from residents and are collecting answers along side Councillor Paul Fuller, this is in process but we do not have the answers at the moment.	
<b>5. AOB</b>	
PA – we have had really positive feedback from the new walkway in Gurnard as part of the Kings Coastal Path down to the private beach. AS has given permission to update the notice boards. Katy Hurd has assisted with creating a brilliant poster.	
ET – Responded, I have also seen this walk way myself and agree it looks really lovely. We will pass this feedback on to the Right of Way team.	
AS – Responded, I look forward to seeing the poster.	

<b>6. Next Meeting 30<sup>th</sup> September 2025</b>	