

## SDN Exec. Zoom Meeting Notes and Actions 8<sup>th</sup> December 2021

Present:

Tony Whitbread, Vic lent, Mike Tristam, David Burnet, David Coldwell, Christopher Napier, Phil Belden, Chris Todd, David Johnson (for Dan Osborn), Jayne Chapman, Claire Lloyd (working with David and Vic on membership review, plus notetaker for this meeting).

Please note that the meeting was recorded and links to useful discussion points will be posted on the South Downs Network website.

	Topic	Points discussed	Action
1	<b>Apologies</b>	Dan Osborn (David Johnson on behalf of Dan)	
2	<b>Review of past meetings</b>	<p>October 2021 AGM * - Chair requested comments on AGM:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. notes and amendments made to spelling of two names (see action)</li> <li>b. Phil mentioned the Constitution for this group – is it a network or a campaigning organisation (see action)</li> <li>c. Please note that Chris Todd did send apology for AGM</li> </ul> <p>Previous Actions/ Exec &amp; Admin meetings * - Vic has circulated minutes</p> <p>SDNPA Land Managers/SDN Meetings – Vic has sent link to Land Managers meeting</p> <p>Webinars * - Vic and Tony remarked on the positive feedback regarding recent webinars. Tony congratulated all involved. These webinars are helping to grow our network too. Vic added that more organisations are expressing interest in joining the South Downs Network (SDN)</p>	<p>Change to Osborn and to Belden</p> <p>Tony to revisit Constitution</p> <p>Change to CT apology</p>
3	<b>Admin, Membership &amp; Finance report</b>	<p>SDN currently has 42 organisation members.</p> <p>Claire Lloyd (here present) will be assisting David and Vic by checking members' contact details over the next few weeks and months, and David will then be contacting them about membership fees to encourage members to set up a direct debit or standing order via our new bank account with Lloyds Bank.</p> <p>Budget recommendations will be presented at the next Exec Mtg.</p>	<p>David will provide a more detailed account of the budget, income and expenditure at the next Exec Mtg.</p>
4	<b>Membership</b>	<p>Membership development will follow once the membership list is checked and confirmed. Vic and Claire will consider methodology by which to pinpoint and encourage new membership.</p>	<p>Vic &amp; Claire will be working on this.</p>

	Topic	Points discussed	Action
5	<b>Current issues by area</b>	<p>Current issues across Hampshire, West and East Sussex and River and Coastal. This part of the meeting generated a great deal of discussion. The main points are summarised here, and more information will be shared on the SDN website.</p> <p><b>Hampshire:</b></p> <p><b>M3 Junction:-</b> we heard from Christopher Napier, Phil Belden and Chris Todd on the various views of the work being proposed. CPRE has not objected to date. The South Downs NPA are discussing a green bridge. Hampshire Wildlife Trust and the SDNPA are discussing the options. Concerns expressed about pollution and carbon emissions around the junction.</p> <p><b>Alton Incinerator:-</b> a decision by Veolia is in process and this is expected in early 2022. David J compared the situation with that in Horsham – lots of issues around transportation, fumes, toxic ash.</p> <p>Chris Napier expressed that many are concerned that the intro of an incinerator will reduce recycling efforts in the Alton area. Chris also flagged a Converter Building (underground and under the sea). Local Authorities and other groups are involved. 3 examiners have submitted reports which are currently with the Secretary of State.</p> <p><b>Boomtown Festival:-</b> varying views as complex and long-running situation. Some groups feel ‘stuck’ with the festival. Jayne has been involved for years and believes the landowner has developed some key areas of protection across the site - birds and butterflies specifically. Jayne happy to answer any questions in the coming weeks and months.</p> <p><b>Stoke Road Bridge:-</b> Chris Todd updated the group.</p> <hr/> <p><b>Rivers and Coast:-</b> David J requested any footage to send to SOSCA showing pollution and sewage issues along the coast.</p> <p><b>Chalk Streams:-</b> Phil explained that the importance of chalk streams and surrounding land is more generally understood and that it would be useful to have a more detailed discussion with the SDNPA.</p>	<p>Information and relevant links to go onto SDN website.</p> <p>More information to be sought about the issues and timeframe.</p> <p>Need to keep an eye on decision. David suggested a few members of this group form a small group to look at incineration (as well as other issues – see later notes).</p> <p>Vic to set up working groups on incineration, .</p> <p>Vic to send request for footage out to the network</p> <p>Tony proposed that the SDN talks with the SDNPA about chalk streams, run off and</p>

	Topic	Points discussed	Action
		<p><b>Viticulture:-</b> Phil flagged the need to avoid intensive viticulture – it needs to be sustainably managed. Mike expressed concern over spraying issues.</p> <p><b>Water:-</b> in relation to chalk streams and water quality, David J stressed the need to link these together with water shortages in some areas and proposed a working group on Water.</p> <hr/> <p><b>West Sussex:</b></p> <p><b>Gatwick expansion:</b> Vic gave update – Sally Pavey from CAGNE has spent many hours promoting the cause and the consultation is over and we are awaiting news on the outcome.</p> <p><b>A27 Chichester by-pass:-</b> general discussion about the support and opposition to this. Mike has sent a letter to Vic that was obtained through a Freedom of Information request following a National Highways Business Meeting held 10 years ago.</p> <p><b>A27 Arundel:-</b> formal consultation begins in January 2022. A discussion ensued as to the benefit of having formal (paid) representation on behalf of the SDN, but it was felt that individual organisations could contribute to the consultation directly, representing their own specific views around landscape, archaeology, heritage, etc. Mike detailed the timeline: 11/1/22 to 8/3/22 consultation proposals to be publicised. Impacts and mitigation plans will be placed online and also sent out to 1 million households. There will be an online response survey. Once results are analysed (Summer 2022) they will be sent to the Secretary of State. Chris suggested that local groups continue to campaign during this time period to keep the issues alive. Mike suggested that Emma Tristram could assist with a ‘forensic analysis’ of the views of our member organisations rather than paying for formal representation at this point in time. David J suggested a discussion between SDN and SCATE regarding strategy.</p> <p><b>Chris suggested the members of this group write a short update on issues within their areas before our meetings so we spend less time on the issue details during the meeting</b></p>	<p>viticulture. All agreed this would be a good step forward.</p> <p>Vic to share this letter with the group.</p> <p>Member organisations to be encouraged to ‘make some noise’ about this during the consultation period and to write to the press with their views, write letters to MPs, whilst the SDN informs our members about what they can do. Vic to contact members regarding a SDN/SCATE meeting.</p>

	Topic	Points discussed	Action
		<p><b>East Sussex:</b></p> <p><b>Exceat bridge:-</b> members would like an update as we had no time to discuss during this meeting</p>	<p>Need update on Exceat bridge please (via email to the group).</p> <p>All members of the Exec to send out short update on key issues in advance of future meetings.</p>
6	<b>Membership</b>	Covered in earlier report (agenda items 3 and 4)	
7	<b>Fundraising/ donations/ grants</b>	To discuss in detail in next meeting	Carry to next meeting
8	<b>AOB</b>	<p><b>Vic</b> – SDN newsletter to go out before 1/1/22</p> <p><b>Phil</b> – good news re the Jack and Jill windmills, plus we are awaiting the Brighton &amp; Hove estate plans.</p>	
9	<b>Dates of next meetings</b>	<p><b>TBC</b></p> <p>Chris requested that a calendar invite be sent out for future meetings, followed by Zoom details nearer the time, so that the meeting appears in calendars.</p>	Vic to share dates of next meeting, with calendar invite.