



BEACH SAFETY PROJECT

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

REPORT 86/16

13 NOVEMBER 2017

The purpose of this Report is to provide Members with a summary of the Beach Safety Project for 2017.

No. DETAIL

1) THE PROJECT

- a) The Project was initiated in 2011 following the Isle of Wight Council's decision to discontinue funding for Lifeguards and their offer of £6,250 towards alternative provision of beach safety support.
- b) When the Isle of Wight Council's funding ended after the first three years the Town Council decided to include it in its annual Budget from 1 April 2014 and it has now completed its seventh year.
- c) This year the Project was run by our Maintenance Manager Brian Roberts supported by volunteers Davin Gibbs and Isaac Roberts and Councillor James Toogood.

2) ACTIVITY LEVELS

- a) The overall level of recorded incidents dealt with were as shown in the following table.

SEASON	SAFETY INCIDENTS	FIRST AID	ADVICE GIVEN	DOGS ON BEACH	BBBQs/FIRES	TOTALS
TOTALS	73	85	300	54	7	519

- b) The 73 safety incidents included: warnings to swimmers, advice on inflatables, weather conditions, jumping off rocks, putting themselves or others in danger, swimming outside the safe area and two incidents requiring Coast Guard action.
- c) The 85 first aid treatments included weaver fish stings, dog bites, cuts & grazes, and sprains; they also included one diabetic episode and one use of the Defibrillator.
- d) There were 7 incidents where people had to be reminded that neither Barbeques nor fires were permitted on the Beach and 54 occasions where dog owners needed to be reminded that access to the beach was not permitted between 1 May and 30 September.
- e) The 300 recorded Advice giving occasions included answers to questions ranging from whats that? through what can I do? and tide times? to directions to other places.

3) FINANCES

- a) The project cost £92 less than its £7,500 Budget this year with a spend of £7,408.
- b) Work will need to be funded on the externals of the First Aid Hut before the 2018 season.

4) VOLUNTEER

Thanks are due to volunteers Davin Gibbs, Isaac Roberts, Sophie Blake and James Toogood for invaluable support for the work.