



# BEACH SAFETY PROJECT

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

REPORT 73/16

10 OCTOBER 2016

The purpose of this Report is to provide Members with a summary of the now completed Beach Safety Project for 2016.

## No. DETAIL

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### 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 sixth year.
  - c) It has again consisted of a full-time staff member – Dave Gray – and volunteer Davin Gibbs with support Councillor Jim Toogood.
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### 2) ACTIVITY LEVELS

- a) The overall level of incidents dealt with were almost the same as those for 2012 as shown in the following table.

SEASON	SAFETY INCIDENTS	FIRST AID	ASSISTED RESCUES	LOST CHILDREN	TOTALS
TOTALS	78	71	4	3	156

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- b) The 76 safety incidents included: warnings to swimmers/dinghies too far out and/or too close to rocks.
  - c) The 71 first aid treatments were mainly minor involving weaver fish stings, cuts & grazes and sprains but three of them were major incidents in which the Emergency services were called.
  - d) The First Aid Hut also served again as a *lost & found* service for objects ranging from sunglasses through purses to mobile phones.
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### 3) FINANCES

The project was well under its £8,500 Budget this year with a spend of £5,974.

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### 4) VOLUNTEER

Thanks are due to volunteer Davin Gibbs for invaluable support for the work.

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