SANDBANKS COMMUNITY GROUP

Speaking for Sandbanks

1. **Respect from all that visit Sandbanks**	
The issue	High visitor numbers and good weather often result in a small number of people showing a lack of respect for the local environment, residents, businesses or other visitors. This has a detrimental impact on everyone's enjoyment of the area.
SCG's position	SCG welcomes everyone that respects Sandbanks and its residents and helps to keep it a family-friendly area to live in and visit. Respectful behaviour is one of the ways that Sandbanks can be protected and enhanced for the enjoyment of all.
SCG's response	To help achieve this, SCG is calling for: • Tough action from Dorset Police and/or BCP Council (BCPC) on anti-social behaviour, such as speeding, car-racing, illegal camping, beach bonfires, verbal abuse & excessive late-night noise • Consistent Police patrols in residential areas & beachside plus continued, regular, extended hours BCPC security presence on the beach during the summer, especially Fri nights & weekends throughout July and August • Monthly updates and engagement from designated Dorset Police and BCPC senior community liaison people dedicated to Sandbanks. • Regular engagement from the Sandbanks Ferry Company and BCPC on queue management & signage. • A dedicated 24/7 Summer Helpline phone number to report all incidents, jointly run by Dorset Police/BCPC

2. **Keeping Sandbanks safe**	
The issue	When visitor numbers increase, many issues contribute to a lack of safety for residents, businesses, and visitors. These include road safety, illegal parking, irresponsible motorised water sports and anti-social behaviour.
SCG's position	SCG believes that Sandbanks should be a safe place for everyone to enjoy. It is committed to campaigning for policy changes that will ensure the safety of all residents, businesses and visitors in Sandbanks.

SCG's response	To create a safe environment for everyone, SCG is calling for: • Beach & security staff to be consistently present throughout July and August • Parking control measures eg. tow-away, are visibly & vigorously enforced . • Highways improvements eg. a review of the exit layout at Sandbanks car park, which presently contributes to gridlock preventing safe access for the emergency services. • A parking surcharge for Sandbanks car park on weekends in July and August to reduce peak demand when the car park is full, often resulting in gridlock & help pay for additional summer Council resourcing. • Increased support from Dorset Police to manage localised road closures on exceptionally busy weekends. • Dedicated, roped -off 'safe swimming areas' to protect swimmers from vessels along Sandbanks beach & enforcement of speed limits for motor vessels.

3. **Protecting the environment in Sandbanks**	
The issue	Sandbanks includes a wide array of unique flora and fauna, a unique beach and is the gateway to one of the world's largest natural harbours. The human impact on this unique environment should be managed so that it can be minimised.
SCG's position	SCG campaigns for the unique biodiversity and ecology of Sandbanks to be formally protected for the enjoyment of all in the future.
SCG's response	To protect this unique area, SCG is calling for: • BCP Council to continue to provide additional resource for litter collection and beach cleaning during the summer months • A ban on disposable BBQs on Sandbanks beach and other BCP beaches • Tougher powers and larger fines for littering • Active conservation of the Sandbanks trees, beach, sand dunes and wildlife • The prioritisation and protection of Sandbanks beach Blue flag status, which it has held for over 30 years • Consideration over the long-term for statutory protection for Sandbanks beaches (e.g. Outstanding Area of Natural Beauty status) • A Park & Ride into Poole beaches to reduce traffic, reduce carbon emissions and protect the environment.