The following is a summary of the minutes of the SBRA Committee Meeting on 8th January 2026 at the Harbour Club. These were approved at the February meeting.

The committee agreed to co-opt Dylan Thompson – this will need to be agreed at the AGM. Proposed by Val Veal and seconded by Julia Watts.

Members paid tribute to Tony Wallington who has sadly died by holding a minute's silence. Joss paid tribute to his commitment, hard work and community involvement. A full tribute will be published in Beach News.

Minutes of meeting held on 4th November 2025 – Committee members agreed the minutes were an accurate representation of the meeting. Proposed by Joyce Willson and seconded by Pat Hand.

Beach News and Website - The Spring issue is scheduled for March and will go to the printers on March 8th.

Social report: (also see Councillor's reports) - The Carol Service went well with lots of enthusiastic participants. There were plenty of instruments for the children to use and join in.

Instead of the Sand Dance the committee discussed potentially holding a summer solstice event (20th June) at Beach Green, south of the beach huts.

Financial report - The cash sheet was circulated to all members.
SBRA received 'thanks' from the Church for the donation to the Dock Youth Group.

Councillor's reports -
Cllr Joss Loader reports:
Devolution - The Government has asked councils, impacted by Local Government Reorganisation, to consider postponing the May elections. They're being asked to consider whether a postponement would give them more officer capacity to deliver devolution. Joss had a discussion with the ADC leader and registered Julia's and my disquiet. WBC is holding an "extra" meeting to discuss but there is no plan for this in Adur. The ultimate decision lies with the Government.

Shingle transfer - we've been in touch with the EA, as a sizeable new bank of shingle has appeared along the beach, from west to east. They assure us this is "normal" shingle movement and not linked to the transfer. It's obviously not a bad thing, from a flood protection perspective - but we've not seen it on this scale before and we haven't had major storms. This bank now seems to have gone.
Alarms - Joss received reports of alarms going off on the north side of the river over the pre-New Year period, in one of the new builds. ADC's environmental team resolved it swiftly.
Public Toilets – Joss asked a member's question at last month's full council meeting regarding the disgusting state of the Beach Green toilets. The Fort toilets aren't very much better but the fabric of the building is more robust. We've again been assured that they'll carry out a deep-clean this month. Julia and Joss are considering tabling an amendment to the Budget for 2026/27 requesting greater investment. We've requested a meeting with a finance officer to discuss further.
Public safety on the access road to the Widewater car park: Joss asked a second member's question at Full Council regarding the council's failure to address public parking on the shingle beach, adjacent to the road. This restricts access, particularly for emergency vehicles. It now emerges - six months after my original request to the foreshore team - that the land belongs to Shoreham Port Authority. Joss has been in touch with SPA who will erect physical parking barriers.
Pot holes - Harbour Way is particularly bad at the moment. Joss has advised residents to report potholes to WSCC. Joss also made Kevin Boram aware. WSCC assessed yesterday and some work is to be done. A proper repair is needed as not done previously. Extra funding has been assigned across the county to fix potholes.
Public pathway behind the Sailing Club - no real progress. Both SPA and the MP are flagging concerns to the EA. New turf has eroded.

JWa reported:
Events - Our carol singing event went well. Thanks to Joss, Pat, David and Joyce for their input.
FoSB - FoSB partipated in the Christmas Tree Festival at St Mary's before Christmas which was a super event. We ran a successful beach clean on 29th December which was really well attended. The FoSB AGM is 23rd March.

Gardening group - The Gardening group met between Christmas and New Year to tidy up the beds and install our new signs and some wire fencing which we hope will discourage dog owners from allowing their animals to stray on to the beds. Re-planting will be done in the spring.
Graffiti – Julia reported the obscene graffiti on the bridge as well as a broken dog bin this week.

Next meeting Thursday, 5th February - Meeting ended 7.53pm.