

## High Knocke to Dymchurch Sea Defences Frontage A

We have prepared this newsletter to update you on the Environment Agency's sea defence project which will reduce flooding for nearly two and a half thousand homes in Dymchurch.

Our site compounds are almost complete and the main construction works on the sea defence will start this month. The project is due to complete in 2011.



North site compound establishment

### Construction Update

We have now established the north site compound close to Pear Tree Lane and have reopened the previous site compound at the Willop depot, north of the town.

We will be using a section of the Martello car park for part of our southern site compound. Public access to this car park will not be affected by our works as construction vehicles will use a separate entrance.

Once the site compounds have been completed we will install steel sheet piles at the base of the promenade. We will work within the 'amenity beach' (the area closest to Dymchurch town centre), up until Easter. Between Easter and mid September, there will be no further construction works in this area.

The main concrete units will be delivered towards the end of April. Work will begin on installing these units in two directions, north and

south of the town, outside of the main 'amenity beach' area.

### Beach Access

The main tourist area of the beach, the 'amenity beach', will remain open to the public for the summer season (from Easter to mid September). All works in this area will be undertaken during the winter months. The timing of these works has been agreed with both Shepway District Council and Dymchurch Parish Council.

We are in contact with the Dymchurch Traders and Residents Group and the Regional Tourist Board to make sure that visitors from further afield know that Dymchurch will be open for business as usual.

As you may have seen from our previous publications, as well as providing a significantly improved level of protection against flooding from the sea, we will also improve the whole sea wall environment to make it more attractive and user friendly for the local community and visitors.



Damage to existing sea defences

### Working in the community

We recognise the concerns that residents may have regarding impact of these works on the local community. Every effort is being made to manage and mitigate any inconveniences, and the health and safety of residents and visitors will be central to everything we do.

PTO

We intend to open **Plater Hall** (the old Library building) on the seafront as a public drop-in centre initially for one day a week. We will then review this arrangement depending on the local demand. This may include extending the opening hours. The Hall will be open every Thursday from 10am to 3pm starting on 19<sup>th</sup> March 2009. Any future changes to opening hours will be posted on the front door of the Hall.

We will continue to send out newsletters to keep you informed of the progress of the scheme. If you would like further information, or wish to provide feedback on the scheme please send your comment to us by email:

[dymchurch@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:dymchurch@environment-agency.gov.uk)

Or leave a message on the public answer phone:

**07931 450359**