N E W S L E T T E R N O . 9 – S E P T E M B E R 2 0 0 9

Defend Our Coast Association
www.defendourcoast.org.uk

Message from our Chairman

Summer has gone all too quickly and with Autumn on our door step the high spring tides return. The Romney Marsh is a vulnerable area for flooding and we must ensure that our sea defences will stand up to the elements. Given the proposed Government spending cuts we need to ensure that adequate provisions are in place to protect our communities .

DOC has not been idle during the Summer months and continues to liaise with all relevant Government Agencies to secure the much needed flood protection for us all. Work by the Environment Agency seems to be progressing on the various frontages but there is no room for complacency. One weak link would break the chain and DOC is keeping a close eye on progress. Our Committee is actively involved to make Government aware of the present vulnerability of the Romney Marsh and we will not rest until adequate flood protection is achieved for us all!

Your support remains essential and gives us the opportunity to challenge those in power to take note of our concerns.

Terry Preston

Diary Dates:-

DOC Members Christmas Party : Friday, 4.12. 2009 – 7 pm – 9.00 pm
Venue: Camber Castle Public House, Camber (1st Floor Function Rooms)

Environment Agency Update…….

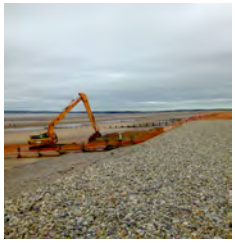
Dymchurch Sea Defence - Frontage A

We are continuing to install the pre-cast concrete stepped defence units. These units act as the main flood defence, by reducing the wave energy and will provide continued access to the beach for visitors. The work in this area will recommence later in September. We will be building an access over the Marshlands Outfall and preparing the working platform for the crane which manoeuvres the units into place. We will continue working along the amenity beach, laying the precast concrete stepped defence units through the winter until April 2010.

For more detailed information please contact the Public Liaison Officer Veronica Wells on 07931 450359.

Broomhill Sands Sea Defence Scheme

Original Sea Wall at Jury' Gap 1960s



Ground Investigation Works Sept. 2009

during which the old sea wall was exposed

Ground Investigation works have continued along the Broomhill Frontage during September 2009 in preparation for more detailed design work on the proposed new sea wall scheme.

DOC is arranging a meeting with the relevant EA staff in order to get a more detailed update on the results of this investigation work and will report back to its Members in the next Newsletter.

Our Technical Officer, Tony Hills, reports:-

I had a guided tour of the Dymchurch sea defences under construction and so far , so good. This defence could set a benchmark for a design which will be effective and work for – and with – the local community. The Littlestone defences have unfortunately been deferred to next year which is a mistake and the EA could end up regretting this action. I have grave concerns about Dengemarsh. The defence is near collapse in this location and DOC will continue to monitor the crest. If the worst happens, we will demand that the EA takes immediate emergency action. We are awaiting EA data on the Broomhill scheme and an update meeting has been scheduled for late November 09. It is vital that DOC continues to press the EA as a matter of urgency in order for this scheme to go ahead, despite anticipated budget cuts. Broomhill is neither negotiable nor postponable!

Tony Hills