

High Knocke to Dymchurch Sea Defences Frontage A

Work on the Dymchurch Sea Defence project has progressed over the summer and the team running the scheme is keen to update you on what has been happening. Once completed, this sea defence will reduce flooding for nearly two and half thousand homes in Dymchurch.

How construction is progressing

Work is continuing to progress well and is still running to schedule.

In our previous newsletter (Issue 5 - September 2009), we reported that we were just entering the amenity beach area. All our efforts are being concentrated in this area to complete the reconstruction of the town slipway and to ensure we can hand back a safe amenity area in time for next year's Easter holidays. Details of the temporary accesses in this area will be provided in the next newsletter.

During October, November and December, we have continued to lay the precast concrete stepped revetment units. This brings us to a total of 700 units laid, out of the total 1700 required. We are currently past the central slipway and heading for the masonry groyne, which we intend to reach in the middle of February 2010.

Work has commenced on the construction of the lower promenade by Martello 25 (High Knocke). We will be laying a total of 12,000m³ of concrete, 3,800 m³ of which will be in the amenity area. We intend to start laying the first of the 850 wave wall units in January 2010.

We will begin installing the 23 groynes outside the amenity area in January 2010. Groyne work inside the amenity area will not begin until September 2010.

Testing times

The partially constructed works have held up extremely well against the recent storms, with only limited damage/losses.

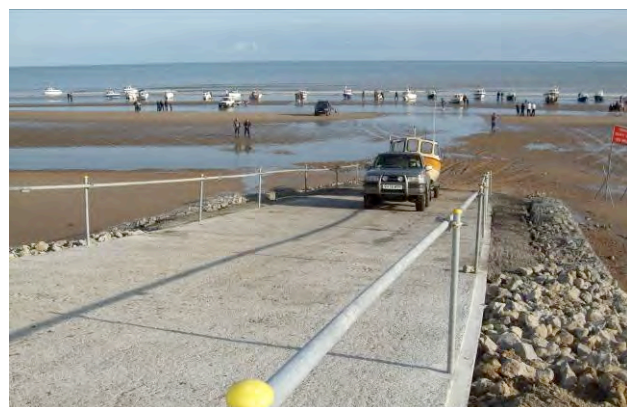


The partially completed works held up well during the recent storms

What you've been saying to us

We would like to say thank you to everyone who has been leaving their questions and comments in the visitors' books at Plater Hall and the visitor centre. It's great to get feedback from local people and we are really pleased with some of the positive comments, which have all been passed on to the site team.

We would also like to thank the Anglers Club for their very positive feedback and for the photographs they sent of their cod fishing competition.



The Anglers Club making use of the temporary slipway provided by the site team whilst we are repairing the main slipway

Meet some of our team

We want to introduce you to some of the key members of our team. In this, and subsequent newsletters, we will tell you a bit about the people that you see out and about on the site each day in order that you know who they are and what they do.

Brian Patfield is our general foreman. Brian has extensive experience, having worked in the construction industry for the last 30 years. His role is to organise all the day-to-day site activities and to supervise the gangs you see working on site.



Brian is committed to delivering a quality scheme safely. A scheme that not only reduces flood risk to the people of Dymchurch, but can be enjoyed by the community for many years to come.

Melanie Sim is a graduate civil engineer and her role is an Assistant Supervisor. Melanie works for the Environment Agency, but has been seconded to Jacobs (the designers) for six months to get experience working on a major construction project. This site experience is a really great opportunity for Melanie to help her to become a Chartered Engineer.



Her job involves monitoring the quality of what is being built and to ensure that it is of the high standard we expect. She also checks the progress of the works so that we have a good record of what was built – and when!

If you see Brian or Melanie walking round the site, they will be pleased to have a quick chat with you about the works and their role here.

Keep talking - our public liaison officer is here for you

The role of the public liaison officer is a vital link between us. Our public liaison officer for the Dymchurch project is Veronica Wells and her role is to keep you informed of what's going on.

Veronica is available for a chat and to answer your questions at the Plater Hall exhibition, located next to the Royal British Legion Club. This exhibition is open every Thursday between the hours of 9.30 am to 12.30pm and 1.30pm to 4.30pm.

In addition to Plater hall, we have an unmanned exhibition in a portacabin located in the Car Park by Martello 25 which is regularly updated.

Veronica is holding a coffee and mince-pie morning on Thursday 10 December at Plater Hall - if you are in the area, please call in.

Questions or comments? Contact us

If you have any comments or questions, please contact our public liaison officer, Veronica Wells:

Call: 07931 450359 or

Email: dymchurch@environment-agency.gov.uk

Christmas Holidays

The site will be shut over Christmas – our last working day will be Friday 18 December and works will resume on Monday 4 January 2010. We would like to remind you that even when works are not in progress, construction sites are still dangerous places. If you see anything of concern or need to talk to a member of the team over the holidays, contact Veronica on 07931 450359.

On behalf of everyone on the project, we would like to wish you and your families a very happy Christmas and a prosperous new year.

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