

Southern Felixstowe Coastal Defences

Welcome to our 9th newsletter informing you of progress made on the Southern Felixstowe Coastal Defence scheme between the War Memorial and Landguard Common. This newsletter summarises the progress made to date and sets out the programme for the coming weeks. Additional information will be published in further newsletters and displayed on notice boards close to the construction site.

Background

We are working in partnership with Suffolk Coastal District Council to improve the standard of flood defences along the southern Felixstowe frontage.

Our works to improve the flood defences at southern Felixstowe includes:

- Construction of 21 rock fishtail groynes which are buried beneath the beach adjacent to the promenade;
- Replenishing of the beach with sand and shingle to raise the beach level; and
- Repair of collapsed parts of the main promenade.

Works are progressing well and we are aiming to complete works by the end of September.

Rock Deliveries

Rock deliveries were completed in the first week of July. Nearly 60,000 tonnes of rock was delivered by sea from two quarries near Boulogne in France.

The stockpile of rock in the main site compound is being moved along the beach ready to be incorporated into the groynes as required.

Beach Recharge

We successfully completed the beach recharge operations last month. A total of over 200,000m³ of sand and shingle was dredged from a licensed site in the Thames Estuary and delivered to the foreshore at Felixstowe to raise existing beach levels.

During the last week of July sand stockpiled to the south of the pier was transported around the pier and distributed to the north between the pier and the War Memorial.

Works were carried out during the night to minimise disruption to local businesses and allow the beach to remain open to the public during the day. By using dump trucks instead of a conveyor belt we were able to complete the works north of the pier between Monday to Friday nights which saved considerable time in the programme.

Following completion of beach recharge works to the north the beach from Holland Road to the War Memorial has been re-opened to the public.

The Sliedrecht 27 pumping station which was anchored offshore and used in beach recharge operations has been moved to a mooring in Harwich Port. The sinker line, marked by yellow buoys, will remain in place on the sea bed until a suitable opportunity arises to move the pipe line down the coast for use on another project.

Groyne Construction

We have made good progress with the construction of groynes during July. Eight groynes are complete, six are nearing completion and the toes of the remaining seven groynes are well underway.



Completed fishtail groyne

With the completion of the beach recharge works all resources are now focussed on groyne construction. Two teams work simultaneously on the construction of groynes to increase production rates.

Green conical navigation markers similar to those used elsewhere in Felixstowe will be installed at the end of the groynes to mark their location. The concrete bases for the navigation markers have been moved to locations on the beach, ready to be placed in position once the rock work is complete.

We apologise for any inconvenience caused during the construction works.

Piling Works

Works to reinstate the section of seawall and promenade that failed in May 2006 got underway last month. Installation of 150m of steel sheet piled wall was successfully completed within one week in early July; two weeks earlier than anticipated.

Work has started on the concrete capping beam that will tie the steel sheet piles in with the existing promenade. Steel fixers are on site preparing steel reinforcement cages. We anticipate concrete pouring for the capping beam will commence in early August.



Steel sheet piling works

Promenade Closure

To ensure the health and safety of the public during the construction works access to the promenade has been restricted. A full closure is in effect from Manwick Road to Manor End and a partial closure from Manwick Road to Holland Road. The Sea Road car park, toilet facilities, gardens and footpath remain open to the public. We have re-opened the beach to the public between Holland Road and the war memorial north of the pier.

Access restrictions are being reviewed as works progress. Closures will be kept to a minimum and the promenade re-opened when it is safe to do so. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause.

Visits to the Construction Site

Visits to the construction site to explain the scheme in more detail can be arranged, Monday to Friday, by contacting Team Van Oord's Site Manager.

Contacts

If you have any queries or issues that you wish to discuss concerning the Southern Felixstowe Coastal Defence Scheme please contact:

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We ask for your co-operation during the works to keep off the rock groyne and out of the working area.