

Cabinet Lead Reports – Full Council 24th February 2021

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Cabinet Lead for Coastal Communities

Coastal Communities

South Hayling Beach Management Activities (BMA) (2017-2022)

An emergency beach recycling campaign commenced on 04/02/2021 in response to beach volume losses following Storm Bella and the recent unusual high swell wave events, which caused overtopping and flooding to Eastoke promenade.

During the works, beach material will initially be extracted from the Open Beach between the Funfair and the Coastguard Revetment. Once this has been completed, the Contractor will then move to extract any available material between the Funfair and Inn on the Beach. Should there still be a shortfall of beach material to restore the beach at Eastoke, there may be the possibility to import shingle material via road, stockpile in Eastoke Corner car park then distribute along the depleted beach areas.

A survey of the beach was carried out on 03/02/2021, following the swell event, to establish the full extent of beach losses between Eastoke Point and West Beach. Our contractor, Les Searle Group, mobilised to site on 29/01/2021 and were able to react to reinstate a narrow beach crest following the high swell wave event on 01/02/2021. The current beach recycling campaign is now expected to last 2-3 weeks.

Without undertaking the above campaign, further damage and coastal flooding will occur.

Broadmarsh Coastal Park, Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management (FCERM) Feasibility Study

Following the option appraisal work with the consultants, the leading technical option for the southern frontage has been confirmed by the project board. Some additional appraisal work is due to be carried out in house to compliment the work already completed.

The implementation stage of the project has begun, carrying out the broader outcomes and funding strategy. On completion of this piece of work over the next few months, a decision will be made as to how the scheme could be funded and taken forward.

Hayling Island Strategy

Following on from the two virtual engagement workshops in November 2020, the project team have carried out fourteen further virtual meetings with landowners,

business owners and key beneficiaries with an interest in the Hayling coastline to establish their short and long-term aspirations and build relationships going forward.

The information gathered will be used to understand where the key areas of focus need to be around the island, particularly from a flood and coastal erosion risk management perspective. It will also help inform and directly feed into the appraisal process as we enter into the next stage of the Strategy.

Langstone Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management (FCERM) Scheme – Detailed Design

The procurement of professional services of consulting design engineers is currently underway for the Langstone scheme. This team are looking to appoint a designer to build upon the Outline Design and develop the detailed design of a constructible scheme. The project anticipates the Detailed Design contract to be in place in March 2021. Once in place the Detailed Design is expected to take approximately 12 months to complete, and it is anticipated planning permission and marine licencing will take a further 12 months.

The team are also currently scoping and procuring heritage and archaeological advice and Early Contractor Involvement in the scheme.

A [project update video](#) was hosted on the project website and distributed to the community via a “uGov” newsletter in November 2020, which introduced the work of the Detailed Design phase. During the Detailed Design the project team will be working with all interested parties through a Stakeholder Working Group, so that, wherever possible, the community and stakeholders can have a say in the development of the design. The group is expected to meet at various stages, with themes to best address the topical issues and design discussions needed at each stage of the work. The team will continue to share information and updates with the community via the website and their newsletters.

In preparation now for the work ahead, the project team will be restarting discussions with some individuals and organisations along the frontage to discuss specific areas of direct impact, where further dialog is needed at the outset of detailed design.

ESCP Geomatics Division

Our Geomatics Division continue to support various services at HBC and the other authorities that form the Partnership. They recently completed surveys and drone imagery for the Langstone Harbour Scheme, Eastoke Drainage Study and South Hayling, BMA pre-works survey.

West Beach Timber Groynes Removal Works

We still await a formal letter of confirmation from the Environment Agency that the Council’s GiA application has been successful, we have however had verbal confirmation.

We are also able to report of a third timber groyne (G54) having taken big 'hits' since the beginning of the year, is no longer fit for repair and it is our recommendation to have it removed by the BMA contractor during February. This will leave only timber groyne and a 50m length of sloping revetment as the only remaining coastal protection structures on West Beach.

Regional Habitat Creation Programme (RHCP)

The Solent & South Downs RHCP is legally required to deliver habitat creation across the region, to replace habitats lost through Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management (FCERM). The RHCP is administered by the Environment Agency (EA), however limited progress had been made between 2011 and 2017 other than the delivery of the Medmerry Managed Realignment scheme in West Sussex. With many opportunities for habitat creation within the Havant Borough (and wider Coastal Partners' area), it has been critical for us to inform and progress this programme. Future FCERM schemes to protect people and property rely on the successful provision of compensatory habitat.

Phase 1 of the project, the Strategic Update, was completed in 2018 and confirmed the quantity of habitat creation required in this area to meet our legal obligations. Phase 2 of the project, the Tactical Stage, was completed in May 2020 with the finalisation of the 2018 Annual Review report and a summary note on various potential funding opportunities for habitat creation sites. The Tactical stage investigated 18 priority sites (five of which are within the Havant Borough) for their feasibility for intertidal habitat creation. Jointly with the EA we produced a habitat creation delivery plan that will ensure we meet our RHCP targets up to the end of the second epoch of the Shoreline Management Plan (i.e. 2055). Ten potential habitat creation sites have been added to the EA's Capital Investment Plan, which is the first step in securing FDGiA funding to start investigating the viability of these schemes.

Over the coming years, we will be looking at these sites in detail to confirm and plan the habitat creation opportunities as part of Phase 3, the Operational Phase of the RHCP.

Solent Bird Studies

The Solent Birds Studies is a study of the way over-wintering bird populations use coastal areas, with a particular focus on taking forward future FCERM and habitat creation projects. The data has and is being used to inform strategic planning and development management decisions. We are currently finalising some minor amendments that have been suggested by the Solent Waders and Brent Goose Strategy working group and will submit the report for formal approval by Natural England and Environment Agency once these have been made.

CIL

As CIL funding forms part of the Council Agenda there is no further update.

Housing

Development

This financial year has seen delivery delayed of new affordable housing units mainly due to the COVID-19 full lockdown in the early part of the year. However Q's 3 and 4 have seen increased activity with some new units finally handed over.

Q3

Land South of Barton's Road- Brookvale, 13 affordable rents and 2 Shared Ownership homes.

Q4- Expected

Woodcraft Farm - 10 Shared Ownership homes

Woodcraft Copse - 2 Social Rent and 10 Shared Ownership homes

Saxon Corner, Emsworth - 6 Affordable Rent and 8 Shared Ownership homes

This takes our delivery to 51 units for the 20/21 financial year.

The 21/22 financial year is set to start well with further units from all the above sites throughout 2021 and into 2022.

In addition, work has already started on the former Colt site, which will yield circa 95 new homes, all proposed to be a mixture of Social Rent and Shared Ownership.

Brent House

Two Saints advise that completion of their purchase of the block is imminent. Both the grant and nomination agreements have been sent to the Two Saints legal team for approval. Final legal input from HBC, which is in progress, is to agree the data sharing agreement between us and Two Saints.

Homelessness

Due to the current cold weather, SWEP (Severe Weather Emergency Protocol) is in place as I write this. Please will members continue to refer anyone they are aware of who needs help, to The Housing Team