

Arundel Tidal Walls Scheme - Phase 2

Newsletter 9 – December 2023

The work on Arundel Tidal Walls Scheme (Phase 2) is well under way. This work is essential and will provide better protection to the town from flooding and erosion. We update our website weekly with useful information and progress. There is also a frequently asked questions document and an indicative timeline.

What has happened so far?

Construction started on 31 July 2023 and weekly updates on the project's progression can be found on the Environment Agency Tidal Walls Scheme website.

The sheet piling phase was successfully completed on 25 November. All piles are now in place in front of the masonry wall at Tarrant Wharf and the Old Warehouse.

On 27 October during piling, there was a partial failure of the existing original masonry wall. At that time, sheet piles were already partially in place. The response plan was actioned and rock-filled bags were placed to protect the exposed areas. Subsequently, these bags were removed and repurposed as backfill behind the pile line.

A grout sock was installed at the end of the pile line to prevent water flowing behind the pile line. Backfilling is now underway to stabilise the wall in anticipation for the next stages.

The progression of work on site is closely tied to tide levels and river flows. Unfortunately, quiet periods on the barge are unavoidable due to environmental conditions impacting the works. These intervals serve as valuable opportunities for the site team to review planning and design for future stages of the scheme.

*Between **22 December and 2 January** there will be a temporary pause in construction activities for the festive break. During this period, both the Environment Agency and contractors will actively monitor the site.*

The Environment Agency has established a procedure for monitoring rainfall and tide levels. Contractor teams will remain on standby throughout the break, conducting regular checks on machinery and barges.

What will be happening next?

Work will continue to backfill between the existing wall and the pile line. This involves placing materials such as rock and soil behind the piles to provide stability to the wall. Additionally, work has begun to break down sections of the collapsed wall behind the piles and will continue this month.

During this period the jack-up barge will continue to move along the river during high tides to facilitate ongoing works.

The next stage of works involves the installation of waling beams and ground anchors. Waling beams are horizontal attachments to the river-facing side of the sheet piled wall which will interconnect the piles. These will also support timber fenders to protect vessels in the river. Ground anchors are long 'screws' drilled into the ground behind the wall which are tightened to ensure the walls integrity. This phase of works will create noise similar to the piling phase.

customer service line
03708 506 506

incident hotline
0800 80 70 60

floodline
03459 88 11 88

What will be the impact in the river?

The Local Notice to Mariners was issued by the Littlehampton Harbour Master on 22 July and can be found on the Littlehampton Harbour Board website – www.littlehampton.org.uk (in the Safety section).

How will the work impact traffic and parking around Arundel?

We continue to work closely with Arundel Town council, Arundel Event organisers and affected residents to minimise the impact of the works on the town particularly around the festive season. We are aware of the events occurring around town and have scheduled our works with these in mind.

There will be continued road closures and parking restrictions through December. If these are affecting you, please contact us using the contact details below. We will endeavour to time deliveries and road movements to avoid disrupting any event activities and the farmers' market.

Further information on road closures and parking restrictions can be found on <https://one.network/uk>

Contact us

We are keen to hear your views going forward; your feedback will help us plan our work to minimise impacts on the town.

Website

<https://consult.environment-agency.gov.uk/solent-and-south-downs/atws-phase2-info-page>



Contact details:

E-Mail:

ArundelTidalWalls@environment-agency.gov.uk

Telephone: Madeleine Spellman (Public Liaison Officer) 07721 248275 (9am to 5pm Monday to Friday)

Or write to: Michael Carleymith, Environment Agency, Guildbourne House, Chatsworth Road, Worthing, West Sussex, BN11 1LD.

We hope you have a merry festive season.

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