

Arundel Tidal Walls Scheme - Phase 2

Newsletter 10 – January 2024

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.

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 2023. All piles are now in place in front of the masonry wall at Tarrant Wharf and the Old Warehouse.

Following the partial failure of the wall in October 2023, efforts were undertaken to break down the fallen sections of wall into smaller chunks which could be repurposed as backfill to help stabilise the wall.

Backfill has now been completed, this involved using a self-levelling aggregate to fill the space between the old wall and the new wall. This helps support the old wall and gives a base for the finished ground surface between the two walls.

Despite challenging circumstances, we successfully completed the low-level drainage outfall between the original wall at Memorial Gardens and the new sheet pile wall. The low-level outfall is a pipe connection that extends a surface water drainage outfall through the new wall.

What will be happening next?

Currently, activities are in progress at the compound to ensure a smooth transition between project stages, including the reorganisation of the jack-up barge.

The partial collapse of the original wall also allowed for an opportunity to reengineer the design of the new sheet pile wall, it will now align with the design of the waling beam installed in Phase 1 works and enhance installation efficiency.

The waling beam is a horizontal beam which ties the sheet piles together. It will now be positioned behind the new sheet pile wall, in the gap between the old wall and the new structure. This adjustment gives a consistent appearance between the Phase 1 wall and the new sheet pile wall.

Once the waling beam has been installed, work will begin on the ground anchor installation. Long 'screws' will be drilled into the ground behind the wall. These will be tightened to pull the wall back against the ground behind. This phase of works will create a lot of noise, similar to the piling phase. We are currently determining the required number of ground anchors, considering the redesign of the waling beam.

Following delays associated with stormy weather, high river flows and the wall collapse, the overall timeline has been extended. The full programme is still being finalised and we will share the details when available.

Want to find out more?

We will be hosting another in-person drop-in event in March. We will share more details soon. In the meantime, feel free to reach out using the contact details provided below for any further information.

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).

This notice gives detail on disruption to river traffic. As of 8 September 2023, there is a full closure for all craft along the River Arun at Arundel between the A27 Bridge and the Queen Street Bridge. This closure will be in force while the jack-up barge is in place. We will issue an update on the programme when available.

If you see anyone using the river, please report this to the Littlehampton Harbour Master, 01903 721 215.

If this closure affects you and your use of the river, please contact us using the contact details below.

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.

There will be continued road closures and parking restrictions through January. 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 Carleysmith, Environment Agency, Guildbourne House, Chatsworth Road, Worthing, West Sussex, BN11 1LD.

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