

Arundel Tidal Walls Scheme - Phase 2

Newsletter 8 – November 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.

Newsletters will be publicly available on the scheme website and emailed out to our distribution list. If you would like to receive our newsletter please contact us to provide your email address. We will also aim to provide paper copies through Arundel Town Council noticeboards and public events.

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 there has been significant progress over the past couple of months. The River Road and Mill Road site compounds remain in constant use and the temporary flood barrier at River Road provides protection if water levels exceed the ground level in the River Road car park.

Piling work commenced on 29 September, and we have now completed two-thirds of the piling process. Throughout this phase, the jack-up barge has been repositioned along the wall as necessary.

On 27 October during piling, there was a partial failure of the original masonry wall along Tarrant Wharf. At that time, sheet piles were already partially in place. The collapsed section of wall was primarily behind the newly installed sheet pile barrier. The response plan was activated and rock-filled bags were placed to protect the exposed areas.

In response to Storm Ciaran and high tides in early November, additional flood mitigation measures were implemented along River Road. During the nights of 1 and 2 November, staff were

on standby throughout to monitor the situation closely. Water pumps were in place to lower the surface water if necessary. There were no reported instances of flooding during this period.

Detailed scans and surveys of the debris at the base of the collapsed wall were undertaken. On 6 November, the team successfully cleared a section of railing under the barge, enabling them to take advantage of the evening's high tide to relocate the barge further upriver.

What will be happening next?

Following the relocation of the barge on 6 November, work will commence removing the rock-filled bags. Once these have been removed, the team will begin clearing the debris from the pile line. We anticipate that the sheet piling work will resume during week commencing 13 November 2023. If all goes to plan, the final piling phase is estimated to take approximately two weeks to complete.

Piling can occur within the hours of 8am – 6pm between Monday and Friday. However, we have permission to move the barge outside of these hours. During piling, there will be a minimum of 90 minutes break time each day. The works may be disruptive to those directly adjacent due to the volume of concussion and magnitude of vibration.

Following the completion of the piling phase we will begin installing the waling beams. This work involves attaching horizontal beams to the river facing side of the new sheet piled wall. These will tie the piles together. These beams will be faced with timber fenders to protect vessels in the river.

We are exploring ways of using these beams to increase biodiversity opportunities on the wall.

Over the next few weeks, we will be conducting weekend works. This has been approved by the Arun District Council Environment Health Officer. On Saturday, 11 November we plan to work extended hours until approximately 4pm, carefully

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0800 80 70 60

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03459 88 11 88

avoiding the 11am 2-minute silence with a clear 15-minute window on each side. Additionally, on the weekend of 18 and 19 November, we have agreed to potentially work during daylight hours on both days from 8am to around 4:30pm, if necessary to complete the piling.

Want to find out more?

We will be hosting an in-person drop-in event on 4 December between 12pm-2:30pm inside the Arundel Museum. If you have questions or simply want to chat, please drop by. Our team members will be there to provide answers and assistance for any queries you may have. We look forward to meeting you!

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 effect until late Spring 2024 and includes paddlecraft. 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 November. 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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