

January 2023 – Issue #2

Welcome to the second edition of the Yaverland Coastal Defence Scheme Newsletter.

Hullabaloo

Thank you to those who participated in our interactive wave machine demonstrations using the JBA Trust Wave Machine at Hullabaloo in October. We put different types of coastal defences to the test and observed how this impacted wave motion. Our eagle-eyed participants even recognised some of the defence types from their local environment such as the wave return sea wall at Yaverland car park.

Congratulations to Zara (age 10) who is the winner of our 'Beach to the Future' competition. Zara's design includes measures to tackle plastic pollution and encourages us all to make changes to protect our coastal environments.

Thank you to Dinosaur Isle for providing a year's membership to Dinosaur Isle as the prize.

If you couldn't make Hullabaloo this year, never fear, Hullabaloo is back in 2023. Save the dates... Saturday 13 and Sunday 14 May 2023.

Public Realm - questionnaire results...

How do people use the Culver Parade Leisure Area?

Thank you to everyone who completed our questionnaire, we will consider your responses when developing our short list of potential options to refurbish the coastal defences. We have published a summary report on our website if you would like to find out more about the responses received and our response to them. See the image below to find out how people indicated the various ways they use the Culver Parade leisure area. If you missed the opportunity to provide your comments, we will be carrying out further consultation in 2023. We met with Sandown Town Council members on 21 November to share the questionnaire results. We observed that 'walking/running' and 'access to the shore/sea' were selected as the most popular usage of the Yaverland coastal frontage and look forward to continuing our discussions around accessibility and inclusion.

What public realm improvements do people most want to see in the culver parade leisure area?

Improved appearance of the sea wall also featured highly on the public realm questionnaire responses. We have started further conversations in response to this. Members of the project team met with a Sandown artist to seek advice on potential opportunities to incorporate art into the project design. We also viewed Artecology's innovative eco-engineered wildlife habitats on display at Hullabaloo and spoke to the team about potential options for boosting biodiversity in the design. See the graphic below to find out the most popular improvements and find full details on our website!

Ground Investigation

You may have seen our contractors out on site over the last 6 months collecting data. The ground level and Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) surveys are now complete.

In January 2023, we will start ground investigation work which is an important milestone for the project. Various types of machinery will be used as part of the work however this is purely for ground investigation and isn't part of the refurbishment works to the defences. Our contractors will drill boreholes at various points on the sea wall at Culver Parade using specialist equipment to retrieve a core which is sent to the laboratory for analysis. Machine excavated trenches located at intervals along the sea wall and next to the groynes will also be required. These slightly larger holes will be dug in the ground to allow the various layers of ground to be examined and further testing of materials if needed. These holes are then re-surfaced once the investigation is complete. We expect these investigations will take place over a five-week period.

Work sites will be safely contained using temporary fencing and will be supervised by on-site contractors. Temporary footpath diversions will be in place whilst work is completed and will be clearly signposted. Temporary parking bay suspensions will be in place in some locations for safety. Working hours will be between 7am and 5pm and the engineers will aim to minimise disruption wherever possible.

Thank you in advance for your patience and co-operation whilst this work is completed. A full set of Frequently Asked Questions is available on our website, but if you have any further queries or concerns, please contact us.

This information gathered from the ground investigations and other technical assessment will allow for potential options to be developed. Further details on how you can view and comment on the options will be provided in our next newsletter and via our mailing list. We encourage you to share your views on these options as we will use your feedback to help us refine the list down to a single preferred option.

Earth Science Week

We celebrated Earth Science Week (9-15 October) with a guided walk of Yaverland sea wall. We were joined by members of the local community and were treated to a fascinating introduction by Dinosaur Isle to the geology of the area. We discussed how our upcoming ground investigation surveys could potentially reveal more, as yet undocumented, footprints or other fossil remains. This work is also an opportunity to better understand the nature of the underlying geology.

In November we joined students from the Island VI form for their Geography class on coastal management. We chatted about career paths at the Environment Agency and discussed the financial, environmental, and technical challenges associated with extending the life of ageing coastal defences. Later that day, we also shared our plans with the Institute of Civil Engineers. We received advice from members who have great local knowledge and technical expertise.

For More Information...

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