

Dawlish Warren Beach Management Scheme

October 2016

Newsletter for Local Businesses, Residents and Visitors

The Environment Agency (EA) and Teignbridge District Council (TDC) are working together on the Dawlish Warren Beach Management Scheme (BMS). The main scheme is due to commence in 2017, but due to significant damage suffered to the groynes during the storms of winter 2015/16 a package of emergency works was completed in spring 2016.

Over the summer of 2016, a further programme of refurbishment and maintenance works were completed, focusing on groynes 5 to 9. These works have now successfully been completed, and have formed an excellent head start to the main works due to commence in 2017. Teignbridge District Council, the Environment Agency and the contractor responsible for completing the work, BMMJV, would like to thank everyone in the area for their co-operation during the works.



Completing refurbishment of Groyne 9

Groynes 5 to 9 have been strengthened using a new timber waling, and the planking has been refurbished using a combination of recycled and new timber. Badly damaged vertical posts were replaced with recycled timber. The work has already led to improvements, with accretion of sand witnessed in some areas.

Main Works

The Main Works of the Dawlish Warren Beach Management Scheme are due to commence in early 2017. The works include:

- Removal of stone filled gabions along the Warren to return the dunes to their natural state
- Demolition of groynes 10 to 14 and replacement with new timber groynes
- Dredging works to recharge the beach and increase sand levels, increasing protection to the dune and providing additional recreational beach area.
- Modification of existing groynes 1 to 9 to suit new beach levels
- Installation of a new defence at the narrowest point of the Warren (the 'neck') buried in the dunes to prevent a beach of the Warren in the event of an extreme storm.

The Main Works will be built by contractor BMMJV, who have knowledge of the area and it's sensitivities following successful completion of the works in 2016. BMMJV are committed to clear communication with the local community, and BMMJV's public liaison officer (PLO), Lawrence Jones, will be working to keep the community and stakeholders informed of upcoming works.



Statutory permissions for the Main Works have been granted and work can now begin.

Setting up of the construction site will start in January 2017 with the works lasting approximately 9 months. During the beach recharge works certain areas of the beach will be closed to ensure public safety, but every effort will be made to ensure public access to the amenities at Dawlish Warren.



Beach replenishment on the east coast of the UK, using similar methods to what will be used at Dawlish Warren

Key works that will be visible in the area:

- **January 2017: Establishing site compound in beach road car park**
- **February, March & May 2017: Removal of existing gabion stone, completed in two phases to avoid the busy Easter holiday period.**
- **April to June 2017: Installation of new timber groynes at groynes 10 to 14**
- **May 2017: Work commences at the neck following relocation of sand lizards**
- **June to August 2017: Dredging of material from Pole Sands, pumped onshore to replenish beach (restricted to these months to protect marine fauna)**
- **24th July 2017: Planned completion of work at the amenity area (Groynes 1 to 4) ahead of summer holidays**
- **September 2017: Completion of works**

Further information will be provided in the near future to explain the project in more detail.

Background to the project

The Exe Estuary Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy identified that the narrow part (or neck) of Dawlish Warren is at risk of being broken through (breached) as a result of sea level rise and storms. If this happened, it would increase the risk of flooding to the railway line and estuary communities such as Starcross, Lympstone and Exmouth.

The Strategy suggested that a range of works are needed at Dawlish Warren to allow the sand spit to continue to act as a barrier to storm waves. It will also improve the quality of the beach and allow the sand dunes to recover.

For further information about the Dawlish Warren Beach Management Scheme, your contacts are:

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