

Welcome to Issue 6

Inside this issue:

- ☐ [Welcome to Issue 6](#)
- ☐ [News from each local authority area](#)
- ☐ [News from the forums](#)
- ☐ [Project updates](#)
- ☐ [Repairs and Maintenance update](#)
- ☐ [Team update](#)
- ☐ [National updates](#)
- ☐ [Key dates in the diary](#)

Welcome to the spring edition of the Coastal Partnership East (CPE) newsletter.

I am delighted to announce that the CPE Board has confirmed the appointment of Karen Thomas (currently employed by the Water Management Alliance) as the new Head of Coastal Partnership East. Karen was selected from a very competitive field of strong candidates from across the country. She has a fantastic range of experience, is well respected within Norfolk and Suffolk and it gives me great pleasure to know that the future of CPE is in such good hands. Karen will start in mid June and I will retire after a short hand-over period in July. I anticipate that with your support Karen will continue to innovate and develop CPE; delivering for our coastal communities, economy and environment. We will be organising a full induction programme so I hope you can meet her soon.



Welcome Karen.

The appointment of Karen is part of the continuing development of CPE, see later in the newsletter for an update on the team including some exciting new opportunities.

In the meantime work continues apace on some of our largest projects, the Bacton to Walcott Sandscaping scheme and the Lowestoft Flood Risk Management Project.

You may see our new repairs and maintenance information on sites around the Suffolk coast, these are aimed at making sure we raise the profile of the important and significant work that we do. We have contracted the Water Management Alliance to do this work on our behalf. If you see them on the beach they do have an information leaflet detailing who we are and what work is taking place.



EASTSUFFOLK
COUNCIL



Connect with us

www.coasteast.org.uk/www.twitter.com/CPE_NandS

www.north-norfolk.gov.uk/www.twitter.com/northnorfolkdc

www.great-yarmouth.gov.uk/www.twitter.com/greatyarmouthbc

www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/www.twitter.com/EastSuffolk

Following on from the Committee on Climate Change's report "Managing the coast in a changing climate", we are working through the Local Government Association Coastal Special Interest Group at a national level to have a closer look at this topic. While there are no solutions yet, it is important that we raise awareness and take action now to reduce the impacts and to improve our resilience to coastal flooding and erosion.

Importantly we have also submitted a response to the Government consultation, "Review of local authorities' relative needs and resources" (the Fair Funding Review). We have been working with other coastal local authorities to ensure that the cost of maintaining coast defences for our coastal communities is not entirely funded locally. We await the response from government.

I hope that you find the newsletter both helpful and informative. If you would like any further information please do get in touch.

Bill Parker
Head of Coastal Partnership East

News from each local authority area

The number of local authority partners covered by CPE is now three, not four. This is because East Suffolk Council is a new district authority which, from April 2019, delivers services for the residents, businesses and communities previously served by Suffolk Coastal and Waveney District Councils. For CPE it is business as usual and we will continue to support the same communities as before.

News from the forums

North Norfolk Coastal Forum

The North Norfolk Coastal Forum met in Cromer in March. There were some excellent presentations given during the meeting on topics including Deep History Coast and Coastal Adaptation.

Rob Young of North Norfolk District Council gave a talk on Deep History Coast which is an initiative that North Norfolk District Council are leading on to promote the important archaeological finds along North Norfolk coastline. The project will include the development of a visitors centre and introduction of information points along the coastline to encourage visitors.

Kellie Fisher from CPE and the Environment Agency gave an introduction to coastal adaptation and the work that Rob, Bill and Kellie have been involved with trying to influence central Government. Kellie gave some examples of where adaptation has been successfully implemented including Happisburgh and East Bawtys (in Suffolk).

The group were updated on the current schemes and repair and maintenance projects underway by Fiona Keenaghan, Brian Farrow and Rob Goodliffe.

Suffolk Coast Forum

The latest Suffolk Coast Forum was held in February. It included a presentation on the Bacton Sandscaping Scheme sharing knowledge in Suffolk to some of the innovative work being undertaken on the north Norfolk coast. Also shared was an update on the progress the team have been making on coastal adaptation that was presented in Cromer. There was an update on the innovative work of the Benacre & Kessingland Flood Risk Management Project bringing four risk management authorities (the Environment Agency, East Suffolk Internal Drainage Board, Suffolk County and East Suffolk Councils) together with local businesses and parish councils to find an innovative adaptive solution to a challenging erosion problem. Finally, an update on the analysis of the Sizewell C proposals and identified consultation feedback was shared.

Bacton

Team Van Oord, have been contracted to deliver the scheme, with Royal HaskoningDHV providing project management and supervision services. The team is seeking to discharge pre-commencement marine and planning conditions including geological baseline records. Bird mitigation has been erected along some sections of the cliffs at Bacton Gas Terminal to prevent impacts to ornithology during works.

Hemsby and Winterton

A year ago, the 'Beast from the East' badly impacted Hemsby and Winterton. Since then we have been working hard to understand why this part of the coast was so badly impacted and what the options are for the way forward. Working with a Community Liaison Group, we have been developing options for the way forward. We recognised that we needed additional external expertise to support this work and have secured fully funded support from independent specialists through an Environment Agency project to help engage with the wider community. This will be one of only two case studies nationally being developed nationally. We welcome this additional support, and this will be getting started later in the summer.

Lowestoft Flood Risk Management Project

The Outline Business Case to support the project was submitted to the Environment Agency's Large Project Review Group in November 2018. Phase 1 of the proposed works, which includes the fluvial and pluvial works and advance tidal works (flood walls) has passed through the process, although Flood Defence Grant in Aid (FDGiA) and Local Levy funding can only be claimed for the fluvial and pluvial works at this stage. A planning application for the fluvial works, which includes a flood wall and small pumping station, has been submitted. The planning application for the advanced tidal works will be submitted in spring and construction, if successful, will begin in January 2019.

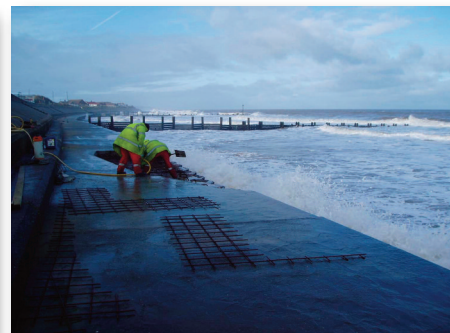
Sizewell C and Windfarm consultations

The stage 3 consultation for the proposed Sizewell C development and Anglia One North and Anglia Two wind farm developments have all undergone recent public consultations. CPE have been supporting the local authority responses ensuring that the specific coastal issues are identified and included in the responses. For the Sizewell C consultation, CPE has been supporting parishes and other local groups in understanding both the consultation documents and identifying potential areas that might be included in individual responses.

Repairs and Maintenance update

Update from North Norfolk

Works are constantly underway to keep the north Norfolk coast maintained to a high standard never ends. Key works recently have included repairs to lifted slabs along the apron at Bacton and Walcott, installation of flood drains at Walcott, removal of damaged beacon at Weybourne, repairs to revetments at Ostend and Bacton and an extension to the beach access ramp at East Runton. Our annual inspection took place along the whole coast recently and repairs have begun accordingly.



Repairs to the lifted slabs at Bacton and Walcott

A lot of work has gone into re-cutting the access ramp at Happisburgh after continual failure due to the toe of the ramp being washed away. The consents were granted to realign the rock sill closer to the cliff to enable it to provide the protection it was designed to. This rock sill realignment was completed in early March and the re-cutting of the access ramp began later in the month. Conditions permitting we are hoping to have the access ramp open by mid April.



Happisburgh access ramp



Repairs to revetments at Ostend and Bacton



Extension of the access ramp at East Runton

Update from Suffolk

We are continuing to build our working relationship with the East Suffolk Council's maintenance contractor, the Water Management Alliance, and some good work has already been successfully carried out.

More asset inspection data has been collected and is continuing to inform our deployment of resource. A lot of repair and maintenance works have been ongoing in Southwold north, town and at the Harbour fender, and along the Felixstowe frontage. Keith Roper and Warren Hoskins-Davies have been busy with asset inspections with Lucy Goodman supporting with the maintenance and development of our asset inspection tool.



The Water Management Alliance inspecting and repairing Southwold fender



Works being carried out at Felixstowe

Team update

Since the last newsletter we have been really successful with recruitment and are very pleased to introduce new members of the team. Fiona Keenaghan joined us on 10 December 2018 as Assistant Coastal Engineer mainly based in Cromer. We also have a new Coastal Engineering Assistant, Warren Hoskins-Davies, and Coastal Technical Assistant, Lucy Goodman, both of whom joined the team on 7 January 2019. This has now doubled the size of our Engineering Team, supporting the repair and maintenance and scheme delivery along our coastline.

Recently we have recruited a Coastal Management Technical Officer, based in Lowestoft on secondment from the Environment Agency. Madeline Fallon will lead on the technical analysis and project management of coastal processes assessments and tasks will include undertaking measurements and surveys, analysing data including undertaking coastal erosion assessments, processing data, producing reports and studies. She takes up her role in June.

We have recruited for an innovative new post of Coastal Adaptation Officer. Ann Casey will be based in Cromer working with our Coastal Manager (North), Rob Goodliffe and FCERM Senior Advisor, Kellie Fisher.

Also joining our team in Cromer will be a Coastal Management Technical Officer. Sonja Seaton will start in June and will work on the development and oversight of marine licensing, standardisation of planning application consultation responses, and supporting community engagement including contributions to a range of publicity and educational material.

In East Suffolk we are advertising for two apprentice posts. One will work in our engineering team in Lowestoft and as our first coastal engineering apprentice they will support the team with the preparation of engineering documents as well as core administrative tasks. Our Coastal Communications Apprentice will work alongside our Coastal Manager (South). For more information about either of these opportunities please see www.coasteast.org.uk/work-for-us.

We have successfully recruited two interns to join us for 12 weeks over the summer, based in Melton. Olivia Phillips and Brandon Orton will start in June, working with our Coastal Manager (South), Sharon Bleese.

In addition, applications have now closed for our Partnerships and Engagement Officer post, which we hope to fill very soon.

We are sorry to say good bye to Nathalie Harris, Technical Officer (Cromer), and Lucy Williams, Partnerships and Engagement Officer (Melton), and wish them well with their new careers.

National updates

Local Government Association Coastal Special Interest Group (LGA Coastal SIG)

At recent meetings, the group have focused on issues such as historic coastal landfill sites, the refresh of the Shoreline Management Plans, as well as feeding in to some items such as the Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management (FCERM) Strategy which we expect to see open for public consultation in the summer 2019.

The Chairman was invited to a “Ports and Planning Summit” meeting in December 2018, to explore issues related to ports and the planning system.

Defra are beginning the work to fulfil the detail of the Defra 25 Year Environment Plan, in particular the statement that “all local authorities with a coastal interest will be signed up to the Coastal Concordat by 2021”.

The House of Lords Select Committee on Regeneration of Coastal Towns and Communities has just reported (add link) following significant input including facilitating a workshop for the Lords from the SIG. The report can be found at <https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201719/ldselect/ldseaside/320/32002.htm>

The EFRA Committee is launching an inquiry into coastal flooding and adaptation to climate change with a closing date of Tuesday 30th April. <https://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/environment-food-and-rural-affairs-committee/news-parliament-2017/coastal-flooding-and-adaptation-to-climate-change-inquiry-launch-17-19/>. If you have views or observations we would encourage you to submit a response. EFRA is appointed by the House of Commons to examine the expenditure, administration and policy of the and its associated public bodies and is one of the 19 Select Committees.

Members were given the opportunity to feed their comments in to a review of legal responsibilities for drowning commissioned by the Maritime Coastguard Agency.

The group have fed in to a number of consultations in recent months; these can be found online at <https://lgacoastalsig.com/resources/consultation-responses/>

Key dates in the diary



Last summer's North Norfolk Coastal Forum field trip to Trimmingham Cliffs

13th June: Suffolk Coast Forum

18th – 20th June: Flood and Coast 2019

2nd July: North Norfolk Coastal Forum field trip

24th – 26th September: ICE conference

11th October: Suffolk Coast Forum conference

12th November: North Norfolk Coastal Forum

13th November: Suffolk Coast Forum