

Dawlish Warren Beach Management Scheme

January 2017

Newsletter for Local Businesses, Residents and Visitors

Drop-in session ahead of construction phase of Dawlish Beach Management Scheme

Residents and interested parties are invited to find out more about the construction of a £14million scheme aimed at reducing the risk of flooding to over 2,900 properties around the River Exe – which gets underway this month.

The public drop-in session, taking place on Thursday, 26 January, 3-8pm, at Mount Pleasant Inn, Dawlish Warren, will give residents the chance to find out about the Dawlish Warren Beach Management Scheme and how the Environment Agency and Teignbridge District Council are working together to complete the project by September.

Richard Cox, project manager for the Environment Agency said:

“We are pleased construction starts on site this month. We have invested a great deal of energy and time planning this scheme and have kept those who live and work in Dawlish and surrounding areas informed of developments. I would like to encourage as many people as possible to come along to the drop-in session and learn how we plan to build the works over the next nine months.

“We are phasing works so that construction on the most heavily used sections of beach at the western end of the Warren are complete before the 2017 summer school holidays. Access to at least some part of the beach will be maintained at all times.

“The safety and interests of the public remain our main consideration throughout the works.”

Key works will take place:

January: establishing site compounds in Beach Road car park and around the Warren

February, March and May: removing existing gabion stone – to be completed in two phases to avoid the Easter holiday period and allow translocation of sand lizards

April to June: installing new timber groynes (groynes 10 to 14)

May: starting work on the defences at the ‘neck’

June to mid-July: dredging material from Pole Sands, pumped onshore between groyne 1 and 4 to be complete before the start of the summer holiday

Mid-July to end of August: complete remaining beach replenishment work between groyne 4 to 14

September: works completed

Councillor Humphrey Clemens, Teignbridge District Council's executive portfolio holder for housing and planning, including coastal services, said:

"We are delighted work gets underway in Dawlish this month. We are committed to protecting and preserving the environment in the best way possible. Dawlish Warren is a jewel in the crown of our district but is also a fragile environment that nurtures wildlife and acts as a natural barrier against storm waves.

"The overall scheme will not only help to reduce flood risk but will also benefit the wildlife, visitors and local traders in years to come."

Significant damage suffered to groynes during the winter storms 2015/16 led to a package of emergency works being completed over spring and summer 2016. These have given a head start to the main works in 2017.

Contractor BMMJV will carry out construction.

News about Dawlish Beach Management Scheme will be shared via:

- <https://www.facebook.com/DawlishWarrenBMS/>
- #DawlishWarrenBMS

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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