

LOCAL SEA DEFENCES

WOLFERTON CREEK TO SOUTH HUNSTANTON ANNUAL UPDATE

THANK YOU

We are delighted to be able to confirm that with your help, and the contributions from local businesses, the Borough Council and Anglian Water, enough money has been raised to complete the proposed beach recycling works in March 2017 and carry forward a reserve. See the table below for the funding contributions received.

FUNDING CONTRIBUTIONS FOR 2017 BEACH RECYCLING

Source	Amount	Notes
EWCM CIC	£54,151	Includes funds from Caravan Parks, Beach Bungalow Associations and land owners (collected through the IDB)
Anglian Water	£25,000	Further £75,000 pledged to 2019/20
Borough Council	£5,000	
Beach Hut rents	£1,470	£15 added to Beach Hut rental
Private donations	£990	Private individuals either via cheque or online payments
Total	£86,611	

In addition the Environment Agency (EA) have, through a 15-year programme, secured 41% of the cost of maintaining the shingle ridge through a Grant in Aid from the Government for flood and coastal erosion risk management.

The 15-year programme also considers the need for a mini recharge* in year 6 onwards. The mini recharge is subject to the same 41% grant so additional funding will be required. The mini recharge is likely to be

around £2.4million. It is therefore important that any surplus funds raised each year are held in a reserve to be allocated to the recharge.

The beach recycling* cost depends upon the amount of material to be moved but it is usually between £132,000 and £180,000 each year.

It is clear from the figures, that we cannot be complacent and must all keep up our efforts to continue to raise funds for recharge and recycling works in future years.

THE WASH EAST COASTAL MANAGEMENT STRATEGY (WECMS)

The Borough Council and EA prepared the WECMS. The WECMS, published in 2015, looked at the whole coast from Hunstanton Cliffs to Wolferton Creek (see map). The strategy built on The Wash Shoreline Management Plan and came up with an integrated plan for the future management of the sea defences and adjacent land. The strategy set out options for coastal management for the short to medium term (25 to 50 years). The coastline covered by the strategy was divided into three areas as shown on the map below and summarised in the table below.

Units	Location	Lead Risk Management Authority
Unit A	Hunstanton Cliffs	BCKLWN
Unit B	Hunstanton Promenade	BCKLWN
Unit C	South Hunstanton to Wolferton Creek Concrete defences and shingle ridge	Environment Agency



The WECMS documents can be viewed here:
www.west-norfolk.gov.uk/pdf/FW02.pdf.

* **Beach Recycling** – each year, usually around late February/early March, the EA with Government funding have, through a contractor, moved shingle from Snettisham scalp and repaired storm damage along the shingle ridge that provides the local sea defence between Wolferton Creek and South Hunstanton. The contractors repair damaged areas and re-profile the beach to maintain the sea defences.

* **Beach Recharge** – is carried out when there is no longer enough beach material to continue recycling activities. Beach recharge involves importing material by taking material from offshore and pumping it onto the beach. Beach recharge has previously been carried out in 1990/91 and 2005/6.

WECMS IMPLEMENTATION

The WECMS is implemented jointly by the EA/ BCKLWN with feedback provided to the Stakeholder Forum. This group is made up from representatives of local Parish/Town Councils, agencies such as RSPB and other local interest groups such as Beach Bungalow Associations. The Group, which is Chaired by Councillor Ian Devereux, Borough Council Cabinet member for Environment, meets every six months. Agendas and minutes of these meetings are available on the Borough Council website www.west-norfolk.gov.uk/info/20098/water_management_and_flooding/176/wash_east_coastal_management_strategy

BACKGROUND TO FUNDING

In May 2011, the Government announced a new approach to funding projects in England that reduce flood and coastal erosion risks. The main objective of this new partnership funding policy is to offer communities the opportunity to invest in (and benefit from) local flood and coastal erosion risk management measures that could not be offered from central government funding alone. This new partnership approach has meant that despite Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Grant in Aid (FCERM GiA) not being able to fully fund the annual beach management works, with local funding sources, the works can be continued.

Between 2013 and 2015 the annual beach recycling work was paid for by Local Levy funding provided by the Regional Flood and Coastal Committee (RFCC). The RFCC approved the use of Local Levy, alongside contributions from the Borough and County Councils, to extend the beach management operation to March 2016. This funding enabled partnership funding arrangements to be set up to continue flood risk management activities into the future.

Various funding options were considered as part of the WECMS, the only practicable option was to set up a Community Interest Company (CIC) to raise the additional funds needed to complete the annual recycling. The EWCMC CIC was set up in February 2015. The CIC was set up to collect funding from local businesses and landowners. The success of this is clearly demonstrated in the funding contributions table overleaf.

DONATIONS

You can contribute directly either:

Online – use the Council's online form link to make your donation direct to the Local Sea Defences Fund.

By cheque – make cheques payable to the BCKLWN. Please write on the back 'Local Sea Defences Fund', together with your name and address.

KEEP UP TO DATE:

Wash East Coastal Management Strategy
www.west-norfolk.gov.uk/info/20098/water_management_and_flooding/176/wash_east_coastal_management_strategy

Local sea defences funding
www.west-norfolk.gov.uk/info/20098/water_management_and_flooding/175/local_sea_defences_funding