Lowestoft South Beach Coastal Works
Phase 2
May 2015 FAQs Update

Question 1: Why is the work being done through summer months? The Council was offered central government grant funding to pay for the work which could not be afforded from local budgets alone. A condition of that grant was that work must be undertaken urgently. The Council decided to accept the grant under those terms on grounds that the long term benefits of the work outweighed the disruption caused by working through the summer season.

Question 2: What work is to be done under Phase 2? Phase 2 will include; rock structures on the beach to protect the seawall at Children’s Corner, a replacement beach access ramp, replacement of damaged coping stones (edging blocks along the promenade), improvements to drainage channels and beach nourishment and new guard railing. Plans showing the detail of the works are available on our website www.waveney.gov.uk/LSBPhase2. Phase 1 was completed in January of 2015.

Question 3: When will work begin and how long will it last? Work to improve the promenade began in early May and will continue until September 2015. Works on the beach, that will involve the delivery by sea of ~14,000 tones of rock, is planned to start in late June and continue until September. Nourishment of the low beach using sand and shingle taken from the healthy beach south of the Claremont Pier, will happen from mid September to reduce disruption to users of that prime amenity beach. The project has planning approval however other approvals for work on the beach must be obtained before building begins. The beach work timetable is therefore subject to change.

Question 4: What restrictions will be in place while the works are carried out? Will the beach to the south of the Claremont Pier be affected? While work on the promenade is carried out, the part of the promenade from the seaward edge to the street lamp line running along the centre of the prom will be closed. The work will also require the temporary closure of the cycle track from Parade Road South to the Pavilion. There will be a phased reopening of the prom from south to north as works are completed, to minimise negative impacts over the summer season. The blue flag beach to the south of the Claremont pier will remain open and unaffected through the summer season. However, there will be temporary access restrictions on the open beaches to both north and south of Claremont Pier while beach recycling works are undertaken. There will probably be a beach recycling operation affecting the beach to the north of the Claremont Pier during rock delivery and placement works in June, July and August.

Question 5: When will access to the Children’s Corner north end beach be restored? Erosion here means that it is unlikely that a wide, healthy beach will develop. The Phase 2 rock structures are intended to protect the seawall; however they may have the additional benefit of retaining a modest amenity beach. The beach at Children’s Corner had been regarded as unsafe for bathing prior to the 2013 closure owing to hazards which include submerged obstructions, a risk of being cut off by rising tides and strong tidal currents. The rock structures proposed in Phase 2 are expected to raise the amenity value of the beach but the extent of potential improvement is uncertain. It will be monitored after construction, and a decision taken by beach management staff, on what limitations on access to the beach are required to ensure public safety.

Question 6: Where can we find out more information and who do we contact if we have a question or concern? More detailed information is available on the Waveney District Council website at www.waveney.gov.uk/LSBPhase2. There will also be regular updates on Twitter at www.twitter.com/CoastManSuffolk. The Contractor’s site manager is Gary Burgess who can be contacted on 07972095261

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