

CABINET MEMBERS REPORT TO COUNCIL

21 February 2024

COUNCILLOR HARRY BLATHWAYT - CABINET MEMBER FOR COAST

For the period January to February 2024

1 Progress on Portfolio Matters.

Cromer and Mundesley Schemes

- Pre-commencement planning conditions have been discharged and Mundesley works compound set up commenced on 5th February 2024.
- Letter drop for local residents and businesses in Mundesley was completed on 30th and 31st January 2024 in line with our Construction Environment Management Plan (CEMP).
- Once preparations are in place for the establishment of the Cromer works compound, local stakeholders will be informed of the detailed arrangements.
- Local Liaison Group meetings and public drop-in sessions are being planned prior to the works commencing in full.

Coastwise

- Coastwise Café drop in events took place in Trimmingham, Walcott, Happisburgh, Sheringham (to cover the Runtons, Beeston Regis and Weybourne) and Overstrand. Each event covers all parts of the coast and have been well attended.
- The team attended the national Flood & Coast Innovation Programme winter forum (bringing together representatives of innovation and adaptation projects from around the country). Theme for this year was looking to the future with an emphasis on learning, success and legacy.
- Development of Coastwise survey almost complete.
- UEA Environment consultancy module projects with Climate are being presented to students this month.

Repairs and Maintenance

- Repairs of block revetment and storm damage at Overstrand
- Floodgate repairs
- Repairs to handrails and accesses in Cromer, Sheringham and Walcott
- Drones used to monitor cliffs along the coast.

Shoreline Management Plan Explorer

- Shoreline Management Plan Explorer went live and can be found at [Kelling Hard to Lowestoft SMP6 | Shoreline Management Plans \(data.gov.uk\)](https://kelling-hard-to-lowestoft.smp6.gov.uk) . This new digital tool will enable much easier access to

SMPs across the country, increasing awareness and encouraging their use in decision-making.

Matters relating to Internal Drainage Board (IDB)

The Local Government Association (LGA) IDB Special Interest Group (SIG) lobbied for a response to the urgent need for funding reform to Government Ministers and MPs at a recent Parliamentary event (which I attended). The intention is to secure additional funding for Councils suffering under the burden of paying for land drainage, and to change to the present funding model that is inequitable.

A one-off payment has been secured to assist with rising land drainage costs, and Parliament has been urged to implement a longer-term solution.

2 Forthcoming Activities and Developments.

Cromer and Mundesley Schemes

- Mundesley Coastal Management Scheme works and surveys at Mundesley commencing early March 2024.
- Start of establishment of compound required at Cromer from 19th February with cabins arriving 27th March.
- Letter drop for local residents and businesses in Cromer.
- Local liaison groups and drop-in sessions in both Cromer and Mundesley.

Coastwise

- Development of options to support Happisburgh Parish Council in the replacement of the Happisburgh car park entrance.
- Coastwise survey will be promoted through the March edition of Outlook magazine.

Repairs and Maintenance

- Repairs to revetments at Bacton.

3 Meetings attended.

05/01/24 Broads authority Planning Committee
08/01/24 Cabinet/Business Planning
09/01/24 Mundesley/Cromer Project board
09/01/24 BA Chairs group meeting
10/01/24 LGA IDB Funding meeting
11/01/24 BA Navigation Committee
15/01/24 Broadland futures Initiative meeting
14/01/24 Norfolk Coastal Partnership chairs meeting
16/01/24 Coastwise Board meeting
16/01/24 Budget meeting

22/01/24 Business planning
24/01/24 Norfolk Rivers IDB
25/01/24 BA Chairs Briefing
26/01/24 BA Board Meeting
26/01/24 Coastwise pop-up café Trimingham
30/01/24 EA Shoreline Management Plan explorer refresh briefing
30/01/24 Coastwise pop-up café Walcot
31/01/24 Wash & Norfolk Coastal Forum
01/02/24 Coastwise pop-up Café Happisburgh
02/02/24 BA Planning Meeting
02/02/24 MPs Flood meeting, Hickling Barn
05/02/24 Cabinet
06/02/24 Mundesley/Cromer Project Board
06/02/24 LGA IDB (funding) SIG Parliamentary members meeting.
07/02/24 Coastwise pop-up café Overstrand
08/02/24 Broads IDB