

BRIGHTLINGSEA HARBOUR COMMISSIONERS

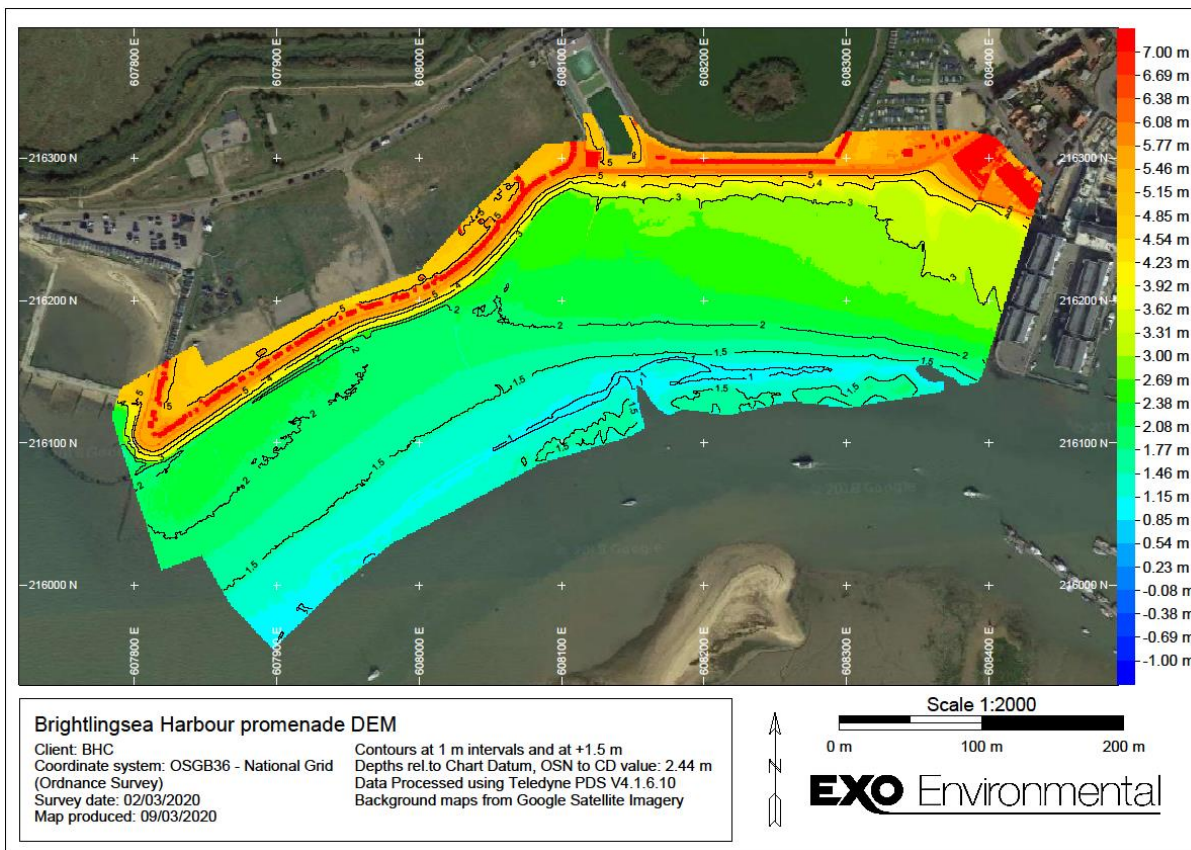
Stakeholders Newsletter 17/03/2020

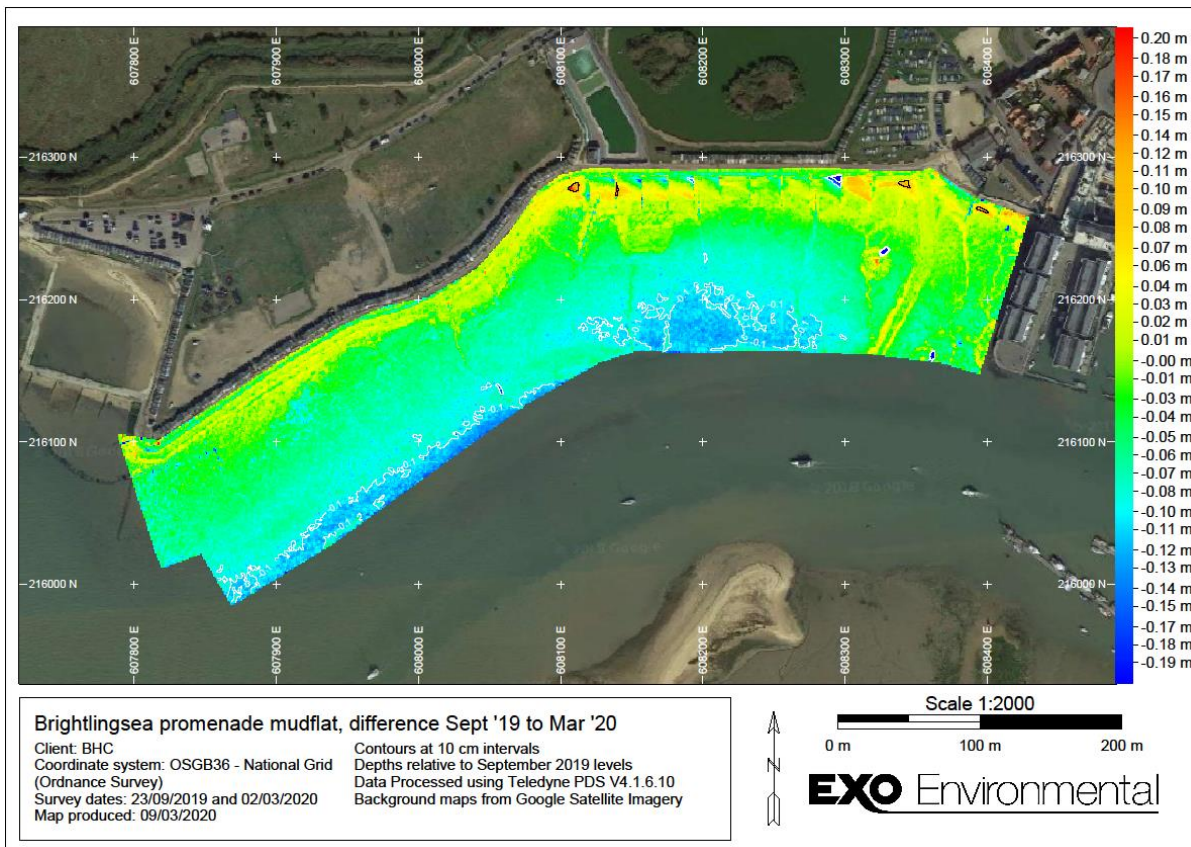
USAR

William Coulet gave an update on the USAR dredging project, the depth level reduction in Fieldgate dock, the international award winning work that had occurred on the saltmarsh.

Fieldgate Dock surveys:

The Southerly intertidal zone of Brightlingsea, between creek mouth and the marina complex is surveyed on a bi-annual basis to provide factual evidence relating to accumulation or erosion of sediments. March 2020 photogrammetry survey is shown below with elevations relating to metre Chart Datum. The survey has been compared to survey September 2019 and a differences map produced, show below. It can be noted that some accumulation has occurred near the sailing club and easterly beach huts (boating lake), this has been confirmed on site and mainly relates to sediments dispersed by the winter storms. Erosion has occurred at the oyster reef and deeper parts of the intertidal. It should be noted that the accuracy of the surveys are +/- 2cm.





The Interreg project Using Sediment As a Resource is coming to an end by the 30th April 2020. The result of the USAR project in Brightlingsea is a significant capital and maintenance dredge of the navigational channels over the years 2016 - 2020. The majority of the sediment was reused in the restoration of intertidal mudflats and saltmarshes. The saltmarshes help protect the coast and reduce the need for extra flood embankment upgrades. Below some photos of the St Osyth Borrow Pit restoration with dredged material.

The USAR project as been an example (pilot) project that has put Brightlingsea on the map through the delivery of innovative methods and application of 'working with nature' and 'nature based solutions' believed to support the adaptation to climate change. Because of this Brightlingsea Harbour Commissioners have been commended by the Dutch 'Green Deal' and been named in relevant publications by PIANC and CEDA working groups. Work will continue on this exciting project, with a visit planned of the Thames Dredging Liaison Group in May.



Figure 1, May 2017 before works



Figure 2, March 2018 after phase 1 works



Figure 3, October 2019, colonisation with Samphire after one year.



Figure 4, March 2020 repairs and additional works.

Harbour News

Shipping - 17 Ships have been on the Wharf since 14/10/2019, cement in from Portugal, Scrap out to Spain, woodchip to Middleborough and aggregate in from the Thames. Comparatively the same period last year accounted for 18 ships. The future looks like more of the same.

Commercial Activity - Survey vessels, working in the Blackwater. Windfarm propeller replacement programme work ending and some out of season storage.

Harbour Maintenance - The work over the winter has included;

- Pressure washing
- New engines on Ferry and Controls
- CCTV Revamp
- Taxi Refit including covers
- Trinity house desktop excellent report.
- Planking.
- Pile Blackening.
- Concrete pan in wreck house.
- PPE servicing
- Flares replaced
- Fire Extinguishers
- Dracula Compass Swung
- Boat Park Clearance
- Inner bench Head serviced
- Mooring chain remediation.
- Town Jetty refurbishment
- Hard Hut step.
- SMS inspection.
- Fuel berth Maintenance

Maintenance to do- The work we have still to do;

- Boat Park upgrade.
- Office Entrance.
- Workshop rear.
- Office outside painting.
- Some other moorings.

- 2nd Ferry in.
- Colne Guardian anti-foul.
- Town Jetty.

Marina

- Dredging continues into April 20.
- Maintenance Dredging scheduled throughout the year.
- Toilets and showers are open - coding system details have been sent out.
- Wi-Fi Enhancement is being planned.

The season

- Starts 4th April
- Beach clean - 09.00 -10.30 Sunday 29th - Cancelled
- Ferry - Colne Connection- Prices Frozen once more.
- Taxi - Prices frozen once more.
- Charter - The ferries are available to do this.
- Wivenhoe trip - Evening cruises will be added to the itinerary.
- Regatta 4-5 July

Respect the River

- Patrols once again conducted up River and locally.
- CBC looking to improve the River.
- Days of Action once again, will occur.

Safety

- Letting people know you are afloat.
- Wear a Lifejacket.
- Have a radio.
- Don't leave a lifejacket in your tender, people can leave life jackets in the lockers in the toilets.
- Have a torch at night.
- Licenced mooring holders are responsible for their ground tackle and ensuring it is maintained, a recent case of a vessel being stranded on the St Osyth salt marsh because his chain parted is not acceptable.

Crabbing

- Aim for a no plastic zone on the Jetty, we will develop this concept over the season with an aspiration to achieve this by next season.
- Big plastic bin will be placed at the head of the jetty to dispose of plastic lines and buckets.
- A fund has been set up in conjunction with BTC so we are able to replace plastic line with biodegradable line on timber handles.
- Tin buckets will be loaned out by the Harbour.

The Future the Commissioners Objectives were once again stated;

One-year objectives:

- To finalise with Brightlingsea Town Council an updated Licence/Lease agreement regarding managing and maintaining the Boat Park, Hard and Town Jetty

Three-year objectives:

- To establish a permanent ferry landing stage at Point Clear
- To establish a designated parking area for short-term use by mooring holders and visitors
- To establish access to power and water for certain harbour moorings, using modern technologies wherever possible.

Capital Equipment Replacement

Strategy endorsed, with aim to replace, as and when necessary, with more environmentally friendly equipment.

Posts on Hard

It was agreed that further consideration should be given to the environmental impact of current use and ways to mitigate this.

A Scott gave a presentation on the provision of power to the visitor's pontoon in line with one of the three year objectives; *to establish access to power and water for certain harbour moorings, using modern technologies wherever possible*. It would be likely solar powered and located up to 9m west of the pontoon. Stakeholders were invited to comment at the meeting however it was thought a future consultation would still be required.

Other stakeholder News

G Dowd from **Purelake** asked that a statement be read out by the HM; 'we have now received structural and maintenance surveys of the already built blocks around the marina. We will organise a meeting with residents and occupants/neighbours when safe to do so, probably mid-summer now, to agree priority for works required, including decorations or cleaning of render'.