

William Coulet briefed those in attendance about the 1st Phase of the project to dredge the Harbour and use the sediment to reinstate the saltmarsh. The project is part of a European Intereg programme that has been set up to investigate the use of sediment as a resource (USAR). It is partially funded by BHC with the remaining funds being granted by the programme.

Year 1 Nov 16- Mar 17 Main channels West and East, Oliver's wharf to (-1m CD) and the fuel barge to (-0.75m CD).

The Hump has been removed.

The first bush fascines have been constructed on Cindery West.

Testing and monitoring has been taking place and will continue.

162 Harbour News

Shipping - The harbour is operating as such and receiving ships regularly at an average of 2 / month.

Dredging - the Channel has been cleared and some dredging of the south channel has been carried out.

Marina Silt deposit monitoring continues.

Maintenance - Ferries, glued and re-engined, Taxi, RHIB, Dracula, Harbour Office refreshed, Majority of moorings complete
Buoyage leading lights complete, inspection of navigation from Trinity house reports no problems.

Piles - Have been professionally surveyed results are not as bleak as forecast.

Tide guage - Ordered and on route

Future Plans

Coastal Path - Visited by natural England who will brief the committee on next meeting.

Boat Park - its purpose is to provide inexpensive access to the water, however it is subject to occasional abuse. Those who violate the principle will be invited to give up their space for others who want to use it as intended. There will be a maintenance period next year where current occupiers will be asked to remove their craft temporarily.

Marina - Outline plan, West basin visitors, East Basin permanent, possible dredging requirement at the end of the season dependent on depths monitoring.

Visitors Guide - Collecting the last of the artwork for advertisers, then will publish.

Stakeholder Engagement - the stakeholders include the town businesses, the harbour will work with them to improve the visitors offer.

Regatta/ Blessing of the seas
27/28 May 17 this will include fireworks.

Essex police and Marine watch -Brightlingsea have a special constable. He is working with BHC and CBC to address the problem of PWC among other issues in the foreseeable future.

163 Matters raised by members

Members raised concern that Olivers wharf were failing to comply with their operating licence, they would like the harbour authority to take action. It was explained that the only action they could take would be to make a robust complaint to the licencing authorities, which would require evidence. The Harbour master will investigate and visit the Wharf.

S Pier challenged the Harbour master to explain the difference between a speeding Dinghy and a speeding Jet-ski. A lively debate ensued resulting in the harbourmaster resolving to set up a meeting with interested parties to discuss the matter and find a solution.

The chair proposed a vote of thanks be extended to Chris Edwards for his contribution to the committee as both member and Chair over the last 12 yrs.

164 Meeting closed 19.40

165 Date of next Meeting

12 Oct 2017