 Cllr Representation Report

Councillor: Keith Patience

Body Lowestoft Flood risk Management Plan Project

Report Date: Thursday 28th October 2021.

**Project Overview – Tidal**

**Tidal Floodwalls**

The progress being made on site is amazing. The footpaths that run along Hamilton Road now in the process of being reinstated on the peninsula end. The works have reached the SPR entrance which will be starting in a few weeks.

The works on Waveney Road are nearing the port entrance. Balfour Beatty and their subcontractors are doing concrete pours in a hit and miss process where one section is poured, the next section is missed and then the third section is poured. shared this is common practice and effective at enabling quick progress.

The installation of the brickwork along Waveney Road side of the floodwall and that coping will be going on top of that and the security fence will be erected early 2022.

Package 2 of the floodwalls which were due to start at the beginning of October have been delayed as a result of legal agreements not yet being in place. Officers are currently in discussions with the Yacht Club and Harry Levys, and the package 2 has been delayed until January 2022. TEP informed the group the works will now need to be split over two winters, as summer construction cannot take place due to tourism interests, with works stopping in March and recommencing in October. This will incur costs and programme delays. TEP is working with BB to see what can be achieved next

**Tidal Barrier**

 A 40m barrier gate is now going to constructed instead of the one that was originally set to go in and should be completed by the end of 2021. The outline and detailed design will begin next year and will take about.

A section of the north tug arm will now be demolished as part of the barrier design, which introduces some complexities. Also there may be need for additional ground investigations to understand what’s underneath as the structure has developed over years, investigations may be needed to determine the details.

A high-level programme with the group. It was explained it was a more detailed programme than the bubble previously shared with the group, showing package 2 of the tidal floodwalls as taking place over two winters. TEP explained the programme included indicative programmes for the tidal barrier design phases. TEP added the project team are in the process of liaising with legal team BDP Pitman in terms of reducing the program. TEP added the team are also looking into the possibility of starting the Transport Works Act Order (TWAO) documentation earlier.

The Velda Close works have now been completed

The meeting was informed that 122 out of 123 houses now have Property Level Resilience (PLR) measures installed. The tenant in the remaining property is disabled and required a zero-threshold flood door, which is a specialist piece of equipment to source. This has now arrived, and the team are getting in touch with the tenant to arrange installation. This should be completed in November. This project led by Suffolk County Council (SCC).

**Key Project Risks**

The meeting was informed of the project risks as follows:

* Legal agreements – resulted in package 2 of tidal floodwalls construction split across two winter seasons, delaying the programme by six months in which BB will de-mobilise and re-mobilise.
* Significant material and resource availability issues, particularly around HGV drivers and impact on construction costs, which may continue to go up with the delay across two winters.
* Utility diversions – good progress has been made, with reasonably good relationships with the utility providers.
* Private utilities – there are lots of them, some active. There have been instances where even the landowners were unaware of their existence.
* TWAO approval – programme workshop planned to see if the TWAO submission process can be moved forward a bit.

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**Funding and Finance Update**

Additional funding will be needed for the 40m barrier of which the project has secured £67m, but additional funding will be needed for the 40m barrier which Paul Mackie is currently working to secure.