

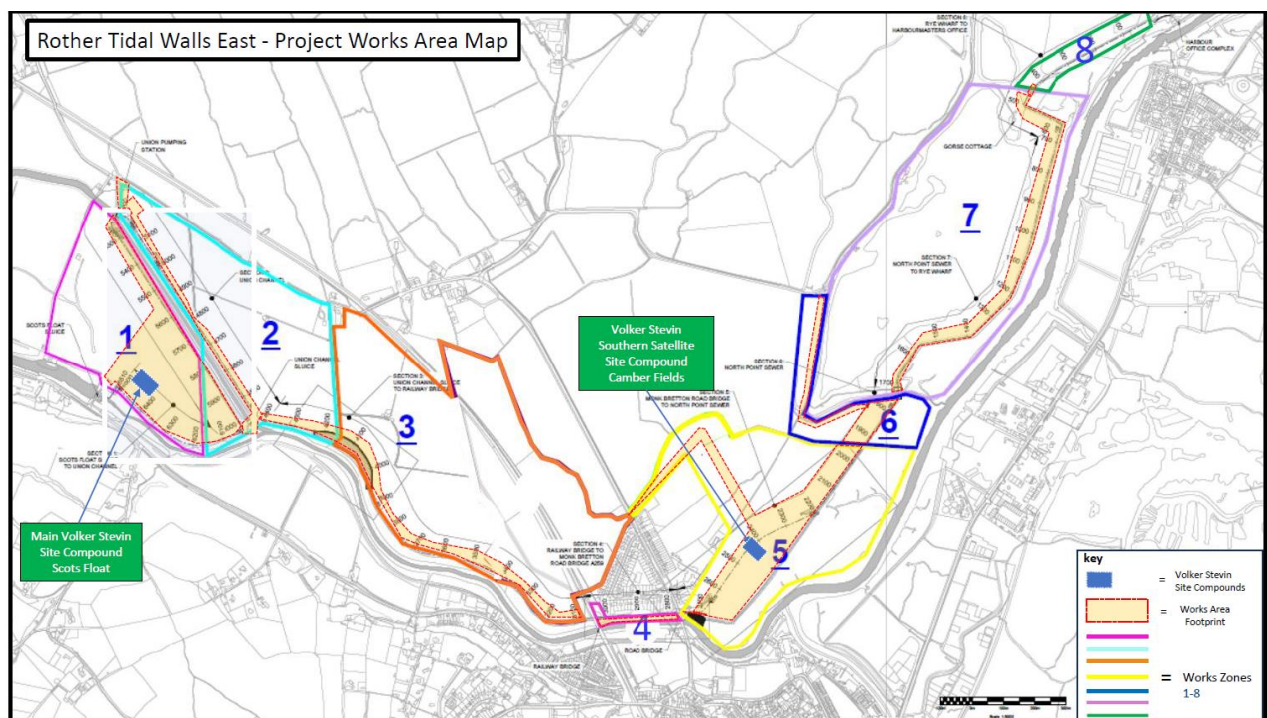
Date: 15 January 2024

Dear Local Community Member

RE: JANUARY NEWSLETTER – ROTHER TIDAL WALLS EAST (RTWE)

Overview of works from 31 October 2023 – 1 March 2024

We are writing to inform you of our works that have been completed to date and our proposed works schedule to commence on 1 March 2024. These are as follows.



Sections 1-3 (Scots Float to railway line)

During Spring 2024, we intend to finalise proposals for the piling works at North Point Pumping Station, the removal of the existing gates at Union Channel Sluice and the scour protection area at the setback area.

Sections 4-7 (Railway bridge to golf club)

Section 4 Kings Avenue

We have carried out investigation works at the railway bridge to verify the location of the foundations and have completed badger mitigation works. The design of the steel sheet piling in this section has also been finalised, including the capping beam, which will sit on top of the final sheet pile line.



[Kings Avenue, Rye]

Prior to the start of works, we intend to finalise our proposals with relevant authorities to create an access area into section 4 from New Road adjacent to the Monk Bretton Bridge. We will also be completing our preparations for the piling works, which will commence in April 2024.

Section 5 (Camber Fields)

Works completed to date include the import of 13,000m³ (cubic metres) as below:

- 7,000m³ of imported clay material has been placed to create the new setback flood embankment for the creation of a new saltmarsh habitat area.
- 6000m³ of imported clay material has been stockpiled ready to go for March 2024 new flood embankment Earthworks commencement.

Proposed works include the following:

- Complete the site compound set up in Camber Fields.
- Recommence the importation and placing of clay material.

Section 6 North Point Sewer

- We propose to install a temporary access track at North Point Pumping Station.

Section 7 North Point Sewer to Golf Club

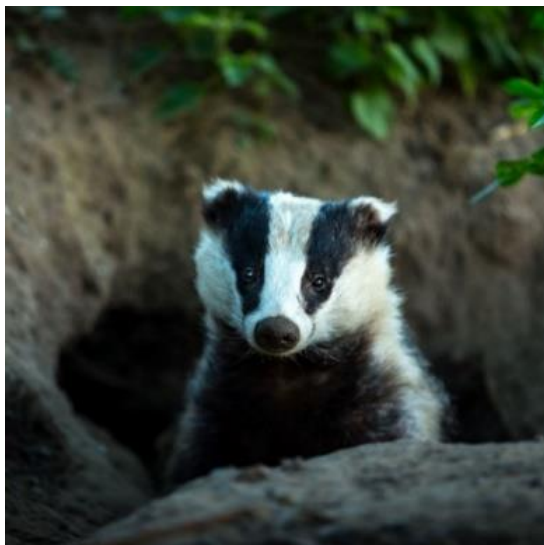
- Ecology mitigation works have been completed together with the topsoil strip to the new flood embankment footprint.

Scots Float to Rye Golf Club (Work Sections 1 2 3 4 5 6 and 7)

- Works commence back onsite from 1 March 2024.
- The Public Right of Way (PROW) from Scots Float to Monk Bretton Bridge will remain closed off to the general public during this period.

Ecology

We have identified badger sets within close proximity of our works areas. This has led us to monitoring the sets prior to establishing new badger setts located outside of the works areas. We have created a barrier preventing re-entry of the badgers for the duration of the project. These measures are happening at two locations on our site.



[Badger emerging from Sett]

All translocation of species have now been completed. However, these areas will continue to be checked under an ecological watching brief in the future, whilst we carry out our works.



Bird watching group

We continue to welcome and support the local bird watching group to site. Bob Greenhalf and Mary Bonham, members of the group, recorded their sightings and shared this with the site team, as they do on a monthly basis here, which is fed into a National database. It is a privilege to support their ongoing work to monitor the local wildlife for its preservation. During the Winter period the group spotted a variety of birds, some of which include: the Great Black-Backed Gull, Kingfishers, Wigeons, Teals and Redshanks.



[Members of Rye Bird watching group]

Community & engagement

We hosted a Macmillan Coffee Morning at our Customer Visitor Centre, which was a huge success and have raised £153.40 for a great cause!



[McMillan Coffee Morning]



Strandliners

We recently had another visit from the Strandliners group who carried out a riverbank survey on plastic pollution at Scots Float Sluice. The group picked up litter along the bank and brought it back to site so that their findings could be recorded. The group aim to reduce plastic pollution by recording their findings to make plastic pollution more traceable.



[Litter picking and sorting – River bank and Visitor Centre]

Rother Tidal Walls East film

At the end of last season we had the great opportunity of welcoming Kaleidoscope Films to site to create a film 'roundup' of all the work and exciting things we are achieving here at RTWE. We will be arranging a local screening in the Spring with a Q & A (details to follow) but in the meantime here is the video link for you to enjoy. Just scan the QR code below from your phone to access or visit our website to view <https://www.volkerstevin.co.uk/en/news/detail/work-progresses-on-rother-tidal-walls-east-flood-defence-scheme>



SCAN ME!!



SCAN ME to watch our 2023
Roundup Video





We will continue to inform the local community in the form of these quarterly newsletters which are supplemented with activity specific letters when the need arises. We have commissioned new information boards, which will be erected around our site early this year.

We are also continuing our engagement into 2024 with the local community to promote the scheme and we look forward to providing regular updates into various community events over the coming year. Our Customer Experience Centre will remain open over the winter period on specific days and you are welcome to come in, speak to us and find out more.

Future events

We will continue to promote the scheme and inform the local community by way of further presentations to the parish councils in the locality, Rye Town Council, having a presence at Rye Market, organising fund raising events, continuing to facilitate voluntary organisations events such as the Strandliners and the monthly bird surveys, engaging with Rye News and other media outlets. In the Summer we will be executing an art project and holding a film screening about the project in the Spring. Dates of our key events will be available in due course.

If you belong to a local school or community group, please email us and we will include you in our future engagement communications. More information can be found on the project website [Rother Tidal Walls East | Engage Environment Agency \(engagementhq.com\)](https://www.engageenvironmentagency.com)



Should you have any questions or queries about the scheme or this site please contact the project team directly via email at rothertidalwallseast@environment-agency.gov.uk or call us on 03708 506 506. Outside of normal hours you can also report any incident via our 24/7 Hotline on 0800 80 70 60.

Yours sincerely,

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