

West Bay Coastal Improvements Project - Team response to comments made at the public consultation event held in March 2016

Category	You said	Our response
Both Beaches Visual/Amenity	Anything higher than existing would damage sea views & be unacceptable in this holiday area.	It is evident from the number of responses on this topic that visual aspect and amenity are of paramount importance to the community. The project team includes landscape planners and architects, and close attention will be paid to designing and constructing a scheme that not only sits sympathetically within the environment but also enables safe access to and enjoyment of these valuable attributes.
	Something must be designed both to do the job and blend in with the extremely important heritage coastline	
	Think it's important to have access to beach (tourism) and visually pleasant aspect (for all).	
	Gabion - may be more sympathetic. Glass Wall- very modern! Gabions!!! Please... With regards the possible engineering solutions discussed on Friday it is difficult to make an informed opinion but a barrier, whether gabions or a wall of some construction, would seem essential. A glass wall sounds intriguing and modern and there may be some merit in making a safe walkway (promenade) on the top of the barrier and between East Pier and East Cliff.	
	This with the harbour is the HEART of West Bay and its conservation area. The reason so many tourists visit- a mainstay of rural economy. Jewel in the crown! Treasure it. West Bay is unique. Nowhere like it along the Dorset Coastline- VERY SPECIAL. Harbour Lights and Broadchurch - Economy, Visitors, Revenue. You just have to save West Bay.	
Both Beaches Joined up thinking	The split in responsibility between West Beach (WDDC) and East Beach (EA) left me concerned. Surely we need a coordinated approach covering the whole of West Bay. One of the people I spoke to got me really worried when he said, funding for work on East Beach would be limited as so much had already been spent on West Beach!!	The joint project team is providing a co-ordinated approach to developing an effective scheme for the whole of West Bay. We are seeking, and are optimistic of achieving, necessary funding for the whole scheme.
Heritage and Business Importance	I understand that business and economic factors are considered to be of less importance; however the impact on the core community should be a consideration as indeed should the fragile coastal economy. Tourism is vital	The project economic appraisal will take full account of the benefits to be gained by protecting not only residential properties but also community and commercial assets,

	<p>and West Bay has not only a loyal (over many years) but increasing tourist population which supports many local businesses. It is also at the very heart of the Jurassic Coastline and at the start of the world famous Chesil Beach, which raises some, but not insurmountable, issues.</p>	<p>public infrastructure, and the businesses they serve.</p>
	<p>I understand that financial decisions relating to flood defences are largely based on the number of houses at risk. I can see this works for areas like Meadowlands on West Bay Road, but in West Bay itself there are few houses particularly near East Beach. West Bay is however a centre for tourism and contributor to the local economy, as well as being of significant historic interest. These factors should surely be taken into account in making decisions on funding flood defences.</p>	
	<p>It should be noted that Norman Good's Yard maritime warehouse has a Grade 2* Listed status and is currently in the top 6% on the national Heritage At Risk Register. East Beach adjoins the West Bay Conservation Area with several notable listed buildings (Clarence House, Pier Terrace, The Bridport Arms, East Beach cottages and the Methodist Chapel) in very close proximity. And then there is the Grade 2 Listed East Pier and Harbour itself, one of the smallest in the UK and of unique importance historically.</p>	
West Beach Amenity	<p>Ensure that West Beach is levelled and sand reinstated before holiday season.</p>	<p>Noted by the beach management authority, West Dorset District Council.</p>
West Beach Surface flows	<p>Consider flood barrier across quayside to intercept flows downward from WB (West Bay) overtopping- (last year harbour master used digger across road. Flood barriers across harbour. Sandbags on Esplanade (West) need to be placed lower down the road to allow water to escape to inner Harbour.</p>	<p>The project team has discussed this with the harbour master and will include remedies in the proposed options for West Beach.</p>
West Beach Groynes	<p>Western groynes at West Beach seems to be everything- can it be extended?</p>	<p>The project team will analyse the potential benefits of extending existing or installing new groynes.</p>
East Beach Durability	<p>The shingle bank at East Beach is high enough but something needs doing to stop it washing away in the storms.</p>	<p>The project will assess alternative methods for improving the beach's resistance to storms, and present these in a public consultation in October 2016.</p>

East Beach Alignment	<p>East Beach hard defence- it would also be a permanent job. Would like a sea wall along East Beach. Hard wall across East Beach.</p>	<p>The project will assess alternative methods for providing improved flood defence at East Beach, and will present these in a public consultation in October 2016.</p>
	<p>Sheet pile from the coast guard station houses (SOUTH END) to the black hut would retain main beach.</p>	
	<p>At this point in time I do not support roll back and the potential loss of properties, facilities (car park etc.) and transport infrastructure (roads) as outlined in the Shoreline Management Plan for the period 2055-2105. Protection should be in place to prevent catastrophic flooding events such as those which have caused widespread damage not only to the beach and harbour community properties but to properties in the West Bay Road over a wide areas and which would, if this happened in the future, include the highly populated Meadowlands estate.</p>	
East Beach Usage	<p>There seems to be a misunderstanding of head count of visitors on East Beach would show that more people enjoy East Beach than West Beach.</p> <p>East Beach is the most popular beach - do a head count before making any statements otherwise.</p>	<p>East Beach is very popular, particularly during the peak summer months. West Beach is becoming more used with the appearance of more sand.</p>
East Beach Tourism & continued access	<p>East Beach is very popular with holiday makers (based on numbers on sunny days, much more so than West Beach) and consideration needs to be taken to allow continued access. Building the shingle bank is good for flood defence but hard for access. It may be necessary to put in some pedestrian aids.</p>	<p>An application for funding has been made to Coastal Communities Fund for a boardwalk over the beach at East Cliff. The project team will consider additional locations where improved access would be beneficial.</p>
East Beach Beach drainage	<p>Its seepage from existing bank that causes the road to flood to a few ... the water doesn't flow away' ' never has - waves come over the top of the wall of shingle'. So drainage needs to be updated.</p>	<p>This will be assessed by the project team and any needs for improved drainage will be included in the scheme.</p>
General	<p>Keep streams clear of debris mud and silt.</p>	<p>Noted and passed for attention to WDDC and EA maintenance teams.</p>
	<p>Of course something must be done and soon.</p>	<p>The project team agrees and early action is planned.</p>
	<p>We need firm proposals/options to comment on. I had anticipated that there would be some outline of the possible engineering</p>	<p>The project team will present feasible options at a public consultation event in October 2016.</p>

	solutions and options available and it was difficult to comment except in the broadest terms without such information.	
	It would be helpful if there could be a website to disseminate information and where relevant documents could be accessed.	Information will be made available at this location after 20 October 2016: https://www.dorsetforyou.gov.uk/dorset-coast-forum/projects-publications
	It would be helpful if the events ran until 7pm.	The consultation event in October 2016 will run until 7.30 p.m.
	Make documents available in advance of future engagements so can come with questions.	Timescales do not always enable this but information will be uploaded as early as possible to the project website (above).
	There was a request for the information displayed at the event to be available afterwards.	The information will be available on the website (above) and printed material will be sent on request.
	Would like another meeting to see the options before they are decided.	October 2016 is the next public event at which opinions on the feasible options will be sought. Once the preferred option is clear, another public event will be held, in early 2017, at which this option will be presented for further review before proceeding to planning permission and detailed design.