



## News from The Moors at Arne



### July 2023 edition

Hello and welcome to the latest edition of our project newsletter. It's been an exciting month with lots happening and I've really enjoyed meeting so many of you around the local area.

We are still preparing for the start of the main works but the team has been keeping busy with surveying, site maintenance and planning for the summer's activities. Once we are able to confirm a start date for the main works we will let you know via a notice.

David Jenkins, chair of the Environment Agency's Wessex flood and coast committee visited site recently to 'break ground' and wished the team all the best for the project.



David, who visited the site with Neil Watson, senior project manager for the Environment Agency and some of the

Kier project team, was also treated to impromptu visits from a white stag and a marsh harrier during his time on site.

I hope you enjoy reading about what's been happening over the past month.

**Kate Sampson**  
Public Liaison Officer

### Site Update

We've been making improvements to the existing passing places along New Road and Arne Road so that lorries can pull in safely when passing other vehicles. Vegetation has been cut back and surfaces have been levelled as you can see in the example to the right.



Within the site boundary, we have carried out another round of vegetation clearance in the same areas as before and around the Bower Point outfall structure.

## Ecology update



A team of specialist ecologists have been busy on site this month carrying out surveys which will inform how we go about working alongside the resident wildlife on site.

Our mammal expert is pictured here searching for signs of water vole burrows along the banks of some of the ditches. Water voles, a protected species, make their homes in the banks so that they can quickly take refuge from predators whilst remaining close to food sources.

The ecologists have also been checking for signs of bats, nesting birds and invertebrates on site and a camera has been installed to help gather evidence of any otter activity.

Ecology surveys will be a major feature of the whole construction phase to ensure we are always doing right by the natural environment.

## Community engagement - staying safe around site

As we approach the start of our main works it is a good time to talk about safety around the construction site. To help keep everyone safe, all visitors must report to reception and only enter the site via the main entrance where our site offices will soon be installed. Access to any other area of the site is strictly prohibited.

You may have noticed a small white cabin in the field off Arne Road after the cattle grid as you approach Arne. This has served as a temporary welfare facility and office for the site team and will soon be replaced with a larger version as works get underway. Eventually a larger two storey temporary facility will be installed which will remain in situ until all works are complete. This will be situated by the main site entrance and is where our reception will be located.

The project is registered with the Considerate Constructor's Scheme and we are committed to upholding the Code of Considerate Practice. The three key aspects of the code are; respecting the local community, protecting the environment and valuing our workforce.

**REGISTERED  
SITE**

**CONSIDERATE  
CONSTRUCTORS  
SCHEME**

## Meet the team

This month we would like to introduce Kier's agent for the project, Beth Selwyn.

As a qualified engineer, Beth manages all of the technical aspects of the project. Beth enjoys the variety that her role brings as no two days are the same.

With a background in major infrastructure projects, Beth's work has taken her around the UK and as far away as New Zealand. Having grown up on the Isle of Purbeck, this project is a little closer to home.



## Coming soon...

A network of eight access roads will be constructed within the site boundary so that vehicles and plant can be moved around site safely and efficiently whilst minimising disturbance to flora and fauna.

As the access roads will cross ditches in several places, the team will also be installing new culverts. These are large pipes which carry water under the roads.

Work is starting on the HGV entrance in preparation for delivery of materials to site. The design includes the installation of a concrete slab to allow access over a ditch and a turning circle within the compound area so that lorries can safely exit the site.

The next round of archaeological surveys will take place towards the end of July and we hope to share details of any interesting finds with you in the next newsletter.



## About the project

The Moors at Arne project will adapt 150 hectares of land into a diverse wetland habitat. This type of habitat is being lost in other areas of Poole Harbour due to 'coastal squeeze'. This is a term used to describe the effect of rising sea levels pressing against man-made structures such as flood defences resulting in a loss of intertidal habitat such as mud flats and salt marsh.

Kier is the contractor delivering this project on behalf of the Environment Agency and their project partners, RSPB and Natural England.



## Keeping in touch

We welcome your feedback and are here to answer any questions you may have about the project. Please email [arne@kier.co.uk](mailto:arne@kier.co.uk)

For more information about the project please visit our web pages [Project Overview – Dorset Coast Forum](#)

Scan the QR code or visit [kier.uk/arne](https://kier.uk/arne) to join our mailing list and receive newsletters and updates about the Moors at Arne project straight into your inbox



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