



## News from The Moors at Arne

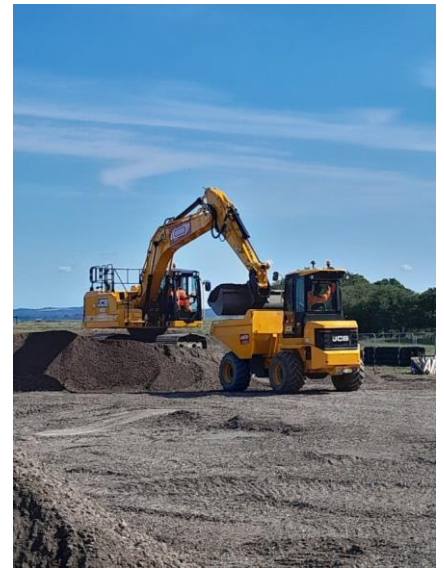


### August 2023 edition

Welcome to the latest edition of the project newsletter. July was a busy month so there is lots to update you on.

After a lot of careful planning, the main works have now started. The team are busy setting up our site compound and infrastructure. This will enable us to start work on the new outfall structure for the Furzebrook Stream as well as a new freshwater area which will be located in the south western area of the site

The next round of archaeological surveys has just commenced. A team of specialists will be on site until the end of September. At this stage of the project, the surveys will focus on the western end of site, an area where Iron Age ring gullies have previously been uncovered. It is early days, but the team have already uncovered evidence of a further three roundhouses.



## Site update

Work on the HGV entrance is almost complete. A temporary concrete slab has been constructed to allow lorries to cross the ditch into site. The design also incorporates a wheel wash area and a turning circle which will provide ample space for HGVs to turn around within the site before exiting safely onto Arne Road.



Due to the nature of the ground conditions on site, we are constructing a network of temporary roads for plant and vehicles to travel around the site. These access roads are being constructed using locally sourced aggregate wherever possible.



## Ecology update



The site ecologists have recently carried out botany and invertebrate surveys and the results will be carefully reviewed over the coming weeks to ensure we take extra care around any protected species identified.

Our otter camera has recently captured evidence of a holt in the middle of the site. A buffer zone has been installed around it so that the resident otters are not disturbed by the works.

Later this year we will begin to actively manage water levels on site by clearing some of the ditches. Data from some of the ecology surveys will feed into this piece of work. We are also taking care to ensure fish living in the ditches are relocated to suitable habitats in other parts of the site.

Water levels will be monitored using recently installed depth gauges like the one pictured above.



## Community engagement

The Stakeholder Liaison Group met on the evening of 13 July. The project team presented an update on plans for the first year of works and the group discussed how the project is going so far. This was a great opportunity to speak with local residents and business owners and the team appreciated all the feedback given. If you are interested in joining the Stakeholder Liaison Group please email [arne@kier.co.uk](mailto:arne@kier.co.uk) for more information.



Over the last few weeks you may have spotted a small cabin on New Road, pictured above. This is where our traffic marshal is based during our peak delivery times. His job is to communicate with the site team to help coordinate HGV movements in and out of site so that two lorries do not meet coming in opposite directions. This is an idea that came from the local community drop-in event back in March.



## Meet the team



This month we would like to introduce Simon Humphry, Project Manager for the Environment Agency.

Simon is responsible for delivery of the design and construction of the project through the contractors and consultants.

Having worked on the project for the last three years, Simon is excited about the construction phase and he is looking forward to seeing some of the enhanced habitat and wildlife once the project is complete.

Simon is passionate about coastal and flood risk management having worked in the sector for the last twenty years. He previously worked on the Bridgwater Tidal Barrier.

When he's not working, Simon enjoys helping on his parents dairy farm and spending time with his young family.



## Coming soon

Towards the end of August we will take delivery of the larger site cabins which will provide office space, meeting rooms and welfare facilities including, changing rooms, canteen and showers.

Once in position these units will remain on site year round for the duration of the construction phase.



## 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](#)

