

**P/17/0569/FP**

**HILL HEAD**

EASTERN SOLENT COASTAL  
PARTNERSHIP

AGENT: EASTERN SOLENT  
COASTAL PARTNERSHIP

ADDITION OF EXTRA PLANKS TO EXISTING GROYNES ON BEACH  
HILL HEAD BEACH - EAST OF GIBLET ORE - FAREHAM HAMPSHIRE

***Report By***

Richard Wright - direct dial 01329 824758

***Site Description***

This application relates to a stretch of beach to the south of the residential properties at 89 Hill Head Road to the west and 39 Hill Head Road to the east. The application relates to eight existing beach groynes (groynes 43 - 50) constructed in the year 2000 in order to reduce longshore drift.

***Description of Proposal***

The proposed works involve the addition of planks between existing groyne piles. Between one and three planks will be added to each of the eight groynes in question as shown in the submitted drawings (drawings SE13/1183 to SE13/1190). The applicant claims it was always intended for additional planks to be added to the groynes at some point after their original construction in the year 2000.

***Policies***

The following policies apply to this application:

**Approved Fareham Borough Core Strategy**

CS4 - Green Infrastructure, Biodiversity and Geological Conservation

CS14 - Development Outside Settlements

CS17 - High Quality Design

**Development Sites and Policies**

DSP13 - Nature Conservation

***Representations***

Eight comments have been received in support of the application with the following comments:

- Support for works which will protect against further erosion and damage
- This will extend the amount of usable beach
- No visual harm

One comment submitted on behalf of the residents of 33, 35, 37 & 37a Hill Head Road has been received with the following concerns:

- Increasing groyne heights will further constrict the natural longshore drift of shingle from west to east
- Increased levels of beach erosion immediately to the east of groyne 43.
- Damage to properties immediately east of site

- Increasing beach heights on one side of groyne 43 will restrict access for beach users at high tide

### **Consultations**

INTERNAL

Ecology - Subject to the identified mitigation measures being effectively implemented, including timings of the works, the proposal is unlikely to result in significant adverse impacts on ecological receptors.

EXTERNAL

Natural England - No objection subject to appropriate mitigation being secured.

### **Planning Considerations - Key Issues**

This application seeks permission for additional planks on to existing beach groynes in order to enhance the protection those groynes offer against coastal erosion. The applicant, the Eastern Solent Coastal Partnership (ESCP) says that the works will mean the groyne bays will gradually and naturally be refilled with material thereby slowing the rate at which this material is transported from west to east.

The concerns raised by the residents living at the four properties to the immediate east of where the works would be carried out relate to the impact on the privately owned beach to the south of their homes. They are concerned that the works will mean the beach outside of their homes will be subjected to increased rates of erosion. The ESCP have responded to these concerns and that response has been published on the Council's website. In it the ESCP explain that, if over the lifetime of the new planks being installed adverse impacts are observed downdrift, the groyne planking can be adjusted to mitigate these impacts. In addition the ESCP are currently developing a Beach Management Plan for the coastline between Hill Head and Portsmouth Harbour which will aim to address areas of erosion in a holistic and cost-effective manner.

The visual appearance of the groynes would not be significantly altered in that the new planks would be the same in terms of their materials, scale and appearance as the existing. There would therefore be no harm to the landscape character of appearance of the beach or the coastline.

Natural England and the Council's Ecologist have raised no objection to the proposal subject to conditions to ensure the works proceed as proposed by the applicant in the submitted Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) and Ornithological Brief and provided no works proceed beyond mid-October after which migratory birds may be impacted.

It is considered that the proposal complies with Policies CS4, CS14 & CS17 of the adopted Fareham Borough Core Strategy and Policy DSP13 of the adopted Fareham Borough Local Plan Part 2: Development Sites and Policies. There are no other material considerations to suggest that planning permission ought not to be granted.

### **Recommendation**

PERMISSION subject to the following conditions:

1. The development shall begin before 17th August 2020.

REASON: To allow a reasonable time period for work to start, to comply with Section 91 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, and to enable the Council to review the position if a fresh application is made after that time.

2. The development shall be carried out in accordance with the following approved documents:

- a) Location and access plan - drawing no. SE13/1197
- b) Plan showing temporary access route and site compound location - drawing no. SE13/1438 A
- c) Site plan showing area of the temporary works
- d) Site plan showing groyne works site area
- e) Plan showing designated sites
- f) Drawing no. SE13/1198
- g) Drawing no. SE13/1183
- h) Drawing no. SE13/1184
- i) Drawing no. SE13/1185
- j) Drawing no. SE13/1186
- k) Drawing no. SE13/1187
- l) Drawing no. SE13/1188
- m) Drawing no. SE13/1189
- n) Drawing no. SE13/1190
- o) Habitats Regulation Assessment

REASON: To avoid any doubt over what has been permitted.

3. The development shall be carried out fully in accordance with the Construction Environmental Management Plan - January 2017 (updated) and Note of ecological watching brief for Hill Head Beach management approved under planning reference P/17/0262/FP unless otherwise agreed in writing by the local planning authority.

REASON: To protect habitats important to biodiversity.

4. No work relating to the development hereby permitted shall take place between 15th October and 31st March in the following calendar year unless otherwise agreed in writing by the local planning authority.

REASON: To avoid impacts on over-wintering birds.

### ***Background Papers***

P/17/0569/FP

# FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL



Hill Head Beach - East of Giblet Ore \_  
Scale 1:2500



This map is reproduced from Ordnance Survey material with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationary Office © Crown Copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Licence 100019110. 2017