

Langstone Mill Pond meeting: HBC, CP, LVA, LRA. 23/9/25

Present: Phil Munday(HBC), Lyall Cairns(CP), James Spragg(CP), Barbara Furdyna, Peter Oliver, Gemma Nash, Ed Neville (all LVA), Jon White (LRA)

1. LC reported that CP on behalf of HBC were repairing the sea wall from the Mill to just beyond the inlet at the start of the paddock with an additional retaining wall just beyond this to protect the repaired, re-pointed wall from further collapse. They were using some spare moneys to also re-point the sea wall adjacent to Wade Lane. They are using their Permissive Powers to do all this which does not include responsibility for the work.
2. The bridge/ boardwalk between the HBC/CP pointing areas is being built by HCC and paid for by CHC. No-one has seen plans for this. Lulu Bowerman is our HCC representative and should have the information. HBC/CP have advised HCC and CHC not to remove rubble where the wall has broken down. It was asked if planning permission was required for the bridge/boardwalk. HBC replied that it was not.
3. GN reminded the meeting that about 4 years ago we were told that any attempt to repair the wall would be torn down by those in authority. LC reminded us that the Haskoning Report , despite including much to criticize it, had allowed Natural England to soften its attitude and allow repairs to the wall.
4. PO pointed out the dangers to the Millpond from drainage from the pond and paddock area after a flood. This can be a massive amount of water in a short period of time on the ebb tide after a major storm. CP committed to monitor the Paddock given Mrs Hann's permission. PO emphasized that erosion can be anticipated to occur in large steps rather than gradually. LC said he was less perturbed by the risk. The remains of the existing footpath are the last and only means of defence and are not designed for that purpose and should not be relied upon. They are not a satisfactory alternative to a seawall.
5. Outcomes:
 - A) LVA to re-approach Lulu Bowerman
 - B) GN to ask Mrs Hahn, paddock owner, to allow CP to do a topographical survey of the paddock
 - C) CP to suggest a list of materials that could be used to reinforce the wall under or in front of the bridge

D) CP to suggest some contractors who might give estimates of such work. LVA also to seek appropriate contractors

LC has subsequently responded in answer to C and D above:

C. You could consider a seawall made of concrete, masonry, or steel; or consider gabions, rock armour or precast concrete revetments or geo-bags or even sacrificial earth bunds but much will depend on design life and affordability.

D:

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