BLACKWELL

LOWESTOFT SOUTH BEACH TOE PROTECTION SCHEME

Client: Waveney District Council

Project Information:

Blackwell Role	Main Contractor
Form of Contract	NEC 3 Short Form
Contract Value	£400K

Blackwell Site Management:

Contracts Manager:
Alan Day

Project Manager:
Matt Reed

Services Include:
Civil Engineering Earthworks Geotechnical Remediation

Contract Summary:

The Lowestoft Beach Protection scheme consisted of the design and installation of approximately 170m of toe protection to reinforce an existing Victorian flint sea wall. The toe protection comprised of 6.5m long steel sheet piles, which were driven seaward of the wall. The toe of the wall was connected to the piles with a 450mm thick reinforced concrete slab. Working in a tidal environment meant that the works had to be aligned carefully with the local tide times and weather reports to maximise the daily outputs.

Due to the highly sensitive nature of the work area, preventing harmful substances and waste materials from damaging or entering the local habitat was a primary concern. As such, plant and materials were carefully selected to minimise the risk to the environment.

As a result of the close proximity of residential and commercial properties, the installation of sheet piling required careful control to minimise environmental impacts. The monitoring of vibration, noise and movement took place continually, to ensure that set limits were not exceeded. Where individual residents had concerns over their properties, site visits would be arranged to explain the construction process, monitor the impacts of the works and alleviate any concerns. A Victorian sculpture located in close proximity to the line of piling was protected from damage by constructing a supporting scaffold structure, fitted with specialist vibration damping.

As Lowestoft South Beach is an extremely popular and well used leisure facility, careful coordination of works were required to minimise the disruption to the local residents. This involved sending out newsletters, erecting project notice boards and liaising with local businesses ahead of construction activities.

Once on site, various additional packages were awarded. One of these packages included the emergency repair of a traditional timber and steel piled double groyne, to prevent rapid loss of beach material. Due to the urgency of the task, the works took place day and night, to ensure that the groyne was repaired as soon as possible.

t: 01787 223131 **e.** preconstruction@cablackwell.co.uk **www.blackwellgroup.co.uk**