

Waldringfield Flood Defence Group

Subject to receipt of a licence from the Marine Management Organisation the Waldringfield Flood Defence Group are planning to implement the final stage of saltmarsh restoration works in order to protect the new raised and strengthened river footpath. This work is being funded mostly by a substantial grant from the Coastal Communities Fund. The Waldringfield Parish Council, ex local councillor Veronica Falconer and councillor Patricia O'Brien have contributed smaller amounts from public funds.

An initial 200m of work on the saltmarsh was partly funded by the Suffolk Coast & Heaths Area of Outstanding Beauty unit and completed before Christmas. This polderwork is especially visible at low tide towards the Turner's Bench end of the footpath. We are now able to fund a further 1000 metres of protection to prevent the saltmarsh from further erosion and fragmentation. This work will take place over the summer, but will not cause any disruption to walkers on the footpath.

One final job for the footpath however is the application of a top dressing, once the path has dried out and stabilised sufficiently. This is planned for the end of April, and the footpath will need to be closed for a couple of days. Further information will be available shortly.

Janette Brown , Secretary, Waldringfield Flood Defence Group