

Calshot Erosion Works Completion Note: 26th November 2024

Work was undertaken on Tuesday 5th November 2024 to repair an area of the foreshore on the north-western (lee) side of Calshot Spit. This area was impacted on the 8th & 9th of April 2024 when near record high tides, combined with strong winds & waves, eroded a deep gully to within less than 3m of Jack Maynard Road (a key access road, and the only route along Calshot Spit).

Due to the potential impacts and interests to both NFDC & HCC, officers from both the NFDC Coastal Group and HCC Calshot Activities Centre worked together to facilitate a combined response, which involved transferring shingle material from the tip of Calshot Spit to repair the impacted area. This material had previously been cleared from the RNLi slipway into a heap located adjacent to the RNLi slipway. The shingle was loaded by a JCB, and a small (9T) dump truck undertook 14 repeat journeys through the Activities Centre site to the eroded area. Around 135T of shingle was transferred to the eroded area. The shingle was graded to reconstruct the slope profile to match adjacent areas.

With the works being undertaken in the vicinity of the Hythe to Calshot Marshes SSSI, particular care was taken to avoid disturbance to birds and other wildlife. Natural England were engaged in planning the stage and issued an assent to undertake the operation. A positive aspect of the works was that operatives noticed that birds were attracted to the newly placed shingle, possibly finding food amongst the sand and stones.

By working together, NFDC and HCC avoided the need to use contractors and therefore significant cost savings were made. Following completion of the works, barriers were placed around the infilled area to allow settlement to take place. The area is now back under the management of NFDC Car Parking Team, and the barriers have now been removed.

Photos of the Works:



Figure 1 – Eroded Area (NFDC Land)



Figure 3 – Shingle Stockpile (HCC Land)



Figure 2 – Transfer route



Figure 4 HCC & NFDC operatives working to infill eroded areas



Figure 4 – Completed works: barriers remained in place to allow settlement

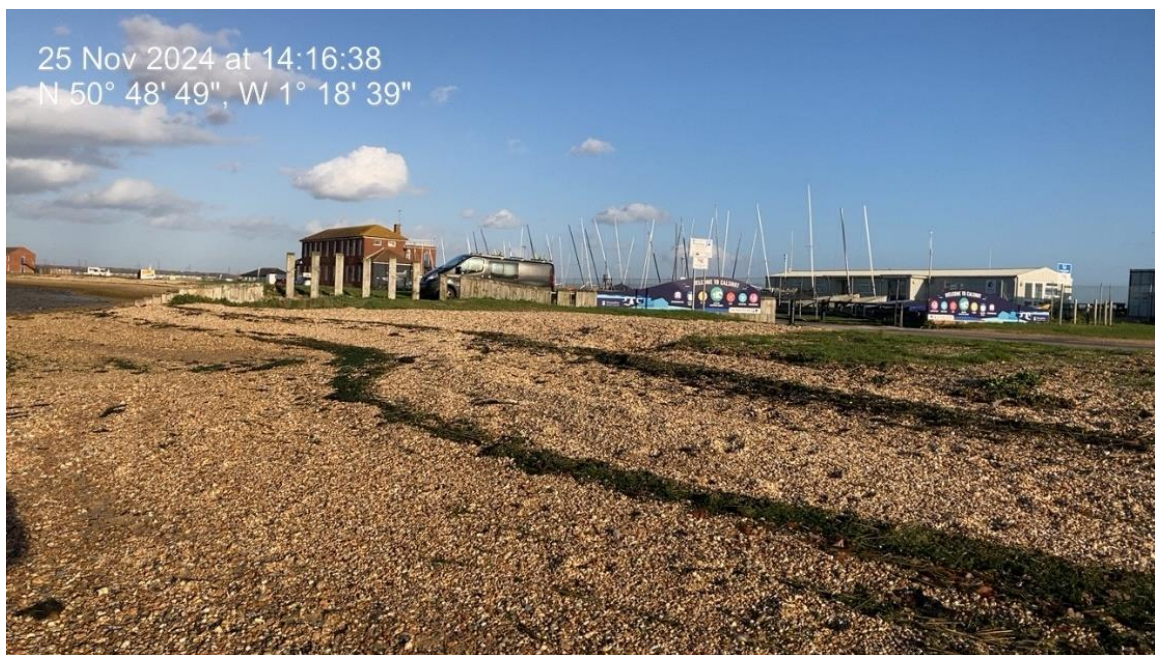


Figure 5: Area where works were completed (barriers no longer in place):

(Photograph taken after Storm Bert)