

Pier Newsletter 9

Work to start at the Pier



The Board is delighted to announce work will be starting very soon at the pier.

John Davitt, Chairman said: "We are delighted to announce that the Board has signed a contract to receive an investment of £144,864 from the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development through the Rural Development Programme."

The purpose of the fund is the maintenance, restoration and upgrading of the cultural and natural heritage of the heritage coast.

Added to the Coastal Revival Fund gained earlier this year, this investment means work can start to repair the Land Bridge section of the pier.



Land Bridge



The section of pier from the pavement going out into the river is the Land Bridge.

At low tide it crosses sand, shingle and mud flats.

At high tide, the Land Bridge has water lapping underneath it to the sea wall.

Completion of this section will mean people will be able to walk on the pier - hopefully by Spring 2020 depending on weather.

James Cartlidge, MP

"I am absolutely delighted to hear the news that Shotley Pier has been awarded such a significant sum from the Rural Development Fund for England.



As Patron of the Pier Project I am excited that this excellent community initiative will now be able to physically get underway and look forward to seeing it progress. As always, the team deserve praise for their continued energy and dedication."

Volunteer Efforts

Chairman John Davitt commented that he wanted to let members know of the huge amount of work put in by volunteer Directors to secure this kind of investment. Gaining an investment of over £144,000 took months of hard work.

The dedication of our volunteer Directors has continued to amaze John, with so many hours being put in.

Work included filling in very complex forms and spreadsheets. It was necessary to verify statistics to build the case for support, and explain the project to decision makers who had never been to Shotley. We had to find appropriate companies to bid for the work. We had to explain the background to our Society with details of all the Directors, plus a myriad of other information!

Finally, it was vital to demonstrate community support.



Getting written quotes from appropriate professional companies took many hours of meetings and discussions. This required a skilled Civil Engineer on the Board and we count ourselves very fortunate that Director Peter Stebbings has the professional background to undertake this task.

Peter would like to add another Civil Engineer to our team with experience of negotiating and awarding contracts for future stages of work, so if anyone is interested in volunteering, please get in touch!

Coffee Morning is Wednesday 2nd October



Come and enjoy our monthly Wednesday coffee morning! 10.30am - 12 noon at the Red Lion in Chelmondiston.

As ever, come and enjoy the superb cakes and refreshments, and a chance to catch up on our latest news and views.

Jim Kemp is our October artist. He mainly chooses to do water colourist landscapes. Jim has taught art in Shotley, Ipswich and Stowmarket for years, and helps people with mental illness use art as therapy to build confidence and social interaction. His work was popular at our Art Exhibition in June.

