

HERITAGE IMPACT STATEMENT FOR GRASS EMBANKMENT

The proposed works relate to the perimeter of the Mill Lane Conservation Area, and do not involve any alterations to any dwellings or buildings of any sort. The intention is to implement sea defences to protect properties and land within the Conservation Area from the risk of flooding damage, in the event of an unusually high tidal surge, as happened in April 2024. During that event, sea water encroached into Harbourside, killing or damaging several trees and shrubs, and coming very close to several dwellings.

The solution has been designed and approved by the Coastal Partners organisation (AECOM project 60656877), and its implementation will be funded by local residents of the affected area. Informal financial pledges have already been received, to cover the cost of implementation.

The proposal is to construct a grass-covered embankment in the field at the south western end of Mill Lane. The embankment will be 1.6m maximum above the existing ground level. There is already a grass embankment (granted planning permission in 1999) at the south western edge of the field. The new embankment will be no higher than the existing one, so will have no impact on views into or out of the Conservation Area.

In summary, there will be no impact to:

- Listed buildings
- Dwellings
- Other buildings
- Walls
- Hedgerows
- Streams, waterways and drainage
- Traffic access
- Roadways
- Footpaths
- Any tree of category C or above
- The semi-rural nature of the area

The following observations and comments reference document sections in the Mill Lane Conservation Area Character Appraisal & Management Document, published on the Havant Borough Council Website here ...

<https://www.havant.gov.uk/media/8051/download?inline>

4.1 Entrances

There will be no change to existing vehicular or pedestrian entrances.

4.2 Boundaries

There will be no change to boundaries

5.1 Development Pattern

There will be no impact, other than the positive effect of preventing sea water ingress, which could damage protected trees and vegetation

5.2 Use and Activity

The proposed embankment will have no impact.

5.3 Open Spaces & Trees

There will be no impact on principal trees in the area, other than the positive on of removing the risk of damage by incursion of sea water.

5.4 Views and Vistas

Due to the low height of the embankment (1.6m above ground level at its highest point), and the presence of a similar pre-existing embankment, there will be no impact on views into or out of the Conservation Area.

5.6 Notable Buildings

No changes will be made to any buildings within the Conservation Area.

5.7 Walls and Boundary Features

No walls, fences or hedgerows will be affected.

5.8 Roads, Pavements and Street Furniture

No changes will be made to these areas. The embankment will remove the risk of saltwater damage to grassed areas, hedging, trees and shrubs.

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