

bmmjv



Merry Christmas and happy New Year from the Boston Barrier Team

Looking back at 2021

Although 2021 started with the majority of the country still in local lockdowns, work continued on the Boston Barrier site and we finally had something to celebrate. The primary barrier gate was officially declared fully operational on the 16th December 2020 and going into the New Year we knew that if there was a storm surge on the East Coast of Lincolnshire, Boston town and its residents would be better protected from tidal flooding.

It was a major milestone for Boston but the hard work couldn't stop there. During the early months of 2021 our contractors BMMJV were progressing well on site completing works to the project including: grading and landscaping works on the South Bank, and finishing the installation of the new flood walls in the Port of Boston estate on the North Bank. Over in the Netherlands, Hollandia Infra were hard at work fabricating the vertical sector gates required for the Wet Dock Entrance to the Port of Boston – an integral part of the final stage for the Barrier Scheme.

In Spring, work was progressing at pace and a temporary turning aid called a “dolphin” was installed in the River Haven. This will ensure minimal disruption to the Port of Boston whilst the wet dock entrance works take place next year. In June, the vertical sector gates were delivered by barge from the Port of Rotterdam and lifted by crane onto site, where they are being stored until they are needed.

In the small hours of Sunday 7th November, whilst most of Boston town was still sleeping, a forecasted high tide called the primary barrier gate into operation for the first time. The barrier was raised into its defence position in just 22 minutes, successfully holding the tide at bay. Coincidentally, the barrier's first operation came almost exactly two years after the gate was delivered to site in November 2019.

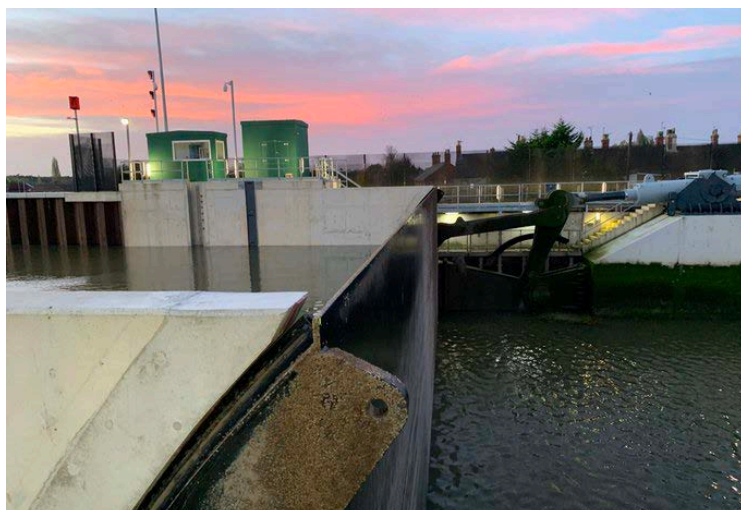
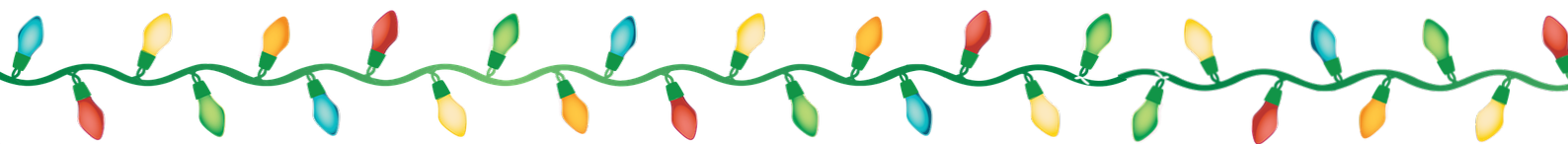
We're now two thirds of the way to project completion, and with only a few more milestones to reach, 2021 has taken us one step closer to making sure that Boston and the surrounding area will be better protected against the risk of tidal flooding for the next 100 years.



customer service line
03708 506 506

incident hotline
0800 80 70 60

floodline
03459 88 11 88



Top: The sound barrier is installed in October 2021 ahead of works at the wet dock entrance to the Port of Boston in 2022. **Middle:** The vertical sector gates are delivered by barge in June 2021. **Bottom:** The primary gate holds the tide in place, protecting residents in November 2021.

A forward look to 2022

Next year the focus will largely be on the completion of the Port of Boston’s wet dock entrance. This will include piling works which are essential to creating the cofferdam, the water tight structure where the works will take place. BMMJV has installed a sound barrier and noise monitoring equipment and will only drive piles within the strict guidelines set out by Boston Borough Council.

Monthly barrier test movements

If you would like to view the monthly barrier test movements, there is a viewing platform on London Road, opposite Black Sluice Pumping Station which is a great vantage point to watch from.

We politely ask parents and guardians to remind children that although construction sites look like exciting places to explore, they are dangerous and not play areas.

For closure dates, or if you have any questions or concerns about the construction works please follow us on social media or contact Gordon Hounslow via mobile on 07939 474 682.

Merry Christmas one and all

From the whole Boston Barrier team we wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

We look forwards to updating you on the Boston Barrier project’s progress in 2022.

Keep in touch

If you have any questions or queries, or would like to find out more about the Boston Barrier Scheme, you can contact us via:

Email: boston.barrier@environment-agency.gov.uk

Telephone: 07769 937 012

Facebook: www.facebook.com/BostonBarrier

Twitter: BostonBarrierEA

Instagram: boston.barrier

Blog: bostonbarrier.wordpress.com

customer service line
03708 506 506

incident hotline
0800 80 70 60

floodline
03459 88 11 88