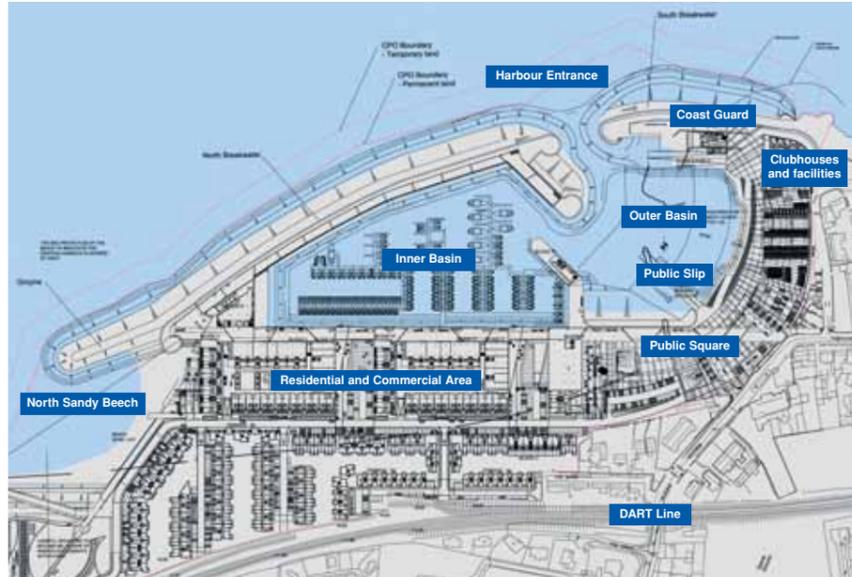




Councillor Derek Mitchell

Building the Harbour



It will take 27 months to build the Clubs and Community Harbour. There is some disruption and extra traffic but this is being carefully managed to try to minimise disruption. For example the trucks are held on the Farrenkelly dual carriageway at the time that pupils are being dropped to St Kevin's School due to traffic congestion on Jinks Hill.

Also a Temporary slipway has been placed in the harbour. This results in minor disruption for some clubs while others report that it is better than the previous slipway.

Earlier I asked that the project would be made more visible and some viewing sections have been cut into the hoarding and a seat placed so it can be observed. I also hope that the web site will contain better animations of the building process in future.

The biggest milestone will be the removal of the hoardings on the South side of the harbour in Month 30 when we can all see how it will look.



Greystones Harbour Development Overview

The Greystones Harbour Project is one of the most challenging civil engineering and architectural projects ever to be undertaken in Ireland.

It will involve the provision of a new Harbour and Marina, together with enhanced public and community amenities, backed by residential and retail development. Greystones Harbour Project is a major Public Private Partnership (PPP) involving Wicklow County Council and SISPAR.

The Greystones Harbour Development consists of the following elements:

- Coastal protection works
- New public parklands
- A new harbour and marina

New facilities for local sporting clubs including:

- Greystones Sailing Club
- Greystones Ridge Anglers Club
- Greystones Rowing Club
- Greystones Sea Scouts
- Wicklow Aquanauts

Othe facilities will include:

- Provision for a new Coastguard Station
- A new beach area
- A new improved public park
- A new public boardwalk
- 341 residential units
- New retail facilities including cafes/restaurants
- 230 berth marina

Bringing the project to this stage has taken over 10 years work by the Town and County Council. I am delighted that my Fine Gael colleagues Councillors Grainne McLoughlin and George Jones and Deputies Billy Timmins and Andrew Doyle have supported it.



Councillor Derek Mitchell

Kiltoorish, Manor Avenue, Greystones, Co. Wicklow.
email mitchelld@eircom.net Telephone: 01-2874115.

Greystones New Harbour in 5 years

Since writing my last Update, work on this visionary project has well and truly started.

Greystones has been trying to get the harbour renewed since it started to collapse in 1895! During that time it has gone from a small village to a Town of 20,000 people. It is designed to:

- Be a Recreation Centre for the expanding population,
- To put leisure use of the sea as a central Feature of the Town,
- To produce a Focal point and 'Icon' for the town,
- Provide Public Access to the Sea.

It will be the best Community Harbour in the country. Club buildings and boatyards are being provided for the Sea Scouts, Rowers, Anglers, Sailors, Divers and Coastguard. It is a very worthwhile investment in the present and future youth of the town.



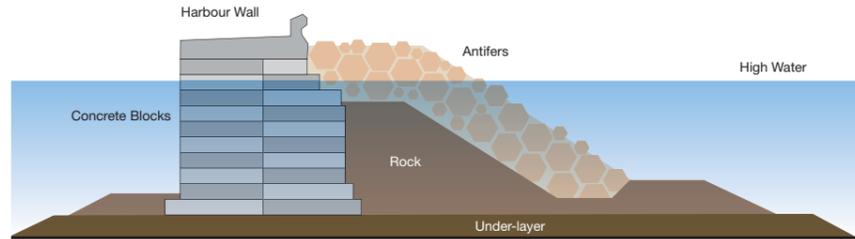
Temporary causeway construction 2008

A number of people have asked me what happens next and I have written this leaflet to try to explain it. I have worked for many years to try to get the harbour project started and will be continuing to work to ensure

that the problems of implementation are sorted out.



Sea Wall Construction



The sea off Greystones is rough and building a harbour to last over a 100 years is a major engineering challenge.

4,000 blocks have to be cast in the batching plant. Each weighs 38 tonnes and they take 14 days to cool and cure after they have been poured. These are then laid out as shown in the above diagram over a 2 year period. This works out at around 10 a day! A major engineering task by any standard.

The old walls caused waves to bounce back and spray up. The shock of large waves hitting it caused cracks and over time damaged it. The new pier is designed to break and absorb the waves on the outside slope. The 'antifers' on the outside slope are concrete blocks with holes and these and the slope absorb waves. The Sea Walls in Bangor, Co. Down are similarly designed. I have seen large waves hit it and appear to vanish into it.



The wall has been designed for the higher sea levels expected with Global Warming. The height is a compromise between the need to preserve the sea view from the Public Square and stopping waves coming over. The curve on the sea side of the top of the wall throws back most of the waves which reach it.



Construction of the Harbour

In such a major project the expected timetable will change as certain tasks will take longer and some (hopefully) will take less.

While the construction is disruptive it will be a great public facility when complete. It is already attracting International interest because of the many Public Facilities which it will produce. The developers have built a good temporary slipway and through various liaison groups have tried to sort out problems. If you have specific concerns you should ring Olympia O'Dea, Liaison Officer 1890 252 705.



Temporary Causeway complete. New Wall laid at right angles to it. Also new wall laid to seaward of old East Wall.



Start removing old Kish Base as new wall is constructed.



Starting to build slip way and club buildings



Start to build apartments and houses



Open Clubs and parts of the Community Harbour. Hoardings on southside of harbour come down month 30.



Boats occupy marina



Start work on Public Park



Complete Public Square.



Project Complete.

Further information on the project is on www.greystonesharbour.ie