

# HMS Ganges Mast

## NEWSLETTER #3

### Babergh's commitment

Babergh District Council recognises that as a listed building, the Mast and its condition – whilst predominantly the responsibility of the landowner – is a matter in which Babergh has an interest and a role.

The Council is very aware of the depth of feeling associated with the HMS Ganges Mast. Therefore, this regular series of newsletters aims to keep all of the key stakeholders up-to-date as to both procedures and progress regarding the repair and refurbishment of the Mast and the timescales involved.

### What are Babergh's objectives regarding the HMS Ganges Mast?

Fundamentally, as with all of the 3,800 listed buildings in the District, Babergh wants to see the HMS Ganges Mast maintained in as good a state of repair as possible because of its value as an historic feature of regional interest .

In this particular case, Babergh is keen the landowner, Galliard, fulfills the obligations imposed by listed building legislation and takes steps to maintain the mast in an appropriate condition.

### What has been happening recently?

As reported in the second newsletter in this series, Babergh received a proposal in September from Galliard regarding the mast's repair.

The information contained in that proposal has now been thoroughly investigated by Babergh officers.

It looks as if any decay is confined primarily to the late twentieth century sections and not to the principal historic components of the mast. Consequently, Babergh considers that the removal of the whole structure from the site appears undesirable and unnecessary.

Officers have also met with Galliard to advise them on an acceptable scheme of repair to the mast. This would involve the retention of the lower section of the mast *in situ*, with the middle section of the mast being lowered but not removed from the site. The previously renewed yardarms, gaff, platform and top-gallant would be replaced in an identical manner.



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We are pleased to say that this advice has been well-received by the landowner who has since confirmed that an application for listed building consent to undertake the works will be submitted for consideration sometime this month. Officers will be able then assess the application to establish whether the proposed scheme accords with the preferred option for repair.

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November 2009  
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