

## ***Clare Castle Country Park; Castle Restoration Works***

Suffolk County Council with grant aid from English Heritage is undertaking building works to maintain the Clare Castle which is a scheduled ancient monument comprising of the remains of the Motte and Bailey walls and embankments.

The works are being undertaken to consolidate a section of the Keep, located on top of the motte, and a section of the bailey precinct walls which are on the top of a raised earthwork bund alongside Lady's Walk. The remains are walls, mostly constructed of stone and flint in lime mortar, with areas of dressed stone and brickwork.

The Keep is up to eight metres tall and the walls are up to four metres tall requiring extensive scaffolding to do the works. The contract is to make sound the most vulnerable walls using the specified conservation repairs and is being undertaken by Universal Stone a specialist building and monument conservation specialist.

These works will be undertaken from September and are expected to take three months but are weather dependant. The total value of the construction work is £134,277 of which Suffolk County Council is funding one third, and English Heritage is grant funding two thirds.

Separately it is proposed, subject to planning permission to erect a flag pole on the Keep. If agreed this will be installed during these works making use of the erected scaffolding

The works and will require the closure of paths to the castle motte and Lady's Walks. There may be other temporary areas closed to public access for safety reasons. . This may inconvenience visitors to the country park but the works are necessary to conserve these important monuments

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