

Thorpeness Monthly Walkover Inspection

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Date & Time of Inspection: 08/28/2020 12:42 PM

Time of Low Tide: 13:00

Height of Low Tide (m ODN): -0.4

Inspector: LG

Current weather & antecedent conditions: Calm F1-2 SE wind and low swell ~1m. Storm francis 4 days ago: 50mph winds recently brought large NE swell but south-west winds predominantly cross-offshore. Negligible change to southern (village) frontage. More change to Northern cliffed frontage.

Beach levels over UNDEFENDED Village frontage (South): Negligible - No change

PHOTO: Thorpeness village frontage (south):



Describe the current beach morphology in front of the Headlands: Little change. Large berm peters out in front of headlands. Smaller berms to seaward. Mixed sand gravel foreshore: Fairly steep but wider than previous due to lower tidal level. Some shallow cusps in gravel at low watermark. No evidence of alteration by wave action.

PHOTO: In front of Headlands



Describe the current beach morphology over the defended frontage:

Same as southern frontage but with more gravel on foreshore. Much more gravel on back beach in recess before gabions. Positive first impressions.

PHOTO: significant morphological feature – yet more gravel pushed in to the recess south of the gabions. This indicates the beach is naturally trying to roll back but is constrained by the properties.



Beach levels over DEFENDED Village frontage (North): Modest accretion (defences all or partly covered)

PHOTO: Thorpeness village frontage (North):



Condition of Phase 1 Geobags: Geobags all or partially buried - minor defects

PHOTO: Phase 1 Geobags



Condition of Phase 2 Geobags: Geobags all or partially exposed - major defects

Phase 2 Geobags: Holed , Loss of Fill, Displaced

PHOTO: Phase 2 Geobags:



Comments on defended village frontage: Much improved since WMA tidy up, although many geobags are still exposed in the intertidal zone there are no long straggly bits visible.

PHOTO: Geobag debris on foreshore:



Condition of (1976) Gabions: 4) Poor -Defects that would significantly reduce performance of asset. Sharps / spikes, Gaps in mesh, Loss of fill, Loss of structural integrity

Comments on Gabions: Sediment infilling voids. Tidying by WMA looks good, wooden stumps successfully removed, but possible further destruction from storm Francis has reshaped mesh.

PHOTO of Gabions:



PHOTO of termination of defences at north end:



Comment on the north end termination/transition: Serious erosion at north end caused by large NE swell waves.

PHOTO of cliff instability beneath Red House's deck:



PHOTO of cliff erosion beyond north end defences:



PHOTO of beach/cliffs looking north to Thorpe-Ness:



PHOTO of any significant hazard to public safety: Metal debris washed up by storm Francis?



Object moved to top of gabions to avoid footfall.

SIGNAGE:

Condition of signage: Asset/s present - no defects

Comments on signage: New sign installed in a more obvious position. Looks good. Clear and legible.

PHOTO of signage: Warning signage moved to more prominent position.



Inspection Follow up: Share report and knowledge of active beach cliffing and cliff recession at the northern end. Discuss consequences of the outflanking of terminal geobag defense on Red House's protruding deck area.