

## **Thorpeness Monthly Walkover Inspection**

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**Date & Time of Inspection:** 07/14/2020 12:15 PM

**Time of Low Tide:** 11:45

**Height of Low Tide (m ODN):** -0.15m

**Inspector:** LG

**Current weather & antecedent conditions:** Calm F1-2 NE wind at present negligible swell. Recent unsettled weather. Significant prolonged period of NE swell >2m at start of August. Some fresh S winds since last inspection and prolonged rain events also.

**Beach levels over UNDEFENDED Village frontage (South):** Marginal lowering and reshaping

**PHOTO: Thorpeness village frontage (south)**



**Describe the current beach morphology in front of the Headlands:** Pronounced berm on back beach still with >1m crest height and steeper stoss slope than last month – indicates reworking by long period waves. Successive smaller HW bems in front of it. Wider lower shoreface this month. Gravel covering almost entire lower-intertidal shoreface ie. little sand. Beach cusps in formation.

**PHOTO: In front of Headlands**



**Describe the current beach morphology over the DEFENDED frontage:** less than 1 hour after low water and there's no beach in front of geobags. Steep intertidal shoreface. Big berm with steep stoss slope on back beach in front of gardens. Evidence of large swell waves reaching upper beach. Scouring to the north of the defences is serious. >1m gravel beach cliff formed below the vulnerable section immediately north of red house. Prolonged Rain has moistened cliff top and there's evidence of freshly fallen and slumped material.

**Beach levels over DEFENDED Village frontage (North):** Modest lowering of foreshore (defences all or partly exposed)

**PHOTO: Thorpeness village frontage (North)**



**Condition of Phase 1 Geobags:** Geobags partially buried - defects

**Phase 1 Geobags:** Holed , Loss of Fill, Displaced, Geotextile strands on shoreface, Geotextile debris far from source

**PHOTO: Phase 1 Geobags**



**Condition of Phase 2**

**Geobags:** Geobags all or partially exposed – major defects

**Phase 2 Geobags:** Holed , Loss of Fill, Displaced, Geotextile strands on shoreface - far from source

**PHOTO: Phase 2 Geobags**



**PHOTO: Defences (North end)**



**Comments on defended village frontage:** People climbing on bags. Gabion wire mesh has taken wave impact - broken with sharps. Wooden stumps at base of gabions exposed further. Beach scouring north of defence termination has formed a grave/sand cliff. Potential danger of cliff toe being undermined and significant mass movement, if beach scouring continues.

**Condition of (1976) Gabions:** 5) Very Poor - Severe defects at the north end resulting in performance failure. Deterioration since last inspection

**Gabion condition:** Sharps / spikes, Gaps in mesh, Loss of fill, Loss of structural integrity

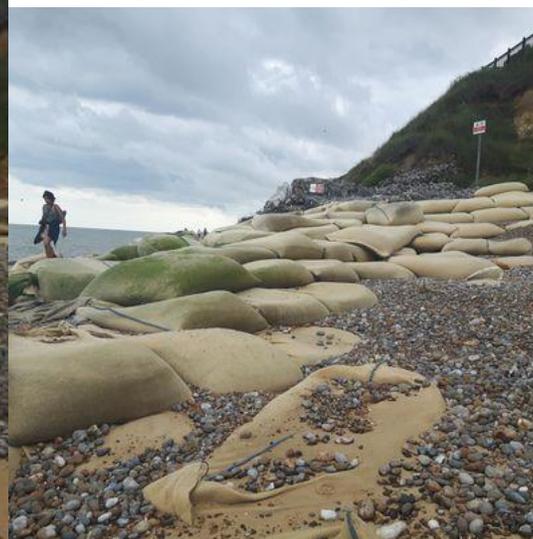


**Comments on Gabions:** Further wave impact since last inspection has deteriorated their condition at the north end particularly. More wooden stakes (left) on show indicating further loss of material by destructive waves.

**PHOTO of Gabions:**



**PHOTO of termination of defences at north end:**



**Comment on the north end termination/transition:** Beach scouring and cliffing. Geobags appear heaped up which indicates drop in beach levels. Geobags in tact around gabion termination.

**PHOTO of cliff instability beneath Red House's protruding deck:** Some minor mass movement



**PHOTO of cliff erosion beyond north end defences:**

Prolonged rain event has washed material down cliff and generated new slumps.



**PHOTO of beach/cliffs looking north to Thorpe-Ness:** New beach cliff – indicates removal of gravel over whole intertidal range.



**PHOTO of any significant hazard to public safety:** People climbing on cliffs that have recently fallen/slumped.



**PHOTO: significant new geomorphological feature – beach cliffing**

