Thorpeness Monthly Monitoring Report

Date & Time of Survey: April 26, 2021 5:00 PM
Time of Low Tide: 17:00
Height of Low Tide (m ODN): -0.75
Inspector: lucy.goodman_CPE

Monthly inspection of the frontage between Thorpeness village and ness. The purpose is to check signage, flag any hazards relating to public safety, inspect condition and exposure of defences and monitor geomorphological changes. This report is used to inform coastal management decision making and will be shared with the community. For best access, inspections should be done at low tide with due regard to the weather and sea state.

Current & Antecedent Metocean Conditions: Current conditions are typical of those experienced recently / since last inspection. Cold and breezy but sunny and dry. F3 max winds from east north east today. Swell waves <1m. There was a notable long period swell waves event, from north, in early April which has positively influenced beach volumes to the north of defences, but negatively influenced beach volume over the defended frontage.

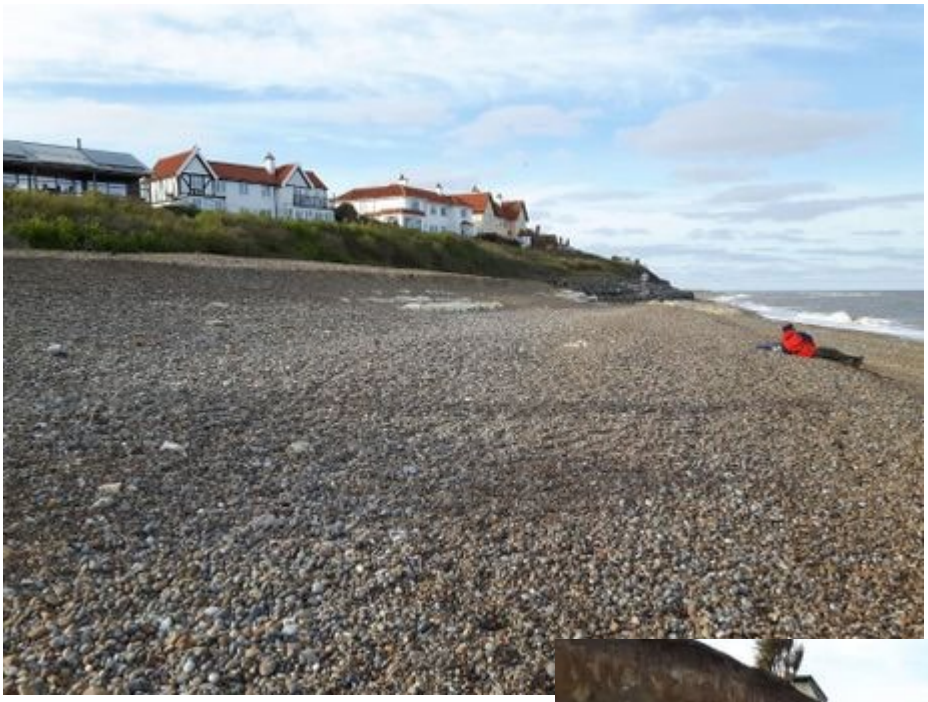
Southern Undefended Frontage

Intertidal Beach volume change: No Change
Supratidal Beach volume change: Moderate Increase
Comments on the geomorphological change over the southern UNDEFENDED frontage:
berm reappears in front of the Headlands where it doesn't further north. good amount of gravel on foreshore and back beach compared to last inspection. Fine gravel deposited in front of the Headlands gardens indicates some redistribution of material across whole beach.

Images of the southern UNDEFENDED frontage:

<u>(Central) Defended Frontage</u>
Intertidal Beach volume change: Moderately Lower
Supratidal Beach volume change: Moderate Decrease
Comments on the geomorphological change over the DEFENDED frontage: this area has seen the focus of wave energy. Recent swell waves have not served to construct the beach in front of the defences but to deteriorate them further. Beach is very narrow. Mean sea level has risen here relative to other areas. Phase 2 geobags are in the water. Erosion of the cliffs behind the gabions has spread south of the Red House to affect neighbouring properties' access steps. Debris overhanging cliff edge.

Images of the DEFENDED frontage:



Gabion condition

Comments on Gabion condition: only intact at southern most end - junction with phase 1 geobags.

Images of the gabions:

Phase 1 Geobag condition

Comments on Phase 1 Geobag condition**:** more exposure of phase 1 bags due to recession and scouring off gravel berm.

Images of Phase 1 Geobags:

<u>Phase 2 Geobag condition</u>

Comments on Phase 2 Geobag condition: The geobags are holding a line. they are in the water at low tide. Loss of fill affecting 80%. Green geotextile is loose indicating displacement of upper layers of bags. general poor condition.

Images of Phase 2 Geobags:

<u>Signage condition</u>

Signage condition:

Comments on signage: SCC laminated paper still needs cutting off from northern footpath diversion sign as it's useless and untidy (image below). Other signs on posts are all in place and functioning. Many signs on gabion baskets are redundant.

Images of signs:

Hazards

Comments on hazards: narrow beach despite low tide. Cliffs still finding stability. Debris falling from cliff edge around Red House adding to copious broken defences on beach. Yellow summer house *may* need pulling back this summer, in the unfortunate event of another high wave energy event. The summer house still has a few meters in front of it. Wooden stumps at base of broken gabion mesh. No beach area at low tide (-1m odn) to walk safely along shore due to wave run up.

Images of Hazards:

Northern UNDEFENDED Frontage:

Intertidal Beach volume change north of defence termination: Much Higher
Supratidal Beach volume change north of defence termination: Large Increase
Geomorphological change north of defence termination: Little change to cliffs, decent beach recovery
Comments on the geomorphological change north of defence termination: prominent berm with minor berms supra imposed to seaward. Major beach 'recovery' across northern, cliffed frontage. Infilling of intertidal and supratidal beach with gravel. Cobbles at cliff toe curently stabilising cliffs. The previously prominent embayment between Red House and Thorpe Ness has also been infilled so that shoreline is more linear than concave once again.

Images of the Northern UNDEFENDED Frontage:

Inspection Follow-up:
Observation - diverse vegetation (succulent) growth on supratidal shingle where beach is wide at Thorpe Ness. Supratidal shingle areas have been fenced off towards Aldeburgh.

Check whether any intervention has already been done by WMA or whether current situation is all natural.