

Pakefield Monthly Monitoring Report

Date and Time of survey: July 3, 2024 11:33

Inspector Name: Keith Roper

Time of Low Tide: 14:10

Height of Low Tide (m ODN): -0.5

Reason for Inspection: Scheduled

Comment on weather or water level events that may have impacted coastal change:

Conditions have been less eventful, as might be expected during June. There was a short period of northerly winds at the start of the month, and north to north-easterlies around the middle of the month. The highest tide levels recorded for Lowestoft were during 9th and 10th of the month. Those levels were not especially significant and winds at the time were not onshore. During this inspection winds were fresh south – southwest, and seas were moderate.

The beach north of Arbor Lane

Extension of beach cliffing alongshore: Negligible change

Landward recession of beach cliff: Slight landward recession (trampling)

Change in gradient of beach cliff face: Slightly flatter

Maximum height of beach cliff (m): 2

Beach photos looking north:



Beach photos below taken further north than usual inspection area showing new timber exposure – seaward of Nightingale Road: (Slight reduction in beach level)



Beach photos looking south:



Change in beach level relative to exposed timber groyne opposite Grand Avenue: Slight reduction

Photo of exposed timber groyne:



General impression of beach volume: Slightly decreased

Photos of beach north of Arbor Lane:



Comments on change in beach geomorphology: Similar to the previous month, a clearly defined berm, characterised by shingle, runs approximately along the high water mark. It has been narrowed by recent wave action but there appears to have been little disturbance of the upper beaches. There has been the usual trampling and resultant disturbance along the remaining dune face.

Cliff Top Property

Changes to cliffs supporting property north of rock armour: Slumped material on cliff face; denuding and loss of vegetation; cliff-face steepening and overhanging; scree at base of cliff; fallen vegetation at base of cliff.

Changes to cliffs supporting property south of rock armour: Slumped material on cliff face; denuding and loss of vegetation; cliff-face steepening and overhanging; scree at base of cliff; fallen vegetation at base of cliff.

Comments on risk to cliff-top assets: There were two caravans on the seaward side of The Cliffs access road - one adjacent the seaward end of Arbor Lane and one other, to the south, showing it is due for removal from site. There was no evidence cliffs were reached by seas during June and no significant change to issues recorded previously.

Photos of cliffs supporting property:



Rock Armour

Displacement of rock from structure: Yes - Some - Monitor

Packing of rock: Overall satisfactory

Cross-sectional profile: Overall satisfactory

Beach levels surrounding rock armour: Average

Beach access around the rock armour: Dry access available past rock armour around time of low tide

Settlement, movement, undermining of structure: Yes - Some - Monitor

Exposure of geotextile: Yes - Some - Monitor

Hazards/debris within structure: Yes - Some - Monitor

Stability of cliff behind rock armour: No obvious change apparent from the beach behind the main rock body. Issues at the north and south ends of the rock have been noted previously.

Asset condition grade: 2 Good; minor defects that do not reduce overall performance

Photos of rock armour:



Comments on condition of, or risk posed by rock armour: See the previous month's report.

Signage

Provision of tidal information: Up to date and legible

Comments on signage: The information signage provided at the seaward end of Arbor Lane was visible.

Photos of signage and any issues:



Southern Pakefield beach and cliffs

General impression of beach volume: Slightly reduced

Photos of southern beach:



Comments on change to southern beach: There was evidence of a re-working and redistribution of foreshore material, with a narrowed shingle berm near the high water mark which was consistent with the feature to the north. The berm is consistent and continuous along the frontage.

Changes to southern cliffs: Slumped material on cliff face; denuding and loss of vegetation; cliff-face steepening and overhanging; scree at base of cliff; fallen vegetation at base of cliff.

Photos of southern cliffs:





Comments on cliff change and any risk posed: Cliff bases have not been impacted by seas and the cliffs retain the characteristics recorded previously.

Benacre Ness

Changes to beach geomorphology: Beaches appear to be continuing to widen.

Comments on change at Benacre Ness: Trend of widening beaches continuing and the northeast Ness projection point is probably moving northward. The month has been relatively dry and the surface water outflow rate adjacent Pontins access was greatly reduced. There was very little standing water on The Ness in the areas inspected.

Photos of Pontins frontage and Benacre Ness:



Hazards and Debris

Type of hazard/debris: As noted previously and as photos and comments below.

Photos of hazard/debris:







Comments on hazard/debris: Beach access steps seaward end of Arbor Lane remain partially overgrown. Two cables were seen approximately seaward of Nightingale Road and those thought to have management responsibility have been notified.

Kessingland Cliff top structure

Changes in cliff stability: No obvious change apparent from beach



Comments on cliff top structure: None