

Thorpeness Monthly Monitoring Report

Date and Time of Survey: December 11 2024, 10:30

Time of Low Tide: 12:46

Inspector: Thomas Hayden

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.

Southern undefended frontage

Upper Beach Levels: Moderate Decrease

Lower Beach Levels: Significant Decrease

Comments on the Current Beach Levels over the southern UNDEFENDED frontage: Beach levels have changed a lot over the last inspection period. This is most likely due to the most recent storm (Storm Darragh). The lower beach has lost material, which has caused the high tide mark to move landward. This has also caused a reduction in the level of the upper beach.

Photos of the southern UNDEFENDED frontage:



(Central) Defended Frontage

Upper Beach Levels: Significant Decrease

Lower Beach Levels: Significant Decrease

Comments on the current beach levels over the DEFENDED frontage: Due to the beach being narrower in front of the defences, there is less material to reduce the wave energy. Therefore, the loss of material in this area of the frontage appears to be more significant. The lower beach has a very shallow profile, leading to loss of material from the upper beach. This means that defences that had previously been covered by beach material are now exposed.

Photos of the central DEFENDED frontage:



Gabion condition

Comments on gabion condition: The gabions have not moved between inspections. However, more of the lower gabions that had been covered by beach material are now exposed, due to lower beach levels. Wave energy has eroded part of the exposed face above the gabions.

Photos of the gabions:



Phase 1 Geobag condition

Comments on Phase 1 Geobag condition: Phase 1 geobags remain mostly covered. A small amount of geofabric may be visible through the beach, due to lower beach levels not being able to sustain the volume of the upper beach. However, the bags are still predominantly covered.

Photos of Phase 1 Geobags:



Phase 2 Geobag condition

Comments on Phase 2 Geobag condition: Phase 2 geobags have uncovered further. A minor amount of movement has occurred to some of the bags, due to larger waves with more energy. Some further damage has been caused as a result of the bags being further uncovered, as well as the weather caused by Storm Darragh.

Photos of Phase 2 Geobags:



Signage condition

Signage condition: Good
All signage remains in place and legible.

Debris

Lower beach levels have caused some wire from previously buried gabion baskets to become exposed. A line of timber stakes that were used to secure the baskets have also become exposed along with more phase 2 geobags.

Photos of debris as above.

Northern UNDEFENDED Frontage:

Upper Beach Levels: Moderate Decrease

Lower Beach Levels: Significant Decrease

Comments on the current beach levels, north of defence termination: Beach levels along the northern undefended frontage have lost material, owing to the conditions from Storm Darragh. The high tide line has moved back to the base of the cliff immediately north of the rock. There has also been some cliff loss long the length of the frontage, up to the point where the ness begins to afford some protection to the beach.

Photos of the northern UNDEFENDED Frontage:

