

Thorpeness Community Update

29th January 2026

Current Situation

Demolition of six of the at-risk properties began this week - one cabin style detached building has been removed and a single building containing five apartments is in progress. There are three further properties at risk, but their trigger points for demolition are not yet met.

Over 27m of cliff has been lost since December 2024. Monitoring data shows a slower rate of erosion in the last two weeks. Up to 10m has been lost at the southern end throughout January.

The focus remains on short-term solutions with medium-term plans to be developed.

East Suffolk Council's (ESC) Coastal Management and Adaptation Team have engaged the Anglian Eastern Regional Flood and Coastal Committee (RFCC) regarding potential funding for short-term solutions.

All community proposals for engineering options have been reviewed. Confirmation has been received from ESC's Planning Service that two schemes at the southern end can proceed as permitted development.

ESC has contacted the landowner regarding additional signage for the private road at North End Avenue. Suffolk County Council (SCC) Highways are working on redirecting the King Charles III England Coast Path behind the road.

Communications

Local Communications

- A Community Meeting was held on Friday 23rd January at Thorpeness Country Club.
- The first community drop-in session was held on Tues 27th January at Thorpeness Country Club.
- Further drop-in sessions will be held on 3rd and 10th February. ESC are providing posters for Aldringham-cum-Thorpe Parish Council to promote the drop-ins.
- Short-Term Solutions – a meeting with key stakeholders has been arranged for Friday 30th January (online) to discuss proposals and interlinkages.
- ESC officers to visit a vulnerable resident on North End Avenue on 3rd February.
- Save Thorpeness are requesting access to the closed beach. It has been agreed that permission cannot be granted. Parish councillor to respond.
- ESC to arrange a meeting with Save Thorpeness group lead. A response has been provided to their request for data.
- Monitoring data has been shared with residents.

Wider Communications

- Coastal Adaptation Pilot funding announcement on 28th January by Emma Hardy MP. Environment Agency to provide Q&A document to support answering queries regarding scope. ESC to share when available.
- The ESC website has been updated to provide information with a specific page created:

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<https://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/environmental-services/coastal-management/coastal-erosion-thorpeness>

- Aldringham-cum-Thorpe Parish Council are receiving regular Friday updates.
- Updates are provided to ESC and SCC Members.

Thorpeness
Cliff Lines Over Time (1 month)



Thorpeness
Back of Beach Lines Over Time (1 month)

