

Thorpeness Community Update

13th March 2026

Current Situation

Urgent Works Update

Phase 1

- Rock bags for Phase 1 have been placed.
- On-site Engineer engaged through Ramboll for Phase 1 is available throughout the works and will continue through Phase 2 to review and agreed the on-site placement of the rock-bags.



Phase 2

- Rock bags for Phase 2 to commence delivery on 12th March 2026.
- Works should be completed within one week once placement starts.

Coastal Management and Adaptation Team (CMAT) Update

- CMAT have been engaging with property owners at Coastguard Cottages, Seamark and Drake House regarding private works within property boundaries to slow erosion, under their permitted development rights, using a piling solution. The Council has been able to support private works commencing w/c 23rd March.
- The next priority of CMAT is to provide costings and the removal of rock and geobags from the beach before the summer season.

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Planning and Building Control Update

- Planning and CMAT have met residents to discuss options for the rollback of the road behind landward properties at North End Avenue.

Weather

- Low pressure – moving in with higher winds. Potential for increased wave action.
- Low astronomical tides this week (spring tides towards neap tides).
- Further rain and strong winds spreading east Sunday. Winds remaining SSW/West

Communications

- Follow up meeting with Old Homes Road residents requesting a session on the Moffatt & Nichol presentation for those who could not the February Community Forum to be arranged.
- Factsheet for Phase 2 urgent works has been shared on 11th March. This can be accessed on the ESC website here: [Coastal Erosion at Thorpeness | East Suffolk Council](#)
- Next Community Forum will take place on 24th April from 5.30 pm to 7.30pm. The session will be chaired by MP Jenny Ridell Carpenter.

Coastal Adaptation Pilots

- Under the Environment Agency's new Coastal Adaptation Pilots, £18 million will be shared between coastal projects across the East Riding of Yorkshire, Norfolk and Suffolk to continue advanced coastal adaptation work.
- These areas have been at the forefront of developing innovative approaches to coastal transition and will help fund new long-term adaptation approaches.
- This will include selective property purchases or long-term financing solutions in areas where homes face imminent risk from erosion, that could provide a sustainable model for managing coastal transition.
- The new pilots build upon the £36 million Coastal Transition Accelerator Programme, which continues to support coastal authorities to trial new methods for managing erosion. This has helped residents and businesses move away from high-risk areas while sharing insights with other vulnerable communities.
- CMAT to work up potential adaptation options that may attract Coastal Adaptation Pilot funding from September 2026 alongside proposals for medium term solutions along the frontage which residents wish to explore. However, this will be high level Resilient Coasts business case update to obtain the funds with opportunity for detail from September. Initial thoughts on this will be shared at the Community Forum on 24th April.

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Erosion Data

Very little cliff movement in the last week following a period of relatively calm weather.

Thorpeness
March 2026 Cliff Line Difference (1 week)



This project is funded by Defra as part of the £200 million Flood and Coastal Erosion Resilience Programme which is managed by the Environment Agency.



There has been 1m of erosion at Tinkers End. The rest has experienced no erosion.



The programmes will drive innovation in flood and coastal resilience and adaptation to a changing climate.