

# Coastal Change Yarmouth

## Adaptation Plan for the Community of Yarmouth



### What is a Coastal Adaptation Plan

A Coastal Adaptation Plan helps the community adapt to future change, thereby reducing the negative and enhancing the beneficial consequences of coastal change. This leaflet summarises the Adaptation Plan for Yarmouth, and outlines some of the proposed solutions to achieve the community's long term vision for the town.

*"There are a lot of little things we can do, however behaviour change is not keeping pace with the environmental changes."* Yarmouth community member on community drop-in day.

### The Vision for Yarmouth

A vision for Yarmouth has been developed using material from the Coastal Change Yarmouth project, guided by a Local Engagement Group. We are interested in your views on this vision.

*'To help ensure the community of Yarmouth is able to adapt to tidal flooding now and in the future, so as to protect themselves from the effects of tidal flooding, whilst maintaining the character of the town. In particular to create wide awareness of the risks and options for protection including coastal defences and property level protection.'*



Photo courtesy of Yarmouth Harbour Commissioners

## Adaptation Plan

The Adaptation Plan has at its core the proposed solutions put forward by the Yarmouth Coastal Defence Working Group. These proposals from their report entitled “Adapting to Coastal Flooding in the Yarmouth Area in the 21st Century, December 2010” have been updated by the Group. The following points underlie this Adaptation Plan.

- Adopt the Yarmouth Coastal Defence Working Groups (YCDWG) proposed solutions in its 2010 Report, updated in 2013.
- YCDWG will take forward this Adaptation Plan. Please contact YCDWG (via the Yarmouth Harbour Master) for further information.
- The Yarmouth Coastal Change project has demonstrated new ways of engaging the public and YCDWG has been asked by Coastal Change Yarmouth to consider how to involve the public in its work in the future. So far the YCDWG has published a 28 page report, and also a leaflet that was distributed to 5,500 households.
- YCDWG will take over the monitoring of the flood marker and the flood visualisation model.
- An update of the YCDWG proposed solutions can be found below showing potential practical solutions as well as actions regarding the community flood plan. Timing will need to better reflect scientific prediction and actual experience of sea level rise as well as government economic priorities to meet these risks.

The Adaptation Plan references the wider Isle of Wight Shoreline Management Plan 2011, which sets the following policies for coastal defence.

- Norton Spit: Hold the Line.
- Yarmouth: Hold the Line.
- Thorley Brook and Barfields Stream: long term Managed Realignment followed by No Active Intervention.



*Photo courtesy of Yarmouth Harbour Commissioners*

### **By 2020: Awareness and Planning**

- Community flood plan - includes resistance and resilience advice for property owners, such as flood boards for business/house doors. Launched October 2013. Plan will be extended in line with sea level rise and coastal erosion. Over 80 properties invited to register at this stage.
- Monitoring the Flood Visualisation model.
- Monitoring the town Flood Marker.
- To encourage Yarmouth Primary School to continue raising pupil awareness of coastal change.
- Work with the National Flood Forum in the future to demonstrate property level protection ideas and obtain help on community flood planning.

### **By 2020: Proposed Solutions**

- Gates 0.5 metres high in lanes which lead from High Street to the shore (six). Height based on individual land levels.
- Gate at Pier entrance.
- Gates on harbour slipways (four).
- Flood boards for house doors.
- Supply of flood prevention equipment at key areas such as the Bridge Road and Quay Street entrances to the town centre.
- Raise wavebreak on Norton Spit by one or two planks.
- Reinforce sea wall at western end of the Common.

### **By 2050 : Proposed Solutions**

- Gates on Bridge Street and Quay Street entrances into the town centre.
- Sluices on overflow pipes to prevent ingress of water through drains.
- Raise wavebreak on Norton Spit by half a metre.
- New breakwater one metre higher than existing breakwater.
- Raise pier by one metre.
- Raise Gossips cafe by one metre.
- Raise ferry pier, linkspan etc. by one metre.
- Raise river bank around the Green by one metre.
- Raise gate to Thorley Brook.
- Reinforce Causeway at Freshwater, allow use as a ford.

## By 2100: Proposed Solutions

- Raise A3054 road by one metre, including the swing bridge.
- Reinforce revetments on road.
- Raise utilities under road.
- Norton Spit – no further expenditure.
- Raise quay wall by one metre.
- Raise sea wall by one metre on north side of the Common to protect the main road to Newport.
- Install gates to one metre at harbour slipways and lanes.
- Raise old railway footpath by one metre and reinforce to act as a riverbank.
- Install raised bank on south side of Yarmouth close to Thorley Brook to protect properties.
- Allow ingress of water to land on both sides of the river over this fifty year period as sea level rises.
- Replace the Causeway at Freshwater.

## Legacy of Ongoing Communication

The Yarmouth Coastal Defence Working Group will lead on these proposed solutions. They meet regularly to discuss flood defence options and funding. The full Adaptation Plan is available on the Coastal Change Yarmouth website at [www.solentforum.org/current/CCATCH/Yarmouth/](http://www.solentforum.org/current/CCATCH/Yarmouth/).

Please contact the Yarmouth Harbour Master, at the Harbour Office, to obtain more information on the Yarmouth Coastal Defence Working Group.

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