



This year we Save the Cape Coast **HDC to protect Cape View Corner**

Wow Inc is over the moon that after years of lobbying Hastings District Council is setting aside \$600,000 in this year's annual plan to construct a rock revetment wall along the public section of Cape View Corner.

We are also hugely encouraged that plans are underway for a single consent to allow a sheet pile wall to be constructed in front of private properties to the south of the corner, largely based on private funding.

Owners of the so-called Haumoana 21 (H21) homes, including those who's physical structures have been removed through a combination of storm, erosion damage and council requests, have agreed together to apply for a single consent once they've agreed on design and cost sharing.



Fresh WOW sign in Clearview paddock. Thanks Haydn Middleton for picking up the tab on that and Tim Turvey for the real estate. Also approaching Haumoana you'll see our tatty sign has been replaced.

WOW and our local councillors were present at a meeting of senior staff from Hastings and HBRC, called by Hastings mayor Sandra Hazlehurst just before Christmas last year, where there was unanimous agreement to protect both the public and private sections of the Cape View Corner.

Further meetings were held in January and February confirming council intentions and the support of H21 homeowners.

It's thought work could begin on a robust revetment wall potentially including a stub groyne to protect public assets; the road, water mains, power

and cycle track, early in the second half of 2020.

Funds are expected to be approved during the June annual plan process where locals are urged to submit in support of the proposal.

The only issue will be if someone decides it's not a good idea when the planned works are publicly notified and objects.

In that case it would have to be appealed and heard by the Environment Court or commissioners, a process that added \$120,000 to the cost of the Clifton revetment wall when one person opposed it

The proposal to protect private property from SeaBreeze (No 7) to the Clifton free camping area with a sheet pile wall is progressing well with owners awaiting a design plan, HDC and HBRC offering modelling data at no charge, and council support to apply for a single consent rather than multiple consents for each property.

Both projects are consistent with the Clifton to Tangoio Coastal Hazard Strategy agreement to treat

this section of the Cape Coast separately.

The walls and their design will be compatible with and essentially be the first steps in an all-of-coast protection plan and subject to public consultation and notification.



So please think very carefully before you oppose what WOW has been pushing for on behalf of the community for many years or your objections could simply add cost and further delay these positive developments.

Our newest resident peering out from the iconic old house at Cape View Corner. Watch this space

All-of-coast plan progressing

New Coastal Hazards chairperson and a revitalised all-of-coast plan

The proposed work at Cape View Corner is essentially leading the way for the action phase, Stage 4, of the Clifton to Tangoio Coastal Hazard Strategy which is now kicking back into gear after a few delays.

Work on the Coastal Hazards Strategy involving Hastings, Napier and Hawke's Bay Regional councils with input from communities and some of the top coastal experts in the country began six years ago and was supposed to be far more advanced than it currently is.



New Coastal Hazards chair,
HBRC's Jerf van Beek

New councillors in Napier, Hastings and Hawke's Bay Regional now being bought up to speed. At the first meeting on 4 February, new HBRC councillor Jerf van Beek was elected chairperson of the Coastal Hazards Committee and made it clear he wants to move things along more quickly than they have been.

Napier deputy mayor Annette Brosnan and Hastings Deputy mayor Tania Kerr were elected as deputy co-chairpersons.

The Strategy signed off in November 2018 was scheduled to, by the second quarter of last year, be ready for technical design and costings to be approved along with the assessment of environmental impact, signals and triggers for when each stage might begin all based on agreed funding policies.

What's held things up has been a stalled agreement between all councils for a common \$30 annual multi-generational rate across the region to help cover future coastal protection work when and where is it needed from

Clifton to Tangoio.

That's still a priority although Hastings, which raised concerns, is still deciding on how it might contribute.

In the meantime technical design and costing issues are being worked through by the joint council Technical Advisory Team (TAG) team with input from HBRC experts and coastal engineering group Tonkin & Taylor.

Unit	Preferred Pathway	Short Term (0-20 yrs)	→	Medium Term (20 – 50 yrs)	→	Long Term (50 – 100 yrs)
Clifton (L)	Pathway 5	Sea wall	→	Sea wall	→	Managed Retreat
Te Awanga (K2)	Pathway 3	Renourishment + Control Structures	→	Renourishment + Control Structures	→	Renourishment + Control Structures
Haumoana (K1)	Pathway 2	Renourishment + Control Structures	→	Renourishment + Control Structures	→	Managed Retreat
Clive (J)	Pathway 1	Status Quo	→	Renourishment + Control Structures	→	Retreat the Line / Managed Retreat

Determining trigger points which will indicate what issues will activate particular piece of work including when protection work should be undertaken are also being worked through with external advisors.

Key issues for consideration at the next meetings will be

how to prevent Stage 4 action plans being derailed by the requirements and conditions of the Resource Management Act and HBRC's own Coastal Documents which have a high threshold for coastal structures like groynes and seawalls or revetment walls and correspondingly high costs for consenting.

The contradiction; faced by the Coastal Hazards Committee and indeed the local authorities who are part of it, is the challenge from central Government that they must prepare for climate change and sea-level rise by protecting assets or possibly face financial and other penalties, while facing huge obstacles to achieving this.

A team from the Coastal Hazards Committee has been in negotiation with Government ministers and agencies to try and provide the flexibility needed to more easily achieve the Hawkes Bay protection measures being proposed.

The feedback from HBRC is that this could be a drawn out process that takes time, something certain areas including Cape View Corner do not have a lot of.

One of those consenting obstacles stuck to rigidly in the past by HBRC is the requirement for groynes to be backfilled with shingle from another source than the beach they're protecting to avoid potential downstream impacts.

That even applies to adding an equivalent cubic metreage of shingle even if its moved from one place to another on the same beach as part of beach scraping or building up the crest.

Previously that secondary source has been suggested as Central Hawke's Bay where backed up Tukituki river shingle is causing farmers problems by spilling over on to their land.

Apart from ignoring the hundreds of thousands of cubic metres of shingle mounting up in sections of the Tukituki between Red Bridge and in front of Black Bridge, the number of truckloads required and the 'carbon miles' associated make a mockery of such conditions.

In previous WOW plans for seven and three groynes between Cape View corner and the Tukituki river mouth the cost of importing shingle was going to be as high as the construction, effectively making such plans unaffordable to the community when targeted rates were factored in.

WOW will continue to support every effort to prevent downstream impacts of any construction of groynes or walls and will work with council engineers and designers to achieve this, although it believes moving any impacts to the ever changing river mouth would be one solution.

There's also a need to have accurate data on how ending extraction of at least 30,000 cubic metres annually at Awatoto shingle plan over many decades has helped restore the coast and therefore determine more clearly how much this man-made intervention helped cause erosion or depletion.

While “do nothing” has been ruled out; although that’s effectively what we’ve had until now, managed retreat remains on the table as a last resort in several areas including Haumoana, Te Awanga and Clifton.

The cost of managed retreat which everyone agrees could be higher than the cost of protection in some cases, has not yet been fully modelled.

Workstream	Status Update
Design	Well advanced. Draft report currently being externally peer reviewed.
Triggers	Waiting on national guidance material. Process is being designed with agreement from Living at the Edge researchers to assist in peer review capacity. Intention to engage with Panel members in March / April 2020.
Funding	Requires cross-Council agreement to proceed.
Regulatory	External consultants engaged to develop report, due April 2020.
Governance	On hold, pending outcome of funding workstream.
Managed Retreat (new)	External consultants engaged to develop report, due May 2020.

Meanwhile efforts to determine how to establish ‘trigger’ points for action have been outsourced as part of the Government’s Deep South Science Challenge with results expected ‘early in the new year’. We’re still waiting.

The draft groyne placement model prepared by HBRC design engineer Jose Beya was due to be released in October last year providing the basis for apportioning cost and consenting advice. That’s just been peer reviewed and is due to be presented to the Coastal Hazards TAG.

This work need to be agreed on before public consultation which was originally scheduled for July this year ... a target that again is looking most unlikely.

Other than the Hastings council commitment to Cape View Corner, the most positive projections from TAG indicate it’ll be at least three to five years after all these details are sorted before any actual work begins. – *WOW chair Keith Newman* wordman@wordworx.co.nz

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