

18. Officer's Reports – Chief Executive – Late Item

18.2 Coastal Protection Works – Sand Replenishment Town Beach

REPORT TITLE: Coastal Protection Works – Sand Replenishment Town Beach
MEETING DATE: 8 October 2013
AUTHOR: Roger Sweetman
AUTHOR'S TITLE: Chief Executive
ATTACHMENTS: Correspondence Coast Protection Board

PURPOSE

Presenting correspondence from the Coast protection Board seeking Council to reconsider its resolution not to undertake Sand Replenishment on Town Beach with financial assistance from the Coast Protection Board.

RECOMMENDATION

That the District Council of Robe having considered Report No 18.2 “Coastal Protection Works – Sand Replenishment Town Beach”:

- (1) Receive the correspondence from the Coast Protection Board of the 3rd of October 2013; and**
- (2) Rescind the resolution passed at the Council meeting held on the 10th September 2013 minute 81/2014, Minute Book page number 7 appearing below:**

“14.1.7 Coastal Protection Works – Town Beach

Cr Enright moved that District Council of Robe having considered Report No 14.1.7 “Coastal Protection Works – Town Beach”:

- (1) Undertake works and repairs to the groyne on Town Beach in accordance with the design specifications prepared by the Coastal Protection Board; and*
- (2) Make application to the Coast Protection Board for funding for sand replenishment on Town Beach for the 2014-2015 financial year; and*
- (3) That the Chief Executive approach the appropriate government departments seeking permission to source sand adjacent third ramp, Long Beach for replenishment on Town Beach. (81/2014)*

Seconded Cr Nolan Carried”

That the District Council of Robe having considered Report No 18.2 “Coastal Protection Works – Sand Replenishment Town Beach”:

- (1) Undertake sand replenishment works and repairs to the groyne on town beach in accordance with the design specifications prepared by the Coastal Protection Board;**
- (2) Allocate \$40,000 for this work and adjust the Annual Business Plan and Budget at the first budget review; and**
- (3) That the Chief Executive approach the appropriate government departments seeking permission to source sand adjacent third ramp, Long Beach for replenishment on Town Beach**

BACKGROUND & DISCUSSION

Attached to this report is correspondence from the Coast Protection Board in response to Councils decision not to accept the financial assistance provided by the Board and undertake sand replenishment works at Town Beach.

During the past week and a half a further 0.5 to 1.5 meters of sand has been removed from the coastal dune on Town Beach.

The further loss of this coastal dune has resulted in the possibility of further loss occurring on private land which may affect private infrastructure. I have reported this to the Local Government Risk Management Scheme advising them that there may be a possibility of claims for damages being lodged.

The work proposed is as follows

A local contractor be engaged to;

- (a) Remove sand from Karrata Beach and replenish the sand on Town Beach, it is acknowledged that this is a stop gap measure to prevent further erosion and the beach will require an extensive sand replenishment project in future years.
- (b) Repair the rock groyne at the eastern end of Town Beach which will prevent the sand upon the beach being moved in an easterly direction.

It is hoped that weather conditions permitting this work will be completed by December 2013

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Council has no policy applicable to this work.

RISK LEVEL

Should no work be undertaken there is a risk of further damage to private and public assets that adjoin Town Beach.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

The Coast Protection Board has funding for immediate remedial works in their budget and have allocated:

- (a) \$15,000 for repairs to the groyne , and
- (b) \$22,500 for sand replenishment

Total funds \$37,500

These funds are dependent upon Council making a contribution.

As Council will appreciate there will not be allot of sand replenishment undertaken for this amount of money and therefore any funds Council can contribute to the project will enhance the value of the project.

Council has not budgeted for this work and would be required to adjust the Budget at the first budget review.

STRATEGIC PLAN

Environment and Heritage

To build a collaborative approach between private, public and community sectors which embraces practices that support the sustainability of the Districts heritage and natural environment.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

The community will be informed of both projects via the Council Newsletter, local media and Council website.



Government of South Australia
Coast Protection Board

Ref: CPB 735/11/01

3 October 2013

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Dear Roger and elected members of Robe District Council

Re: Coastal issues for Robe Township and the maintenance of Town Beach

I write in reply to your letter dated 10 July 2013 and your recent correspondence regarding coastal protection works on Town Beach at Robe (11 September 2013). The Board appreciates Council's intent to address the various coastal issues for the Robe Township and acknowledges the dedicated work of local volunteers towards access to the coast and its conservation and maintenance.

Sand Management on Town Beach

Of utmost concern to the Board is the condition of the beach and dune buffer on Town Beach. We are well aware from events past, as Council would also be, of the consequences of erosion in this location. Significant work was undertaken in the 1980s to resolve the problem. The beach was regularly replenished with sand dredged from the boat harbor channel. A groyne was constructed to trap the sand. A new dune formed and a significant buffer developed. Most of this buffer has now eroded.

I'm sure Council is cognisant of the risk to property immediately adjacent. This leaves me perplexed by Council's decision not to accept the Board's grant funding of \$22,000 for emergency replenishment.

The need to replenish Town Beach has been discussed with Council on a number of occasions. More recently, Council sought advice on sand bypassing when applying for approval to dredge the Robe Marina entrance channel last year. A strong recommendation supported by technical advice was made to Council to move sand from Karatta Beach at the same time. I understand this did not occur.

The breakwater structure and adjacent and subjacent land that it is on, are under the care, control and management of the District Council of Robe. The breakwater blocks the natural eastward movement of sand from around Cape Dombey to the foreshore town beaches. Council therefore needs to manage sand accumulation in and around the breakwater and channel and its effects. Insufficient sand bypassing in recent years has led the situation on Town Beach to become dire once again. The Board is offering funding assistance for emergency dune buffer replenishment and asks the Council to restore regular sand replenishment of the beach. Otherwise, Council will need to consider with adjacent

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Date:	3 October 2013
Filename:	CPB letter to DC Robe re coastal issues

landholders, extending the rock wall protection along the entire length of Town Beach. This would be very expensive and also eventually result in the loss of Town Beach. DEWNR Coastal Officers are available to assist Council in developing a longer term strategy.

Due to a number of urgent requests made to the Board for funding assistance, it would be appreciated if Council's intentions regarding the grant offer for sand bypassing could be made clear by 30 November. Beyond that date, the Board cannot guarantee the availability of the funds.

Repairs to the Town Beach groyne

These works should occur simultaneously with the replenishment to reduce costs, increase efficiencies and minimise disturbance to the public and residents.

Cliff failure, Sea-Vu Caravan Park

I understand that officers from DEWNR's Coast and River Murray Unit have provided you with some advice on the cliff hazard. The Board supports Council's position that the grassed area seaward of the driveway should be used for informal recreation only and that no camping or structures should be permitted. The hazard associated with cliffs locally has again been highlighted by the cliff collapse at Boatswains Point and Council should consider taking the opportunity to raise public awareness on the dangers.

Beach access control

The Board fully supports Council in rationalising and controlling beach access. Robe is fortunate to have the coastal cliff-top walk and ready access to a number of beautiful beaches. This is an important asset to the town and the local community and uncontrolled access will only detract from this. DEWNR staff are available to assist Council and I understand that there is grant money available through the federally funded Limestone Coast Watchers and Coastal Action Plan projects to implement the strategy you are developing. We look forward to seeing the continued efforts of the local community and Council first hand when next in Robe.

For further information on this matter please contact Jason Quinn on 81244782 or jason.quinn@sa.gov.au.

Kind regards



Graham Foreman
Presiding Member
Coast Protection Board