

Seaton BMP – Public Consultation Response

Prepared by EDDC – January 2017

Analysis and Review of Responses

The public consultation ran from the Thursday 7th December, until 2nd January. With a public exhibition at Seaton Tesco for one afternoon, and the material also available via the EDDC website. With the consultation publicised through press release, a stakeholder group, posters and social media. During this period X people viewed our website, and to date 20 completed consultation responses have been received.

The majority of those who responded to the consultation were users of the beach and harbour (40%), or a resident (43%) a number of whom consider themselves at risk of flood or erosion (13%).

From Seaton Hole, to Seaton the majority of residents favoured Option 2, which is to replace the wire mesh baskets filled with small rocks from the bottom of the cliffs to the Check House seawall with large rock sea defences. With a slightly smaller but similar number supporting Option 3, which is to replace the wire mesh baskets filled with small rocks from the bottom of the cliffs to the Check House seawall with new defences, for example a wall. Also periodically move shingle from the east of the beach where it's accumulating, to the west of the beach where it's being lost. We may need to create access through the seawall for heavy machinery needed to do this if we can't get access through Fishermen's Gap. Structures may need to be added to control the movement of beach shingle such as timber or rock groynes from the beach into the sea.

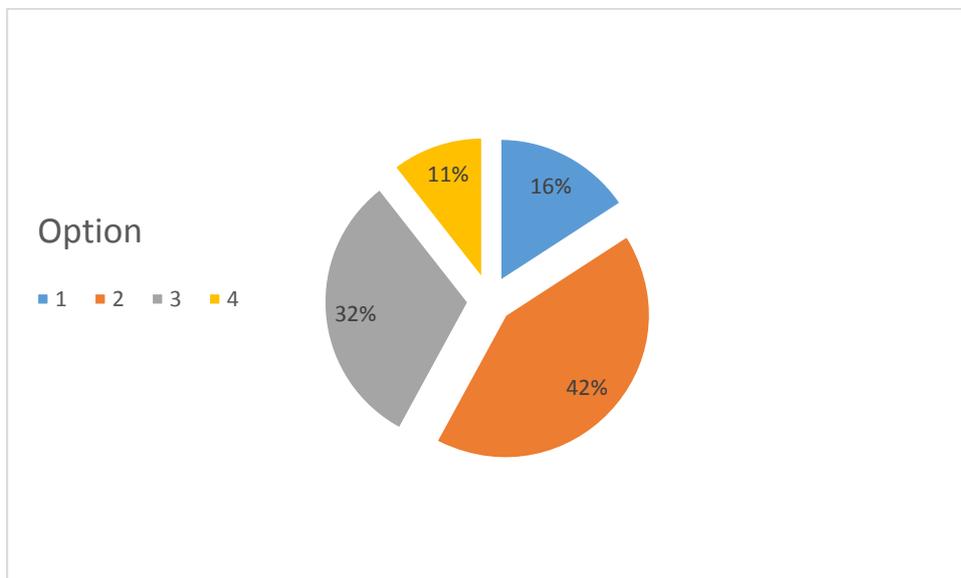


Figure 1 - Response to BMP Options from Seaton Hole, to Seaton

The reasons given for preferring one option over another were relatively evenly match, with most citing protection for the cliffs, closely followed by the best defence from erosion, less visual impact defence from flood and least environmental impact.

The responses were slightly in favour of the proposal to periodically move shingle away from the east of the beach where it's accumulating to the west of the beach where it's being lost but the

comments suggested it was a divisive issue, with some strong views against often because of the impact on the wide open bay of control structures.

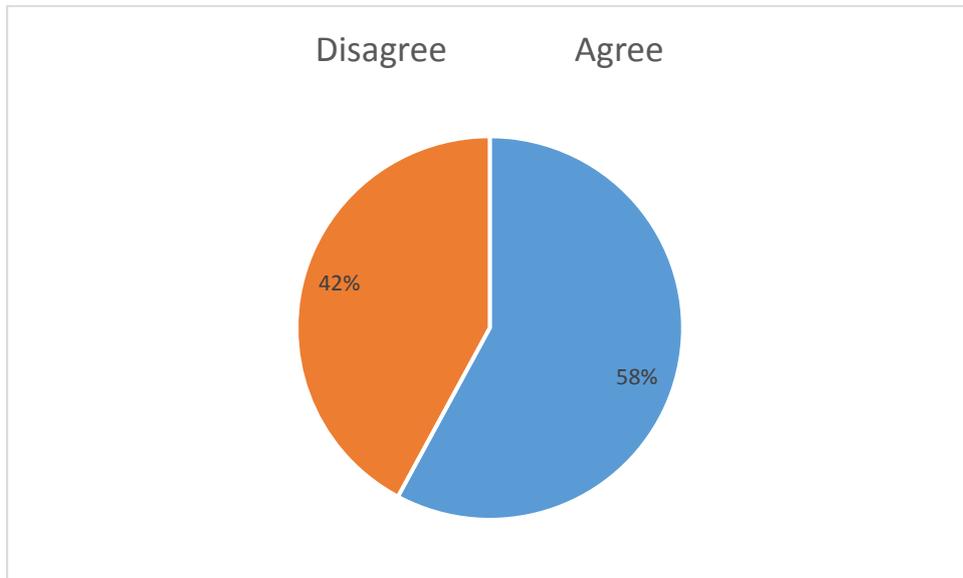


Figure 2- Response to beach recycling along Seaton Town Beach

People were all in favour of continuing to maintain Axe Harbour, although in a small number of instances concerns were expressed over the current management practice of depositing dredge material in the shingle spit.

East Devon will take into account the results of the public consultation, as well as discussions with the stakeholder group and statutory bodies to finalise the Beach Management Plan before seeking adoption of the plan by East Devon Cabinet in the Spring.