

Should Dunwich be Protected?

Dunwich is under threat from erosion. More land is being lost every year. Some people think that the village should be protected - that the sea should be stopped. Other people think that this is a bad idea which would cost far too much.

I've been coming on holiday to Dunwich every year for the past 50 years. I think it's wonderful. We should try to save it, but I don't want to see any ugly constructions on the beach

I have studied the cliffs in this area for many years. Although they erode very quickly I don't believe that anything should be done to protect them. In the end the sea will always win and we should not be wasting tax-payers money on trying to stop it when we will fail in the end anyway

OK, so Dunwich is a nice old place to live, but we can't live in the past can we? We have to think of the future. The experts tell me that if we stop Dunwich eroding then Sizewell could flood or be eroded. I'm not sure that would be safe.

I own the caravan site on the cliffs at Dunwich. People don't realise how much money tourism brings into this area and how many jobs it creates. Without tourists this area would be a lot poorer, and Dunwich brings in lots of tourists. We have to pay out to protect it

Dunwich could be protected by using many methods:

- concrete sea walls to absorb the wave energy
- wooden revetments or gabions filled with stones to do the same thing
- groyne would build up the beach and make it wider to protect the village
- building up the beach by dumping stones on it

The cliffs at Dunwich are very hard to protect. Not only do you have to protect the base of the cliff from the sea, you also have to make sure that water can drain out of the cliff. If you did stop erosion at Dunwich you would get problems at Sizewell and Aldeburgh. These are both much more important than a little fishing village

They say it would cost at least £20 million pounds to defend Dunwich from the sea. That's going to come out of my taxes. I'd rather see that money spent on new roads, or schools or hospitals. Hardly anyone lives there anyway

Dunwich is a beautiful little village. It's buildings are beautiful, especially the church which is centuries old. It would be a shame to lose such a special building but what about the cost of the defence works that would be needed?