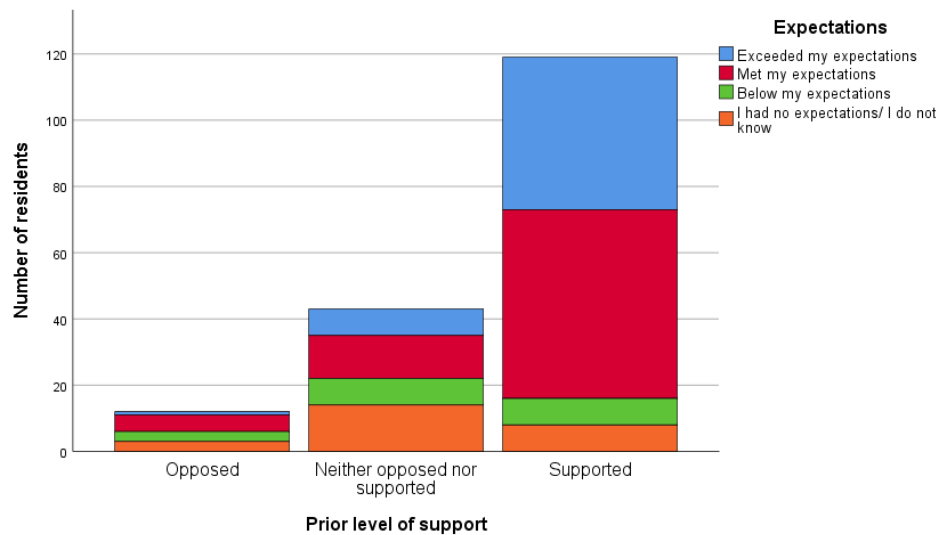


Dear Bacton and Walcott residents,

Just to quickly reintroduce myself, my name is Harry Jones, and in the Summer of 2020, I undertook a study looking into the perceptions and lived experiences of the Sandscaping Scheme in your area one year after its completion. For those interested, please find my key findings below:

- The graph (see below) shows the high levels of support amongst residents prior to the completion of the sandscaping. Whether or not the scheme met the expectations of residents was colour coded, with 75% having their expectations 'met' or 'exceeded'.



- The types of beach activities that residents have undertaken since the sandscaping have stayed similar to before, with the exception of beach combing which no longer holds the same excitement. However, 35% of residents have increased the time spent on the beach since the scheme, and 19% of residents have reduced their usage.
- Difficulties walking on the new, sandier beach and the loss of the walkway are two negative themes that surfaced. The need to minimize the impact of increased visitors in the area was also a key talking point amongst residents, however, COVID-19 and subsequent increases in domestic holidaymaking may have influenced this.
- There was an overwhelming feeling amongst the majority of residents that the positives the scheme provides, with the increased protection, outweigh these negative themes highlighted above.
- Cautious optimism was apparent in the future of the scheme. The reduction in sand levels was a cause for concern, with a good appreciation for the natural processes that occur along this stretch of coast. The sandstorm of 2020 provided some reassurance for residents of the scheme of the ability of the project to help tackle flooding.
- I was interested to find that residents who experienced the 2013 storms showed significantly lower levels of support for the scheme, with only 63% supporting the scheme prior to its implementation. In contrast, 82% of residents who moved to the area since the storms supported the scheme. Residents that experienced the 2013 flooding preferred hard engineering approaches to the newer residents.
- Experience and perceptions of the scheme were similar amongst Bacton and Walcott residents.

I would like to give my sincere gratitude to the 190 residents who made this study possible, and particularly to the 10 interviewees. I apologise to those who registered interest for the interviews but who I did not manage to talk to, I was overwhelmed by the levels of support you have shown and have thoroughly enjoyed working with you all and listening to your stories.

Harry Jones