

Penzance Neighbourhood Plan Update

Last Board meeting 15th July (Board actions included below). Next board meeting 12th August,

1 Public consultation

1a) Regeneration: completed and disseminated via mailshot to 9700 households across the parish by end of 2015

1b) Housing and Place: underway for completion end of August.

We commissioned (March) and received (mid May) an independent Strategic Housing Needs Assessment from Aecom - this was "in kind" support from Locality

We have been engaging with individual communities across Penzance

-> Gwavas: 2 community meetings held and we will be reiterating the input from those meetings back to residents in the form of proposals based on them

-> Gulval: attended the July Village Association meeting. Gulval VA has agreed to provide us with their draft village plan together with evidence of consultation by mid August

-> Eastern Green: this community group has disbanded but we are working together with the previous active members to organise a leaflet drop to 380 households in this community. Input from community meetings held/attended in 2015 will provide background to put together a questionnaire.

->Alverton: this community group attended a NP evening workshop in February after which the then dormant group reconvened and provided us (May) with the results from their community questionnaire conducted in 2015. We attended a recent consultation event in connection with the proposed planning application from DCH for 21 new houses on the current playing field close to Mount Misery. We are supporting the community group and recently established neighbourhood forum (the latter wishing to save the playing fields) to work together to canvas on this proposal and gather the evidence of community opinion so that we can include their views in the draft NPlan

->Penalverne: Cllr Olivier arranged a meeting in June with a limited number of residents. There is no active community group and it is clear from that meeting that residents from Penalverne feel that previous consultations have lead to no outcomes. We understand that their primary concerns are around parking and lack of green/play space and will work to put together outline proposals which might resolve these issues and hold a public meeting during the latter part of August

East Penzance: Approx 8 residents attended a NP evening workshop in February and it was agreed that a public event would be held once the Aecom report was received. We have re-established contact with these residents who have agreed to use Facebook and a leaflet drop in the area to convene a public meeting during August. Initial feedback indicated traffic management, parking, overcrowding/HMO's as key concerns.

Heamoor: This has proved a tough community to engage and repeated appeals have unearthed just one member of the community prepared to work with the NP team! A meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 27/7 with Cllr Fonk and Dr Neil Armstrong (board member and Heamoor resident) to agree a way forward. The Gulval VA have also offered supportmembers have links via the church and school(s).

Newlyn: we have a number of established community contacts in Newlyn and plan to hold a public meeting mid/late August. Our agreed next step at the last board meeting was first to meet with the Newlyn harbour master to better understand nascent proposals in this area of the town/village which inevitably have a significant impact on "place". It is a key requirement for the Newlyn harbour board to engage with local stakeholders. We also now have the benefit of a Local Plan which will enable us to have informed conversations about the LP's housing proposals/earmarked sites which have hitherto been anecdotal in nature. The meeting with the harbourmaster is scheduled for w/c 1st August.

Treeneere: As with Heamoor a difficult community to engage with and we currently have no

resolution in place. The last NP board agreed to liaise with Cllr Dwelly to clarify an understanding of needs and to go out to the community with outline proposals for comment.....the view was that proposals can be the best way to elicit a response. We will use WAC and Treneere Together as initial springboards.

Mousehole: We have arranged for a community meeting with people living at Parc an Gate and have already canvassed issues around "place" via community event based liaison and via the school. Issues in Mousehole are similar to those in St Ives and we have active links with their NP team.

We will use the feedback from the "Housing and Place" and previous consultations to exhibit a preliminary version of the NP mid-late September.

2 Drafting the Plan

2a) We are currently putting together the outline structure of the plan and an analysis of the underlying evidence of consultation/community engagement and good practice which will be required by the Inspector once the plan is in final form. We have requested precedents from Locality - our criteria being a large and complex parish/town with similar demographics and social/housing needs to Penzance and where economic regeneration is also a critical element of the plan

2b) Policies - this is a complex area and we have applied for further support from Locality to draft the underlying policies. Having been designated a complex parish we should be in a good position to receive this support.

2c) Advice from Locality and Aecom is that, in order to receive approval from the Inspector, Penzance's NPlan will need to be subject to an Environmental Impact Assessment due to the nature of the area and this will apply both to housing and economic regeneration proposals. Once again we will apply for support from Locality and given needs this should be forthcoming.

3 Delivery

3a) NP delivery

-> housing and place consultation complete by end of August

-> next public consultation on the draft plan mid/end September

->final draft plan end November

->Inspection/Cornwall Council processes Dec/Jan

->final consultation and referendum end of Q1 2017

This would end up at a 2 year processwell within the norm for a NP and in particular one which represents a relatively large and complex parish.

3b) Collateral delivery: The NP Project Coordinator and Chair have been actively involved via their participation as members of the Penzance Coastal Communities Team and Placemaking group in securing opportunities for delivery, including but not limited to:

-> Harbour Steering Group - a working party put together to commission an analysis of the coastal defence opportunities for Penzance, including an economic impact assessment of the various options. Neighbourhood Plan involvement has ensured that proposals subject to discussion and analysis are in accord with projects and proposals which have been subject to recent community consultation and which would have support as a result

-> Coastal Communities Team - Penzance was one of the initial 12 pilot towns for this DCLG (government) scheme designed to secure joined up thinking and thus funding for effective regeneration (rather than ad hoc project funding) for deprived coastal towns. The NP chair and project coordinator have worked together to produce;

1. An Economic Plan for Penzance which was submitted to and adopted by both the town council and regeneration board and now sits with DCLG as the plan for Penzance in its capacity as a Coastal Communities town

2 A £3.8m bid to the Coastal Communities Fund for a reconfiguration of the wet dock to bring its

commercial port operations into the 21st centuryimproving facilities and offering prospects for increased capacity and subsequent employment and training opportunities as well as releasing space to develop a value added harbour side visitor economy, again including skills development and employment opportunities.

This does have an impact on the cost of delivering the NP but at the outset, advice from Locality was that for a town suffering "consultation fatigue" being able to demonstrate delivery opportunities during the course of developing the plan for elements which had proven community support was good practice.

There is no doubt that we are doing this but we are still at a stage where we need to be mindful not to publicise the funding bid elements of these efforts until and unless we receive some indicative funding commitments.

4 Budget and Funding

Our budget remains fixed as previously reported but we need to apply for the final tranche of funding from Locality included in our previous funding reports to PZTC. We are unable to do so until we receive a statement of funding from PZTC and this is now a matter of some urgency given the lead time for funding applications. We are also unable to provide a formal analysis of spend vs budget to the Town Council until we have this information although records we keep indicate that we remain within the approved budget.