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## Friends of Penzance Harbour

[www.friendsofpzharbour.org](http://www.friendsofpzharbour.org)

### How to help STOP Option A!

The outstanding planning applications (for listed building consent and the new sea wall) are still waiting to be determined by the Secretary of State, and the deadline for making representations has past. The deadline for objecting to the environmental consents handled by the Marine & Fisheries Agency has also past. However, a new factor has entered the picture in the form of a moratorium on government spending and hence Department for Transport funding for the scheme. The upgrading of the South Pier's heritage status has also helped us.

An outright rejection of the applications by the Secretary of State seems unlikely. He may "call in" the applications and may then hold a Public Inquiry. He might also simply approve the applications with a formal approval notice from Cornwall Council following shortly thereafter. However, at present a delay to funding would be hugely beneficial creating a space for a full review of the scheme and alternative options (see item 2 below). We are preparing for all these eventualities and the following is the best way you can help us.

#### **1. Join our mailing list**

This is the best way of keeping informed of developments. We will let you know when there are major developments and when your help is needed. Please go to:  
[www.friendsofpzharbour.org/join\\_mailinglist.php](http://www.friendsofpzharbour.org/join_mailinglist.php)

#### **2. Write to Norman Baker MP (this is very important!)**

The upgrading of the South Pier's heritage status and the recent suspension of funding for the Isles of Scilly Link project while the government conducts an expenditure review greatly enhances our case against Cornwall Council's Option A plans for Penzance Harbour.

Just to recap, the Option A scheme involves building on Battery Rocks beach and burying large parts of the historic South Pier under concrete and infill. It will result in an industrial estate style development in the middle of Penzance's seafront with associated heavy lorries and forklift trucks, and will scupper forever the longstanding ambition of the town to create a pedestrian-friendly seafront linked to the town centre.

Now is exactly the right time for national government to call a stop to the scheme and insist that Cornwall Council properly consider less destructive and cheaper alternatives. But those responsible need encouragement!

To this end we would like you to write to:

#### **Norman Baker MP**

Parliamentary Under Secretary of State  
Department for Transport  
Great Minster House  
76 Marsham Street  
London SW1P 4DR

Email: [norman.baker@dft.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:norman.baker@dft.gsi.gov.uk) and [info@normanbaker.org.uk](mailto:info@normanbaker.org.uk) (this second e-mail is his constituency office so good for a copy but the original should go to the ministry address)

He is responsible for identifying cuts within the Department for Transport budget.

Your letter should point out that, unlike many other projects, the Isles of Scilly Link scheme would actually **benefit** from a delay to its funding by allowing a proper review of options taking into account important new developments including:

- The changed financial situation, the need to focus on value for money, and the genuine needs of Scillonians and visitors to the islands. Mention in particular that Graeme Hicks, the councillor responsible for the current scheme, is on record as saying that he was not concerned about the capital cost of the scheme because that was being covered by grant funding.
- The recent upgrade to the South Pier's heritage status (see: [www.friendsofpzharbour.org/blog\\_more.php?b=92](http://www.friendsofpzharbour.org/blog_more.php?b=92)) and the damage that the currently proposed scheme would cause to this nationally important listed building. Mention in particular the burying of the historically most important parts of the pier.
- Recent developments surrounding the helicopter and in particular the very real likelihood that this "lifeline" service will close in the near future. You could mention that a fast ferry may be one way of modernising the sea link and filling the gap left by the helicopter.
- The public consultation on the future development of the town recently commissioned by Cornwall Council and undertaken by AECOM. Although the terms of reference were carefully drawn to exclude the harbour development, AECOM's reports have highlighted the future economic importance of a pedestrian-friendly seafront well connected by pedestrian links to the town centre. This objective is stressed in the Penwith Local Plan too but is seriously undermined by the Option A harbour scheme.

You might also include one or more of the following supporting points:

- The private sector operator of the sea link for the last ninety years, the Isles of Scilly Steamship Company, say they will continue to operate the service with or without public funding, so the link is not in any danger.
- Public opinion in Penzance is supportive of the link but overwhelmingly against the currently proposed scheme (see: [www.friendsofpzharbour.org/pdfs/PublicOpinion.pdf](http://www.friendsofpzharbour.org/pdfs/PublicOpinion.pdf) for examples).
- Local community and business interests have invested considerable time, effort and money in developing viable alternatives (you could mention Trythall Shipping's fast ferry proposal and the Penzance Business Network's "Option PZ").
- That there is no reliable evidence that the chosen scheme will deliver the promised economic benefits, and real concern that the town's future as a tourist destination will be seriously harmed by placing an industrial development and associated heavy goods traffic in the middle of the historic seafront.
- That environmental considerations have not been properly taken into account and consents under the Food & Environment Protection Act should be refused.
- That the chosen scheme appears to be an expensive "vanity project" driven by Cornwall Council (where there are critical reports of most services) and the Council of the Isles of Scilly (which is currently in turmoil over massive pay rises for Council officers). The project is currently being investigated by the District Auditor.

Please use the above information but put it in your own words and try and send your letter in the next few days. You can use the email address but a traditional letter in the post makes more of an impression. Copies of the letter/email should also be sent to:

**Rt Hon Philip Hammond MP**

Secretary of State  
Department for Transport  
Great Minster House  
76 Marsham Street  
London SW1P 4DR  
Email: [philip.hammond@dft.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:philip.hammond@dft.gsi.gov.uk)

**Eric Pickles MP**

Secretary of State for Communities & Local  
Government  
Eland House  
Bressenden Place  
London SW1E 5DU  
Email: [eric.pickles@communities.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:eric.pickles@communities.gsi.gov.uk)

and

**Andrew George MP**

Constituency Office  
Trewella, 18 Mennaye Road  
Penzance, Cornwall TR18 4NG  
Email: [georgea@parliament.uk](mailto:georgea@parliament.uk)

Philip Hammond is Norman Baker's boss and in charge at the Department for Transport, Eric Pickles is responsible for dealing with the request for Listed Building Consent, and it is important that Andrew George continues to be reminded of the strength of local feeling on this issue.

Cornwall Council will be lobbying hard to be allowed to proceed with their pet project so it's very important that Norman Baker, Philip Hammond and Eric Pickles hear from you too.

If you only do one thing then please write to Norman Baker.

**3. Pledge financial support for possible legal work**

If funding is available and the Secretary of State approves the application for listed building consent then we hope to be able to challenge the legality of any decision to build on Battery Rocks beach. To do this we will need £50,000 or more for legal expenses. Many of you have already pledged support totalling several thousand pounds, and we thank you for that, but we are still a long way from what we will need. If you haven't made a pledge yet then please think about doing so (go to: [www.friendsofpzharbour.org/pledge\\_support.php](http://www.friendsofpzharbour.org/pledge_support.php)). If you think you might be one of the small number of people who are willing and able to provide very substantial support please call John Maggs on 01736 332741.

**4. Help with fundraising**

If you have a fundraising idea or would like to help us raise funds to cover the costs of legal work then please get in touch by emailing [jmaggs@gn.apc.org](mailto:jmaggs@gn.apc.org) or calling 01736 332741.

**5. Write to the *Cornishman* and *Western Morning News***

To help keep the issue in the public eye think about writing a letter expressing your concerns to the *Cornishman*, *Western Morning News* or other local media. Letters to *The Cornishman* and *WMN* should be sent to: [letters@cornishman.co.uk](mailto:letters@cornishman.co.uk) and [wmnletters@westernmorningnews.co.uk](mailto:wmnletters@westernmorningnews.co.uk) respectively.

**6. Write to a celebrity**

If you know one that's brilliant. It you don't just write to your favourite. A celebrity endorsement at this stage would help enormously.

## 7. Put a poster in your window

These are downloadable from the web site; alternatively contact us and we will send you one.

## 8. Write to your Cornwall Councillor and/or Cornwall Cabinet

A list of contact details can be found at Annex I. Writing to your local ward councillor is a good way of communicating your objection. The Cabinet is the main decision-making body at Cornwall Council and is the driving force behind the scheme. The Chairman and Transport Portfolio Holder are the individuals responsible.

## 9. Tell your friends

Word of mouth is vitally important to ensure that as many people as possible know about what is happening. The more that know the more that will object and the more difficult it is for Cornwall County Council, the Route Partnership and others to ignore us.

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### Annex I

#### **Contact details for Penzance area Cornwall Council Members**

##### *Gulval & Heamoor*

###### Mario Fonk

114 Roscadghill Parc, Heamoor,  
Penzance, Cornwall, TR18 3QY  
01736 332720  
[mfonk@cornwall.gov.uk](mailto:mfonk@cornwall.gov.uk)

##### *Marazion*

###### Sue Nicholas

Brigstock, 8 Bampfyld Way  
Perran Downs, Goldsithney  
Penzance, Cornwall, TR20 9JJ  
01736 711090  
[sunicholas@cornwall.gov.uk](mailto:sunicholas@cornwall.gov.uk)

##### *Penzance Central*

###### Tamsin Williams

Albert Cottage, Albert Terrace  
Penzance, Cornwall, TR18 2DD  
01736 363008  
[healingcornwall@aol.com](mailto:healingcornwall@aol.com)

##### *Penzance Promenade*

###### Sue Pass

Tremhea Barn, Higher Tremenheere,  
Ludgvan, Penzance, TR20 8XG  
01736 364538  
[spass@cornwall.gov.uk](mailto:spass@cornwall.gov.uk)

##### *St Just in Penwith*

###### Chris Goninan

11 South Place, St Just,  
Penzance, Cornwall, TR19 7HW  
01736 788722  
[cgoninan@cornwall.gov.uk](mailto:cgoninan@cornwall.gov.uk)

##### *Ludgvan*

###### Irene Bailey

Praise Cottage, 4 Higher Eglos Cottages,  
Ludgvan, Penzance, Cornwall TR20 8HQ  
01736 710278

##### *Newlyn & Mousehole*

###### Roger Harding

Trewoofe Farmhouse, Lamorna  
Penzance, Cornwall, TR19 6PA  
01736 810336, 01736 361998  
[sales@rcharlingandson.co.uk](mailto:sales@rcharlingandson.co.uk)

##### *Penzance East*

###### Ruth Lewarne

12 Roscadghill Parc  
Penzance, Cornwall, TR18 3QX  
01736 361343  
[rlewarne@cornwall.gov.uk](mailto:rlewarne@cornwall.gov.uk)

##### *St Buryan*

###### Bill Maddern

10 Bodinnar Close, Newbridge,  
Penzance, Cornwall, TR20 8NN  
01736 364954  
[william.maddern@cornwall.gov.uk](mailto:william.maddern@cornwall.gov.uk)

You can find the names and addresses of all other Cornwall Council members at:

<http://democracy.cornwall.gov.uk/mgMemberIndex.aspx?bcr=1>

### **Contact details for Cornwall Council Cabinet Members**

*Leader of Cornwall Council*

Alec Robertson  
County Hall, Treyew Road  
Truro, TR1 3AY  
Tel: 01326 572650  
[arobertson@cornwall.gov.uk](mailto:arobertson@cornwall.gov.uk)

*Children Portfolio Holder*

Sally Bain  
Lawhyre Cottage, Rashleigh Lane  
Fowey, Cornwall, PL23 1HP  
01726 833766  
[sbain@cornwall.gov.uk](mailto:sbain@cornwall.gov.uk)

*Health Portfolio Holder*

Neil Burden  
Trecarrell Manor, Trebulet  
Launceston, Cornwall, PL15 9QG  
01566 782286, 07717 378507  
[nburden@cornwall.gov.uk](mailto:nburden@cornwall.gov.uk)

*Environment Portfolio Holder*

Julian German  
Trevinnick Meadow, Lanhoose  
Gerrans, Truro, TR2 5EP  
07528 983 379, 01872 322571  
[jgerman@cornwall.gov.uk](mailto:jgerman@cornwall.gov.uk)

*Communities Portfolio Holder*

Lance Kennedy  
53 Athelstan Park, Bodmin  
Cornwall, PL31 1DT  
01872 322571  
[lkennedy@cornwall.gov.uk](mailto:lkennedy@cornwall.gov.uk)

*Transport & Planning Portfolio Holder*

Graeme Hicks  
County Hall, Treyew Road  
Truro, TR1 3AY  
01209 217605  
[ghicks@cornwall.gov.uk](mailto:ghicks@cornwall.gov.uk)

*Economics Portfolio Holder*

Carolyn Rule  
County Hall, Treyew Road  
Truro, TR1 3AY  
07751 685733  
[carorule@cornwall.gov.uk](mailto:carorule@cornwall.gov.uk)

*Corporate Support Portfolio Holder*

Jim Currie  
Colley Weston, Penelewey  
Feock, Truro, Cornwall, TR3 6QY  
01872 865306, 01872 322571  
[jcurrie@cornwall.gov.uk](mailto:jcurrie@cornwall.gov.uk)

*Housing Portfolio Holder*

Mark Kaczmarek  
Innsbruck, Penance Road  
Lanner, Redruth, Cornwall, TR16 5TF  
01209 211366, 01872 322571  
[mkaczmarek@cornwall.gov.uk](mailto:mkaczmarek@cornwall.gov.uk)

*Adults Portfolio Holder*

Armand Toms  
36 Trenant Road, East Looe  
Cornwall, PL13 1EP  
01503 264823, 01872 322571  
[atoms@cornwall.gov.uk](mailto:atoms@cornwall.gov.uk)