

Friends of Penzance Harbour

www.friendsofpzharbour.org

Public Opinion

The public in Penzance and their elected representatives are overwhelmingly against Cornwall Council's scheme (Option A) for Penzance harbour...

1. At a consultation in 2004 the public rejected the plan that the current scheme is based on.
2. The current scheme was considered by Penzance Civic Society and rejected.
3. Feedback forms filled in by the public at the September 2008 "pre-planning exhibition" showed 85% against the scheme.
4. Feedback forms filled in at the January 2009 repeat "pre-planning exhibition" showed 65% against the scheme (concerns are raised about the biased questionnaire).
5. The Friends of Penzance Harbour exit poll at the same event showed more than 85% against.
6. In February 2009 Penzance Town Council voted against the scheme with just one dissenting voice.
7. In May 2009 planning permission was sought and 672 letters of objection were received by planners; there were just eight letters of support.
8. In June 2009 local elections were held and no candidate came out in support of the scheme; those that expressed a view were against. The main organiser of support for the scheme at the time came bottom of his poll with 11% of the vote.
9. In August 2009 the local newspaper – *The Cornishman* – conducted a poll and 66% said "no" to the current scheme.
10. In October 2009 the local MP held a public meeting and of the 500 plus people in the audience just three voted in support for the current scheme.
11. The local MP and prospective parliamentary candidates from the other main parties (Conservative, Labour, Green and Mebyon Kernow) have all expressed a preference for alternatives.
12. All Cornwall Council councillors for the Penzance area have expressed a preference for alternatives; four out of the five Penzance members remain firmly against the scheme.
13. In December 2009 there were 669 written objections (just 4 in support) made to the request for Listed Building Consent, and the request was subsequently refused by 12 votes to 7.
14. In January 2010 *The Cornishman* newspaper conducted a second poll and 70% voted against the current scheme.
15. In March 2010 another Penzance Town Council vote saw a margin of 3:1 against the scheme.
16. When the request for Listed Building Consent was resubmitted in March 2010 the number of letters of objection rose to 1122; this time there were 807 letters of support although, in contrast to the letters of objection, these were almost exclusively pre-formatted letters and e-mails.