

Coastal Community Team : Saltash
Coastal Revival Fund : Revitalisation of the Waterfront.

Note meeting with Cornwall Council on 12th August 2019 at Saltash Guildhall.

Attendees :

Martin Clemo : Flood and Drainage Manager, Cornwall Council (MC)
 Dr Dave Watkins : Flood & Coastal Strategic Resilience Lead, Cornwall Council (DW)
 Catherine Thomson : Community Network Manager, Cornwall Council (CT)
 Cllr. Derek Holley : Cornwall Council (Saltash East) (DH)
 Cllr. David Yates : STC (Saltash West) & Chairman of SNP Steering Group (DY)
 Cllr. Julie Rance : STC (Saltash East) (JR)
 Cllr. Peter Samuels : STC (Saltash East) (PS)
 Ray Lane : Town Clerk (RL)
 William Holman : Secretary to CCT : Saltash & SNP Steering Group. (WH)

Apologies :

Cllr. Richard Bickford : STC (Saltash East) & Chairman of CCT : Saltash (RB)

Ref	Item	Action
1.	<p>Introduction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. A briefing note setting out the purpose of the meeting had been circulated prior to the meeting. This was one of a series of meetings to inform a CCT : Saltash discussion on how to allocate the £50k grant received to take forward the Revitalisation of the Waterfront. b. MC and DW explained their roles within Cornwall Council. MC worked within the Highways and Infrastructure Directorate with responsibilities for new engineering works relating to sea and coastal flooding. He also provided planning guidance on development proposals and provided a link through to CORMAC . DW worked within the Environment Directorate with responsibilities for Flood and Coastal Risk Management Policy, funding applications and oversight of the Coastal Shoreline Management Plan. c. Reference was made to the area to the north of the bridges where there was an erosion issues affecting the revetment walls to the Jubilee Green area which had been the subject of discussions with the Environment Agency (EA) some 5 years ago. Similarly there had been past discussions over the maintenance of the granite steps fronting the waterside green with CC's maritime officer. d. DW advised that Saltash was included in the South Devon and Dorset Coastal Shoreline Management Plan (SMP) prepared by consultants. Any proposals or flood defence works would need to be considered by The Plymouth Coastal Observatory. e. The SMP was divided into 3 Epochs explained as Epoch 1 : Short Term – 2005 to 2025 Epoch 2 : Medium Term – 2025 to 2055 and Epoch 3 : Long Term – 2055 to 2105. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> f. It was predicted that there would be a 1m rise in sea level over the next 100 years. g. DY, DH, PS and JR advised that the Waterfront already experienced periodic flooding by Just Be and the car parking area in front of the Union PH and Livewire as well as to the access road area beyond the former Wheatsheaf PH into the Sailing Club. Backing-up on the storm water system also contributed to the problem. h. CT advised that the Looe Harbour Commissioners were addressing similar issues and might provide a useful contact. i. WH made a short presentation on the work of and study areas being examined by CCT : Saltash to inform future discussion on the allocation of the £50k Coastal Revival Fund. j. It was recognised that flood prevention works with associated public realm improvements would be important in determining what space might be available for potential building and parking improvements to the area. k. It was noted that Saltash sits within the Zone of Influence of the Plymouth Sound & Estuaries Special Area of Conservation(SAC) and the Tamar Estuaries Complex Special Protection Area (SPA). As a result, development proposals within the town will be required to provide mitigation to address recreational impact upon the SAC and SPA. Details on the nature of the mitigation measures were set out in the European Sites Mitigation Strategy Supplementary Planning Document. 	
<p>2.</p>	<p>Flood Defence Responsibilities, Participants and Processes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. It was evident that this was quite complex. In addition to the CC roles performed by MC and DW the CC also had highway and housing ownership responsibilities and obligations. b. The EA were a key body and needed to be involved at the outset starting with Frank Newell (Partnership and Sustainability Overview). Consideration on briefing Justin Ridgewell, EA Coastal Engineer to get the issue “on his radar” was also important. c. The EA were an potential and important funding contributor. d. STC assumed a community responsibility informed by the findings of the SNP resident survey which had identified improvements to the Waterfront as a high priority. e. The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) is the policy lead for flood and coastal erosion risk management in England. f. A partnership approach to taking forward any study, organising and funding emerging project works was advocated. g. The present policy being pursued was for “Managed Realignment” and not “Managed Retreat.” h. Planning policy was for new developments to take account of the predicted 100 year 1m rise in sea level. 	

	<p>i. Funding should be expected to be assessed on a formulaic basis e.g. no. of residential properties affected, economic, environmental, conservation and sustainability impacts etc.</p>	
3.	<p>Considering the Way Forward.</p> <p>a. MC and DW advocated the need to obtain more information upon which to base future decisions for the most appropriate and affordable approach to flood prevention and public realm improvement issues.</p> <p>b. The following methodology was suggested for the CCT: Saltash group to pursue.</p> <p>i. Engage with the Environment Agency as soon as possible to flag up the issues and proposed approach and moreover to determine what plans they have for the Saltash waterfront.</p> <p>ii. Source Flood Map, land/property ownership plans (e.g. CC highway, housing, open space etc.)</p> <p>iii. Prepare a simple outline brief for the commission of a general technical study to assess :-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The problems and issues; • the planning and technical policies and constraints to be addressed by any scheme; • potential design options with indicative investigative works and preliminary budget estimates; • potential funding sources and criteria; and • Recommendations <p>CC could check and offer comment on a draft document.</p> <p>iv. Obtain expressions of interest from suitably qualified and experienced consultants.</p> <p>v. Evaluate proposals and affordability.</p> <p>vi. CCT : Saltash and partners to agree the next steps likely to include preparation of an Outline Business Case with Cost Benefit Analysis. e.g. Do the minimum upwards.</p> <p>vii. Ensure any scheme/project is included in all partners capital programmes and budgets. e.g. The CC Shoreline Management programme, CC Capital programmes.</p> <p>c. Brief the local MP once a preferred scheme, if any, is identified to secure political support and influence in securing potential Government funding.</p> <p>d. Various funding streams would need to be accessed.</p>	
4.	<p>Immediate Actions.</p> <p>1. Arrange meeting with the Environment Agency (possibly 2nd September 2019 in Saltash).</p>	CT

2. Policy Information to be provided by DW. See Update 1 below.	DW
3. List of potential suitably experienced consultants to be provided by MC. See Update 2 below.	MC
4. CCT : Saltash to be reconvened to determine treatment and way forward on the 5 Waterfront development strands.	WH

Update 1 provided by Dr Dave Watkins on 12th August 2019

1. The South Devon and Dorset Shoreline Management Plan (SMP2) can be accessed [here](http://southwest.coastalmonitoring.org/resources/smp/sdadcag-smp2/) <http://southwest.coastalmonitoring.org/resources/smp/sdadcag-smp2/> and the policies are stated within the Main Report, Policy Statements Part 2 document (PDF) on that page. The policy unit for Saltash is **6c34** on page 487 of that document and are “Continue to **Hold the Line** where there are existing defences, with **No Active Intervention** along the undefended frontages” for all three Epochs (to 2105). It is also worth reading the implications in the following two tables.
2. A quick look indicates that the coastal defences in the Saltash Waterfront area are privately owned and maintained (not Cornwall Council or Environment Agency) though this may need to be confirmed.
3. I can confirm that Saltash is not on the EA’s list of vulnerable coastal communities.
4. Much of the beach along the Waterfront appears to be in ownership of Cornwall Council, though associated with Saltash Sailing Club. Many of the properties at Tudor Court and Tamar Street appear to be associated with Cornwall Housing.
5. Much of the area discussed, including the three main buildings, properties in Tamar Street, but not properties in Brooke Close or Tudor Court, are within the tidal flood zone.

Dr Dave Watkins | Flood & Coastal Strategic Resilience Lead | Konsel Kernow/Cornwall Council

Update 2 provided by Martin Clemo on 13th August 2019

Just to follow-up on my actions as well; the list of consultants we have used/been involved in coastal work in Cornwall are (no particular order):

- Aecom
- CH2M Halcrow(now believe part of Jacobs) (+ SMP Devon/Tamar)
- Royal Haskoning DHV (+SMP Cornwall)
- JBA Consulting
- John Grimes Partnership
- Atkins

All have websites to view competencies, case studies, location etc. Suggest make informal contact to a few of these to briefly discuss rough scope of proposal so they can advise on possible cost for initial appraisal/feasibility, grant eligibility etc. Although some of these are large companies, they do pick-up small scale stuff as well, but best to test their potential interest before sending anything formally.

Regards
Martin Clemo