

Applications update for council

LIF

Unsuccessful in getting through to full application. Falmouth also unsuccessful. No feedback available as they do not give it. CC officer going to try and speak to someone about it.

TRIP

Making two applications for this. Amounts will be dependent on final quotes coming in. The funding is focused on how it will bring people to the high streets.

- 1) Capital upgrades to the pool, including changing rooms/toilets, resin surfacing, solar panels, retractable pool cover, pergola, hoist, Changing Place (and additional toilet) and pool office. The focus here is to show that we will be able to extend the season and by adding a retractable pool cover and pergola that can be fully enclosed or open we can offer additional activity on the site including pop up restaurant nights, health and wellbeing activities, etc. The inclusion of the Changing Place in the application is unsure at the moment due to it awaiting planning permission. After our conversation yesterday I'm also checking about inclusion of cover and pergola as I'm now questioning if planning is needed – my initial discussions indicated no but now I'm questioning – I have some thoughts about a phased approach on the application so that we can still get certain work paid for.
- 2) Library: for revenue funding for the construction drawings to reach RIBA Stage 4 and also some engagement work with various groups of people, including young people. The National Lottery advised that we need to do some more detailed consultation to support the project, particularly to demonstrate engagement with young people. The plan is to run (with young people) a democracy café, a workshop to discuss library resources and another to explore the concept of a youth council. I'm also including a consultation with disAbility Cornwall and a couple of additional workshops to explore resources and furniture for the library with different user groups. I am having conversations with different organisations to explore the best way to do this and engage the 16 – 30 age group because this would show that we are reaching groups that are not currently being reached by our services and therefore we are more likely to achieve funding.

As part of the funding we need to have an Environmental Sustainability Plan. We can submit this if we are successful with either application but it would be useful to get this in place. We will also need the following if we are successful with the larger capital bid then we will also need the following

- Carbon Reduction Plan
- Circular Economy Statement

As these funds require 25% match, as soon as the applications have been made, I will also make applications to Suez and Sports England for an additional £50,000 and £15,000.

HAYLE LIBRARY REPORT – April/May/June 2025

- We had a fantastic Author event with a Children's non fiction author called Catherine Barr. She is walking from Cornwall to Scotland, stopping and sharing her stories about nature and the environment in some libraries and schools on route and she chose us to pop into. She writes to spark curiosity, conservation and care for the natural world. We had a really invested audience who were clearly fans of natural history asking lots of questions. The event was a lovely balance of showing and reading sections of her books, talking about wildlife, a draw along of a hedgehog and questions and answers.



- We have had to change our CAB service from a drop-in to an appointment only service which isn't what us or Sam (our CAB expert) wants but for now we have to comply. What has happened on the back of this though is because there are so many people needing help and support our

Homegroup drop-in service has moved from fortnightly to weekly from 1-3pm which is great for Hayle. We are really grateful to Tracy and Giselle who runs this. They help people a lot with filling in forms which is a real issue for a lot of people. They are also very knowledgeable on benefits and various other issues including housing.

- We had a lovely easter fun activity morning with the children. They played Tin Can alley, pin the tale on the rabbit, an egg throwing game and some parachute games in the wildlife garden along with an easter egg hunt using cute little brightly coloured chicks for the children to find with a chocolate reward at the end.





- We also ran an Easter Art competition where nearly 30 children decorated a picture of their choice. The entries were amazing and we have them displayed on our false wall in the building. We know the children will love visiting the library and seeing their Art work on the wall and it brightens up the wall for us too which is great. There were

prizes for lots of the entries. It was very hard to choose the winners.



- We also had a special easter Rhyme-time in the Day Care centre for the elderly clients who absolutely love to see the little ones and join in with the singing. The easter bunny put in an appearance too which actually scared some of the really little ones but most of them loved it, especially the elderly clients.



- Our Community hub funding application was very last minute this year (not due to us) which was quite stressful for Tamsin and I but we have just found out that we got the full amount so we are happy about that.

- We will continue to provide exciting, fun and interesting free workshops to the community of Hayle as well as other sessions and courses we have planned. One of which is a plan to put on two separate blocks of Mindfulness sessions. We hope to apply for some peer support mental health funding (people in mind/PIM) which we will use to fund 6 sessions for Mental health Mindfulness with the aim of these sessions to reduce anxiety and depression.

The other one we are planning on doing is 'Mindfulness meditation for your wellbeing' which is aimed at learning ways to reduce pain, anxiety and feel happier. This will be 6 sessions again where people can dip in and out of them depending on their life commitments.

- We are also hoping to run a support group for Diabetes & general health with a focus on lifestyle elements that are within someone's control to really support people feel the best that they can.
- We are running 2 workshops in partnership with Ruth Purdy from Make it Better (mitber) who support communities to live well through the arts. They understand that creativity helps us to live well, it allows us to contribute, connect and look after our distinct cultures.

The project we are involved with is called The Active Looking Project (ALP) which is inspired by taking notice of the world we live in. They think that giving attention to looking helps us to adjust our perspective and create change. They use this concept to provide fun, meaningful and creative activities, which often harness personal technology.

We are running a 'Stop Motion Animation' workshop on Saturday 17th May in the afternoon for 11-16 year olds and its already fully booked. Georgina is helping to facilitate this.

We are also running a 'Active looking photo stroll' for adults on Tuesday 17th June in the evening. Cris is helping to facilitate this.

- We are just about to start our new computer volunteer on a Friday morning. It will only be occasional Fridays to begin with until we have more people needing a little help. This support is for people who can use a computer but just needs a little help with a particular issue.
- We are hoping to run some Absolute beginner computer classes which are really needed in Hayle. Simon, a CC digital inclusion officer has kindly offered to help support our first one with Cris running it on a closed day over 4 weeks. He used to be our study support officer back when CC ran computer classes for beginners. They were always well attended. Simon will guide Cris through the first one and then we will hopefully do some more if they are needed which I think they will be.
- Abi has been able to take most of her Rhyme-time sessions outside into the wildlife garden as the weather has been so good which is great for the families and the garden is looking lovely. Olivia our gardener recently planted some wild flowers at the front and along the side of the car park and they look beautiful.
- In my absence I have just heard the sad news that our amazing CAB advisor who has 16 years of experience and knowledge behind him has resigned from the service which is a huge loss for us in Hayle. So, for the time being we have no face to face service and its telephone advice only until they sort their staffing issues out. I did for-see this happening when they changed the service to app only which is not what Sam or we wanted for Hayle.

- Georgina created a lovely display to celebrate National Hedgerow week



- Cris and Georgina attended a library training day recently which partly consisted of poverty proofing methodology training which was being delivered by Children North East and the opportunity to tour Unit 17 and understanding how this part of our service works.
Cornwall council is only the second authority to be awarded this pioneering work funded by the Arts Council. The project is a partnership between libraries connected (LC), the membership body for public libraries and Chariry North East.
There was also some training around addressing Dyslexia in our libraries.
Both reported back that the training was good.
- We have had lots of compliments from customers since changing the building around again for the summer

months that they like the way it's set out which is really positive.

If anyone has any questions for me ping me an email at emma.bouffler@LIScornwall.org.uk or pop in to see me,
Thanks 😊



HAYLE TOWN COUNCIL

ST IVES BAY MANAGEMENT PLAN WORKING GROUP MONDAY 2 JUNE 2025

Notes of the meeting held at Hayle Community Centre on Monday 2 June 2025 commencing at 4pm.

PRESENT

Guests

J. Ridgewell and Gabriel Payne, Environment Agency, M. Brown, Office Manager for Perran Moon MP, Nick Reynolds, Director of Paradise Park and on behalf of Friends of the Towans, Gitty Ankers, Cornwall Community Flood Forum, Annette Eatock, Sustainable Hayle, Andy Hoskin, Cornwall Council Highways Manager, Carl Gill, Chairman Gwinear-Gwithian Parish Council, Alan Thompson, Historic England, Steve Church, South West Coast Path Association, Liz Norbury, on behalf of Andrew George MP, Luke Rogers Cornwall Council Divisional Member St Ives East and Carbis Bay.

Councillors

J. Martin (Mayor), S. Rees

ALSO PRESENT

E. Giggall-Hollis, Town Clerk and M. Costello, Deputy Clerk

This inaugural working group meeting had been convened following the meeting of 1 April 2025

1 Welcome and introductions

Following introductions, Councillor Martin explained that the objective of this meeting is to establish a formalised group of stakeholders to look after and preserve St Ives Bay and agree a sustainable way to keep the channel clear.

The Clerk shared apologies from Rhys Hobbs, Cornwall Council, Jenny Parker, RSPB, Peter Haddock, Harbour Master and Representatives of North Quay and Mark Beard, Natural England. Representatives of Network Rail.

2 Roles and Responsibilities of the various representatives of organisations - to clarify who is responsible for what, in terms of licencing, enforcement, environment, monitoring etc

Justin Ridgewell provided an overview of the Environment Agency's (EA) role to co-ordinate a strategic coastal overview, with flooding and erosion as the key focus. He clarified the roles of other organisations:

Cornwall Council (CC) is the enforcement agency who asked the Harbour Authority to stop dredging.

Natural England (NE) is responsible for protected designated sites – SSSI's.

Hayle Harbour Authority (HHA) undertake certain activities within their jurisdiction under an Act of Parliament.

RSPB manage Hayle Estuary: Carnsew Pool and Copperhouse.

3 Summary of the work and discussions already undertaken

Justin clarified that the legal order is still in place and there is no licence for dredging. He outlined a longer time objective to work out and support the harbour to be viable and to prioritise the health of the beach and dunes. He explained that the interim position is difficult as it relies on the harbour providing detailed evidence of sand removal and the sale of sand which has not been forthcoming and that it will be difficult for the harbour to categorically demonstrate that sand removal out of the cell is not detrimental. Equally though, whilst we can be certain that the Harvey's Towans and Porth Kidney frontages have both seen continued sand loss since 2008, demonstrating categorically that the dredging is the primary cause of this is also difficult, as there are potentially a combination of factors at play.

Justin shared details of a positive meeting held earlier that day to discuss next steps, that he had attended between Rhys Hobbs, CC and the Administrators of North Quay, who recognise the need for a long-term sustainable solution and are keen to understand the impact of sand removal. They are seeking independent professional support from Ecospan, Environmental Consultants to develop a management plan to keep the harbour viable. There is no suggestion of a challenge to the legal position.

Questions were asked as follows:

- *If a new licence is applied for, will it be for replenishment or removal?*

Ideally there would be no net removal of sediment, there would have to be evidence of no detrimental effect. The Administrators see themselves as temporary caretakers and had been advised that the harbour would become unusable if was not dredged.

- *Is sluicing an option? The Harbour Authority say sluicing doesn't work.*

This was never going to be the answer but could be a part of it. Originally there would have been different gates and both pools would have held more water, historically bigger vessels prop wash kept sediment moving. As these have silted up over time, they would need to be dredged which due to their historic industrial past could expose heavy metal contaminants. This would not be supported by the RSPB and would incur huge costs to remove and cause huge disruption. Any disturbance of contaminants could be moved around the whole bay due to the sand cell.

4 Review of collected data and evidence of sand levels in the St Ives Bay

An EA presentation was displayed on the projector (*See attached appendix*) and slides depicting areas of SSSI's and potential erosion risk were discussed.

- *The town would like the gap between SSSI's around the Towans classified either as an extension of the SSSI, or as a National Nature Reserve due to the quantity of species*

found in the area. Could Perran Moon MP support this.

- *How much sand was removed?*

Justin described the difficulty in obtaining figures from Hayle Harbour. He confirmed that Padstow Sand have also been approached for any paperwork. There are estimates of the amounts needed to maintain a navigable channel of around 35k metres cubed per annum.

He was please to confirm that the Crown Estate is willing to discuss St Ives Bay and are on board with delivering sustainable and environmental benefits.

The EA have undertaken twice yearly monitoring of key points in the area over a period of 20yrs which depict areas of erosion leading to an overall 10% loss of sand since 2007. This can't be directly attributed to dredging as it is a very dynamic area due to the flood dominated estuary.

Alan Thompson of Historic England reminded the group that the harbour has UNESCO Inner Harbour designation for its significant heritage and history and the wider area of the Towans also includes the second earliest stone age site in Cornwall.

Further discussion followed:

- *Is there any merit in reintroducing sand from another source?*

In principle yes, if it was the right type of sand.

- *Will the sand cell system heal itself if removal is stopped?*

Making Space for Sand are looking at this.

- *Protecting what we have now is key!*
- *The Car Park at the Towans should be re-wilded*

This area should be reinstated as dune as part of the planning conditions.

- *The impact of unofficial footpaths*

Steve Church, South West Coast Path Association described the particular issue where footpaths run parallel to the beach and people find their own way down to the beach, causing erosion. He informed the group that this whole area has been re-signed with slate signs.

Friends of the Towans are looking at raising awareness and signage. Vegetation such as Marran Grass has been replanted to replace non-native species.

5 The aims and objectives of this Working Group

Justin Ridgewell described the aims for managed re-alignment and maintaining harbour use, to look after the sand and manage the risk over a period of years. He spoke of the likelihood that the Administrators will in due course be likely to apply for a new licence, but that they seem to be willing to develop reliable evidence to support whatever proposal they come forward with,

and that the development of this evidence will take some time, so it seems unlikely a licence application is imminent. CC will consult Statutory Consultees over any new licence issued to the Harbour Authority.

He hoped that the group could assist the EA with making an economic argument to apply for funding to government, demonstrating the quantifiable benefit in using sand removed from the harbour to strategically renourish certain eroding parts of the St Ives Bay frontage to support longer-term resilience of the community, housing, infrastructure, environment, heritage, tourism and environmental enhancement. If an economic case could be made on this basis, then potentially it could provide a financial contribution towards helping keep the channels clear and the harbour operational. This all remains hypothetical at present and requires further investigation (but that will form part of the objectives of this group).

Gabriel Payne estimated that 20-35k cubic metres of sand per year would need to be removed to maintain the 3.4m required for a navigable channel. He described the operations of Teignmouth as comparable, having an annual c30k dredge using a contracted large vessel with routine smaller operations throughout the year, undertaken by their own small equipment.

Justin described the research that Making Space for Sand are currently undertaking across 40 sites in Cornwall. Of these 5 are in St Ives Bay which have been designated as important “Sentinel Sites” Their work refers to the recommendations of the 2016 CC Beach Dune Management Plan for Harvey’s Towans.

6 Next steps and actions (including future agenda items)

The aim is to look to all stakeholders asking them to consider options for consideration at the next meeting and ask for a list of questions beforehand to be included in the agenda.

Actions to include:

- i) Engage with local businesses and relevant associations via Towans Partnership.
- ii) HTC to publicise the meetings and engage with the community to ask for their questions.
- iii) HTC Engagement to prepare comms asap to explain what this group is doing, why, and ask the public for their ideas on how to protect and use the harbour. To collate these for the meeting 29/09/25 to be shared with invitees beforehand.
- iv) Hayle Community Action Group (HGAG) to discuss
- v) Consult with the Fishermen/Hayle Harbour users (Invite them to join group) and St Ives boat users.
- vi) Invite to next meeting: CC Councillor Loic Rich, Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change, owners of Beachside and other beach owners, Making Space for Sand.
- vii) Justin Ridgewell will share the outstanding response from EA to Perran Moon MP.

7 Future meeting dates

Monday 21 July, 4pm – working group members, invite stakeholders and all landowners.

Monday 29 September, 4pm – potentially open up to public.

The meeting closed at 6.45pm.

During the past month there has been a break in reported by a yacht owner who informed me that only alcohol was taken which makes him think the culprits were youths as there was a considerable amount of expensive electrical equipment on board that could have been removed. He re-secured the vessel, and I recommended that he report the incident on 101. The same vessel was again broken into two nights later, but nothing was taken, again the owner thinks those involved were looking for alcohol which he has no intention of replacing.

Other issues are youths throwing life rings in the harbour; to replace them with the casing costs £800 but we have been fortunate to be able to recover all but one of them. There has also been some anti-social behaviour on the corner of North quay where the youths congregate leaving a lot of smashed glass behind. From experience we know that these problems are likely to increase once the schools break for summer.

PCSO Jenny Hosking retired in May both Alix and I had a good working relationship with her as she always kept in touch and regularly visited the harbour. A new PCSO is not expected before the summer therefore in the short term The harbour is reporting any problems to PC 272 Ellie Sherburn

Routine visits from border force continue on a regular basis they are interested in any vessels the harbour authority considers to be suspect that could be transporting drugs or illegal immigrants. Occasionally Border Force will share intelligence with us if they are looking for something or someone that is of interest to them.

A navigation light has recently been replaced on one of the estuary poles and Trinity House will be carrying out their annual inspection of the harbour's aids to navigation during July.

As a result of the wall collapse on South quay for safety reasons it will be necessary to relocate some vessels to alternative moorings.

Peter Haddock

Harbourmaster