

PENZANCE CIVIC SOCIETY

*Protecting the best of the past...
Ensuring the best for the future...*

FUTURE of PENZANCE HARBOUR VISION OF WATERSIDE RESTAURANTS

When talking with some who live and run businesses in the Harbour Wet-Dock area they will often say that **Penzance Harbour sometimes feels like it's the 'door mat' to the Isles of Scilly** and that the Harbour has no major part to play with the general social and business life of Penzance town...

Of course Penzance Harbour is a Working Harbour and has a primary function to serve the needs of the Isles of Scilly Shipping Company with its statutory duty to provide passenger and freight links to the Isles and indeed it has been performing this function well for many years. But as has been discussed for the past 5/10/15+years **there is also a huge economic and amenity potential to be fully explored and enhanced for all of the Harbour area in this very special part of Penzance...**

This has been clearly shown in the costed & consulted Penzance Town Council Harbour Project (2011-12) and the present Neighbourhood Plan drawn up by local architect Keith Bell; where the illustrated intention is **to open up the views through into the Wet-Dock area to generally enhance the potential for 'Waterside Restaurants'.. To create a 'Destination' for tourists and locals alike; to enjoy waterside eating, overlooking the Harbour with the Bay views beyond. Clearly there is overwhelming evidence and examples elsewhere to demonstrate that this could have a major impact on the economic & social wellbeing of Penzance...**

The 'Vision' is to create and/or enhance Waterside Restaurants from the Wharfside along by Abbey Basin the Drying-out Harbour across Ross Bridge through the Wet-Dock Harbour and around to Jubilee Pool...

ref: pdf/usb

powerpoint...

- Old Lifeboat House Bistro *existing*: with outside eating area overlooking the Drying-out Harbour area...
- Abbey Basin Restaurant *proposed*... below Abby Slip over-looking the Basin proposed by owner Mango Development..(refpdfpp) “Sort out the Harbour area and its views and we’ll build it...”
- Harbourside Café *existing*: overlooking the yacht harbour...
- The Boat Shed *existing*: with outside eating area *presenting serious problem of toxic diesel fume pollution from the parked-up Freight lorries...!*
- Old Trinity Building *proposed*... the owner has the Mike Bradbury ‘sketch’ (refpdfpp) on his wall showing a ‘Waterside Restaurant’ with outside seating; and he is ready to do it if a clear view of the Wet Dock can be achieved per the Neighbourhood Plan...
- Passenger Terminus (+Restaurant) *proposed* ...the ink sketch illustrates a contemporary, predominately glass building to allow views through to the Harbour.. *OR* an alternative design by Mike Bradbury; the building style more in keeping with the location..*OR* *an in-line Terminal mid-way along South Pier with a return top wave-wall to prevent over topping...*
- In Quay Street lying at the heart of the Harbour area is The Dock Inn with its Restaurant Bars & accommodation and just up from the Dock Inn is the Sea Palace Chinese Restaurant; these with the Waterside Meadery and the Barbican all echo the past history of this special Harbour-side part of Penzance sought out and valued by locals and visitors alike...
- The Dolphin Public House Restaurant with the possible creation of a raised terrace to allow disabled access and to separate customers from the pollution impact of the passing traffic...
- Jubilee Pool with its newly re-vamped Poolside Café.. *plus the possible future potential for an exciting Art Deco style restaurant above with views of the Bay and the Mount beyond..?*

This is just an indication of what is possible with the added potential of the Coinagehall Development along with the Yacht Inn with *its* views of the Bay...

All are fulfilling the stated intention of the ‘Neighbourhood Plan’ of ‘Re-connecting to the Sea’ & creating a true ‘Destination’
An important part of the answer to the question
“Why visit Penzance..!?”

Undoubtable the biggest problem in the whole Harbour area is the Freight handling and specifically the parked - queuing Freight Lorries now having to park on the recently installed ‘double-yellow’ lines (ref:pdf/usb powerpoin) Plus the recent declarations from the Government who have highlighted grave concerns about the toxic nature of Diesel exhaust fumes

from lorries especially the Nitro-oxide compounds et al...*Especially pertinent given the present 'Penzance Healthy Streets' proposals...*

Again locals are wanting “ positive change ...” with the suggestions of 'Calling to Site'...&/or an Out of Town Freight Depot ie: loading into the small IofSSGroup Containers to bring to the Harbour side for direct on-board loading (refer pdf-usb pp showing possible location for both ideas at Ponsandane-Eastern Green...

In the *withdrawn Pre-Application (PA18/00850) proposal* there was no indication of a 'Shared Space' * solution for the busy & dangerous road running through the heart of the Harbour Area...

The late Ben Hamilton-Bailey was a leading expert on 'Shared Space' * Design (reference the highly acclaimed scheme at 'POYNTON' per the Utube feature...

Prior to his recent untimely death, he visited Penzance after giving a talk to Cornwall Council Highway Engineers at County Hall. He was inspired and very excited by the potential of the Harbour Wet Dock / Jubilee Pool/ Coinagehall Area which he felt was ideally suited for doing a 'Shared Space' - Pedestrian Friendly Scheme* ... He felt it could dramatically transform the safety and experience of the whole of the Penzance Wet Dock Harbour area... ie:

To create a 'Destination' to attract both locals and visitors alike...

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*following recent lobbying by the RNIB designs have been revised and the name 'Shared Space' has been replaced by terms such as 'Pedestrian Prioritised Streets' 'Informal Streets'... 'Enhanced Streets' (AofU) ...eg: recent trials in Market Jew Street...
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