

S C P Tomsett
46 East Front Road
Pagham
PO21 4ST

Your Ref: OWPC7565
Our Ref: P/97/15/PL 16-09-2015
Please ask for:
Mr S Davis

11th December 2015

Dear Sir/Madam

Town & Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended)
Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015

Managed breach of shingle spit & blocking of adjacent tidal inlet channel with shingle barrier. Formation of shingle island within Harbour following excavation of adjacent area of spit. This application is accompanied by an environmental statement
Church Norton Spit Pagham Beach Pagham

Thank you for your internet representation made on 10th December 2015 which has been recorded as '**support**' with the comments as follows:

I write in support of the above application made by the Parish Council on behalf of the residents of Pagham.

Over the last hundred or so years, the mouth of Pagham harbour has moved in an Easterly direction at a rate of up to 91feet per annum. This movement has been corrected by works undertaken by Mr A.W. Thornton, who in 1935 had the mouth reinstated at the Church Norton end of the shingle bank, and in 1960, following the storms of 1957, by the River Board. On these occasions the works were undertaken to prevent the bungalows being swept away by the tides. The hardened entrance was repaired in the 1980s to ensure that the entrance didn't move again.

The current situation has a different cause but a similar remedy. Reinstating the original harbour entrance will prevent the cross shore harbour current from eating into the shoreline and, now that the rock groins have virtually disappeared, may even remove some of the shingle bank which has built up over the last few years.

As A.D.C. has already committed to keeping the harbour open, it is inevitable that at some stage the spit will have to be dealt with. The Environment Agency admitted as much in 2008 and again in the Q and A sheet which they published in 2011.

EA Q&A July 2011

Q.20 What happens if the Harbour closes? How will you manage this?

We have previously said that if the Harbour closes naturally we would reopen it. This is recorded in the Strategy based on information at that time. We are undertaking a further study to fully understand the impacts this would have on the drainage of the rifes into the Harbour and how this would effect the local wildlife and habitats. We anticipate the results will be available at the end of the year (2011).

Unless the harbour entrance is reinstated as a direct flow, the continued accretion of shingle will result in the spit moving Eastward. The effect of this can be seen with the recent scouring of the shoreline at Pagham Yacht Club and along East Front Road. At some point the accretion will overcome the ability of the sea to keep the entrance clear, and the harbour will close. It's only a question of how much damage will be done to the shore before that happens, and how many homes will be lost.

Yours faithfully,

S.C.P. Tomsett.

Your views will be considered before the application is determined and I shall write to inform you of any decision made.

Please be aware that if the application is to be determined by the Council's Development Control committee and your letter has been received at a late stage after the Agenda has been published you will not receive a separate letter notifying you of the date of the meeting and procedures for public speaking. In such circumstances it is recommended that you track the progress of the application on the Council's website or telephone the Council for further information. Please be advised that any comments you make that are not included within the Committee Agenda will be reported to the Members of the Development Control committee. Please also be aware that only a small number of all planning applications received go to the Development Control Committee. Most are determined under delegated powers by Officers in which case your comments will again be considered before the application is determined.

Please be aware that Planning Services operate an 'open file' policy and will publish details of your comments on the internet on the Arun District Council Planning section. Please ensure that you only provide information that you are happy will be made available in this way. If you supply information belonging to a third party, please ensure you have their permission to do so. If you do not wish your comments to appear on the 'open file' please confirm this in writing and I will arrange for it to be destroyed although this means that its contents will then be disregarded.

In the event of a subsequent written representations appeal, against a refusal of planning permission on a householder application, any representations made on the application will be automatically forwarded to the Secretary of State. Unlike all other types of appeal, there will be no further opportunity to comment at the appeal stage.

Yours faithfully

Karl Roberts
Director Planning & Economic Regeneration