

[REDACTED]

From: Roy Stout [REDACTED]
Sent: 04 January 2016 21:06
To: Planning [REDACTED]
Subject: reference P/97/15/PL

Dear Mr. Simon Davis,

We write to you as a fully occupied homeowner with a sizeable outstanding mortgage, who are both working full time, happily married for over 30 years, and a couple who has saved for over 35 years to invest in a "home by the sea",..... who live on West Front Beach Road with our kitchen only 20 meters from high water mark at Spring tide. It was 30 meters 25 months ago when we moved in.....

Both my wife Nicola Stout and myself would like to officially lodge our support of planning application for a managed breach of the shingle spit at Pagham Harbour. We moved into Pagham on 15th Nov 2013 and invested over £530,000 in a new house and were assured by Mr. Roger Spencer during the time of our purchase that the newly planned and installation of the £600,000 Revetment investment was going to make significant improvement into the coastal erosion issues faced by West Front Road occupants.

Once the rocks were delivered and installed by the Council between December 2013 and January 2014 this appeared to us to considerably acerbate the outpour current of Pagham Harbour from a mild drainage current to a violent and deadly white water current running at 8-12 knots.

We were then assured by Mr. Roger Spencer in March 2014 that removing the 20-30 rocks off each of the remaining groins would be the solution. He started with Groin 4 (which is outside our property), then Groin 3, and finally Groin 2... this would greatly reinforce the Revetment and resolve the disruptive back eddie current and subsequent destruction of Groin 1.

We were also assured by Mr. Roger Spencer that removing the top layer of the existing reinforced timber groin 4 and scrapping the wood would enable the replanting of sand due to southwest drift and build the beach back up.

Since then we have seen the council invest 5-10 days at a time in 4 distinct episodes backfill the massive holes in the shoreline produced by the destructive scouring current produced by the installation of the solid revetment, the destruction of Groin 1, and the reduced capacity of Groin 2, 3, and 4 by the removal of rocks and top layer wood timbers.

An Environmental Assessment has been thoroughly made by ABPmer that cutting a channel in the newly generated Spit will reduce the scouring current produced by the Pagham Harbour violent outpour thus saving our coast and minimising the risks of flooding to the citizens of Pagham. We must ask why are we waiting or wasting any more time considering the options? I would expect this assessment to have more credence and genuineness than the 3 examples listed above performed by the Council. It is also hard to believe the 3 action's taken above were performed without an official risk assessment, method statement and/or consultation with the citizens of Pagham.

We are equally frustrated that over £12 Billion of foreign aid is provided by the United Kingdom (0.7% of income) with £1M to a Serbian Town of Lazarevac for flood defences and only £695 million is set aside for the entire UK Flooding and Erosion budget for 2015/2016. We are asking for £700,000 (0.1% of budget) to protect our Pagham coast from disappearing after the officials stopped dredging the channel to Pagham Harbour 11 years ago!

We are sure you have heard many other appeals for your support so I will conclude with a simple request that Planning Application P/97/15/PL is reviewed and approved as soon as possible and that the Arun District Council works with Chichester District Council, Environmental Agency, Natural England, and RSPB to rectify the beach erosion known risks. We have already pledged a significant contribution towards the proposed Spit Cutting expense, if we can help you with any other support please do not hesitate in contacting us.

Yours sincerely

Mr. and Mrs Floyd Stout
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P.S.- Pictures attached to illustrate the destructive and barren state of beach protection from this weekend.







