

NICK GIBB MP



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

Mr Nigel Lynn
Chief Executive
Arun District Council
Civic Offices
Maltravers Road
LITTLEHAMPTON
West Sussex BN17 5LF

05 January 2016

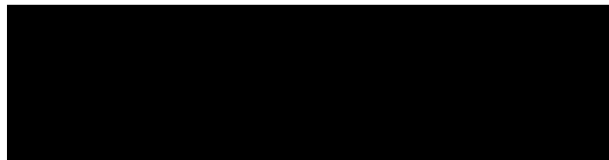
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dear Nigel'.

I have received the enclosed correspondence from my constituents regarding their support for the proposal to undertake a managed breach of the shingle spit at Pagham Harbour.

It would be enormously helpful if you would kindly look into the issues raised by my constituents and let me have your comments in due course.

With best wishes.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nick Gibb'.



BUTTERFILL, Rachel

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 December 2015 15:00
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Pagham Beach managed breach of spit

Copies to: Arun District Council and

28th December 2015

Dear Mr Gibb,

I feel very strongly in support of the proposal to undertake a managed breach of the shingle spit at Pagham Harbour.

A vast sum of money has been wasted on temporary measures to mitigate the erosion of the beach, which have clearly been unsuccessful. The decision to discontinue the maintenance of the harbour mouth has had a very detrimental effect on Pagham.

Subsequently affecting the health of residents, the loss of business, the devaluation of property and risk to people's lives, which is not an acceptable situation.

Pagham is supposed to be an area of special scientific interest. Sadly this is no longer true, due to all the engineering work. The beach is blighted by piles of rocks, metal barriers, bags of shingle, rolls of felt and danger warning signs.

The only solution to avoid a further decline in the economy of a once beautiful area is to CUT THE SPIT.

Yours faithfully

Madeleine Evans

Sent from my iPad

BUTTERFILL, Rachel

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 22 December 2015 11:06
To: GIBB, Nicolas
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Planning applications to breach Pagham Spit

Dear Mr Gibb, Thank you for your efforts on behalf of Pagham Village to resolve the problems being caused by the ever growing Pagham Spit.

As you are aware Arun and Chichester District Councils, at long last, now have planning applications to manage a breach of the Spit and to reopen the previous entrance to Pagham Harbour. Along with other villagers I have been dismayed at the apparent inertia of the local authorities and their previous attempts to solve the problem with ballast have been wasteful and expensive.

I write to inform you that I have written to both Arun and Chichester giving my full support to both planning applications. I have urged that they both work in partnership to bring about a speedy resolution to the problem before some unfortunate parishioner loses his home.

I would ask that you continue your pressurising these two local authorities and impress upon them that once a breach is made in the Spit then it will need to be regularly dredged or the west to east long shore drift will fill it up with shingle again.

Yours sincerely,

Jim Weston

BUTTERFILL, Rachel

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 17 December 2015 20:13
To: GIBB, Nicolas
Subject: Church Norton Spit, Managed Breach @ Pagham Beach

10 The Crescent
Pagham
Bognor Regis
West Sussex
PO21 4RU

17th December 2015

Dear Sir,

I write in support of the proposal to undertake a managed breach of the shingle spit at Pagham Harbour.

- Arun District Council Planning Application Ref: P/97/15/PL
- Chichester District Council Planning Application Ref: 15/03053/FULEIA

It is vital that this outcome is moved forward as soon as possible. It is also vital that the two relevant Local Planning Authorities, together with the Environment Agency, Natural England and RSPB, should all work together in a positive manner. My support is based on the following positive outcomes:

People - Whilst there are known ecological interests that will need to be safeguarded, these should not be at the expense of people, their homes and livelihoods.

Mitigation - Whilst nature conservation interests have a degree of protection, the opportunity exists to mitigate any harm that might arise by way of creative solutions that could better safeguard the nature conservation interests in the long run. Cut the spit without delay!

SSSI - Arising from the need to safeguard homes, much engineering work has been carried out to the beach, to the detriment of the Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). These too are nature conservation interests. A quick solution will allow the SSSI to recover.

Health - For some years now the health of numerous residents and businesses has suffered due to delays in key decisions. They need a solution now!

Recreation - The activities and attractions provided by Pagham Beach and its facilities are both varied and significant. Through the period of coast erosion, which has brought with it damage, heavy machinery and barriers, there has been a decline in the attractiveness of Pagham Beach for residents, businesses, activity groups and visitors! Disabled people and those with limited mobility are now unable to enjoy the beach. This needs to be reversed.

Cost and local economy - The cost to people's lives, property and businesses has been significant. In fact, the ultimate cost will never be known, nor could it be calculated. To those that live with this reality, it is vast. The funds already raised by local residents, businesses and visitors to Pagham are testament to the significant interest and support that exists for the proposal to cut the spit. However, it is time to address

the decline in property values, harm to businesses and activity groups, to help them address their financial losses and to help repair the harm to the local economy.

Expenditure – The cost of 'temporary fixes' is vast and their success mediocre. Cutting the spit will provide a longer-term solution and be more cost effective.

Increase flood risk – The loss of beach depth has increased the threat to loss of homes and increased the flood risk to the wider community by overtopping and potential breaching of this natural seawall that is defending Pagham. Cutting the spit will increase the resilience of the beach naturally by stopping the scour current and allowing the beach to accrete by re-establishing long shore drift.

Other impacts – Without a favourable decision to cut the spit, beautiful and historic Pagham will continue to be blighted and will further decline. A decision in favour of cutting the spit will kick-start a recovery. Notably, today's impacts at Pagham will be tomorrow's at Aldwick and Bognor Regis.

The people of Pagham, and further afield, both local and visitors, acknowledge that the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for the managed breach of Pagham Harbour is a stage leading to an engineered solution.

Having considered the report and supporting documents submitted by ABPmer, I/we commend the proposals and respectfully request Arun District Council and Chichester District Council to do the same.

Cut the spit without delay!

Thank you for taking into account my representations.

Yours faithfully

Roger G Brownless.



To Mr Karl Roberts &
Mr Simon Davis Case officer
Planning department
Arun District Council
Maltravers Road
Little Hampton West Sussex BN17 5LS

35 West Front Road
Pagham
Bognor Regis
PO21 4SZ

14th December 2015

Ref. Planning Application: - P/97/15/PL Managed breach of shingle spit and blocking of adjacent tidal inlet channel with shingle barrier. Formation of shingle island within harbour following excavation of adjacent area of spit.

Case officer: - Simon Davis

Dear Mr Roberts and Mr Simon Davis,

As Chair of Pagham Beach Residents
I wish to formally support this planning application.

The grounds are as follows: -

- 1 There is an immediate threat to the beach estate and the southern half of Pagham. The sea is only metres away from breaching the shingle crest by the yacht club. The present stop gap measures are not working, the situation is getting rapidly worse.
- 2 Loss of SSSI beach with 150 year old community of rare and endangered plants and animals including Chidding Pink - *Petrorhagia nanteuilii*., Horned poppy - *Glaucum flavum*, sea spinach - *Beta maritima*; sand lizards, horned crickets. This has been damaged by necessary emergency beach engineering but enough pockets on undisturbed beach remain to recolonise when the beach recovers after the managed breach.
- 3 Long term cost saving it has cost well in excess of £3 million to continually repair the beach all to no avail. It will cost £750K to £1 million to implement this planning application which will result in a permanent solution. When the harbour mouth was in the 1961 – 2003 position it only cost £10k a year to manage. In the last two years it cost ADC 200k + each year since 2013 to stop houses falling into the sea. This is unsustainable; restore the harbour mouth – breach the spit.
- 4 Recreation The beach used to be an important source of recreation for bucket and spade holidays, sailing, fishing, and other water sports. The scour current and the spit now make the beach unsafe particularly when the tide is racing out. The life boats can no longer get in to rescue people. Responsible beach management indicates the spit should be breached without delay otherwise the competent authorities could be responsible for loss of life due to beach mismanagement.

- 5 Cost and local economy. The Manhood peninsular of Selsey and Pagham provides 10% of the food needs of the UK. Potential loss of grade 1 agricultural land in event of a breach is unacceptable. It makes no sense not to protect our beach crest in the long term as we need the land behind for building and food production. An accreting shingle beach is the best way to absorb wave energy and will naturally build up in response to sea level rise. Breach the spit, allow onshore drift.
- 6 Health – since 2006 the constant worry and stress of our disappearing beach has caused numerous health problems. The failure to implement the effective solution of breaching the spit is the cause. Breach the spit.
- 7 Little terns will breed far more successfully on the restored tern island free from predation by dogs, badgers, stoats, weasels and foxes. Breach the spit; restore the harbour mouth and tern island.

The people of Pagham and annual visitors from the rest of the UK support the ABP mer managed spit breach proposal as the only effective long term solution. They have backed their views by pledging £250 K for the spit breach. Pagham Parish Council has also spent £250 K on this application, so the community obviously believe and have invested strongly in the managed breach of the spit as recommended by ABP mer.

We respectfully recommend this planning application be approved and implemented without further delay.

Yours sincerely,

David Huntley (Chair PBRA).

BUTTERFILL, Rachel

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 22 December 2015 16:14
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: GIBB, Nicolas
Subject: Planning application Pagham. Managed Breach of the Spit

Dear Sir,

Ref: P/97/15/9L

As a resident of Pagham Village I write to give my full support to the above application. Local residents have watched with dismay as the build up of shingle opposite Pagham Beach has relentlessly taken place over the last ten years. It seems that the authorities have only in the last few years become aware of the dangers this poses to properties fronting the beach and to all the low lying areas of the Village. The danger to properties continues to move eastward towards Aldwick and action is now urgently needed as outlined in the planning application.

There are of course conservation issues to consider but it is clear that much has been destroyed already by ongoing attempts to safeguard the beach and a permanent long term solution is the best way to protect the environment of the harbour and its surrounds in the longer term.

People are no longer able to enjoy the beach and indeed it has become extremely hazardous. Local businesses have suffered and residents health has been severely affected by the worry about their homes - you will understand that some people are unable to insure their homes, are pensioners, have few savings and if the worst should happen would find themselves homeless with no means of support.

It really is time to take the action proposed without further delay and you will be aware the Pagham community is right behind this proposal with the clear show of monies raised so far.

Do not allow further damage to take place to the beach, to people and the local community. Take action now and cut the spit.

Jane Weston

30, East Front Road,

Pagham,

Bognor Regis

West Sussex

PO21 4SU

18/12/2015

Nick GIBB MP

House of Commons

London SW1A 0AA

Dear Mr Gibb,

Please find enclosed the copy my letter in support for the planning application for cutting through the spit at Pagham. I have sent a copy to Mr Simon Davis of Development Control Arun Civic Centre Maltravers Road, Littlehampton West Sx BN17 5LF Ref : Code p/97/15/PL Also to Mr Steve Harris of Planning and Development Chichester District Council, East Pallant House 1, East Pallant Chichester West Sussex PO19 1TY. Ref : Code 15/03053/FULEIA I shall also be sending a copy to our local Councillor Mr Ray Radmall

Regards Chris

Dear Sir,

The following are the many reasons that I am showing my support for the planning application for the cutting through the Church Norton spit. Ref code above.

My name is Chris Dodd and myself my wife, and my wife's Grandparents have intimately known Pagham Beach since the end of the first world war, therefore have a vast knowledge of what has occurred on this beach over a very long period of time.

I have been a commercial crab and lobster fisherman for the last 40 years, from this beach, therefore seeing the shingle movements and tidal variations daily throughout all weathers, more than any University or anybody else !!

The huge problem that now faces Pagham and eventually Aldwick and Craigwell beaches is the severe erosion that is being caused by the continual allowed growth of the Church Norton spit towards the east. This has narrowed and concentrated the old 10 knot tide out of the harbour and deflected it inshore, increasing it to a 12 to 14 knot tide and causing a scouring current parallel all

along the beach. This problem has now passed Pagham Yacht Club and is spreading all along East Front Road towards Craigwell.

My fishing business is now severely impaired during the winter months, with the loss of 3 foot depth of sand and 20 foot width of shingle. If, we have south easterly storms during spring tides it will eventually reach Aldwick and Craigwell with severe repercussions.

It is now impossible to launch my fishing boat because of the vertical cliff which has formed. If I manually dig this cliff out and make a more gradual slope. I will only be making a pathway for the sea to run up the beach and over my winch. This means a substantial loss of income for two family's.

The only way to avert this forthcoming disaster of flooded beach, homes, sewage system and the ongoing pollution which will occur as well as the complete loss of electricity is to re-instate the old harbour entrance as soon as possible, **NOT LATER THAN EARLY 2016 !!** Make an exception and speed the whole planning process up for completion now !!

It is strange A.D.C. are still allowing, and taking vast amounts of money from the public for planning and re-builds but not pushing harder to protect the ground that these properties are built on !! The first effects of this were felt along West Front Road (possible loss of home, no home insurance and complete loss of value) As the spit grows in length and width past the Yacht Club, which is already undergoing expensive flood prevention work yet again !!

During the spring tides of the 29th Nov 2015 a further 12 to 14 foot of consolidated beach was taken away !! This has ruined my business and is putting even more homes at risk, and is also eroding Aldwick Bay foreshore as well as Craigwell with shingle being taken towards Bognor.

With this only being mid winter this is the time of year to **SPLIT THE SPIT** before disaster occurs.!!

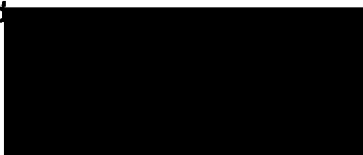
To save the costs of **SPLITTING THE SPIT** use many of the useless rocks from the ends of the breakwaters and the then defunct revetment to reinforce the west side of the cut (preferably in cages) and observe what happens to the east side of the spit over the next 2 to 3 years.

It is obvious with the tides and currents that the shingle will slowly work its way ashore and rebuild the SSSI beach which is being severely lost at the moment.

Let us learn from the mistakes of the years 1932 to 1933 in spite of bureaucracy !! The spit must be cut this winter !! and cannot wait until autumn 2016

Yours, while waiting to hear with anticipation

Mr Chris Dodd



BUTTERFILL, Rachel

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 27 December 2015 20:02
To: GIBB, Nicolas
Subject: Church Norton Spit

Dear Nick,
I hope you had a great Christmas,
We having spoken or seen each other for a while but I'm still here keeping people informed on the demise of our precious beach! As you know many of us feel that the EA are responsible for culpable negligence.... having said that I will move on!
This email is to inform you that I support the application to cut the spit for all the reasons laid out to you in my many emails over the last few years.
I look forward to meeting again, maybe at a spit cutting party!
Oh yes I've even got myself co opted onto the Parish Council!
Happy New Year Nick

Regards COUNCILLOR Brian James. !!

Sent from my ASUS

Joseph Bennett
46 Lagoon Road
Pagham
PO21 4TQ

22 Dec 2015

Arun Council Planning Application Ref : P/97/15/PL
Chichester District Council Planning Application Ref : SY/15/03053/FULEIA

Dear Simon Davis and parties concerned ,

I would like to add my wholehearted support for the application to manage a breach in the fast growing spit which is causing unnecessary and avoidable damage to the beautiful SSSI beach at Pagham Harbour , and is threatening many homes with destruction .

Some of the main reasons for my support are laid out below :

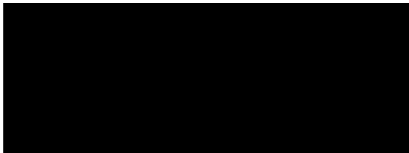
- If the existing residencies are let to be destroyed , and become part of the beach , then the ongoing pollution and detritus from the destruction of hundreds of homes is hardly respecting the status of the beach as a SSSI. Indeed it will create a huge environmental problem that will endure for generations , (gas pipes / sewage / hazardous building materials etc etc)
- The harbour opening and consequent spit was managed very simply for many , many years , (since Roman times at least) , so it is a long proven low technology solution to a fluid geodynamic situation . It allowed the beach to gently evolve into the SSSI it is today . The lack of positive and proactive management over recent years when the decision was taken to passive management has actually created a situation where much of the mature beach and it's classic salt beach flora has been destroyed , and replaced with a barren spit . It seems a huge own goal . The present damage at least could be mitigated by taking control and providing a more sustainable solution . Moving forward this would then have the added benefit of having the confidence of the residents who indeed would consequently have the impetus to help preserve this unique and special part of our coastline.
- The ongoing cost of managing the beach and protecting, as presently , in a piecemeal fashion is very expensive , and very destructive to the beach flora and fauna itself , so a reversion to a proven , simpler , less invasive , more "natural " way of coastal management in this instance will give maximum protection for ultimately the least financial cost to the special

status of the harbour and beach whilst providing protection to the residents. There is no downside that I can see.

- By making this breach in a timely fashion , before any huge damage has been made to the homes , the beach will have a chance to revert back to it's beautiful former glorious state .
- I hope that the RSPB , Natural England and the Enviroment Agency and associated will all work in a spirit of positive cooperation . Lets make this Happen !

With Best Regards

Joseph Bennett



Mrs D A Salter
1 Webb Close
PAGHAM
West Sussex
PO21 4XB

17th December

Arun District Council- Planning
Maltravers Road
LITTLEHAMPTON
West Sussex
BN17 5LF

Simon Davis - Support For Planning Application Ref:15/03053/FULEIA

Dear Sirs

I write to offer support for the planning application reference quoted above to positively agree that the Community Scheme promoted by the Parish Council to intervene and reposition the harbour mouth to its pre 2003 position effectively cutting through the Pagham Shingle bank now known as "The Church Norton Spit" should be approved.

Pagham is a huge part of my childhood; a 40 year history of being well known in my family as the Sunshine Costa Del Pagham, where for many years as a tourist to this little village it attracted my family and friends due to the increase sun hours and beautiful beaches along this part of the West Sussex coastline. It holds such special memories that as an adult, I along with many others chose to relocate here to start a family.

Our beach was once awarded a royal accreditation during his convalescence by his Royal Highness King George VI and is the greatest asset to the village. It is now rapidly being eroded by continuous scour currents due to the harbour mouth displacement from the growth of the shingle bank. Some 75 metres of beach has been swept away and is sitting out on the spit. Since the serious storm of 2013/14 our beach is verging on becoming a danger zone as the scour current has eroded groin after groin. The force of each tide 3.3 million tons of water has been measured at a speed of 14 knots which are incredibly dangerous and we have been advised that not even the RNLI will perform any form of rescue in such a current. It is so bad that there are areas of the West beach that now are out of use to anyone as well as seriously encroaching upon the seafront homes, our village is getting too close to a tidal breach. It has a wealth of heritage with Grade 1 listed Church, St Thomas a Beckett in Church Lane that may soon be under water if we are not granted the approval to complete this project.

The harbour mouth used to be maintained by the Environmental Agency however, with historic bad monetary decisions made by previous governments, the dredging of the harbour mouth was stopped which now leads us to the current state our village- now under threat of tidal flooding if nature is left to continue to take its course. This is an emergency situation and as a resident, I write to stress that we cannot stand by and continue to let this happen when history shows us that if the mouth was returned to its rightful position, the "longshore drift" will erode the shingle bank and bring the shingle back to our beautiful beach. We need to retain this beach as an ever popular location, to ensure the attraction for the holiday makers and keep tourism or the alternative would see a devastating effect on our local economy and to our local businesses.

Pagham has strength as a healthy district community with spirit, please help us save our village and make the right decision as the time has come for urgent human intervention to the build up of the shingle bank and give us the opportunity to save this village for our children and their future by preventing the worst disaster in the south.

Yours faithfully

Mrs Dawn Salter

STURGESS, Connie

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 04 January 2016 20:51
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Saving Pagham beach and surrounding area

Dear Sir,

We write in support of the proposal to undertake a managed breach of the shingle spit at Pagham harbour.

Arun District Council Planning Application Ref: P/97/15/PL (Case officer Simon Davis)
Chichester District Council Planning Application Ref : SY/15/03053/FULEIA (Case officer Steve Harris)

It is now essential that this matter is moved forward without further delay. The fact that to date we have had a relatively mild winter has possibly already saved the beach and residents from disaster and we hope their luck holds for a few more months enabling you to make positive progress. We urge the local authorities together with the Environment agency, Natural England and RSPB to work as one in a constructive manner to achieve a positive outcome. Our main concerns and observations are as follows:

Residents – It is essential that the local homes and livelihoods are safeguarded and as much expense spared.

Mitigation – Whilst there are conservation interests conservation was in place before the spit was there and therefore an early and creative solution to the problem will safeguard the nature conservation interests in the long run.

SSSI – Much engineering work has already taken place. This could have been to the detriment of the Site of Special Scientific Interest. A quick solution will allow the SSSI to recover in the longer term.

Health – for many years now the health of numerous residents and businesses have undoubtedly suffered as a result of continued delays in key decisions. A solution followed by urgent action is now required. People need to be sure of their future in the area.

Recreation – The only attraction Pagham beach now provides to people is to view the ever increasing erosion of the site. The decline in the attractiveness of the beach and surrounding area must have a serious affect on businesses especially the holiday business provided by Haven holidays who have invested significantly. The area is now in fact a danger to local residents, holiday makers and disabled people.

Cost and local economy – Funds already raised by local residents, businesses and visitors to Pagham must indicate the significant interest, support and importance of the area and site. Property values have seriously been affected as well as businesses and the local economy.

Expenditure – Surely it is time to take definite action rather than quick fix measures which cannot compete with the power of the sea and currents.

Flood risk – The loss of beach depth not only clearly threatens the loss of homes but also brings flood risks to the local community.

Other impacts – In our view the only sensible and necessary outcome is to cut through the spit. Please remember the spit has grown on its own accord over many years and the reasons for this are unclear to us, however this now threatens a great many people. Millions have been spent in other areas of the country and despite this their defences have been breached and immediate decisions has been made to spend more. Surely the decision makers have an opportunity to save the area before a major disaster occurs!

Please make the right decision by cutting through the spit without delay and save Pagham and its surrounding areas.

Thank you for listening.

Best regards
Russell Stokes and Teresa Butters
10, Harbour View Road, Pagham

STURGESS, Connie

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 04 January 2016 21:05
To: GIBB, Nicolas
Subject: Foreign Aid verses National Aid
Attachments: IMG_2174.JPG; IMG_2177.JPG; IMG_2178.JPG; IMG_2173.JPG

Dear Mr. Nick Gibbs,

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 challenge you to actively 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 (Arun District Council Marine Engineer) 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 over £1M to a Serbian Town of Lazarevac for flood defences. How can the House of Parliament approve such madness when the UK is so desperate for simple coastal erosion maintenance? We strongly request you actively challenge this rational as most other major Economies have ignored this 0.7% spend of income UN target in lieu of domestic projects. With only £695 million set aside for the entire UK Flooding and Erosion budget for 2015/2016 you need to seriously question the 0.7% target which includes specifically £129.6 million to Syria, £123.8 million to Somalia, and £197.5 Million to Afghanistan. We are asking for £700,000 (0.1% of the entire UK 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 you work with your Parliamentary Colleagues and divert Foreign Aid funds to National Aid funds as the money should be used on people that earned it. We welcome you gaining additional investment for Chichester and Arun District Council for Pagham Spit work so they can approve Planning Application P/97/15/PL & SY/15/03053/FULEIA and work with the 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
31 West Front Road
Pagham
Bognor Regis
PO21 4SZ

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

STURGESS, Connie

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 04 January 2016 16:43
To: GIBB, Nicolas
Subject: Re: PAGHAM BEACH PLANNING APPLICATION

11 Sandy Road
PAGHAM
Bognor Regis
PO21 4SP

Sent from my iPad

On 4 Jan 2016, at 09:24, GIBB, Nicolas [REDACTED] wrote:

Dear Mr and Mrs Short,

Many thanks for your email to Mr Gibb. Please would you kindly provide your full postal address?

Kind regards
Connie

Connie Sturgess
Senior Parliamentary Assistant
Nick Gibb MP for Bognor Regis & Littlehampton
Minister of State for Schools
House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA
www.nickgibb.org.uk

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 01 January 2016 16:47
To: GIBB, Nicolas [REDACTED]
Subject: PAGHAM BEACH PLANNING APPLICATION

Nick Gibb MP
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

Dear Mr Gibb

RE: PAGHAM BEACH PLANNING APPLICATION

I am writing in support of the managed breach of the shingle spit at Pagham Harbour.

I retired to Pagham 6 years ago having spent many years previously visiting the area. Being a keen fisherman I have noticed the worrying growth of the spit which I believe is due to lack of maintenance to the harbour mouth creating the scour current along the beach and causing devastation.

The most amazing SSSI beach has all but disappeared, taking with it wild plants and even strange low growing (quite happily) Apple trees. More worrying is the threat to people's homes and businesses/livelihoods.

Most People moved to Pagham for its quirky beauty with a mix of bungalows and converted railway carriages but now find themselves living in 'Terror' never knowing what the next tide or storm will bring. This in turn has a drastic affect on people's well-being.

Sadly, the once lovely seating area at the Yacht Club has become a disaster area. Holidaymakers from the Church Farm Caravan Site have always spent much of their time at the Beach but now with the scour current parts of the beach have become very dangerous.

By cutting the spit we will hopefully be re-establishing a long shore drift which will replenish our beach naturally and bring it back to its former glory.

I hope a favourable decision will be reached to give permission for the necessary works to be carried out to the spit in order to protect not only Pagham but Aldwick and Bognor Regis also.

We support the proposals by APBmer and respectfully request that. ADC and CDC do the same and cut the spit as soon as possible.

Thanking you.

Yours faithfully

Mr & Mrs D Short

Sent from my iPad

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STURGESS, Connie

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 04 January 2016 14:30
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: GIBB, Nicolas
Subject: Arun District Council Planning Application Ref. P/97/15/PL: Pagham Beach managed breach of spit

Attn: Mr Simon Davis, Case Officer, Arun District Council
CC: Mr Nick Gibb, MP

Dear Mr Davis

We write in support of the proposal to undertake a managed breach of the shingle spit at Pagham Harbour.

- Arun District Council Planning Application Ref: P/97/15/PL
- Chichester District Council Planning Application Ref: 15/03053/FULEIA

It is vital that this outcome is moved forward as soon as possible. It is also vital that the two relevant Local Planning Authorities, together with the Environment Agency, Natural England and RSPB, should all work together in a positive manner. Our support is based on the following positive outcomes:

People - Whilst there are known ecological interests that will need to be safeguarded, these should not be at the expense of people, their homes and livelihoods.

Mitigation - Whilst nature conservation interests have a degree of protection, the opportunity exists to mitigate any harm that might arise by way of creative solutions that could better safeguard the nature conservation interests in the long run. Cut the spit without delay!

SSSI - Arising from the need to safeguard homes, much engineering work has been carried out to the beach, to the detriment of the Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). These too are nature conservation interests. A quick solution will allow the SSSI to recover.

Health - For some years now the health of numerous residents and businesses has suffered due to delays in key decisions. They need a solution now!

Recreation - The activities and attractions provided by Pagham Beach and its facilities are both varied and significant. Through the period of coast erosion, which has brought with it damage, heavy machinery and barriers, there has been a decline in the attractiveness of Pagham Beach for residents, businesses, activity groups and visitors! Disabled people and those with limited mobility are now unable to enjoy the beach. This needs to be reversed.

Cost and local economy - The cost to people's lives, property and businesses has been significant. In fact, the ultimate cost will never be known, nor could it be calculated. To those that live with this reality, it is vast. The funds already raised by local residents, businesses and visitors to Pagham are testament to the significant interest and support that exists for the proposal to cut the spit. However, it is time to address the decline in property values, harm to businesses and activity groups, to help them address their financial losses and to help repair the harm to the local economy.

Expenditure – The cost of 'temporary fixes' is vast and their success mediocre. Cutting the spit will provide a longer-term solution and be more cost effective.

Please note that, as many other local residents did, we have made a pledge to contribute a significant amount of our own money to cutting the spit.

Increase flood risk – The loss of beach depth has increased the threat to loss of homes and increased the flood risk to the wider community by overtopping and potential breaching of this natural seawall that is defending Pagham. Cutting the spit will increase the resilience of the beach naturally by stopping the scour current and allowing the beach to accrete by re-establishing long shore drift.

Other impacts – Without a favourable decision to cut the spit, beautiful and historic Pagham will continue to be blighted and will further decline. A decision in favour of cutting the spit will kick-start a recovery. Notably, today's impacts at Pagham will be tomorrow's at Aldwick and Bognor Regis.

The people of Pagham, and further afield, both local and visitors, acknowledge that the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for the managed breach of Pagham Harbour is a stage leading to an engineered solution.

Having considered the report and supporting documents submitted by ABPmer, we commend the proposals and respectfully request Arun District Council and Chichester District Council to do the same.

Cut the spit without delay!

Thank you for taking into account our representations.

Yours faithfully

Michael Walter and Olga Manizer
47, West Front Road
Pagham
Bognor Regis
PO21 4SZ

STURGESS, Connie

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 04 January 2016 15:06
To: GIBB, Nicolas
Subject: Fwd: Pagham Spit

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]
Sent: Mon, 4 Jan 2016 15:03
Subject: Pagham Spit

Dear Nick, I really feel I must write to you regarding the delay in sorting out the problems at Pagham Beach. Although not a beach resident I am fully aware of the implications for the rest of Pagham and Nyetimber should the sea breach the shingle. Not only will the Yacht Club and the Pagham Club be affected the poor residents who have been campaigning to protect their homes will suffer greatly. The rest of us will have our Water, Sewage and Electricity cut off and then that is when the real problems will start. Surely human life is more important than the birds, after all they have wings and can fly away and build new homes at no cost to them. Not like us mere humans who cannot fly and risk losing everything they own. Please help us Nick, we really rely on you. Kind regards. Evelyn Parkin 2 St Thomas Drive Pagham PO21 4UB

