

[REDACTED]

From: Peter Atkins [REDACTED]
Sent: 15 August 2016 10:57
To: Daniel Vick
Subject: Pagham beach planning application support.

Dear Mr Vick,

I write to you as Commodore of Pagham yacht Club in support of the planning application for the cutting of the spit at Pagham.

We (PYC) have struggled for the whole of this season to date in maintaining a full calendar of events. They are planned but the practicalities of sailing and recovering boats at the yacht club puts off many of our members except in the easiest of tides.

The beach has developed in such a way over the last few years to the situation we now face where fewer sailors are interested in sailing from our club and where there are more days when conditions of launch and recovery are seriously compromised except for the most experienced and strong sailors. Currently the continuously moving banks of shingle off shore are a hazard to our sailors especially the beginners. It would be much better for the Yacht club and all beach residents if the spit were cut and the tides allowed to erode back the spit and deposit it along the Pagham shore line once again.

We even hear reports from Bognor that they are presently receiving more shingle deposition on their sand beaches than is good for their tourist trade. Our experience is that the current distortions caused by the spit in front of Pagham beach is causing undersea moving shingle fingers to flow across the front of the bay in the region of the Mulberry Monument.

We support the cutting of the spit so that a degree of stability can be returned to the beach especially where development has been allowed to take place. This would hopefully restore the width of the beach to something like that area before 2000 and thus give us space to use when we are sailing and fishing. It would also give the residents of the beach reassurance that their houses were less likely to be inundated by the sea. Even if there is no shingle building the beach at least the erosion would be reduced to a manageable level by this work.

Looking forward we are continuously being told that Global Warming is real and will result in sea levels rising ., if we control the present erosion levels we will then be in a better position to tackle the overtopping that may occur as sea levels rise. Looking at the example further down the South coast we can see the real protection given by chisel

bank and we are told that there is no better protection for a shore line from overtopping than a very large bank of loose shingle which can absorb much of the energy of high waves.

The proposal for which we are supporting a successful planning application is approved by several ecological pressure groups and environmental experts. We are not asking for a major imposition such as a sea wall and much concrete and steel, we are all hoping to nudge nature rather than impose our iron will upon it. Hopefully you will join with us in this endeavour and pass our application.

Yours Sincerely

Peter Atkins
Commodore Pagham Yacht club