

Penryn Neighbourhood Plan

Transcription of public comments

The public comments transcribed below were received at the following consultation events:

Penryn Neighbourhood Plan Launch, 25th March 2017

May Day celebrations, Doorstep Green, 30th April 2017

Gig at Glasney, College Field, 4th June 2017



Local Economy

Question: How could Penryn's local economy be promoted and encouraged?

Public responses grouped into: Supporting new & local businesses

"Reduced rent and business rates for local businesses."

"Cheaper rates and rent with shorter leases for new businesses starting out."

"Subsidised business rental for the empty store fronts in the high street."

"Decent broadband"

Public responses grouped into: Local currency and rewards

"Maybe set up a Penryn Pound scheme to encourage people to shop locally."

"A Penryn Card (like Pz)"

"Some of the more recent local currency schemes using digital 'block chain' technologies to track and promote local spending. This can also integrate newer 'touchless' & newer field ways of creating transactions. These schemes work! See 'Brixton Pound' etc."

Public responses grouped into: Pedestrianise Town Centre & local market

"Pedestrianise the High Street"

"Pedestrianisation of historic centre would help local shops as well as better parking. Make it a destination – not a drive through!"

"Local markets – close the road monthly"

"...a weekly/monthly market on the street with road closures."

Public responses grouped into: Services and venues in the Town Centre

"By the return of a proper bank."

"Having the library open 6 days a week: turn the current Town Council office into a cinema and restaurant / pizza bar. Street café in the sun just below the museum."

"The old fire station would make a good arts centre / community centre."

"Art studios – for artists to work and sell their work (affordable)"

"More variety of shops"

Public responses grouped into: Information sharing and marketing

"Need a proper notice board – that would promote community to know what's going on."

“Support local businesses with marketing opportunities.”

“Collaborative approach to PR”

“Make all the wonderful things that are made here more visible – directory, notice board, regular events?”

“Tap into the many coach tours / ships that head to Falmouth every year.”

“Tourism (walking tours of historic centre)”

“Town signage”

Public responses grouped into: Parking

“I have to use my car to nip to the shop / get fish & chips / post a parcel but struggle to find parking in Penryn to go this – go elsewhere.”

“More parking on main street”

“Parking”

Culture, Identity & Heritage

Question: How would you describe Penryn's identity?

Public responses:

"Little confused!"

"Clashing cultures"

"Mix of styles of way of living – positive; to be fostered"

"Local and cultural identity and continuity being significantly diminished by a very transitory population i.e. students."

"Historic"

"History and community fighting with a changing future and progress rather than working together and embracing a joint move forward."

"Unfortunately a bit parochial and racist. Prejudice towards students, anyone from anywhere else. Penryn's future relies on it being more open-minded and forward thinking."

"A mini 'Stoke Newington' circa 2000! Historic structure, arty, locals, still local businesses, community events."

"Clash / healthy mix? Of traditionalism and creative, forward thinkers."

"A certain amount of community"

"Heritage"

"Village like but danger of town & gown"

Question: What do you think Penryn's identity should be in the future?

Public responses:

"Open, progressive and forward looking."

"Alternative. Innovative."

"Welcoming, open, inclusive."

"Creative! Outward looking and embracing change. Thriving local town with good mix of cultures and ideas. Welcoming to students – they bring energy, creativity and new ideas!"

"Not afraid to change, but respectful of its history."

"Protecting and promoting the past but looking and moving towards a vibrant, dynamic future (valuing the old but embracing the new)."

"Forward looking but aware of town history and the importance of maintaining historic architecture & possible recreating a sympathetic built environment"

"Move forwards with new ideas but keeping a traditional feel."

"Keep the mix!"

"Community focused."

"The community, university working together to build a vibrant integrated fusion of the historic and the revolutionary."

"Heritage" "Artistic" "Organic"

Question: Which heritage & cultural sites in Penryn are important for you?

Public responses grouped into: College Valley & Glasney

"College Valley – it's our stand out historic landscape and the view to/from it. Ancient trees on it as well."

"College Valley – great for walks with the dog"

"History of apple orchards in local valleys."

"College Valley – A place for everyone to use (runners, cyclists, children, artists, photographers) to connect with nature / relax. Penryn's greatest asset."

"College Valley – needs protecting"

"College Valley needs celebrating and making more 'accessible' as I rarely see families there. Walkways, benches, handrails in the woods, steps etc, signage – and a nice café near the middle! And more bins."

"College Valley – essential green and beautiful place."

"College Valley, clock tower, Glasney woods and fields."

"College Valley"

"Glasney"

"Viaduct"

Public responses grouped into: Gateway & waterfront

"Anchor Warehouse is a 'gateway site' at the entrance to the town."

"Brown sign needed at Quay Hill /Commercial Rd. Tourists / visitors."

"Make more use of our beautiful waterfront for the community as a whole!"

"The Quay"

"Falmouth Road and the waterfront – needs improvement and better public assets!!!"

"Develop the Quayside – make it a focal point of our lovely town."

"Make the most of the town's waterfront for the local community, visitors and general improvement of the town's fabric."

Public responses grouped into: Heritage sites

“Character of the streets – materials and scale”

“The narrow alleyways – Opes.”

“Local historic built environment e/g St Thomas Street, designate ‘historic’ to protect the fabric from inappropriate modernisations”

“The market hall”

“The iron age fort and monument site should be listed at Round Ring with the well.”

“Ruins of ball clay (china clay) mills – gradually disappearing – preserve.”

“Market Street – full length from Quay to train station”

“Historic centre of Penryn”

“Clocktower, quay and the walks”

“Clock tower, old streets (St. Gluvias, St Thomas’)”

“Penryn Historic Town Centre”

“Museum”

Housing

Question: What do you think Penryn's housing needs are?

Public responses grouped into: Rented housing

"We need more affordable rental accommodation."

"Affordable rental accommodation, long term (really hard to find with holiday lets in the summer months)."

"Ensure affordable housing and rents – cap rents."

"Cap rents to enable local people and families afford rentable properties."

Public responses grouped into: Student and integrated housing

"Multi generational housing, NOT ghettos of students or older people, a space for all generations."

"Greater integration of housing: Student accommodation can't be ghettoised and neither can elderly residential care. Need to integrate private / rental / student etc much better."

"Ensure that Penryn does not allow the development of residential blocks for the elderly. These are usually unsightly and the costs to the NHS must be vast."

"Purpose built and sustainable student housing that still enables them to feel included as part of our vibrant community."

"A mix of affordable, family and first time homes alongside student housing."

"Less student accommodation, Penryn locals provided more with housing."

"Less students"

"Ban' rental for multiple occupancy. ie students"

"Article 4 please."

"Purpose built student housing"

"Student housing restricted to Tremough site, no more in town (local people can't afford rentals)."

"More family accommodation – less student accommodation."

"More housing and less house shares and student housing (4 friends have been given notice so housing can be converted to multi room sharing)."

Public responses grouped into: Affordable, flexible housing

"Family homes for local people" "New houses for local people, as in St Ives"

"Prioritise housing for residential homes."

“Priority for local residents who buy (over landlord second home owners).”

“Affordable housing for families.”

“Affordable housing for all.”

“Local people who are resident are an essential ingredient for a thriving community.”

“More social housing for families.”

“Small house units for local families – housing association or similar projects on BT/Commercial Road site.”

“More affordable housing for younger people / families and key workers (NHS, teachers, police etc) to enable them to live locally.”

“Affordable housing for local people. Preferably Social Housing. Families are finding it hard to find homes. Fr. Stephen Wales (Vicar)”

“New residential developments needs to include 1, 2, 3 & 4 bedroom properties so that when families want / need to downsize they can move to properties on the same development and so free up larger properties for families. In this way the community develops and stays together. If this doesn't happen, we will continue to see elderly people living in properties too large for them, which can be worrying and stressful for them, because they don't want to leave their community. They may have lived there all, or most, of their life. Even to move to Falmouth is too far for family to keep an eye on the elderly relative.”

Public responses grouped into: Sustainability & quality design

“Modern, contemporary, contextual, vernacular housing of all types. Not housing association square boxes, pastiche building that are of cheap construction. More community schemes, Community Land Trusts etc.”

“Eco housing – creative housing – not standard little boxes!”

“Use materials and design appropriate to the area – NOT bland, pastel / beige weatherboard.”

“High quality and low cost (this is possible!)”

“Eco-friendly and sustainable”

“Housing that reflects, enhances and sets the character of Penryn”

“Eco-friendly, using local material. Reflect where we are – not a house that could be built just anywhere.”

“If this building continues with all the ugly, expensive boxes, Penryn will cease to be attractive and lose its character.”

“Sympathetic to our beautiful landscape. Environmentally sympathetic and built to last!”

“Desirable estates, not just ‘pack ‘em in’ approach.”

“Quality housing”

“Making old homes energy efficient”

“More affordable housing for families - but attractive and eco-friendly.”

“Takes into account the (under)usage of existing housing stock rather than just building more.”

“Housing that is easily able to be extended (into the loft?) for locals ONLY.”

Public responses grouped into: Housing sites

“Protection of key sites to control type and scale of new housing”

“Conflict between need for housing and accessible green spaces”

“New builds for social housing - but where would they go without intrusion to green spaces?”

Parks and Natural Environment

Question: What kind of green / outdoor space would you like to see in Penryn?

Public responses grouped into: Riverfront access

"Along the riverfront by Commercial Road - make a walkway."

"Connection to the river."

"Improve access to the waterfront / improve the Quay."

"More planting baskets all around the Quay area."

Public responses grouped into: Green links

"Between Penryn and Falmouth – green the road."

"As much green natural space as possible – all developments should be considered in the light of and contribute towards greening the environment."

Public responses grouped into: Food growing and play

"Penryn Buzz – keep planting"

"Allotments – north side of river where Bunny already agreed to lease for a starter. Small allotments on corners (eg. Saracen to Glasney Valley). Obvious site – new cemetery plot (3/4 of it for 20 years)."

"Even shared Allotments for people who have limited time."

"What was the matter with plats at the top of St/ Thomas St? Lovely place to sit with green around. Don't let the narrow minded of Penryn stop Penryn being a better place to live! The Council could put something there if they don't like messy/natural plants."

"Allotments as I have no outside space."

"Allotments would be welcome, but really it's more about taking care of the green spaces we already have!"

"Something like Kimberley Park, allotments, natural play, wild spaces."

"More promotion of Penryn Buzz – free seeds for people's gardens."

*"Lots of Penryn residents have no gardens: where can we sit in the sun in greenery??
With a view"*

"Local community planting"

"Anywhere for allotments?"

"Availability of allotments / shared gardening spaces"

“A circus, a fair, a fairy house, cars full of plants, more parking spaces, a helter-skelter, a see-saw”

Question: Which open spaces in Penryn do you visit and how could they be improved?

Glasney & College Valley:

“Glasney field conservation area respected fully”

“Needs planting, benches, bins, no dogs”

“More information about history of site”

“Keep as a green space”

“Better cycle paths to children’s facilities”

“Must be kept as green space for our children / animals”

“Don’t build on it!” “Don’t build on College Valley” “Please stop the building at College Woods”

“Sort out failing drains”

“More use, toilets & covered areas”

Trelawney Park:

“Kids’ play space in Trelawney Park is noisy, polluted: needs moving!”

Permarin Park:

“Needs bins and litter clean up. Teenagers use the bench in Permarin Park to gather, eat and drink. This isn’t a problem, the mess they leave is.”

“Bring back wild flowers: early purples / heath orchids / ragged robin etc”

“More playground equipment, more adventurous (a zip wire)”

“Space for community garden, raised beds, fruit trees”

“It is a sunny place, unlike other playgrounds, and looks so empty”

Whole Town:

“More dog poo bins!”

“All areas of Penryn are affected by owners of dogs not clearing up after their dog has pooped on pathways. This problem is getting worse and needs to be addressed.”

“Seating, planting, shelter (like Kimberley Park)”

Town Centre

Question: **Aside from issues of parking, what would bring you to the Town Centre more often?**

Public responses grouped into: Emphasis on pedestrians

“Cafes with tables on street / pedestrianisation? Shared space?”

“Less traffic priority – make pedestrians more important”

“More priority to pedestrians”

“20mph speed limit with average speed cameras” “20mph speed limits”

“20mph limit – using those light up speed limit sensors” “Speed restrictions”

“No speed cameras”

“Reduce traffic & create eco transport schemes to enable clean, quiet, regular transit up and down high street.”

“Better cycle paths”

“Better access to the water and to College Valley. Town needs better integration with what surrounds it.”

“Cleaner pavements – dog ‘litter bins’ provided”

“Pedestrianise more often”

“More traffic free walking routes linked to green spaces”

Public responses grouped into: Events, venues & community activities

“Community Centre which is user friendly / free / cheap for everyone”

“Remember not everyone is well off – ways to meet and engage with Penryn for everyone”

“Events like Penryn fair, 800th anniversary, carnival – all are fun and bring out the residents”

“Town centres don’t have to be dominated by retail. It will always be useful to have grocery stores etc. but as people spend more online, we need to re-imagine town centres as providing more than retail. Social, community spaces, recreational spaces etc can all be valuable in town centres.”

“More events with better advertising”

“People – more shops, stools and events to bring the community together.”

“A Saturday outside market with live music and arts.”

“More outside things, ie. market, community projects”

“More community projects / groups”

“Make links between different social groups (integrate existing groups more) – events?”

“Interesting talks/presentations”

“Arts Centre”

“Somewhere to eat / drink in the evening – great pizzas!”

“...more visible local market.”

Public responses grouped into: Shops & services

“Fruit and Veg shop on High Street”

“Butchers”

“Fruit & veg shop”

“Better shops”

“Butchers”

“Better shops! Butcher etc.”

“Refillable products eg Ecover, we should do more”

“Bank – no chance as last 2 shut down since we moved”

“Shops (any) back in last 10 years”

Traffic and Transport

Question: What are Penryn's traffic, parking and transport needs?

Public responses grouped into: Public transport

"SMALL buses for the narrow streets!!" "That do not allow people to see in our house!"

"Why are the buses so expensive between Falmouth and Penryn? Cheap for students - the poor walk!"

"Stop double-decker buses going through West St – dangerous and polluting."

"Cheaper buses." "Cheaper public transport." "Bus is far too expensive."

"Would use the buses in Penryn more frequently if I could find parking."

"Public transport running later at night."

"More regular buses running in the evenings and Sundays."

"Some buses to service the local area (school etc) not all going to the campus."

"Sustainable transport network, trams to Falmouth?"

"Buses too big for the town."

"Celebrate Maritime Rail line and its heritage, access from it – cheap, local transport."

"U1 and U2 buses expensive for locals in comparison to railway."

"Train is good" "Tram system?"

"Need much more frequent, reliable, reasonably priced busses"

"Public transport past Truro and Redruth link & overpriced"

"Public transport that goes beyond the University"

"Need to embrace new electric vehicle technology and introduce a mini park & ride: big car parks on outskirts with lots of electric mini buses serving high street and transit to station, university etc. This could replace existing double-decker buses too."

"Sustainable transport network"

Public responses grouped into: Parking

"Parking - use the Council pay and display car park behind Mill Autos, it's always empty, make it free!"

"Make commercial car park free again as more parking is required and costs are currently unrealistic."

"Reduce traffic by provision of more free parking out of the centre."

"Parking!"

"Reduced cost parking for local council tax payers."

“More parking spaces”

“Maintain free parking”

“Do not charge residents to park in their own road.”

“NO to parking zones – will cause more problems!”

“Oppose parking zones, which will create more parking problems.”

“NO PARKING near my house. The student house behind us has 3 cars and all the cars from St. Thomas’ park everywhere they can.”

“More visible ‘shoppers’ parking – links up from car parks to high street and Commercial Road.”

“Double parking ticket machines, to allow local shops to give 50% charge refund.”

Public responses grouped into: Traffic safety

“Close main street to other than (small is poss) buses, taxis and disabled and resident access.”

“Trial pedestrianising High St at certain times 10-4? Lots of precedents for this in other places!”

“Pedestrianisation of centre. Car is too dominant in old town. It wasn’t designed to be used like this!”

“20 mph limit through Town Centre with average speed cameras.”

“Need to get traffic away from centre. Traffic on West End, High St etc is a huge problem.”

“20mph speed limit in West St, Helston Rd and through Penryn Town Centre.”

“Loading and buses make the zebra crossing outside Costcutter dangerous – twice I’ve seen cars have nearly run into pedestrians (driving too fast and impatient).”

“Urgently deal with continuous stopping/parking on zebra crossing lines.”

“Double yellow where parking is dangerous”

“Traffic warden to venture further afield!”

“Re traffic, make all of Penryn (inc. Commercial Road) a 20mph zone (cheap to do!) to improve pedestrian experience, dissuade rat runs (ie Falmouth to Truro), preserve building.”

Public responses grouped into: Cycling

“Enforce one way system – cyclists zooming down Helston Road.”

“Improved cycling between Falmouth and Penryn – nearly get killed at Lidl and Park & Ride quite often. Cars turn right at Lidl’s quite often when it’s supposed to be left only to

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leave. Tourists suddenly turn left into Park & Ride. Horrible drains and cars parked on the cycle path make life difficult.”

“Cycle path for A39 / by pass”

“Dedicated walk / cycle path Falmouth to Penryn.”

“Dedicated cycle paths safe and separate from traffic.”

“Cycle stands in centre of town. I currently use railings outside chippy and local store.”

“Better cycle routes!”

“Will sometimes cycle but the roads are dangerous to cycle on, particularly when cycling with children.”

“Make it easier to cycle.”

What Else?

Question: **What else would you like to see addressed in the Neighbourhood Plan?**

Public responses:

“Maritime Plan (MMO) linkage”

“Community turbines / renewable energy / community solar on some streets”

“Sustainability of resources; recycling initiatives”

“Access to health and health promotion”

“Links to the University (the students are a fantastic asset!)”