

From: [Mary Lowth](#)
To: [Planning \(Isles of Scilly\)](#); [Lisa Walton](#); [Andrew King](#); [Robert Dorrien-Smith](#); [Frances Grottick](#); [Harry Legg](#); [Mike Nelhams](#); [Steve Sims](#); [Anita Bedford](#); [Robert Francis](#)
Subject: Climate Adaptation - Bryher Sea Defences P/22/076 and Council Meeting May 30
Date: 23 May 2023 15:11:29

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Dear Mr Francis, Ms Walton and Councillors,

We would be grateful if this message could be lodged as a planning objection against this application and also put forward for consideration at the Council meeting on May 30th when the update to the climate adaption project for Scilly is considered. Apologies, too, for filling in-boxes, but could it also be forwarded to those Councillors not on the distribution list who will be present?

We are writing with regard to the '**Update on Climate Adaptation Scilly project**' paper, dated May 15th, on your agenda for decision on May 30th.

We understand this paper as asking the Council to approve further decision-making by the project consultant in reviewing/amending the sea defences project, including for Bryher.

We greatly appreciate the work that has gone into this and understand the challenges it continues to present. However, we are concerned that approving the request authorises the consultant to continue amending the Bryher proposals (which are still on the planning portal today, May 23rd) without further early consultation.

The paper suggests the Bryher proposals are now unaffordable and acknowledges that their primary objectives may be flawed. It mentions several options going forward but the current proposals do not seem to be among them. This being the case, it seems pointless to consider these proposals as part of the planning application. We therefore echo the request made by Martin Nicolle, that the elements of the planning application that relate to Bryher are withdrawn pending consultation on new objectives and modified proposals.

We also respectfully ask that Council do not approve the recommendation in this paper unless this happens.

We also ask that, when considering the paper, the Council seeks clarity from Dr Swabey on our behalf on the following, with the responses minuted. We realise it is likely that the consulting team think these questions are already answered in the application, but if so the answers are not clear to us. The questions are:

1. What was the original budget for Bryher, and what is it now? *The document states an original total budget of £8m with £5m for off-island works, but we cannot tell from this what the current Bryher proposals originally cost.*
2. A budget of around £1m is now suggested as required for much smaller local protections for Bryher. We of course welcome this investment in our sea defences. However, the document shows that £870,000 has already been spent for Bryher, and that (assuming St Agnes works complete at projected cost) only £200,000 remains. There is mention of other funds, but no certainty. How confident can we be that further planning costs will not use all that remains?

Should further proposal design pause until there is a clear understanding of the budget?
Could the £200,000 that remains be ring-fenced for Bryher in the meantime?

Answers to these questions would help us understand what looks supportable going forwards. At the moment we feel rather in the dark on the basics.

Best Wishes

Simon Lowth and Mary Lowth
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