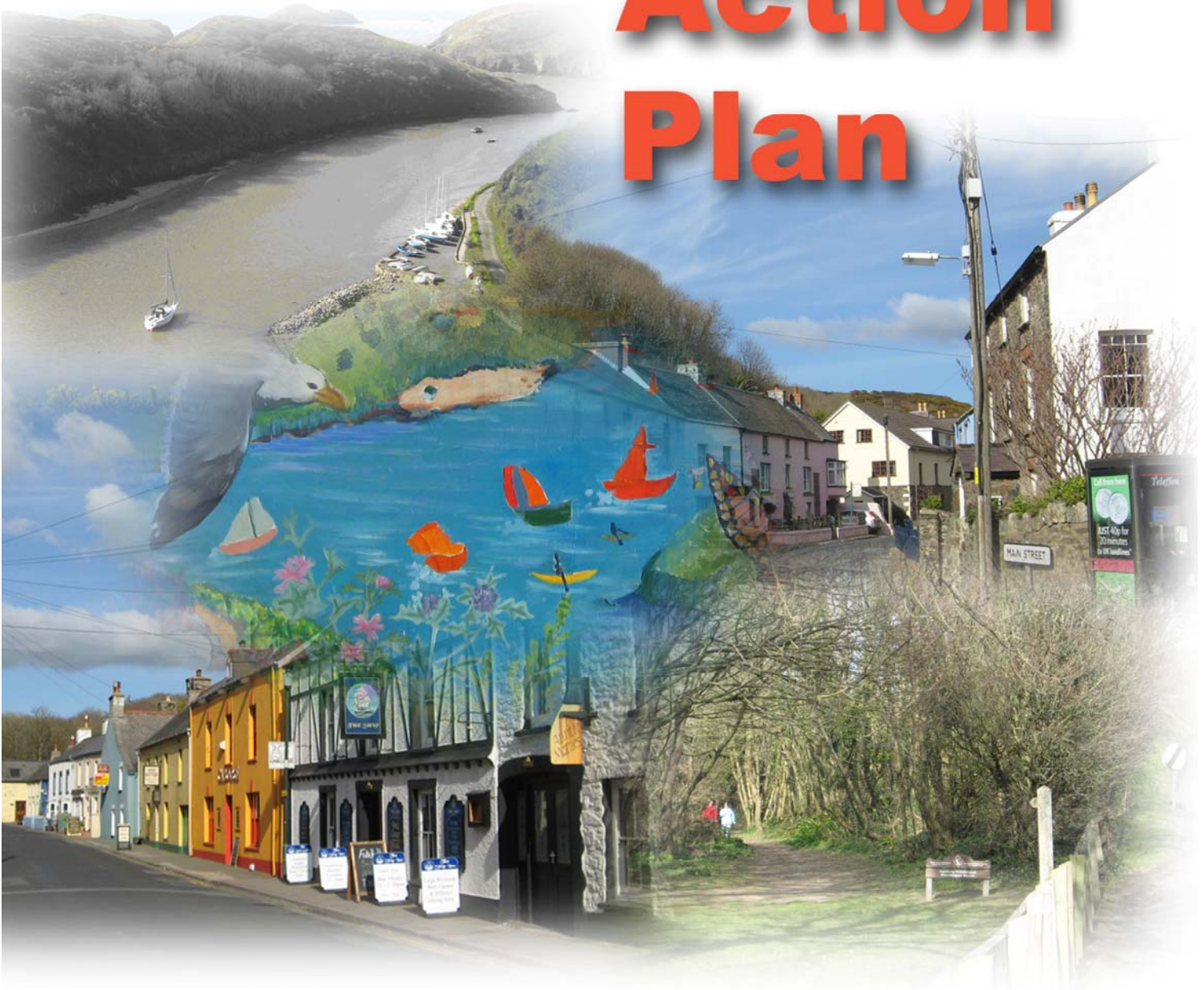


SOLVA

2008

Action Plan



PLANED's 'Shaping Our Futures' Project is part financed by the National Assembly for Wales through the Community Facilities & Activities programme



Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru
Welsh Assembly Government

COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN

For Solva 2008

Prepared in conjunction with



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This Action Plan was agreed at a Public Meeting held on 22nd May 2008 following the circulation of the Draft Action Plan to all households in the community

Background to the Action Plan

Solva has a long tradition of self-help with a large variety of local organisations and an active Community Council. In 2007 the community decided to compile an Action Plan.

In February 2008 two Community Visioning workshops and a youth consultation took place. Facilitated by PLANED, they helped residents of all ages and interests take a fresh look at the village's needs and aspirations. The Community Visioning Workshops consisted of the following activities:

- Something Special – special qualities of the Solva community.
- A Community Audit – listing the main features and facilities
- The Community in the Bigger Picture – considering global and local issues
- Weaknesses, Threats, Strengths and Opportunities
- The Vision for 2028 – Solva in the future.
- Skills and Resources Audit – illustrating the variety of local skills
- Translating Ideas into Action – using the information to plan projects

The workshop findings and other information, including the National Park Authority's 2002 Conservation Area Statement and a community consultation questionnaire, has been included in the Action Plan and was circulated to the whole community before being discussed at the Public Meeting.

The Action Plan Area

Solva is a busy village lying along a fjord-like inlet in south west Pembrokeshire, 12 miles North West of Haverfordwest and three miles south east of St Davids.

The community is divided into Upper and Lower Solva, linked by a steep hill where the war memorial stands and with outlying hamlets at Whitchurch and Middle Mill.

Lower Solva with its harbour, colourful cottages, larger stone residences, shops, galleries, restaurants and pubs, is particularly busy in the summer when it is a popular destination for holiday visitors. Upper Solva has a pub, shop and post office, St Aidans Church and Mount Zion and Capel Uchaf chapels, a doctor's surgery, playing fields and a primary school. It is the main residential area.

The upper and lower parts of the village have a variety of facilities, including car parks, public toilets, a bus shelter, benches, notice boards, play areas and green areas.

The historic centres of Upper and Lower Solva were designated a conservation area in 1997 which means that they are of special historic or architectural interest and worth preserving or enhancing.

History

Iron Age forts along the headland confirm early habitation and the unique sheltered natural harbour was important in medieval times.

Lower Solva is set deep in the Solfach valley, contrasting with Upper Solva on its plateau, overlooking St. Brides bay. The majority of the streets date from the late 18th and early 19th centuries, when the area benefited from the high corn prices of the Napoleonic wars.

Maritime trade was important too, particularly shipbuilding and grain export – at its economic peak Solva had 12 inns and 10 lime kilns. Prominent industrial remains include a former warehouse and the limekilns along the Gribin, especially the fine group alongside the estuary.

A woollen mill gave the hamlet of Middle Mill its name. West from here is St David's church that gives the hamlet of Whitchurch its name.

(National Park Authority's 2002 Conservation Area Statement)

A Special Place

During the community Visioning workshops residents identified the essential qualities of Solva and a good quality of life in a 'wonderful location' was a recurring theme. Its picturesque setting in the National Park, offering coastal walks, rich farmland and wildlife are all sources of pride.

'Geographical isolation' was identified as another special feature but so was its 'cosmopolitan' nature - which reflects the 'summer, winter contrasts' and the mix of residents, along with visitors who return year after year to share its unique qualities. The unusual 'fjord' coastal location in such a deep sided valley suggests a hidden gem with a history of self sufficiency. A temperate climate, where 'the national weather forecast does not apply' was also mentioned.



In addition to its physical charm, a sense of community spirit was strongly identified - it's a 'community that does pull together' said one workshop participant. A sense of 'togetherness' and a 'welcoming environment' were key features, reflecting the mix of long standing residents and people who have chosen to move to the village more recently.

There is an 'active and vibrant' social life on offer with 'good social meeting places for adults and two play areas for children. In addition to a range of local groups and organisations, the boat club, pubs and restaurants offer a range of options. Annual events include the duck race, regatta and fireworks display. The Memorial Hall, churches, chapels and harbour were all mentioned. There is a cross section of ages and talents in the community and a good mingling of generations.

The community is lucky in that there is a doctor's surgery, reasonable public transport and it has retained its post office and school. A 'child friendly environment' and low crime rate were also mentioned as advantages. History, natural heritage and a rich

cultural past were regarded as further strengths, along with the proximity to St David's and its cathedral which offers music as well as worship.

A Vision for the Future of Solva

Local residents have a vision for the future. It is a combination of retaining the 'village' feel, 'especially the harbour and quay' while preserving the unspoilt landscape and the 'atmosphere' but recognising that the community must continue to evolve.

- New facilities would include a youth centre, community shop and museum. Allotments, toddlers play area and an advice bureau, were also mentioned.
- The range of activities would be extended to include a thriving youth club, craft and cookery classes, a bowling green, and bike path.
- More sporting opportunities and improved sport facilities were desired.
- Retaining the school, surgery and post office were regarded as a priority
- Supporting local farmers and buying local produce, maybe at a local farmers/fisherman's market, were regarded as important.
- A 'diverse' business community would be desirable.
- Employment opportunities and encouraging young people to remain in the area and contribute to community life would be important.
- Affordable or social housing for young people was seen as desirable, as was sheltered accommodation at the other end of the age spectrum.
- A balance between local occupancy and second homes was also mentioned, along with 'no uncontrolled development'.
- Safe access along a new path between Lower and Upper Solva was desired.
- Increasing heavy traffic, and careless drivers were a real concern and measures should be taken to control this.
- A local police presence was mentioned as desirable on a number of occasions.
- Public transport could be improved to try and reduce private car use
- Preserving Solva's history, culture and language was regarded as important.

Getting Action Underway

Solva has a calendar of weekly and annual events and a core group of people who organise them. As with many communities, there is sometimes a sense of volunteer-fatigue and more volunteers, especially younger ones, would be welcomed.

New ideas for activities are identified in the Action Plan and this will be subject to extensive community consultation. Final changes can be agreed at a public meeting and the process will provide a fresh opportunity for local people to get involved. Forming a Community Forum to take the action plan proposals forward is an excellent way of involving people of all ages and interests. A suggestion during the community workshops was to establish an 'action group' and this could be the basis of a Community Forum. Funding agencies require evidence of community participation - an Action Plan promoted by an active Community Forum is a very useful starting point.

Implementation of the Action Plan will be assisted by PLANED and partners. Together they can offer specialist help and funding for projects, including enhancement, environmental conservation and local history interpretation.

Issues raised in the workshops have been grouped into broad themes in this draft Action Plan. Where appropriate they relate to named sites, with specific proposals.

Community Facilities

Commentary:

There is a good variety of facilities in Solva including meeting places, children's play grounds, playing fields, green spaces and picnic areas.



Meeting places include the Memorial Hall, St Aidan's Church, chapels, the School, the Football Club, pubs and the Boat Club.

The Memorial Hall (pictured) is recognised as the main venue for community council and group meetings, clubs and classes. Its notices boards show a wide range of activities.

A regular Library session is popular and provides an opportunity for a social gathering too. It is in good condition following a concentrated fund-raising campaign to update it several years ago but there is still capacity to include more activities and to publicise them more effectively.

The Community Council employs a 'community caretaker' to maintain various facilities including the bus shelter, benches and toilets and carry out grass cutting too.

Children's play facilities are good with well resourced areas in Lower and Upper Solva,



which include seating areas for parents to enjoy leisure time. The play area in Upper Solva is now decorated with several colourful murals painted by children and young people, supervised by the Princes Trust as part of the community consultation.

Despite relatively large playing fields (owned by the County Council) near the Football Club building in Upper Solva, many people would like to see more multi-use sporting facilities. This would enable sports such as basket ball and tennis to take place and would benefit visitors as well as locals. There may be potential for development of the existing sites.

A lack of facilities and organised activities for teenagers was a recurring theme during the community workshops. Older people also wanted more recreation facilities – an 'oldies playground' was suggested. Examples exist where special equipment helps older people to exercise in a secure and safe environment.

The Solva Boat Club (pictured), which includes a café, is on the Trinity Quay and this area is used during the regatta and other public events. Local people and visitors enjoy the sea for swimming, fishing, rowing and sailing competitions and regattas. It is also a valued resource for organised water sports for children and adults.



Some people feel that ‘more could be made of the harbour’ and quay. Suggestions include establishing a Maritime Museum there (see *Business section*).

The swimming pool at Ysgol Dewi Sant is a much valued facility but there are concerns about its future and local people are keen to retain or develop it.

Proposals:

- Explore opportunities for extending sport facilities to create a flexible multi purpose area providing for all ages with a larger range of options.
- Develop ideas for a Youth Centre – a dedicated area for young people, with internet connection and other facilities. Explore potential of the Football Club as a venue for this.
- Research funding opportunities to develop further facilities.
- Explore opportunities for greater use of the Harbour area, including development of a museum (see Heritage section).
- Support effort to save the swimming pool at Ysgol Dewi Sant.
- Investigate the landownership of existing and former sporting facilities.
- Research potential for developing more facilities for local senior citizens.

Community Activities & Communication

Commentary

Solva has many groups, clubs, and organisations which include the WI, Luncheon Club, Parent and Toddlers, Slimming Club, Brownies, and Monday Club which meet in the Memorial Hall. The Community Council and Hall committee also meet here.



Exercise classes, including keep fit, flexibility, yoga and pilates also take place in the Memorial Hall. Dance classes and art and sculpture groups meet there. There is a thriving pub quiz league. Folk music and other entertainment are also features in the pubs.

Solva Boat Owners Association and Lifeboat Guild, the Regatta Committee and the Football

Club organise activities. The churches and chapels host musical events, a faith group and bible study.

Annual events include the Regatta, musical events and evenings in the hall, the Scarecrow trail, Duck Race, treasure hunts, fetes and fireworks. Open Gardens and other activities run by the WI, church etc, are popular. The 2004 Eisteddfod is remembered as 'brilliant' and there seems to be interest in developing more opportunities connected with music, culture and drama.

Suggestions for additional activities include music, ballroom dancing, dance events and a drama group. Cookery and craft classes were also suggested. Bowling was a popular suggestion and more opportunities for football, rugby, rowing and sailing were suggested. Tennis, gym and badminton were also mentioned. General community events and a barn dance were among other ideas. More support for religious activities was requested.

Over 30 children and young people participated in a consultation run by the Princes Trust and Pembrokeshire County Council youth service. They currently spend most of their leisure time socialising with friends or family (43.8%). Over 28% enjoy sport and outdoor activities such as rowing. Enjoyment of computer games came next at 18.8%. Just under 10% chose art based activities such as music, drama and dance. The majority of these activities take place in Solva but venues at Haverfordwest, Fishguard and St Davids, Mathry and Trefin are also used.

Over 50% of those consulted described living in Solva as 'great' or 'fabulous', although 22% described it as 'rubbish.' Over 19% felt that it 'could be better' and believed that there is currently a lack of activities for teenagers. Over 38% said that there were 'some opportunities' but that they would 'like more choice.' Just under 10% belong to groups including Scouts, Guides, Brownies and Cubs but more activities are needed for older children and teenagers.

A 'vibrant' drop in Youth Centre which could host a Youth Club and other activities such as a cyber centre and graffiti wall were suggested. A suitable site is needed and volunteers willing to receive training for youth work would be needed. There is real enthusiasm for this project from young people but it would be supported by adults who realise that young people need their own space and could be more actively involved.

Nearly 75% of young people said that they would like to help with improving the community. Older members of the community suggested that they should be represented on the Community Council and should generally be given opportunities to get more involved as the future belongs to them.

The wider environment is popular for recreation activities such as walking, cycling, bird watching and study of natural history. There is interest in healthy living and suggestions included organised walking groups to encourage exercise and socialising. There is also interest in swimming and gym.

Despite a 'strong community spirit among the older generation' and the 'community pulling together', more volunteers to organise events and generate community involvement are needed. Comments during the visioning included 'too many

committees and not enough volunteers, particularly younger ones.’ Another person commented, ‘volunteers in the 30-50 age group needed desperately.’

A lack of opportunities to share skills was also identified. A skills survey carried out during the community workshops included admin, teaching, artistic and youth work skills. A ‘talented variety of people’ live in Solva. Resources were also offered.

Communication is good with a variety of notice boards around the village full of colourful posters and notices. ‘Word of mouth’ is important and the shop and doctor’s surgery are popular for picking up local news. There is a good web site www.solvalife.net which includes ‘10 Things You Should Know About Solva. Local newsletters, the Western Telegraph and local radio are also sources of information.

Proposals:

- Organise a Community Activities Survey to gauge interest in new activities.
- Investigate the potential for additional education, training and leisure activities in the hall and school.
- Make more use of the community newsletter.
- Organise meeting with the over 50s co-ordinator.
- Encourage volunteers to come forward to help run existing and new activities.
- Explore opportunities for young people, particularly provision of a Youth Centre and discuss options for youth activities. Enlist help from Princes Trust.
- Look at ways of involving young people in community life eg through representation on the Community Council or proposed Forum.
- Look at developing more activities for older people too – include in survey.
- Look at potential for more organised outdoor activities such as a Walking Group which could link with heritage interests and provide opportunities for socialising.
- Look at ways of making the most of local skills and resources – youth work, artistic, fund raising and mini bus driving. Time and enthusiasm also needed.
- Establish the Solva fayre at a local venue (car park) to sell local goods, produce, clothes and crafts.

Environment, Energy & Recycling

Commentary:

The spectacular natural setting, the harbour and the green areas in the village all contribute to a good quality of life. Local people refer to the ‘beautiful environment’ and ‘the wonderful natural amenities offered by the coastline and paths.’ The surrounding ‘rich farmland’ was also mentioned. There is pride in the fact that Solva is in the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park and the village centre is a conservation area.



The Chapel Memorial Garden in the centre of Upper Solva provides a green space for quiet enjoyment. There is substantial interest in developing allotments and formation of an Allotment Association was suggested.



Solva has a good public path network and a cycle trail is signposted along neighbouring lanes. Favourite local walks include those across the nearby St Davids airfield which is also an important area for wildlife. The Bluebell Walk in Lower Solva is also popular.

Paths are well signed and there are some interpretation boards. There is interest in more cycle routes, partly because of road safety concerns.

Many paths have historic significance, as they led to water pumps, the mill and industrial sites such as the kilns. Some of the stiles are historic items in their own right, made from stone and slate and could feature in a local Heritage Trail.



The picnic area at Middle Mill (pictured below) is an attractive green space to rest after a walk from Solva and is appreciated by locals and visitors.

Maintaining the quality of the natural environment and the character of the village was a major feature in the vision for the future of Solva.

Simple suggestions included planting more trees, controlling dog fouling and providing more litter bins. The paths are looked after by the local authority and landowners. The National Park Authority monitors and conserves environmental features. Help and support for the marine environment is available from the Pembrokeshire Coastal Forum and partners.

During the workshops, residents considered global issues such as climate change and how they had an impact on local life too. Ensuring that quality food was available at a

local level, and at a reasonable price, was seen as important as was the cost of waste and ways of using 'green' energy without spoiling the natural environment.

Measures that could be taken at a local level, such as recycling and household energy saving were discussed. Loss of local services and shops was a concern. There was a general observation that 'we can't eat money' and agreement people need to take responsibility for their actions. Developing projects in as sustainable a way as possible eg using local contractors and renewable materials etc, was seen as important .

Recycling facilities are a key part of environmental protection and Solva residents are keen recyclers. The County Council's 'orange bag' scheme due to start but facilities are needed for plastic cartons etc.

Interest in developing opportunities for harnessing natural energy, including wind and tidal currents was expressed. A non polluting incinerator was also suggested. A vision for the future included homes having solar panels and wind turbines.

PLANED's Valuing the Environment officer works with local environment groups, providing training and support for a variety of activities including habitat and species audits. Partners will give advice eg the County Council provides support for rights of way issues. A variety of funds is available for community environment projects.

Proposals:

- Form an Environment Group to provide activities relating to a range of topics including local biodiversity, public rights of way, energy and recycling.
 - Encourage sense of shared involvement in care and conservation of the local natural and built environment.
 - Consider tree planting and further wildlife sites eg bird hides on airfield.
 - Undertake path surveys in liaison with National Park and landowners and look at potential for more cycle routes.
 - Design circular routes to encourage locals and visitors to explore the locality and enjoy its history as part of a Heritage Trail, keeping paths clear and providing health benefits too.
 - Review recycling practice to include as many materials as possible.
 - Review energy efficiency on a personal and community level and take steps to raise awareness and save energy in every way possible.
- Explore energy generation from sustainable sources – wind, waves etc.
- Encourage the county council to enforce litter and dog fouling byelaws – dog mess can be put in ordinary bins – signs indicating this should be put on bins. Also, make it clear where dog walking is allowed.
- Gauge interest in Allotment Association to foster community spirit and produce vegetables to sell at a proposed local market.
 - Look for suitable sites - enlist help from local authority.
Sites mentioned include The walled garden, the field behind Windy ridge"-off Panteg Lane, Quarry field, Ynys Dowel (section at end) Sant Teilo field above the harbour and the field at the end of Prendergast by the river mentioned as the best option.
 - Research successful allotments and share ideas and good practice.
 - Encourage healthy eating eg with school and Luncheon Club.
 - Raise profile of local produce and enterprise potential (*see Business*).

- Encourage businesses and householders to participate in the National Park Authority's Conservation Area grant scheme.

Heritage & History

Commentary:

Heritage and history are an important part of Solva's identity and the range is huge – from iron-age forts to light houses, kilns, the woollen mill and village pumps.



Residents are proud of the village history book and enjoyed a display of old photographs during last year's festival. The history of Trinity Quay and the Smalls lighthouses is fascinating and there is interest in creating a Maritime Museum in the harbour/quay which would tie in with a desire to make more of this natural attraction. The outlying airfield has a story of its own as does the Memorial Hall

The local graveyard stones have been catalogued and interpretation boards are situated near the shop in Upper Solva, in the harbour car park and at the airfield.

Bilingual interpretation boards are needed for the iron-age forts on the nearby headland which attract visitors enjoying the local walks. Panels should also be provided for the lime kilns and other features such as the village pumps.

There was general interest in valuing local distinctiveness, which includes the importance of the Welsh language and the conservation of traditional skills through local crafts people.



There is interest in forming a village history society and compiling further items about local history, maybe in the form of a village leaflet. This would contribute to the overall quality of life and make the most of local opportunities for local people and visitors.

Making the most of local heritage helps to get more people involved in local events such as the annual fayre and can tie in with other ideas such as the proposed village walking group which could enjoy a local Heritage Trail.

Proposals:

- Gauge interest in forming a Local History Group to:
 - Undertake further research and compile a village leaflet.
 - Organise a local history exhibition, building on success of local photo display and inviting further contributions.

- Devise heritage trail and work with walking group to survey it etc
- Explore proposal for extending the current heritage collection to form a Maritime Museum and resolve insurance issues.
- Explore opportunities for interpretation of the iron-age forts and other sites and including them on a Heritage Trail - enlist help of the National Park Authority.
- Obtain a list of local historical features from Cambria Archaeology which keeps a record of Ancient Sites and Monuments.
- Seek advice, training and support from various agencies, including the County Museums and Cultural Services Department, the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority and PLANED's Sense of Place programme.

Business & Tourism

Commentary:

'Small is beautiful' and 'a natural harbour which is a gateway to the sea for making a living and for recreation are among Solva's many strengths, identified by local people.



The people are warm and friendly and welcome incomers although there is concern about the growing number of second homes. They have an entrepreneurial talent for making the most of a great environment through a range of businesses which include shops, pubs, restaurants, galleries, a pottery, a sailing business and the woollen mill plus various self employed individuals.

Accommodation providers include self catering, bed and breakfast, caravan and camping. They are members of the Solva Business Group and feature in its leaflet.

However, many believe that more could be done to make the community even more enterprising to ensure year round employment and to encourage young people to stay in the area.

The importance of a need for balance between enterprise and protection of the environment is recognised. Business and tourism must be sustainable to create a strong and thriving community for the future.

The character of the village, the coast and its attractions combine with access to the attractive countryside to create the special quality of Solva. Business people want to see 52 week of the year trade with improved promotion and improved transport links. Traffic management would be very important and park and ride and shuttle buses have been suggested (*see Traffic & Transport section*).

The value of the shop and post office in Upper Solva and the quality shops in Lower Solva are recognised but there is a desire to see more opportunities for buying local food and produce locally. A regular market was also suggested.

A Solva Festival was suggested, which could be developed by linking existing annual events such as the duck race, treasure hunts and annual fayre. Organised walks (in liaison with the National Park authority) and promotion of local food and produce (from the allotments) could also feature. This has been successfully achieved in St Dogmaels which now holds a week long festival in May that helps to boost the local economy before the main holiday season begins. Joint working between businesses could be increased through the medium of the Business Group.

It was felt that the harbour and quay are unique assets and much more could be made of the whole area in order to help the local economy. The community want it to remain a working and leisure harbour but are interested in creating a Maritime Museum which would focus on the community's heritage and history and interest people who already enjoy the walk from the village. After enjoying the museum they would be encouraged to linger for refreshments at the café. During the rowing races and regatta, this is a thriving area so there is every reason to believe such a project would be successful.

National strategies like the Wales Spatial Plan recognise the importance of a quality environment as a major attraction for visitors whilst ensuring that tourism development is sustainable and communities remain strong.

Proposals:

- Support the Solva Business Group to develop year round opportunities.
- Explore opportunities for making more of the local environment eg walking opportunities – potential to tie in with a local Walking Group.
- Also link to heritage – develop idea of the Maritime Museum.
- Look at potential for more local food and produce outlets, including a market/fayre
- Organise visits to other communities that host successful annual festivals of different duration, including St Dogmaels, Saundersfoot and Crymych.
- Explore possibilities of developing Solva Festival
- Form a festival group

Housing & Services

Commentary:

Local people feel that the future development of housing in Solva should be geared towards encouraging local young people to remain in the area so that they can use their skills and education to boost the local economy. There is an interest in sustainable building techniques and energy efficiency in new homes. They want to see fewer holiday homes, which stand empty for part of the year and putting a levy on these was suggested which could be re-invested in the community.

The community will be encouraged to participate in the Local Development Plan consultation – it will provide opportunities to identify potential sites for affordable

housing. The process is currently being publicised through a booklet call 'LDP Wales – Planning your Community: a guide to Local Development Plans', issued by the Welsh Assembly Government. It stressed the importance of community involvement.

Local people are generally happy with services in Solva. Mobile shops include a fish man and greengrocer. The mobile library also calls and there are also 'excellent posties.'. Medical services are valued and people are aware of social services and there is a local midwife. They are pleased to have a doctor's surgery but feel that there should be more care provision for older people and those with mobility problems.

Meals on wheels and more activities for older people were also suggested. There is a desire to integrate age groups and involve them in shared community projects. There were suggestions that the school premises could be improved, partly because local people would hate to lose the school facility.

There is real concern about the infrastructure especially the sewerage system and its ability to cope with increasing numbers of people. Flooding is seen as a threat and one suggestion was to look at some sort of control at western entrance to harbour. Local people would also like to see a mains gas supply.

The desire for local policing was voiced on a number of occasions during the community visioning.

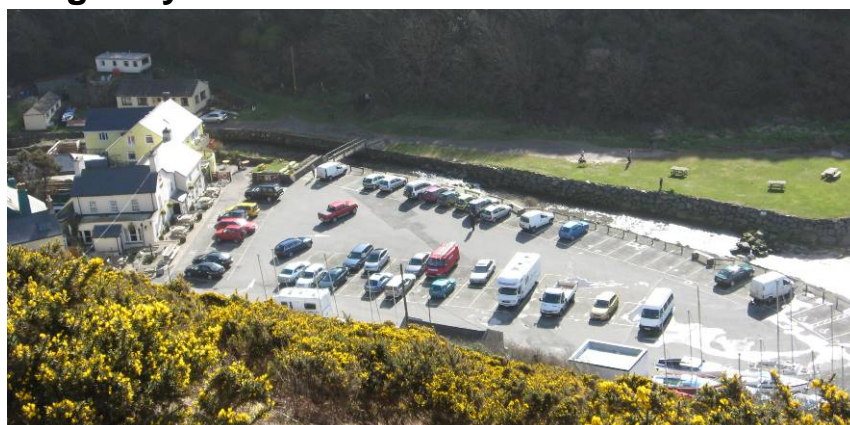
Proposals:

- Encourage the Community Council to:
 - Publicise the Local Development Plan consultation
 - Encourage the Rural Housing Enabler to undertake a local Housing Needs Survey to assess demand for homes for first time buyers.
 - Identify sites for housing for local people.
 - Explore options for improving school site.
 - Seek advice and information regarding infrastructure concerns.
 - Explore potential for mains gas supply.
 - Lobby for improved sewerage facilities
- Research potential for developing more facilities for local senior citizens.
- Discuss security concerns with local police.

Traffic, Transport & Highways

Commentary:

Solva residents have a number of traffic and road safety concerns because during the summer roads become blocked, delays occur and tempers are frayed.



Numerous possible solutions are suggested – from a by pass and shuttle busses to speed cameras and sleeping policemen.

There is insufficient parking space during the summer and one suggestion is to redesign the Harbour car park (*pictured*). Car parking charges were also suggested.

Traffic calming to reduce speed and reducing congestion are seen as priorities.

The absence of a path between Lower and Upper Solva is a great cause for concern because of the fear for pedestrian safety. Lighting the harbour path was suggested.



Solva has a good daytime bus service but needs a better evening timetable.

The Puffin Shuttle serves walkers and a new community bus service administered by PACTO is useful for short local trips and cuts car journeys which helps the environment.

NB A traffic survey has been undertaken by the Community Council

Proposals:

Work with the Community Council and Pembrokeshire County Council to:

- Use data from traffic survey to commission a Traffic Management Study in consultation with the community to assess need for traffic calming, better signage
- Review car parking arrangements – look at better marking of the harbour car park.
- Enforce local traffic parking restrictions.
- Explore potential for developing a path between Lower and Upper Solva – would land need to be purchased, what consents needed etc
- Enlist help of Rural Transport officer to investigate a community bus service.
- Encourage the community council to contact PCC to extend the evening bus service, to include the needs of young people.
- Work closely with St. Davids to ensure maximum use of the community minibus
- Improve visibility on roads and footpaths, including clear signage and lighting. (Solar lamp posts lighting for streets and paths)
- Invite the school to design any new signage for access etc.
- Liaise with National Trust and other bodies regarding a new path past the War memorial to improve access between Upper and lower Solva.

Implementation/Working Groups

In order that the Action Plan can be progressed effectively it is proposed that a Community Forum be formed. Working groups could progress the proposals – reporting back to the whole Community Forum – and in consultation with the Community Council to liaise with relevant providers eg the Highway Authority.

The Working Groups could be centred on:

- Community - facilities, activities and communications, supporting the village hall committee.
- Festival and events
- Environment - including rights of way, energy & waste
- Heritage
- Business and Tourism which already exists
- Work with the Community Council on:
 - Housing & Services.
 - Transport, Traffic & Highways

It is important that the Groups:

- Work within the agreed Action Plan and report to a Community Forum
- Work with existing groups, including the Community Council and agencies.
- Meet on a regular basis – at least four times a year.
- Keep the broader community informed of progress.

Support, advice and funding would be offered by PLANED and partner organisations to help progress the Action Plan proposals.

The Bigger Picture

A quick look at the Welsh Assembly Government website provides reams of reading material relating to the future development of Wales. The Wales Spatial Plan is the keystone and it sits alongside 'Wales a Better Country'; the 'Sustainable Development Scheme' and 'Wales: A Vibrant Economy.'

Within the Spatial Plan, Wales is divided into regional areas, with their own individual visions, strategy and action areas with one dedicated to 'Pembrokeshire and The Havens' area. The vision is for 'strong communities supported by a sustainable economy, based on the area's unique environment, maritime access and tourism opportunities.'