Community Engagement Events

CCFF will be running a series of Community Engagement Events, on behalf of Making Space for Sand, throughout the course of the project, which ends in March 2027. These events will be held for the benefit of the communities where it has been identified that the project can give the most support in developing adaptation and resilience plans.

Although there will be some formal elements to the engagement sessions, the hope is that the sessions will increase understanding of how predicted sea level rise, increased storm events, increased rainfall and climate challenges may affect your community and your beaches and dunes and ultimately your lives and businesses. We aim, where possible, to illustrate how this affects your specific community but for the sake of this guide we have focused on our first engagement session with Mawgan Porth.

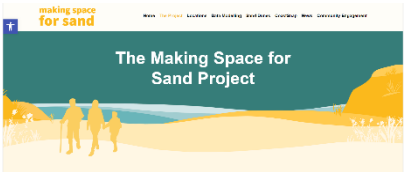
Through these sessions we aim to identify and support community champions who will be interested and willing to develop adaptation plans and help build resilience to these changes to protect their communities into the future.



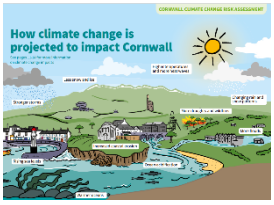
Mawgan Porth Flood Event, February 2016

Session 1 – What is Making Space for Sand?

- About the Making Space for Sand project – what building resilience means – why is this project being funded and how can it support your community?



- How is climate change affecting the global picture in terms of rising temperatures and specifically in the UK and Cornwall? What might the future look like?



- Who are the project partners and what are they bringing to the project in terms of data collection to enable a better understanding of coastal processes and how sand dunes are evolving.



- What sort of data are the project partners collecting about coastal processes and why are we collecting this?



- What can the Cornwall Community Flood Forum do to support you and your community to build resilience against flooding and storm events?



COMMUNITY

The project welcomes everyone from the community to come on this journey of discovery with us. This project has been funded to help communities come to terms with the predicted effects of a changing climate and to support them to keep their communities safe into the future.

Session 2 – Past, Present & Future of your coastline

In this session we will be looking at how the coastline has evolved in your community over the last 100 years. We want to hear your stories of the changes you have seen over your lifetime. For example, how the use of the beach has changed over the years and the development of homes and businesses which have impacted the area.

- Memories of the past – tell us about what you remember from your childhood growing up in the area or from your visits here on family holidays.



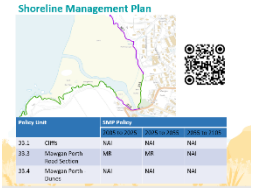
- Looking back to how the coastline used to look. Historical maps, old photographs, and aerial imagery.



- Modern day photos – show how much things have changed, how the shoreline has become built up and how infrastructure is restricting natural processes.



- Your local Shoreline Management Plan (SMP). Who put this together? What does this mean for your community?



- Cornwall Climate Change Development Plan Document. In 2019 Cornwall Council declared a climate emergency which resulted in the creation of this document know as Cornwall DPD. The document contains policies on Coastal Change and Vulnerability and what this might mean to your community.



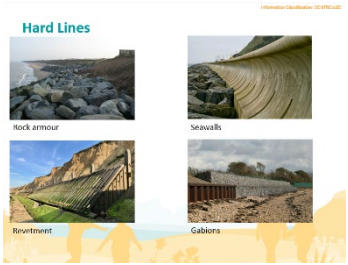
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https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/planning-policy/adopted-plans/climate-emergency-development-plan-document/

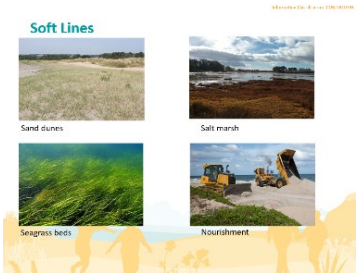
- The next section will be about what your coastline may look like in the future, generally and specific to your community. We will explain how the coastline has been mapped to show future erosion and flooding predictions and how the coastline may change over the next 100 years.



- We will look at how we use **'hard' coastal engineering** to prevent flooding and coastal erosion. We will discuss the benefits of using this against the constraints such as cost and environmental impact.



- We will then look at **'soft' engineering.** This solution uses nature based interventions to manipulate, modify and encourage the development of natural systems to create a more sustainable approach to managing coastal erosion and flooding.



The session finishes with a recap and explains where we will go next on our journey to help build resilience to flooding, erosion and climate change in the community and how the project can support the creation of adaptation plans to achieve this goal.

Session 3 – Coastal Simulation

This session is about understanding perspectives and working closely together to find a collectively acceptable solution to address the predicted changes to coastal communities caused by climate change and increasing storm events.

We have developed this scenario workshop, based on a fictitious coastal community 'Sandyshore'. It is designed to help us explore how different members of a community might address these issues and understand how people's priorities may differ according to their own circumstance and opinions. However, we will be putting a twist on this by asking you to represent the opinions of a member of your community which may not be your own.

Although the workshop is based on a fictitious place, the inhabitants share the same issues as those faced by most coastal communities in Cornwall. The characters we have created to represent this community will also be familiar to you.

This is a new and innovative way to approach resolving conflicting opinions within a community and we hope that you will be able to take the experience gained from this exercise and use this to develop your own resilience plans in session 4.



Sandyshore – a typical coastal community adapting to the challenges of a changing coastline.

Session 4 & 5 – Creating Resilience and Adaptation Plans

Community Resilience Action Brief (CRAB)

Coastal communities have the best understanding of how, and where, flooding can affect their community. Flooding can come from various sources; rivers and streams, high tides and storm surges, and heavy rain causing surface water flooding. It can also be caused by poor land management in the catchment. Whatever the source, flooding can be devastating to a community, affecting individuals whose homes are flooded and the livelihoods of those whose businesses are affected. In the worst case they can also present a threat to life.

We have all seen the news stories about how storm surges and huge waves can also affect communities on the coastal fringe. Although this makes spectacular news, the effect on the beaches can be catastrophic (storm surges in the winter of 2013 removed all the sand from some beaches and caused massive erosion of the dunes in Cornwall). For most coastal communities, the beach is their most important asset and one of the reasons why they love living in Cornwall.

In recent years we have seen a greater precipitation of rainfall, stronger and more frequent storms and scientific data shows that our climate is changing, and these trends are set to continue. Therefore, it is up to us as individuals, and collectively as a community, to plan our response to these events accordingly.

The Community Resilience Action Brief (CRAB) is an emergency flood plan. It will identify champions in the community who will be trained to take action and enable a response to an extreme weather event, listing who to call and what to do and identifying vulnerable individuals in the community. It will be a live and evolving document created by the community for the community to safeguard and protect its inhabitants and, wherever possible, its infrastructure.



Coastal Adaptation Plan (CAP)

This adaptation plan will be a document which identifies the steps that will need to be taken in the future to respond to increased flooding and erosion risk. It looks at the main sources of flood risk to the community and assets such as: roads, buildings and access which may be affected by flooding and erosion. The plan will look at options for adaptations which could be made to protect these assets, who is responsible for the assets and possible sources of funding to support adaptation actions.

It also looks at the impacts and costs of adaptation, the benefits to the community and possible constraints in implementing adaptation measures. It will consider what can be done in the: Short Term, Medium Term and Long Term to enable the community to become more resilient to flooding and coastal change and protect its vulnerable residents going forward into the future.

