



Proposals for the rescue and redevelopment of

Hastings Pier

By Hastings Pier & White Rock Trust

September 2008

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Executive Summary

Hastings Pier is currently owned by Ravenclaw, a private company registered in Panama who have severely neglected their legal duties and allowed the pier to fall into dangerous disrepair. They have been taken to court by Hastings Borough Council for failure to maintain the pier, by Stylus Sports and other leaseholders for breach of contract and face legal action for tax issues.

Hastings Borough Council have pledged to undertake a compulsory purchase and back-to-back freehold asset transfer once they are assured that the HPWRT has a viable business plan and fundable project. We anticipate that CPO will begin as soon as a positive response to our stage 1 Heritage Lottery Fund application is forthcoming and be complete before submission of the stage 2 detailed application. The CPO will result in the back-to-back transfer of the Pier to HPWRT unencumbered by charges, leases or other obligations.

Our project will rescue and restore Hastings Pier for the 21st century, bringing it into community ownership in perpetuity. With engineering support from Arup, a global firm with a wealth of technical expertise, the innovative on-site 'fab shop' (fabrication workshop) will establish an integrated repair and maintenance regime, with excellent apprenticeship opportunities for local people, use by local artists, and a permanent substructure access/viewing deck.

The Hastings Pier & White Rock Trust, a charitable company led by local people, will ensure the redevelopment of the pier makes a significant social, cultural and economic contribution to the immediate White Rock area and to the town of Hastings, both facing very high levels of deprivation. The business model balances commercial and community activity to achieve social return and long-term sustainability.

The phased repair programme will undertake structural works to mitigate risk of collapse and make the apron and central sections safe for public access. A new temporary visitor centre will develop interpretation and education, while restoration of the 1914-16 bandstand pavilions establishes early income streams to contribute to project costs.

Learning opportunities range from interpretation of the seaside heritage to a unique educational experience ('Science You Can Stand On'[®]), engaging children, students and the general public with the core challenges of engineering.



The Heritage

Hastings Pier & White Rock Trust's area of interest encompasses Hastings Pier, the foreshore and the historic seafront landscape running for approximately 400m in each direction with around 15 acres of largely open land behind the pier.

Britain's foremost pier designer, Eugenius Birch (1818-84), was behind the development of Hastings Pier which opened on 5th August 1872, Britain's first ever bank holiday. Only seven of Birch's 14 piers survive as icons of the great British seaside holiday. The original structure, 910ft long, was built from cast-iron columns on Birch's patented screw piles, supporting a lattice girder framework topped with wooden decking. It was modelled on the now-ruined Brighton West Pier, with an oriental style pavilion and landing stage at the seaward end. Like all Birch's seaside structures, it was both robust and whimsically elegant. It is a lasting testament to the Victorian design genius, pushing the solid experience and skills of industrial engineering out to sea to create a fresh and light-hearted seaside experience

The pier was originally constructed to provide healthy and entertaining activity for the Victorian holidaymaker. To the original novelty of a healthy promenade out above the sea was added entertainments and, from the lower landing stages, paddle-steamer excursions to neighbouring resorts and even Boulogne. In the 20th century the range and type of activity on the pier changed continually as economic conditions and fashions altered. Apart from drama, musicals, music-hall variety and orchestras, there were slot machines, rifle ranges, bowling alleys, dancing, stunt diving, speedboat trips, tea-shops, gift shops, bingo halls, nightclubs, pubs, funfair rides, exhibitions, outdoor cinema and rock concerts, (including Jimi Hendrix, Pink Floyd, the Rolling Stones, Bob Marley and the Who).

Although the whole sub- and superstructure is listed Grade II and the original cast iron piers are extant, many additions have been made to the substructure. The buildings on top have undergone many alterations in design and changes in use and some are of more architectural merit than others. So the 'heritage' that our project focuses upon is not just the physical structure but the 'intangible' cultural memory of the seaside experience - being able to step out and above the waves, take in the air and views, promenade to the end of the pier, have a cup of tea, go to the amusements, fish over the railings, shop, have a drink or a meal, while all the while the water splashes beneath the decking – a monument to British engineering and a singular seaside pleasure.

Why the Heritage is important

The Gifford Survey of November 2007 outlines the significance of Hastings Pier, and their work forms the basis of our Conservation Statement.

In addition to the evidential, cultural and heritage importance of the pier, and the visual enjoyment of its silhouette jutting out on an otherwise flat shoreline, the pier is important because it forms an integral part of the tourist economy of an economically blighted town. The regeneration of Hastings would be helped significantly by the success of a repaired and revitalised pier, not least by the number of jobs created, both in the immediate reconstruction phase and in the businesses able to open on a repaired structure. When the pier closed 176 jobs were lost. Our economic model, prepared by Sara Neuff of Coin Street Community Builders, shows potential for the creation of at least 200 jobs.

This 'heritage' is important to visitors who come to Hastings specifically to enjoy what many regard as a traditional seaside holiday outing. An increase in tourists, and a more efficient 'capture' of their spend, is evidently beneficial to the town. Inversely the pier's rescue from inevitable collapse is important, since a failure to rebuild the pier would be a very tangible signal of the failure of the town and an indication of likely further economic decline.

For the large and ever-growing arts community in Hastings, the pier is seen as a potentially connecting node in the new arts nexus between the De La Warr Pavilion at Bexhill and the

proposed Jerwood Gallery at the Stade in Hastings. Our proposed creative refurbishment will involve local architects, designers and artists at every stage.

Hastings College of Art & Technology is interested in future developments on the pier that could provide work experience for engineering students, welding and building services trainees.

Managing the Heritage

After Hastings Borough Council were first alerted to potential safety problems relating to faults in the substructure and unsuccessful negotiations with the owners, the pier has been closed to the public since November 2005 apart from some designated areas on the front apron and the bingo hall. The whole pier has now been closed again due to deterioration of trusses and columns under the apron.

Currently, the pier is not managed at all as the present owner, Ravenclaw Investments Inc (registered in Panama), has no legal representation in the UK. The owner, together with the management company Boss Management, were found guilty of Non-Compliance with served Improvement Notices and were fined £40,000 each plus costs. These fines have never been paid.

Hastings Borough Council commissioned a comprehensive structural report and is maintaining follow-up reports until such time as a Compulsory Purchase Order can be made and the legally unencumbered structure passed to the Trust.

Since it is impossible to manage the pier in its current legal limbo, HPWRT, and its predecessor the Friends of Hastings Pier, have concentrated on keeping the pier alive in the public consciousness and developing the rescue and redevelopment package.

Getting involved

We hold a regular stall on the pier, inviting membership of the Trust and volunteers. We maintain a website, provide interviews for local and national media, produce a monthly newsletter for members and hold bi-monthly coffee mornings for interested people to discuss latest developments and ideas with the trustees. We have promoted a schools pier painting competition, organised a number of live music shows on the pier apron and have recently invited Cambridge Architecture School to include the pier as a student project to garner future publicity.



The Project

The project aims to take ownership of Hastings Pier, restore the substructure, redevelop the superstructure and manage it with probity to maximise community value. The pier will catalyse the regeneration of the White Rock seafront, linking it back to the town centre and bringing to life a new economic zone within Hastings.

Restoration

We will establish a fabrication workshop on the pier and manufacture all the key components that sit atop the columns (ie. trusses, horizontal tie bars, cross bracing, steel deck beams and wooden deck structures). Support has been pledged by Arup – a global firm with a vast pool of technical expertise – to advise in developing this innovative approach, which halves the costs of restoration and establishes a long-term conservation regime for the future.

The endpoint of Phase 1, covered by this proposal, is the completed works to mitigate the risk of collapse along the entire length of the pier, the replacement of every piece of ironwork on the columns of the apron and the central section, and the reopening to the public of these sections.

Learning

The Fab Shop will be a long term resource for real-time skills development for young people training for skilled employment in engineering - mechanical, electrical and in renewable energy.

The Viewing Deck provides a different perspective on the structure, offering academic, practical and experiential insights.

The 'Beached Huts' temporary buildings will enable visitor information and education from a very early stage of the project – they can be bought, installed, fitted out and opened within six months of grant approval. Our educational focus is 'Science You Can Stand On'[®] – the engineering response to the human challenges: *how do I get across this gap? how can I walk out over the sea?* This theme will extend through school learning visits, links to colleges and universities, and public interpretation.

Involvement

So many people know and love the pier, so many generations have walked it; the question is will anyone in the future. Local residents of all descriptions have a stake – the pier is part of the 'common wealth' of Hastings.

Our grassroots fundraising has been superb, generating high levels of contact and engagement as well as over £12,000 in membership and donations. We will continue to engage with local people through our newsletter, coffee mornings, market stalls and public events. We envisage raising a Community Bond to attract local investment in the pier.

Under our proposals Hastings Pier will be a Pleasure Pier again, with entertainment and activities, angling and promenading, a bustle of people at leisure, an active place with quality catering and excellent facilities management. The project will eventually employ over 200 people, through the Fab Shop, the Curved Café and other pier businesses.

Local artists see the pier as a new space for the creation, showcasing and sale of visual artwork and a venue for performance arts. We will involve artists throughout the redevelopment, including the temporary buildings, public seating, and lighting. The Fab Shop facilities will be offered for out-of-hours hire to local artists.

Background to the project

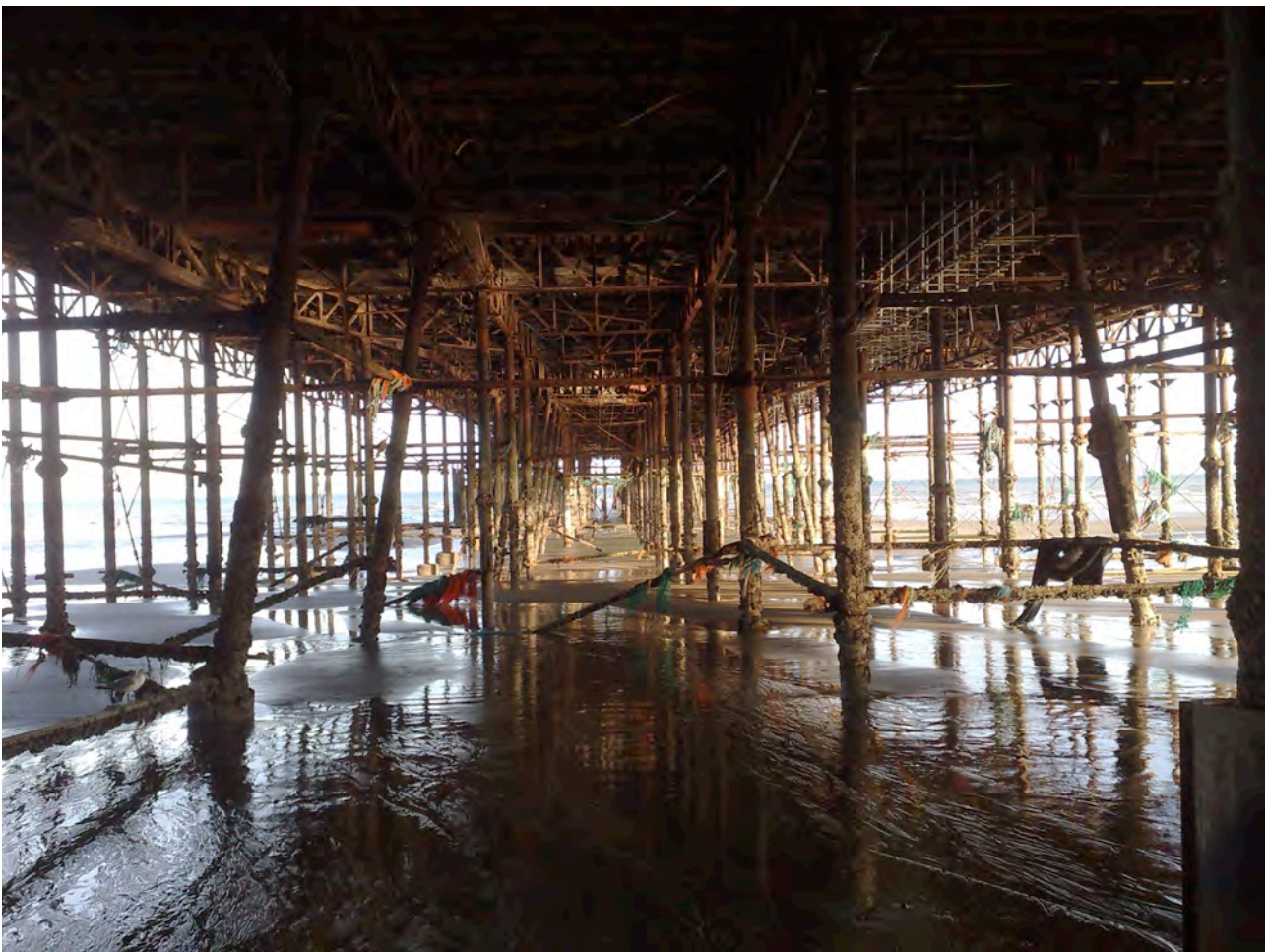
In April 2006 the pier was falling into a legal limbo. The private owners Ravenclaw and their management contractors Boss Management were increasingly elusive as the extent of the repairs required became clear. Castle Ward Forum organised a public meeting – more than 200 people crammed into the White Rock Theatre and the Friends of Hastings Pier was born.

Hastings BC commissioned a structural survey and heritage appraisal from Gifford who reported in November 2007. They concluded that a total of £17m was required to restore the pier.

HPWRT was incorporated as a company limited by guarantee on 30th Jan 2008. On 5th April the Friends of Hastings Pier voted unanimously to dissolve and to transfer net assets of just over £3,500 to HPWRT.

Hastings was a pilot area in the government-funded Advancing Assets for Communities programme, with the pier as one of the two pilots. Intensive support from the Development Trusts Association included the Constructive Review service which brought some of the country's leading experts in community asset development to Hastings for a 24-hour advice session. Architectural Heritage Fund are also providing support, including free legal advice.

Meanwhile trustees were grappling with the core challenges and coming up with some very innovative ideas. The Fab Shop offers an alternative approach that halves the capital costs and keeps them manageable, while offering excellent social return from the conservation project. It could be compared to the Eden Project which pioneered the 'work in progress' of interest to visitors and with great training opportunities. 'Science You Can Stand On'[®] was the phrase that captured our ideas about engineering education that grips the imagination and fulfils national curriculum. The temporary visitor centre/café brings early social and financial return, while giving the trust time to develop and respond to the market.



Project Outcomes

Difference to the Pier & White Rock

The project will rescue the pier from almost certain destruction by storms, arson, simple neglect or planned demolition. Since the closure in 2006 the legal limbo has seen the pier experience further deterioration of key trusses and columns. The Gifford survey estimates the cost of demolition at £4 million. Hastings BC has declared they would have to demolish if no viable alternative is reached, though not where they would find the funds to do so.

While full restoration and redevelopment requires more investment than in this proposal, this crucial phase will bring the pier into community ownership, establish the Fab Shop and access deck, restore the substructure under the two landward sections, refurbish the apron and develop the central section for arts, leisure and educational purposes. The proposed temporary buildings will offer, at an early stage, interpretation of Hastings Pier – as seaside heritage, as a feat of engineering, and as a restoration work in progress.

Of the four seafront 'zones' – Old Town, town centre, White Rock and St Leonards - the White Rock area has been sorely neglected and often missing from official regeneration strategies. By animating the pier, the project will raise the profile of the area and encourage solutions for other challenging aspects of the historic seafront, such as the White Rock baths.

Difference for people

The approach developed by Hastings Pier & White Rock Trust is bold, innovative, practical, exciting, and achievable. Local people will be proud and surprised that such a thing can be achieved by fellow Hastonians. Alongside Grimsby, Blackpool, and Middlesbrough, Hastings is highlighted in the recent Work Foundation report about places that are "economically stuck". It is the 39th most deprived local authority area in England, yet surrounded by affluence. Our approach aims to change the way we do business in Hastings – engaging the energy and passion of local residents to find creative solutions to major challenges.

The extent and persistence of deprivation, along with recent negative publicity, undermines the regeneration and cohesion work of the past decade. As recession bites, Hastings is extremely vulnerable. We simply cannot afford to neglect opportunities to create jobs, training, apprenticeships and new businesses.

The rescue and redevelopment of the first two sections of the pier will enable residents and visitors to appreciate the 'walk on water' that so delighted previous generations, bringing people together across generational and cultural divides. The temporary buildings (open within six months of grant approval), offer immediate opportunities for engagement, education and local involvement in the conservation project.

Through the BURA Seaside Network, Advancing Assets and the Architectural Heritage Fund, we believe success in our work will inspire others in meeting their regeneration challenges, particularly in seaside towns.

Benefitting from the project

- i) **Local residents** who use the pier will benefit. After years of uncertainty and severely reduced amenity, they will enjoy a modernised pier. For some groups, the pier is particularly important.
 - o *Older and disabled people* – since the pier closed there is nowhere that disabled fishermen can use for angling or where someone in a wheelchair can access the beach
 - o *Families* will find children's activities and a family-friendly environment particularly useful for lone parents and other parents on low incomes as a cheap and ever-changing day out.

- For the 25,000 *young people* in Hastings the pier can offer a rare, free entertainment space. We will specifically design activities and spaces for young people, from mobile climbing walls to a modern amusements arcade.
- *Schoolchildren* will benefit from educational visits as part of the science curriculum (see^{v.1.1} Curriculum Overview)

ii) People involved in **jobs & training** will benefit. Our economic model predicts the impact in jobs and businesses of a variety of mixed uses. The minimum version generates 14 businesses and 176 jobs. The local multiplier effect is important in a town as economically vulnerable as Hastings. Our Fab Shop will offer at least ten years worth of apprenticeship and training opportunities in a challenging engineering and health & safety learning environment. We expect to support 100 trainees within the first five years.

iii) **Impact on the town** will spread the benefits. White Rock businesses will benefit from increased footfall and an improved environment. If we are successful in making the unique, iconic, 21st century pier that we plan, the town as a whole will benefit from increased profile and higher-spending visitors. The pier's redevelopment by a community trust will enhance local pride and give confidence to the public and community sectors in working collaboratively for local benefit.

Maintaining long term benefits

Our approach is all about the long term. Too often the pier has been treated as an asset to be squeezed for cash and then abandoned. The community trust takes the opposite approach – recognising the need for sustained voluntary input, public subsidy to rescue the substructure, an integrated mechanism for ongoing restoration, and a robust business plan to guarantee earned income and support community activities.

Phase 1 establishes key elements for the future – the Fab Shop and apprenticeships, the access deck, the restored shop units, the temporary visitor centre and café, the pier classroom and community hire spaces – that combine into a business model that is viable and sustainable. The urgent repairs and the high quality restoration of the first two sections will provide the knowledge, infrastructure and track record for phase 2, pushing seawards towards the pier head.

Environmental considerations

Our environmental policy considers each element of our work to mitigate the carbon and wider environmental impact.

We aim to incorporate solar water heating and heat-pump technology to meet the pier's own energy needs. Our project aims to improve public understanding of the maritime environment. Wherever possible we will use non-toxic coatings to avoid damage to the marine ecology. We will reuse or recycle as much waste as possible, and ensure good insulation for each lettable unit on the pier.

We will encourage public transport use by improving signage from Hastings station to the pier, and working with Hastings Urban Bikes we will undertake feasibility assessments for bicycle hire from the pier and a station-and-seafront pedicab service.

Developing and delivering the project

Responsibility for developing and delivering the project

There are nine HPWRT trustees who each have their own skills and experience to bring to the project. The board has carried out a skills audit which highlights strengths in commercial, retail, engineering, community, arts, and fundraising.

The trustees meet at least monthly and often more frequently. Three sub-committees for engineering, large fundraising and ground-level fundraising draw in additional expert advisers and local volunteers. Felix Robinson, the chair of the trust, and Chris Dodwell (Company Secretary) take the lead in developing the engineering solutions and the Fab Shop. Felix also leads on commercial development. Jess Steele, treasurer, takes responsibility for large funding bids, while Lesley Davies runs the market and other ground-level fundraising as well as the membership database and newsletter. John Hough leads on legal issues.

The project has been developed by the trustees with the help of some of the best advisers in the field of community asset development. Advisers have included: Ian Lush (Architectural Heritage Fund), Hugh Rolo (Development Trusts Association), Lorraine Hart (Environment Trust Associates), Iain Tuckett and Sara Neuff (Coin Street Community Builders), Neil Stott (Keystone Development Trust), Dick Moran (Caterham Barracks Community Trust), Mike Oades (Atomik Architects, winner of BURA's 21st century pier design competition), and Harold Garner (Bioregional). AHF have also provided the invaluable services of Donna Corbin, a specialist BPT lawyer.

Hastings Borough Council have an important role within the CPO process. Kevin Boorman, head of destination marketing, is our key liaison officer but we also work with the borough engineer, the seafront manager, the planning department, the town centre manager, the borough solicitor and, of course, with the elected councillors.

We have recently been offered support from Arup who are making available marine engineer David Tressider to help us analyse and plausibility-test the Fab Shop approach.

The key staff who will be employed to develop and deliver the project are:

- Chief Executive/Commercial Manager – overall leadership for the HPWRT, the Pier project, staff management, visitor and tenant satisfaction, funder liaison, strategic development. Property management, entertainment/arts management, catering and retail operations
- Fab Shop Manager/Project Manager – project management for engineering and construction work, liaising with consulting engineers and subcontractors, managing construction of temp buildings and refurbishment of apron units, developing the Fab Shop facility, overseeing apprentices
- Experienced Steelworker to lead the restoration team in the fabrication work
- Education/Training Co-ordinator – co-ordinate training/apprenticeships, school visits, visitor exhibitions, heritage interpretation
- Administration and Finance (may be outsourced)
- Caretaker to provide day-to-day fixing, sorting and keeping ship-shape
- Pier master – honorary, statutory role working in conjunction with Trinity House

We will continue to make use of local volunteers for a range of tasks from staffing the market stall to fundraising, promotion and events.

Timetable for the project

OVERALL TIMING: We aim to install new temporary buildings at the mouth of the pier to provide a visitor centre and café within 6 months, restore the two crescent-shaped bandstand pavilions on the apron as a principal income generator within two years and re-open the central section within three to four years.

Activity including Design	Start	End
Preliminaries		
Prepare Development Strategy	Sep-2008	Dec-2009
Co-ordinated development	Sep-2008	Sep-2009
Hastings BC CPO Asset Transfer	Feb-2009	Sep-2009
Administration organised	Mar-2009	Feb-2013
Planning with EH & HBC	Apr-2009	Dec-2009
Substructure Works		
Sub-Structure Analysis	Oct-2008	Aug-2010
Fabrication Shop set-up	Sep-2009	Apr-2010
Promenade End Repairs	Sep-2009	Oct-2009
Central Section Repairs	Oct-2009	Aug-2013
Access Deck Construction	Mar-2010	Sep-2013
Mitigate Against Collapse	Mar-2010	Mar-2011
Parade Extension Repairs	Dec-2010	May-2012
Access Bridge Repairs	Apr-2011	Oct-2012
Pier Head Repairs	Apr-2011	Aug-2013
Superstructure Works		
Temp Prom Units 'Beached Huts' built	Sep-2008	Apr-2010
Bandstand Units D1-D18 refurbished	Apr-2009	Aug-2011
Building Services installed initial phase	Jul-2009	Oct-2009
Activities		
Market working	Mar-2009	Feb-2013
Temp. Visitor centre open	Apr-2010	Feb-2013
Temp Café open	Apr-2010	Sep-2011
Education Project running	Apr-2010	Feb-2013
Bandstand Pavilion Catering & Retail open	Aug-2011	Feb-2013



Corrosion and damage to the sub-structure

After the Phase 1 Restoration

Financial security in the long term, including meeting maintenance costs

We are acutely aware that restoration of the pier must achieve sustainability through income generation. The scale of the works required, estimated by the Gifford Survey as £17 million, is itself too high to expect to meet through public grant funds. This is why we have come up with our 'bright idea'. The Fab Shop works financially because it both reduces and controls the costs of restoration. Through the accumulation of 'corporate memory', which is lost in outsourced contracting, it builds up infrastructure and know-how that continually improve and extend the value of the conservation work. Moreover, by creating apprenticeships the Fab Shop opens up the potential for significant, ongoing skills-focused funding.

The Fab Shop facility also becomes a visitor attraction in its own right, adding coherence and practical applications to the 'Science You Can Stand On'[®] educational theme, animating the conservation process, and providing lettable arts space. The more people come to the pier the higher turnover can be expected for both trust-run and tenant-run businesses. Reliable cashflow, a stable management structure and the Fab Shop/access deck infrastructure underpin a long-term maintenance regime.

The key to sustainability is for the trust to control a series of income generators carefully planned to achieve our other aims.

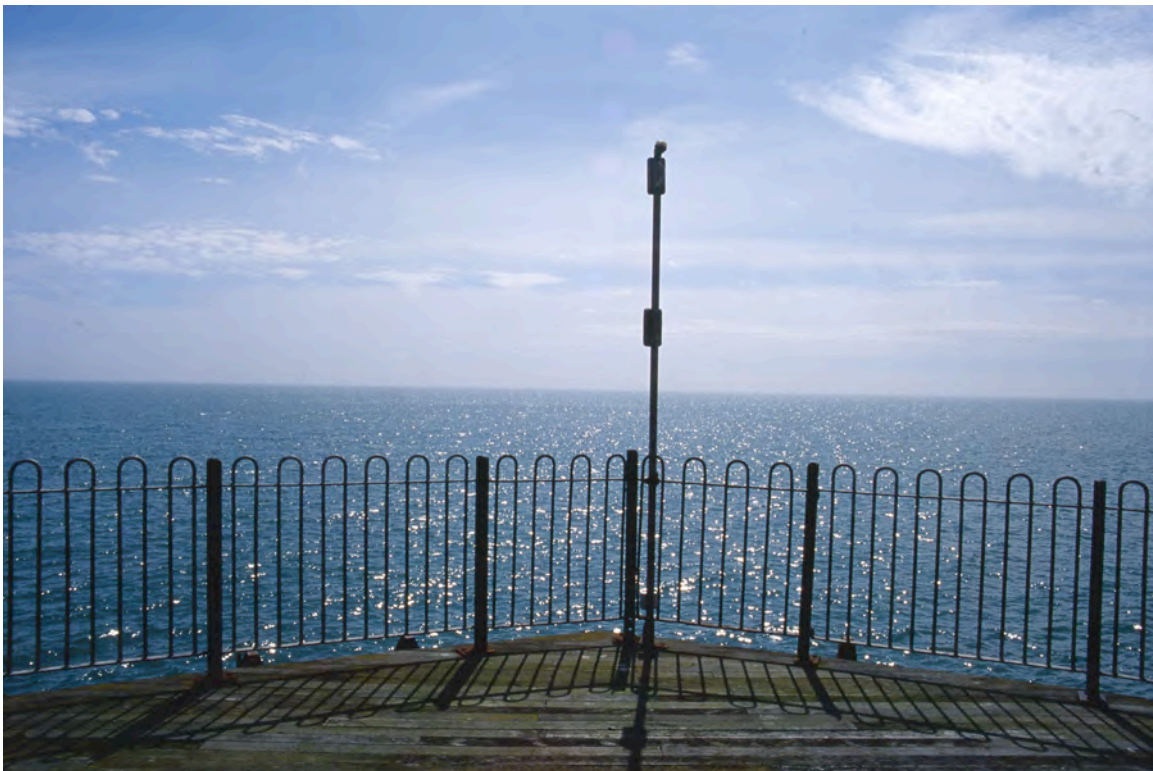
The business plan elements

- the temporary visitor centre and café – this is the latest idea but could happen the earliest. Given the complete re-closure of the pier from 30th August 2008, the apron will not offer the potential for immediate social and financial return originally envisaged. The 'Beached Huts' - our working proposal for a temporary building at the promenade edge of the pier - would require only very limited substructure repair, increase security without compromising access, and provide an outlet for information, education and engagement as well as an early income stream through refreshments, postcards and visitor gifts.
- the restored bandstand pavilions – among the earliest surviving buildings on the pier, these set the first impression and frame the apron space. Built as $\frac{3}{4}$ -glazed viewing pavilions for the bandstand that was removed in 1966, these attractive crescent-shaped buildings were later converted to shop units. They could be restored and rented out as shop units but our business plan considers this option to be potentially risky and suggest instead that the trust uses one pavilion for a food-court style catering facility – the Curved Café – with the other either as food kiosks or shops.
- the Fab Shop and access deck – fundamental to the restoration process, and also a training workshop with a project manager, steelworkers and apprentices, can open up training funding, potential to develop for alternative education, lettable specialist facility, potential for interactive visitor tours especially with the viewing deck
- the pier classroom – permanent exhibition of 'Science You Can Stand On'[®] within a flexible, widely marketable space that can be hired out for a wide range of training, meetings and events.
- the Bingo Hall/Theatre – the options for this substantial space range from occasional community and commercial hire, through leasing it to an entertainment business to running it as a modern amusement hall . We are actively developing some innovative and interesting ideas for this entertainment area. With our dual approach of controlled conservation and income generation, Hastings Pier will not come back to haunt the public authorities as its future will have been secured for the next century.

Evaluating the success of the project

Our evaluation will systematically identify how progress against each of our aims can be measured.

- Rescue and restore the pier (substructure and bandstand pavilions)
- Create a 21st century pier to last 100 years
- Bring the pier into community ownership, in perpetuity (ie. sustainably)
- Develop and establish the innovative Fab Shop approach
- Involve 100 apprentices/trainees in the first 5 years
- Involve schoolchildren in 'Science you can Stand On'[®]
- Involve local residents
- Involve local artists
- Attract inward investment both to the pier and to the White Rock area
- Create jobs
- Achieve support/advice from Arup, DTA, BURA, National Piers Society, Architectural Heritage Fund, HLF, Adventure Capital Fund
- Attract large numbers of visitors on to the pier
- Provide the framework for commercial success of the businesses on the pier
- And finally provide an inspiration for other piers and seaside towns in need of regeneration



Addenda:

1. Integrating Redevelopment with Schools National Curriculum
2. Organisational Schema
3. Deprivation Statistics in the White Rock Area
4. Map of Area

Acknowledgements

Charlotte Read: Educational Analysis

Anita Makris: photographs of the pier

Hastings Borough Council: commissioning Engineering Report from Gifford Ltd

Sara Neuff of Coin Street Community Builders: Economic Analysis

Ian Lush: Architectural Heritage Fund

Ian Hugh Rolo: Development Trusts Association

Lorraine Hart: Environment Trust Associates

Iain Tuckett :Coin Street Community Builders

Neil Stott: Keystone Development Trust

Dick Moran: Caterham Barracks Community Trust

Mike Oades: Atomik Architects, winner of BURA's 21st century pier design competition

Harold Garner: Bioregional

Donna Corbin: Specialist Building Preservation Trust lawyer

Hastings Pier: Schools and the National Curriculum

The proposed regeneration of the pier will be an important educational resource for Hastings, and the surrounding areas. Where better to combine science and engineering with fun?!

The activities available pupils of all ages could take the form of a short session, or a half or whole day on and around the pier, depending on the needs of that group. Activities could be designed to meet the needs of the age range visiting, and it is expected that this could extend from Key Stage 2, to Key Stage 4.

The purpose built study centre would provide a resources base, and space to work. The pier itself, the surrounding sea, and activities planned would meet many of the requirements of the new science specification.

Looking at the programme of study for Key stage 3 it is clear that each of the strands could be met in part by an educational visit to Hastings pier.

1. Key Concepts- the development and design of a pier clearly involves an understanding of science, technology, maths and engineering, and is good example of 'Collaboration- sharing developments and common understanding across disciplines.'

2. Key Processes. As the pier will have been recently saved from closure due to health and safety concerns, it will provide an excellent opportunity to meet 2.1- assess risk, and work safety in the lab, field or workplace.

It is easy to see how this environment could cover lots of the range and content required by the programme of study in a real life and hands on way. It is envisioned that pupils could gain an understanding of forces by looking at pier construction, models, and designing their own. Energy would be covered by looking at waves, and there is potential to bring in renewable energy resources, and the advantages and disadvantages of this.

Materials and particles will be covered by a welding activity, looking at the actual engineering of the pier, changes of state, metals and non metals; and the sea provides an excellent opportunity to study solution, and rusting.

These are just a few ideas to show the breadth of the content that will be covered in a stimulating and exciting way.

Perhaps the most exciting opportunity for the educational possibilities on the pier is with strand 4- Curriculum Opportunities. A visit will potentially cover the majority of these outcomes:

1. use real-life examples as a basis for finding out about science
2. study science in local, national and global contexts, and appreciate the connections between these
3. experience science outside the school environment, including in the workplace, where possible
4. in science, and appreciate their importance in enterprise
5. recognize the importance of sustainability in scientific and technological developments
6. explore contemporary and historical scientific developments and how they have been communicated
7. make links between science and other subjects and areas of the curriculum, with exciting opportunities for cross curricular project work.