

## **Casework**

The C20SW Committee continues to monitor discussions about the historic environment in Plymouth, including the proposed Plymouth Conservation Area and 'Better Places' public realm project. We understand that PCC is now in direct negotiations with Historic England about a city-centre Conservation Area and the funding options related to this.

Following the unveiling in June of plans for Plymouth Civic Centre by Urban Splash and Gillespie Yunnie architects, the Society has voiced concerns over the proposals, particularly the detailing of the glazing and the infilling of the space between the Civic Centre and the Council House. This has been passed on to the architects.

Other cases that we have been monitoring;

- The former WH Smith on Boscowen Street in Truro (John Crowther Architects, 1963), where there have been proposals to insert windows into the mosaic external elevations. An application to list the building was rejected by HE due to the amount of alteration to the building, and therefore did not meet the strict criteria for buildings of this type and date.
- Jubilee Pool, Penzance, planning permission has been given to link the four pavilions on the road-side of this Grade II listed seawater pool with a 'wave-like' roof, which is not in keeping with the Deco style of the pool.
- Lodges at Sladnor Park. The Society has objected to plans to demolish seven pairs of lodges at Sladnor Park, designed by Mervyn Seal in 1973. An application to list the lodges in 2017 was unsuccessful, despite full support from the Society and they now have a Certificate of Immunity from listing.
- Reel Cinema, Plymouth. This charming Deco cinema (formerly a theatre) closed at the end of February. C20SW has consistently supported the campaign to save the building and will continue to until the end. Several applications to list the building have been unsuccessful, but in conjunction with Plymouth Architectural Trust it is now an Asset of Community Value.
- Hawkeys Garage Newquay. We are aware of internal stripping out work going on at this 1930s Art Deco garage and market and are looking into adding it to a Historic Environment Record should a planning application be made.

## **New listings**

The Theatre Royal, Plymouth is now Grade II-listed (Peter Moro 1979-1982). This application was initiated by the South West committee and followed up by Society Caseworkers, Tess and Grace.

Truro Crown Courts listed Grade II\* (Evans and Shalev 1986-88) as part of the Historic England Postmodern Buildings strategic project.

Just before Christmas HE released their round up of '23 Remarkable Places Listed in 2018'. Amongst these was a rather non-descript little concrete building at the end of the south pier in Newlyn, Cornwall. Opened in 1915 this was Newlyn Tidal Observatory, built for the Ordnance Survey to establish Mean Sea Level – what is more familiarly known as Newlyn Ordnance Datum. The building was listed at Grade II and graced many news websites and social media.

In January Stoke Climsland Village Hall (1913-15 by Richardson & Gill) was listed Grade II. This was in response to a project led by the Prince's Foundation to refurbish the building.

## **Events**

In July 2018 we joined forces with the West Region for a two-centre visit to Hinkley Nuclear Power Station and the Bakelite Museum in Somerset. A strict numbers limit for Hinkley meant we were an exclusive group but both visits were very worthwhile and we plan to return to Hinkley some time in 2019-2020 to see the controversial Hinkley C power station, which is under construction.

In October we had a weekend in Newquay and the North Cornwall Coast. This had a disappointing take-up of only 20 attendees, nearly all from outside the area. Despite the low numbers, and atrocious weather on the Saturday, it was deemed a very good weekend. However given the amount of work that went into it, particularly all the efforts of the organiser Robert Dowden, our committee has discussed the practicality of laying on a weekend event in the future, particularly so far west. Perhaps events in Cornwall should be on a more modest scale and weekenders based more to the east of our region given that the principal uptake is from London and the Home Counties? With this in mind our 2019 'Weekender' will be based in Plymouth in September 2019.

In November we supported a screening of the film *New Town Utopia* at Plymouth Arts Centre, which was very well attended with a more diverse audience than our usual crowd, who we must try to attract to future events.

Looking further ahead, apart from the planned Plymouth weekend in September, on the 31 August we plan a day looking at Churches in Plymouth and Torbay. Led by Robert Drake this will take inspiration from the new book published by the Society '100 Churches 100 Years'. More details will be online and sent out in our e-bulletins in due course.

## **Regional Operation**

We continue to use our Facebook page, which has a following of 150+, and Twitter presence, together with our own website at [C20SW.co.uk](http://C20SW.co.uk) – see separate Publicity Report.

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