

Lively meeting hears council verdict

By PHIL GOODWIN
pgoodwin@c-dm.co.uk

CONCERNED townsfolk and villagers packed Hayle Community Centre last week to hear the town council verdict on two proposed supermarket schemes.

The vocal audience applauded as, one by one, councillors outlined their objections to the planning applications by Sainsbury's and ING Real Estate.

Both projects were given an almost unanimous thumbs-down by local members, who voted to strongly object to the planned building projects.

Though the town's elected body has no authority to officially reject either scheme, the planning committee are bound to take note of the fact that both proposals had a great deal of opposition.

Proceedings began with a lively public session which was extended from the usual 15 minutes to one hour.

Petition

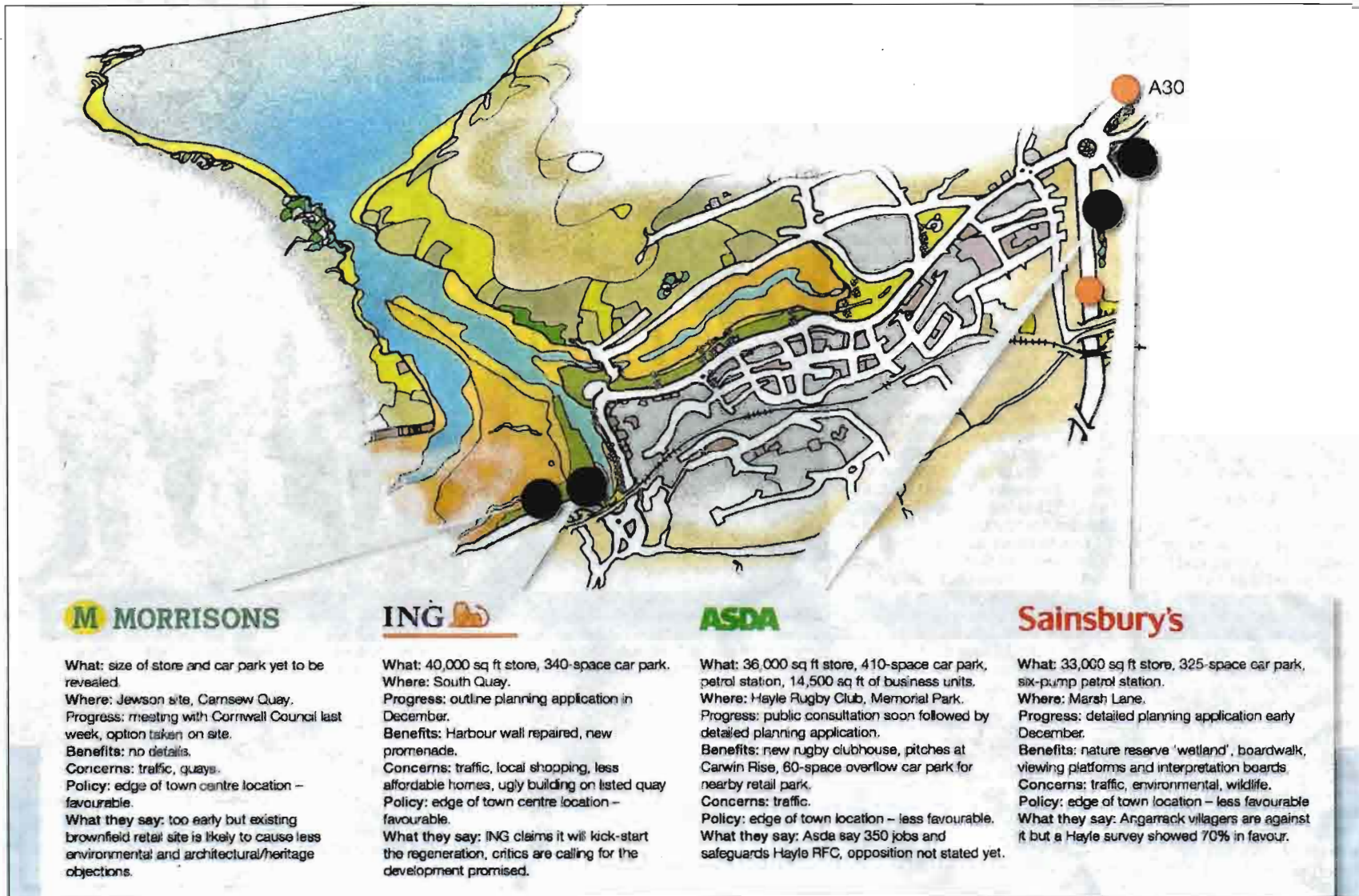
The villagers of Angarrack, who have submitted a 70-strong petition against the proposed Sainsbury's store, expressed grave concerns about the scheme.

It was claimed that building on the marshy flood plain would create traffic gridlock, isolate villagers, ruin local businesses and 'sacrifice the local wildlife at the high altar of commerce'.

Opponents of the South Quay store, planned by harbour owners ING Real Estate, were met with similar hostility.

Councillors were implored not to give up the 'last remaining gem' the town holds and allow an 'ugly supermarket' to replace the urban transformation which had been promised less than a year ago.

As members prepared to debate the two applications so far lodged with Cornwall



A plan highlighting the proposed developments sites being looked at by three major supermarket chains. Note: the store size refers to a net sales area, not building size. The total size of the Sainsbury's store will be 53,636 sq ft. ING has submitted an application for a 40,000 sq ft sales area with a total size of 73,883 sq ft.

Council, planning officer Jeremy Content revealed that Morrisons had now officially declared their interest and taken an option on the Jewson site. Not to be outdone, a rep-

resentative from Asda confirmed that its detailed planning application would follow shortly after it had concluded a public consultation.

With three of the 'big four'

now at the table, only Tesco remain silent, though it is expected to feature in any bids for ING's site, which could become the subject of a Dutch auction in the event that permission is

granted. ING's outline application and Sainsbury's detailed plans have been pencilled in for consideration at the planning committee's public meeting in March.

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