

National Trust unveils light, green Lizard

Innovative project at Kynance Cove helps make Cornwall a greener place to visit

Carefully restored historic buildings and new visitor facilities, both with high environmental standards, are set to be opened on Friday 10 September by the National Trust at Kynance Cove on the Cornish coast. The two-year project at the famous site has seen the use of the latest clean technologies and design to harness renewable energy, improve bathing water quality standards and protect the spectacular natural landscape of the Lizard Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB).

The restoration and enhancement work reflects the Trust's



Kynance cove - photo Simon Cook / National Trust

commitment to conservation and sustainable tourism. The historic buildings, which today form the basis of Kynance café, now incorporate over 580 individual photo-voltaic solar slates, generating electricity from the sun throughout the year. Natural wool insulation and solar water heating have also been introduced.

In addition, the cove - which draws over 150,000 visitors every year now has purpose built 'green' lavatories for visitors. Sympathetically designed to blend into the natural landscape, with a living turf roof and surrounded by Cornish hedges, the new toilets have their own 'biobubble', a self-contained fully biological and ultraviolet treatment system for treating sewage and café waste, to ensure high quality water standards for beach users. Previously, the nearest public toilets would require a fifteen-minute walk involving a climb of over 200-ft to the main car park.

Rob Jarman, Head of Sustainability at the National Trust, said: "The Kynance Cove project is a good example of the Trust's commitment to using innovative design and green technology to breathe new life into historic buildings and best practice into new ones. Our ethos is to find the best available solutions to minimise the impact of buildings on the environment while maintaining their historical integrity. Our Energy Policy is based on the fundamental requirement to use less energy, whilst also substituting renewable fuels for fossil fuels "

Mike Hardy, Project Manager for the National Trust, said: "Kynance Cove is a well-known and well-loved Cornish beach. Thanks to the support of our funding partners we have worked hard to ensure the protection of this beautiful and environmentally sensitive site, whilst also providing quality new



View from Kynance Cove - Photo Paul Wavefield / NTPL

facilities. We hope this project will help demonstrate that sensitively designed facilities not only protect the natural environment, but by providing local people and visitors alike with an enjoyable day out and make a significant contribution to supporting the local economy."