

No to Plan Larios - Campaign Bulletin no. 1 April 10, 2020

hi all, there's quite a lot here, so grab a cup of tea, get comfortable and read on...

Petition

At 3rd April the website registered more than 2,500 signatures. On the front page of the website it also mentions 'more than 4000' so I'll try and clarify exactly how many have been gathered. In the meantime, it wouldn't hurt to let your contacts know about the issue (see 1 page briefing attached) and ask them to please sign.

The website also now has an English option. On the 'inicio' page press the Union Jack (sorry Judy!) to take you to the manifesto page, and then click on the red text top right to take you to the 'Statement' - thanks Stuart for the translation...

Press

articles continue to appear regularly in local and regional outlets. Here's one from the Olive Press dated April 7th:

<https://www.theolivepress.es/spain-news/2020/04/07/petition-against-new-680-home-luxury-golf-complex-near-spains-costa-del-sol-gains-momentum-during-covid-19-confinement/>

In the Spanish press meanwhile there are stories about the Junta de Andalucia approving a legal reform to make it easier to build and develop even where there are environmental concerns.

https://www.elconfidencial.com/espana/andalucia/2020-04-02/junta-elimina-tramites-burocraticos-crisis-coronavirus_2531411/

**Turismo: Golf,
ladrillo,
privatizaciones:
la Junta cambia
30 normas en
plena crisis del
Covid**

Golf, ladrillo,
privatizaciones: la Junta

cambia 30 normas en
plena crisis del Covid El
Parlamento andaluz
aprueba una reforma
legal de gran calado en
mitad de la emergencia
sanitaria y PSOE y ...
www.elconfidencial.com

If you want to lend your voice to a wider campaign against these moves
there's a petition at <http://chng.it/kDDTSGhP2V> with nearly 25,000 signatures.

Sign the Petition

Andaluces
LEVANTAOS!di
NO al
retroceso
ambiental en
Andalucía
aprobado en
plena crisis
chng.it

Other organisations

one of Spain's leading environmental groups - Ecologistas en Acción - have an article (in Spanish) on their website that draws attention to the political and environmental aspects of the Larios case:

<https://www.ecologistasenaccion.org/140191/otro-maro-y-nerja-es-posible/>

Overtures have been made to Greenpeace Spain amongst other groups, and I hope to contact the Desbandá (Malaga Civil War memorial) group seeking to protect the N340 route through Maro - and past our huerta! - as a site of special historical interest. Any other suggestions welcome.

Positive Alternatives

Being against something is one thing, but having proposals for an alternative gives a more positive focus. On the campaign website the 'Medidas' tab outlines 10 proposals for a better way forward. Jack (from the huerta) has translated them and made several small amendments. I've attached a copy with this bulletin.

There's scope for thinking about more modest development and/or alternative uses for the ruined factory e.g. a cultural complex, sustainability centre etc., and the land around it. For ideas of what's possible when a community get involved in the planning of a local resource see:

<http://totnescommunity.org.uk/atmos-totnes/>

Atmos Totnes | Totnes Community Development Society

Atmos Totnes. Atmos Totnes is the name of the community-led project to re-develop a derelict industrial site (the former Dairy Crest site next to Totnes rail station) for homes and businesses in Totnes. Plans show 99 homes (62 of which will be genuinely affordable for the community and 37 will be for older people), and enterprise and work space providing employment for at the very least 160 ...
totnescommunity.org.uk

Briefing

Judy and Ana have helped me put together a briefing in English on this issue and this could be something sent out to friends to raise awareness of the issue. See attachment 'No to the GC'.

And finally...

thanks to all of you - for your encouragement and support. In these difficult times having a focus for positive action feels really important. And whatever the outcome of the plan Larios, I see this as an opportunity to build community and start visioning the kind of future we want to see in this area.

I also think we have a chance of halting - or at least softening the plans, given that public opinion is not likely to favour cynical law changes and secretive planning to create luxury projects at a time when many are wondering how to feed themselves and secure a decent future post-crisis.

Have a good weekend and I look forward to further discussion soon.

Jon x

PS if there's anyone else who you feel would benefit from reading this, please forward it. I wonder also if there might be merit in organising a group call at some point to see how we might consolidate and build our sub-group of concerned foreign residents in Nerja. What do you think?