

Historic Mill repairs to cost National Park £117k

A CALL to support up to £117,000 of repairs at Carew Mill is expected to get the go-ahead today (Wednesday), from Pembrokeshire Coast National Park.

The calls for the urgent works at the Grade II* Carew Mill and Causeway are recommended for approval at the National Park Authority meeting.

The mill, dating from the 1840s, ceased production in 1937, by which time structural damage had occurred due to vibration caused by producing bone meal. The Authority holds a full repairing lease, with some 70 years remaining.

The millpond, causeway and mill were inspected in August 2016, with the recommendation works were carried out within a year issued last November.

A report states there will inevitably be more major repairs in the future, plus significant repairs in the medium term.

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High priorities highlighted include sluice gate repairs, at a cost of £9,000; stemming water leakage in to the mill wheel house, at an optional cost of £84,000; and pointing the walls of the main spillway, at a cost of £5,000.

To complete the works, a report states there would be a need to allow the mill pond to temporarily drain down at low tide to allow inspections and safe access.

It adds: "The works required to prevent leakage into the wheelhouse form the most substantial element of the repairs. Works to prevent leakage within an old masonry dam structure is challenging and requires specialist engineering."

Repairs will be funded from Authority's reserves of £938,000.

● Cafe plan: see page 23.



Carew Castle and Carew Mill in the distance. Repairs are set to cost more than £100,000.