

# OUR PLACE. OUR FUTURE.

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## PENZANCE BOULDERING FACT UPDATE

### About Penzance Bouldering

- Penzance Bouldering will be located in the old Poundstretcher building on Market Jew Street. The building was acquired on a 30 year lease by The Penzance Regeneration Company (PZRC) in 2026, with funds provided by the UK Government's Town Deal Fund. PZRC is a not-for-profit community interest company run by a board of local volunteer directors, supported by a team of professional advisors to help with project delivery.
- Penzance Bouldering will be operated by a subsidiary of PZRC, 94MJS CIC which is also run by local volunteer directors.

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### About the Penzance Bouldering Project

- Penzance Bouldering is a £4.75m project to redevelop the old Poundstretcher building, creating a community owned and operated bouldering and functional fitness centre.
- It will replace a defunct building, unsuitable for the needs of 21<sup>st</sup> century retail. It reflects a countrywide trend where town centres are being re-imagined in the wake of huge changes in retail and become more about leisure and social activity.
- The project will deliver a much needed indoor activity facility in particular for local younger people and the local climbing community but having said that, it is designed to be used by people from school age upwards and to be welcoming to a wide range of abilities and experiences including total beginners.
- There will be 2 floors of bouldering walls designed by EP Climbing, who designed the climbing walls for the recent Tokyo and Paris Olympics. The ground floor will be aimed at beginners, learners, families and children whilst the first floor will feature walls suited to more experienced climbers and will also have a climbers' training area.
- We will deliver classes, events and competitions as well as being open for people who want to come in and climb independently.
- The lower ground floor will be a functional fitness facility featuring a large open plan exercise and activity space for people who want to improve their fitness and mobility as well as those interested in strength, conditioning and muscle recovery. In addition there will be a treatment room, sauna and ice baths. The functional facility will offer a range of classes and programmes, some of which we hope to deliver in partnership with local health practitioners for those people living with disability, health and mobility issues.
- We aim to make the facilities affordable. Whilst we're still working on the pricing, we will be offering a locals' discount. We also hope to provide free access to under 16s from the local area and to offer concessions to those on benefits and living with health related issues. We will offer pay as you go and memberships and are looking at ways of making membership accessible to people who can't afford to pay a lump sum to join.
- Our plan is to be open all year from early morning to mid evening
- The ground floor reception area will have a small snack bar and relaxed seating/social area. Because we're in the town centre our food and drinks off will be relatively limited. We envisage that people who want something more will use the existing local eateries.

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## Project Impact

- This defunct building will be transformed into an accessible and affordable leisure and fitness venue for the enjoyment, economic, social and health benefit of the community
- Job creation - estimated 8 permanent jobs
- Enhancing Penzance as a town by bringing a new and different offer into the town centre and increasing town centre footfall
- Supporting local people to engage with bouldering, become more active and improve their health and well being
- Contributing to creating a year-round visitor economy and to the town centre evening economy

## Project Progress

- In July 2026, PZRC entered into a 30 year lease of the building from its owner, Cornwall Council following the council's work to repair the fabric of the building.
- PZRC'S contractor Fox Construction started on site in July 2026, working to extend the building and make it ready for the installation of the bouldering walls and fitness facilities.
- Our focus is now on honing our operational plans. We will soon start recruiting key staff and are actively engaging with schools, community organisations, local health practitioners and the local climbing community to refine and define our offer so that we meet the needs and aspirations of our future users.
- We anticipate that we will be opening the doors in early summer 2027.

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