

Worthing Pier in the News!



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PLAN: How they would tackle a blaze on Worthing's seafront showpiece



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FIRE bosses in Worthing have moved to reassure residents there are plans in place to deal with a fire on the pier.

Following the devastating blaze at the world's longest pier in Southend earlier this month, concern has been raised by residents in Worthing.

One resident, Stephen Webb, from Brighton Road, wrote to the Herald and called on firefighters to tackle a simulated blaze at the end of the pier to reassure residents.

But Worthing district commander Roy Barraclough said: "My message to residents is you can rest easy in your beds.

"We have an operation plan, which has been set up for some considerable time, to deal with a fire on the pier."

Mr Barraclough said in the last year a meeting had been held between local emergency services, the council and the foreshore team to update the plan.

He said they had been through the steps of the plan but had not physically rehearsed it on the pier.

Why, fingers crossed, we won't have a pier firestorm in Worthing

Mr Barraclough said: "That is something we would like to do but it could be quite disruptive to people using the pier.

"But we can satisfy ourselves by running through the fire plan that it would work.

"If there was a fire it would be challenging but we have water

mains on the pier and fire precautions in the Lush nightclub which are looked at regularly."

Lush manager Karen Constantinides said: "We have a detailed procedure for evacuating the pier and are confident we would be able to cope in the event of a fire."

"The last major fire on Worthing Pier was in 1933 when the South Pavilion at the end of the pier was destroyed by fire. The smoke could be seen for six miles yet it was 20 minutes before the alarm bells were heard.

For more resources visit: www.worthingpier.org.uk

