# Hollywood influx in Mawgan Porth triggers surge in property prices and community tensions



In the picturesque village of Mawgan Porth, Cornwall, a silent battle is taking shape as the influx of Hollywood A-listers threatens to redefine the very essence of this once-quiet seaside community. Residents, who have long cherished the charm of their former fishing village, now find themselves grappling with skyrocketing property prices and a diminishing sense of community, exacerbated by prominent figures like Cate Blanchett and Jason Statham transforming the landscape into a hub of luxury.

Blanchett's arrival marked a pivotal point for Mawgan Porth. The Oscar-winning actress purchased a £1.6 million cottage in December 2020, which she is currently replacing with an ambitious five-bedroom eco-home. While intended to be environmentally friendly, the construction has sparked considerable uproar among locals, with complaints of relentless noise disrupting the tranquillity they once enjoyed. Reports indicate that some local business owners, faced with a marked drop in revenue due to constant drilling, have lost upwards of £60,000 during this period of renovation. “It’s been non-stop drilling,” lamented one neighbour, highlighting the disruption to both daily life and tourism.

As the village has increasingly drawn the wealthy elite, many long-term residents express fears of being pushed out. The property market is undergoing a dramatic transformation; traditional, modest homes are being demolished to make way for expansive, modern builds, earning Mawgan Porth the unflattering moniker 'Hollywood-on-Sea.' Residents have observed a stark increase in property prices, rendering them virtually unaffordable for those who have called the village home for decades. Local voices echo the sentiment that the influx of second homeowners is not only pricing them out but is also leaving the community feeling hollow. “Every time someone buys, they knock it down and build some kind of monstrosity,” one resident remarked, voicing concerns that the village is losing its character.

While some businesses, particularly those in the hospitality sector, have welcomed the economic benefits brought by tourism and celebrity fandom, others fret about the long-lasting impacts on community cohesion. John Bradley, a retired builder and local bed-and-breakfast owner, noted that although the construction has kept certain workers busy, it “keeps certain local people in work” but also signifies a loss of the community fabric that once defined Mawgan Porth. Critics argue that the focus on holiday homes means the village becomes less vibrant during the winter months, looking more like a ghost town with many properties sitting empty when their owners are away.

Additionally, concerns extend beyond property prices. The environmental impact of these developments raises questions about the sustainability of such rapid gentrification. Residents have reported that green spaces are being encroached upon, resulting in a diminishing natural landscape. Despite Blanchett’s claims that her new home will be eco-conscious, the local community remains wary about the true implications of these luxurious constructions on the environment and existing habitats.

This scenario is not unique to Mawgan Porth; similar trends are unfolding across Cornwall as wealthy individuals snap up properties in coastal villages. Stuart Kirk, a local store owner, shared that the purchasing and demolishing of quaint homes is not isolated to celebrities; it’s a widespread occurrence throughout the region, leading to discontent amongst the long-standing community. He acknowledged, however, that while the dynamics of the village are shifting, a strong community spirit persists, with many residents remaining committed to their roots.

As discussions about the future of Mawgan Porth intensify, the villagers face a crossroads. They must navigate the challenges posed by these changes while striving to preserve the unique character that drew them to the village in the first place. Many residents yearn for a partnership with new homeowners, hoping for contributions that would benefit the local economy and community spirit rather than erode it. The coming years will determine whether Mawgan Porth can maintain its charm amidst the tides of change brought by the wealth and influence of Hollywood.

## Reference Map:

* Paragraph 1 – [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-14747269/quiet-seaside-village-celebrities-second-home-owners-monstrous.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490), [[4]](https://www.telegraph.co.uk/columnists/2023/09/01/a-list-hollywood-influx-cornwall-mawgan-porth-jason-momoa/)
* Paragraph 2 – [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-14747269/quiet-seaside-village-celebrities-second-home-owners-monstrous.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490), [[2]](https://www.cornwalllive.com/news/cornwall-news/cate-blanchetts-noisy-build-mawgan-9117294), [[5]](https://www.cornwalllive.com/news/celebs-tv/cate-blanchett-spent-nearly-3-8862724)
* Paragraph 3 – [[3]](https://www.voicenewspapers.co.uk/news/mawgan-porth-locals-say-they-are-being-priced-out-of-living-in-the-community-636223), [[4]](https://www.telegraph.co.uk/columnists/2023/09/01/a-list-hollywood-influx-cornwall-mawgan-porth-jason-momoa/)
* Paragraph 4 – [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-14747269/quiet-seaside-village-celebrities-second-home-owners-monstrous.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490), [[4]](https://www.telegraph.co.uk/columnists/2023/09/01/a-list-hollywood-influx-cornwall-mawgan-porth-jason-momoa/), [[6]](https://www.independent.co.uk/arts-entertainment/films/news/cate-blanchett-cornwall-holiday-mawgan-porth-b2504573.html)
* Paragraph 5 – [[2]](https://www.cornwalllive.com/news/cornwall-news/cate-blanchetts-noisy-build-mawgan-9117294), [[6]](https://www.independent.co.uk/arts-entertainment/films/news/cate-blanchett-cornwall-holiday-mawgan-porth-b2504573.html)
* Paragraph 6 – [[3]](https://www.voicenewspapers.co.uk/news/mawgan-porth-locals-say-they-are-being-priced-out-of-living-in-the-community-636223), [[5]](https://www.cornwalllive.com/news/celebs-tv/cate-blanchett-spent-nearly-3-8862724)
* Paragraph 7 – [[3]](https://www.voicenewspapers.co.uk/news/mawgan-porth-locals-say-they-are-being-priced-out-of-living-in-the-community-636223), [[4]](https://www.telegraph.co.uk/columnists/2023/09/01/a-list-hollywood-influx-cornwall-mawgan-porth-jason-momoa/)

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## Bibliography

1. <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-14747269/quiet-seaside-village-celebrities-second-home-owners-monstrous.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.cornwalllive.com/news/cornwall-news/cate-blanchetts-noisy-build-mawgan-9117294> - Residents of Mawgan Porth, Cornwall, have expressed concerns over the construction of Cate Blanchett's new eco-home, citing significant noise disruptions that have negatively impacted local businesses and tourism. A neighbor reported a loss of over £60,000 in revenue due to the ongoing construction noise, which has been described as 'non-stop drilling.' The development has also led to debates about the environmental impact and the loss of green spaces in the area. Despite these concerns, Blanchett's representatives have stated that they are in regular communication with neighbors to address issues and minimize disturbances.
3. <https://www.voicenewspapers.co.uk/news/mawgan-porth-locals-say-they-are-being-priced-out-of-living-in-the-community-636223> - Locals in Mawgan Porth, Cornwall, are expressing concerns about being priced out of their community due to the influx of wealthy second-home owners, including celebrities like Cate Blanchett, Jason Momoa, and Chris Martin. Residents report that traditional 1930s bungalows are being demolished and replaced with modern, expensive homes, leading to a rise in property prices and a decrease in affordable housing. The village, once a quiet fishing community, is now being referred to as 'Hollywood-on-Sea,' and locals fear the loss of its original charm and character.
4. <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/columnists/2023/09/01/a-list-hollywood-influx-cornwall-mawgan-porth-jason-momoa/> - The influx of A-list celebrities into Cornwall, particularly Mawgan Porth, has raised concerns among residents about the preservation of village life. Locals fear that the construction of luxury homes by celebrities like Jason Momoa and Cate Blanchett is leading to the hollowing out of the community, with many properties remaining empty when owners are abroad. This trend is transforming the village into a destination for the wealthy, potentially eroding its traditional character and leaving it feeling deserted during the off-season.
5. <https://www.cornwalllive.com/news/celebs-tv/cate-blanchett-spent-nearly-3-8862724> - Cate Blanchett and her husband, Andrew Upton, have invested nearly £3 million in building a new eco-home in Mawgan Porth, Cornwall. The couple purchased a £1.6 million cottage four years ago and have since demolished it to construct a five-bedroom property. While the development aims to be environmentally friendly, it has sparked controversy among locals who are concerned about the environmental impact and the loss of green spaces. Some residents feel that the construction is encroaching on natural habitats and altering the village's landscape.
6. <https://www.independent.co.uk/arts-entertainment/films/news/cate-blanchett-cornwall-holiday-mawgan-porth-b2504573.html> - Cate Blanchett's ongoing construction of a holiday home in Mawgan Porth, Cornwall, has faced criticism from neighbors who accuse her of 'destroying' holidays and causing significant noise disruptions. The actress and her husband, Andrew Upton, are replacing a £1.6 million cottage with a five-bedroom eco-home. Residents have reported that the construction noise has been detrimental to local businesses, with one holiday let owner claiming a loss of £60,000 in revenue. Despite these complaints, Blanchett's representatives assert that they are in regular communication with neighbors to address concerns.
7. <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2024/02/28/cate-blanchett-destroying-holidays-with-noisy-construction/> - Cate Blanchett has been accused of 'destroying' holidays and causing significant noise disruptions during the construction of her new home in Mawgan Porth, Cornwall. The actress and her husband, Andrew Upton, purchased a £1.6 million cottage and are replacing it with a five-bedroom property. Neighbors have reported non-stop drilling and other disturbances, leading to complaints about the impact on local businesses and tourism. Despite these issues, Blanchett's representatives claim they are in regular communication with neighbors to address concerns and minimize disruptions.