

# **Notes**

Meeting: Cornwall Gateway Community Network Panel		
	Virtual MS Teams Meeting	
Date and Time: Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> September 2020 at 6.00pm		

Present:	Title/Representing:		
Derek Holley CC	Cornwall Councillor - Saltash East (Chairman)		
Cllr Martin Worth	Chairman of Landulph Parish Council (Vice-Chairman)		
Jesse Foot CC	Cornwall Councillor - St Germans and Landulph		
Hilary Frank CC	Cornwall Councillor - Saltash South		
Sheila Lennox-Boyd CC	Cornwall Councillor - Saltash North		
Sam Tamlin CC	Cornwall Councillor - Saltash West		
Gary Davis CC	Cornwall Councillor - Torpoint East		
Cllr Pete Samuels	Mayor of Saltash, Saltash Town Council		
Cllr Sarah Martin	Saltash Town Council		
Cllr Steve Miller	Saltash Town Council		
Cllr John Tivnan BEM	Torpoint Town Council		
Cllr Peter Bulmer	Antony Parish Council		
Cllr Graeme Francis	Vice-Chair, Landrake with St Erney Parish Council		
Cllr Dave Edwards	Chair, Botus Fleming Parish Council		
Cllr Malcolm Fletcher	Botus Fleming Parish Council		
Cllr Roy Hoskin	Vice-Chair, St John Parish Council		
Cllr Paula Brooks	Vice-Chair, Sheviock Parish Council		
Inspector Rupert Engley	Devon and Cornwall Police (min no 2)		
Jon Mitchell	Public Space Team Leader, Cornwall Council (min no 5)		
Paul Allen	Highways and Environment Manager, CORMAC (min no 6)		
Louise Wood	Service Director for Planning & Sustainable Development / CLT		
	Representative		
Catherine Thomson	Community Link Officer, Cornwall Council		
Lisa Grigg	Communities Support Assistant, Cornwall Council		

# **Apologies for absence:**

Cornwall Councillor John Crago - Torpoint West

Cornwall Councillor George Trubody - Rame Peninsula

Councillor Nicky Roberts - Millbrook Parish Council

Rob Andrew - Head of Environment Assets and Service Delivery, Cornwall Council

Item	Key/Action Points	Action bv:
1.	Welcome and Introductions The Chairman, Cornwall Councillor Derek Holley welcomed all present.	272
2.	Devon and Cornwall Police Update – Inspector Rupert Engley	

Inspector Engley summarised the latest crime figures for the sector (which includes Liskeard, Saltash, Looe and Torpoint), and was pleased to report an overall 10% reduction in recorded crime. Please see attached report.

The number of assaults on officers in the sector over the last 12 months is also attached. The CNP were saddened to hear of the increasing number of assaults on officers across the emergency services and welcomed the introduction of the #unacceptable campaign.

Positive staffing news for the sector with an increase in response officers; 3 new student officers have started within the last month, a further 3 are due to start in December, 3 external transferees have joined from other forces, as well as 2 internal transfers.

Thanks were extended to Inspector Engley and officers particularly with regard to the recent challenges and ongoing Covid restrictions. The excellent partnership working with local organisations including Safer Saltash was also noted.

# 3. Public Participation

There were no members of the public present.

# 4. Government changes to planning system – Louise Wood, Service Director for Planning & Sustainable Development / CC Corporate Leadership Team Rep

Louise outlined the Government's consultation on the proposed reform of the current planning system – please see attached briefing note.

The changes aim to streamline and modernise the planning process with a new focus on design and sustainability to ensure that more land is available for development where it is needed. The consultation closes on **29th October 2020.** 

The Government has also published a further document on short-term measures which includes changes to the standard method for assessing local housing. The consultation for this document closes on the **1st October 2020.** 

Main issues and concerns;

- o The impact of the changes to permitted development and the Use Classes Order.
- Raising the small sites threshold for affordable housing in urban areas from 10 to either 40 or 50 new homes.
- The new methodology means a requirement to provide around 4,000 homes per annum which is significantly more than the existing standard methodology.
- Redefining housing growth areas significant amount of work to be done in a relatively short timescale. Capacity and resources to deliver.
- Following a query, it was clarified that changing the use of a village pub would still require planning permission under the proposed changes.

# 5. Grow Not Mow – Jon Mitchell, Public Space Team Leader, Cornwall Council

Jon outlined Cornwall Council's new verge-cutting policy which aims to encourage wildflowers and pollinators, and will see annual cuts reduced to two or three.

Cutting will still be undertaken around footpath edges, benches and fixtures, signage, and at junctions and bends ensuring visibility and safety. Noxious weeds will also be removed.

## **Questions, Comments and Answers**

- **Q.** There needs to be greater publicity to make people aware of why this is being done. Social media comments say it's just another cost cutting exercise by the Council.
- **A.** We are aware there has been some negativity and we are proactively addressing this by working with local groups and volunteers to get them actively involved with seed planting etc. Further media coverage is planned and there are QR codes displayed at sites.
- **Q.** Does it apply to just verges or will it be cemeteries too?
- **A.** The new policy will apply to verges, recreation spaces, closed churchyards and cemeteries, of which the Council is responsible for 103 closed churchyards and 24 open cemeteries. The link below provides further information on maintenance standards for closed churchyards;

https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/environment-and-planning/parks-and-open-spaces/closed-churchyards/

- **Q.** Bug Life has produced a map showing the B-Lines (bee corridors) in England, but there appears to be very few in South East Cornwall?
- **A.** Jon to seek an update on local initiatives and projects and will report back to the CNP.

JM

- **Q.** Are there any plans to issue guidance on hedge cutting to landowners and farmers to help encourage pollinators?
- **A.** Jon to make enquiries and will report back to the CNP.

JM

# 6. Community Network Highways Scheme Update - Catherine Thomson, Community Link Officer and Paul Allen, Highways Manager, CORMAC

The latest update on the 19 schemes previously approved by the CNP was circulated. There are currently 4 outstanding schemes and it is hoped these will be completed by December.

16 expressions of interest have been received for Year 4 schemes which will be considered at the next CNP meeting in December. The estimated total of these schemes amounts to £156,000, which is over the remaining budget of £87,000.

This includes underspend of £37,000 from Years 1 to 3, as some schemes came in under budget. The panel will be asked to consider options for how this underspend is utilised i.e. towards the Year 4 schemes or part towards a mobile speed visor scheme for the network area which the CNP also previously wished to explore.

It was highlighted that some parishes have benefitted from a number of highway schemes, whilst a few others had none and co-operation to ensure a fair allocation was encouraged for the forthcoming vote.

It was clarified that the cost of the mobile speed visor is £18,000 based on 8 to 11 moves per year, however, 24 proposed sites have been put forward by parishes. Due to cost and the length of time it would take for the visor to rotate across the sites, it was agreed that CT will write to parishes asking them to confirm their priority site. Paul will then look at potential costings and suitability of each site.

CT PA

Cllr Bulmer requested an update on the Antony junction. Paul to seek an update.

PΑ

## 7. Town and Parish Councils – update from each representative on their issues/activity

#### Antony

 Only one meeting held since lockdown due to difficulties in holding virtual meetings. It was suggested the parish could try a conference call option. CT also undertook to contact Community Enterprises PL12 and Cornwall Council IS Team regarding any potential assistance for IT equipment and training.

CT

• The parish has installed a new secure fence and gate to the play area following problems with access during the lockdown period.

#### **Botus Fleming**

- Meeting regularly using MS Teams and a training session has been held for Members.
- Negotiations ongoing regarding the potential purchase of the Recreation Field.

## Landrake with St Erney

- Meeting regularly using Zoom.
- Community Chest funding secured to purchase laptops and a projector to aid virtual parish council meetings.
- Dog fouling and speeding continue to be an issue for the parish.

### Landulph

- Meeting regularly using Zoom. Good public attendance, mainly due to planning issues.
- Current issues with the slipway which are being addressed.
- Thanks to highways for assistance with drain clearance during the recent flooding.

## Millbrook (Apologies from Cllr Roberts due to technical issues)

• Cllr Holley requested an update on the latest position regarding the Mark of Friendship's pub application to become a community asset.

СТ

#### St John

- Meetings are being held by Zoom.
- Key issue for the parish is parking on Military Road and the obstruction this
  causes for buses and emergency vehicles. It was clarified that Antony Parish
  Council has submitted an Expression of Interest under the Community Network
  Highways Scheme, which will be discussed at the next CNP meeting.

## <u>Sheviock</u>

Following update provided post meeting due to technical issues;

- Major traffic issues during lockdown resulting in damage to property and safety concern for pedestrians, also due to the virtual footpath needing to be reinstated and extended so it does not start on a blind corner.
- The parish are awaiting the re-opening of work on footpath 1 and would like the brown sign for Mount Edgecumbe to be relocated so the traffic is not diverted through Crafthole.

	<ul> <li>Parish are pleased to announce that it is hoped to have an official opening of the new permissive footpath which links Crafthole to Portwrinkle benefiting parishioners and visitors.</li> <li>Saltash         <ul> <li>Meeting regularly using Zoom which is working well. Downside is the lack of opportunity to interact before and after meetings.</li> <li>The Town Council is keen to progress its devolution projects with Cornwall Council.</li> <li>The Council was commended on the excellent new facilities at the Railway Station with special recognition to Councillor Richard Bickford.</li> <li>Meeting regularly using Zoom which is working well.</li> <li>Main area of focus is the devolution of play parks and improving the play</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
	equipment.	
8.	<ul> <li>South East Cornwall Economic Development Sub-Group Update - Gary Davis CC / Councillor Martin Worth</li> <li>Productive meetings held and role of the group is becoming more prominent.</li> <li>Meeting to be held with Dave Rodda, Economic Growth Manager with a focus on agriculture.</li> <li>Discussions ongoing with Local Enterprise Partnership regarding future funding opportunities for SE Cornwall.</li> </ul>	
9.	Community Network Panel Priorities	
	<ul> <li>Water Transport Working Group Update</li> <li>Arcadis have been appointed by Cornwall Council to produce a costed proposal for a landing stage in Torpoint.</li> <li>Due to Covid the timetable has been slightly extended.</li> <li>Meeting to be arranged mid-late September for Arcadis to provide the Working Group with an update.</li> </ul>	СТ
	<ul> <li>Councillor Foot updated on the funding meeting held with Highways England, Cornwall Council and Safe38 in August.</li> <li>Air quality readings in Tideford during the lockdown were more than half the usual levels. Awaiting data for July.</li> <li>The South West Peninsula Road Safety Partnership is launching a further campaign for action to reduce accidents and collisions 'Driving for Better Business.' It was suggested the partnership attends the next CNP Meeting to provide further details.</li> </ul>	СТ
10.	Notes of the last meeting (17.06.20 & 12.02.20)  • Agreed as a correct record.	
11.	Urgent Items	

	Tamar Bridge and Torpoint Ferry	
	Update provided by Sam Tamlin, Cornwall Councillor and Joint Chair of Tamar	
	<ul> <li>Crossings.</li> <li>Due to the significant financial shortfall as an impact of Covid19 and, as yet, with no formal offer of financial support from Central Government, the Joint Committee will consider options for future financing at its meeting on the 11<sup>th</sup> September.</li> <li>Economic impact of tolls – Agreed the CNP should explore the commissioning of a study to demonstrate the impact on the SE Cornwall area.</li> </ul>	СТ
	<ul> <li>Covid19</li> <li>It was noted that there were social media reports concerning a possible case at an unnamed public house in Saltash.</li> </ul>	
12.	Next meeting date	
	Wednesday 9 December 2020	ALL
	Potential agenda items to include;	
	<ul> <li>Community Network Highways Schemes – consideration of year 4 schemes</li> <li>Stop Loan Sharks</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>South West Peninsula Road Safety Partnership – 'Driving For Better Business' campaign.</li> </ul>	
	The meeting closed at 8.55pm	

# Contact Officers:

If you have any queries about the Community Network Panel, please contact:

Name Catherine Thomson	<b>Role</b> Community Link Officer	<b>Telephone</b> 07769 724877	Email catherine.thomson@cornwall.gov.uk
Lisa Grigg	Communities Support Assistant	01726 223604	lisa.grigg@cornwall.gov.uk

**Website:** <a href="http://www.cornwall.gov.uk/community-and-living/communities-and-devolution/community-networks/cornwall-gateway/">http://www.cornwall.gov.uk/community-and-living/communities-and-devolution/community-networks/cornwall-gateway/</a>