

Reports relating to the abandoned Meeting of Tywardreath & Par Parish Council scheduled for Thursday 7th January 2016 at Par Running Track Pavilion at 7.00 pm

The meeting was abandoned as Cornwall Council (Tempus Leisure) had failed to provide access to Par Running Track Pavilion. The Clerk had subsequently received a verbal apology for the oversight.

Police Report

There had been 5 recorded crimes in December – 3 x violence with injury, 2 x violence without injury and 30 police incidents recorded.

Cornwall Councillor reports

Cllr Scrafton reported

- Since the council last met I have had a number of discussions with various parties about the future of Par Running Track. Though I believe that I have identified ways in which the future of the track might be secured, I have not so far been able to identify a group or individuals who have the enthusiasm and qualifications to put forward a credible business case. I am arranging a public meeting where I hope that such groups and individuals will be willing to come forward.
- I have indicated to officers at Cornwall Council that, should they be minded to approve the planning application for a house in Polmear Road, I would wish it to be referred to a planning committee.
- I have received representations about another planning application for redevelopment of a disused garage behind Par Green. I await the views of the parish council's planning committee.
- It is difficult not to be aware of concerns about traffic problems near schools. This is not, of course, simply a problem for our parish. Nevertheless, it seems to be one of the more intractable issues we face. With support from our other two Cornwall Councillors, therefore, I have tabled a motion for the next meeting of Cornwall Council, calling on the portfolio holder to facilitate discussions between all interested parties aimed at finding ways in which the difficulties can be ameliorated.

Cllr Taylor – reported

- **Lower Kilhallon**

Cornwall Council seeks a permanent solution to prevent further road collapse in this area. With this in mind, trial pits have been dug and sampled and drill samples have been taken from the material below the road to ascertain its structure. These samples are now with the laboratory and results are expected around the end of this month. A remedial scheme will then be worked up and implemented. Meanwhile the area of the collapse is monitored weekly.

- **Tywardreath Highway / Bridge Street, level crossing on A390.**

You will recall that the level crossing on St Andrews Road was closed 24/7 for ten days recently. That was a nuisance to many people and no doubt caused damage to local businesses. The closure notice was requested by

Centurion Site Services on behalf of Network Rail and stated closure from 2200 to 0430 each day, not 24/7.

A notice of intent has been issued recently for the Tywardreath Highway level crossing stating 2200 to 1000. Being suspicious, I telephoned the applicants to be advised that the closure was to be once again 24/7. To cut a long story short, I have complained effectively and the notice of intent has been rescinded. A closure for essential maintenance will be required at some time in the near future but local people and businesses will be consulted to minimise nuisance to people and damage to business prior to any closure being agreed. Further, Centurion have continued to advise anyone enquiring that the closure is going ahead even though they have no consent to do so. Andy Stevenson of CC Highways has been meeting with Network Rail today to determine what closures are essential to enable the works to proceed safely. Local people and business have to be consulted and a date or dates agreed. I will meet Andy in County Hall tomorrow to discuss his findings.

- **The Roundhouse**

The small group of people that includes your three Cornwall councillors who are trying to improve the lot of the Roundhouse have set themselves up as a limited not for profit company and have won £50K in funding from DCLG for a feasibility study to see what might prove to be possible.

Clr Hughes – reported

- Since the last meeting, Cornwall Council met in Extraordinary Session to approve the revised submission of the Local Plan. Members expressed misgivings about the revised total housing target and in particular the allowance for second homes. We were assured by officers that, with these changes, it was probable that the Inspector would approve the Plan and that failure to approve the Plan would almost certainly mean that a Government version of the Plan would be imposed on us, probably with higher targets and excluding many of the specific local policies designed to protect Cornwall and respond to local conditions. In these circumstances, Members voted by a substantial (cross-party) majority to approve the revised submission. If all goes to plan the Plan will be approved and operational before the end of the year.
- I have today been at a meeting of the Planning Policy Advisory Committee where we agreed to recommend, subject to some amendments, Cornwall Council's response to a Government consultation on proposed changes to national planning policy. A group of town and parish councillors attended this part of the meeting before going off as a group, led by a Senior Planning Officer, to prepare a response on behalf of the parishes. Members were highly critical of most of the proposed changes, which would, in our opinion, be highly disadvantageous to most working people in Cornwall. We were particularly critical of the government's move to "starter homes", whose sales price would be capped only for 5 years, and which would not have a "local" tie. It was recognised that, because of low average earnings and

seasonal employment, coupled to abnormally high “open market” house prices, the pressing demand in Cornwall was for social rented accommodation and the proposed policies would discourage this.

There was also concern that the proposed policies would put pressure on sites in the more attractive areas of the county rather than meeting local needs.

The final version of the response will highlight these points and press for a complete rethink of the proposed government policy.

The meeting also recommended that the Cabinet support Supplementary Planning Documents on AONBs, the World Heritage Sites, Historical Environment and Environmental Growth. These will be out for public consultation in the next few months and will eventually be attached to the Local Plan to expand and explain its policies.

There is a high level of across-the-board consensus that “national” planning policies do not fit the specific needs of Cornwall and its people and Cabinet Members and Officers are working hard, both in public and behind the scenes to make Westminster aware of this. Unfortunately, it would seem that they are not receiving the support which they should have from our local MPs.