

# Notes

**Meeting:** Truro & Roseland Community Network Panel  
**Date:** 20 March 2018  
**Time:** 7.00-8.20pm  
**Location:** Probus Village Hall, 1Fore Street, Probus, TR2 4NB

<b>Present</b>	<b>Title/Representing</b>
Councillor Chris Wells (Chair of Community Network Panel)	Truro City Council
Mike Eathorne Gibbons CC	Cornwall Councillor (Ladock, St Clement & St Erme)
Martyn Alvey CC	Cornwall Councillor (Feock & Playing Place)
Julian German CC	Cornwall Councillor (Roseland)
John Dyer CC	Cornwall Councillor (Chacewater, Kenwyn and Baldhu)
Bob Egerton	Cornwall Councillor (Probus, Tregony and Grampound)
Loic Rich CC	Cornwall Councillor (Truro Tregolls)
Bert Biscoe CC	Cornwall Councillor (Truro Boscawen)
David Harris CC	Cornwall Councillor (Truro Trehaverne)
Councillor Steve Leech	Chacewater Parish Council
Councillor Liz Barker	Ladock Parish Council
Councillor Nik Budden	Probus Parish Council
Councillor Armorel Carlyon	Truro City Council
Councillor Richard Brickell	Feock Parish Council
Councillor David Giles	Ruanlanihorne Parish Council
Councillor Steve Chamberlain	Kea Parish Council
Councillor Julie Howes	Ladock Parish Council
Councillor John Carley	Chacewater Parish Council
Councillor Bob Smith	Truro City Council
Councillor Nicholas Gillard	Probus Parish Council
Jon Lloyd-Owen	SLT - Cornwall Council
Helen Couch	Clerk - St Just in Roseland Parish Council
David Hall	Wild Roseland
Mark O'Brien	Community Link Officer (Truro & Roseland), Cornwall Council
Nicola Drewett	Communities Support Assistant
Debbie Schmid	Resident
Lisa Smith Walker	Resident

**Apologies for absence:**

Cllr Rob Trethewey (St. Erme PC); Paul Caruana (Truro Day & Sunny Corner); Cllr James Hetherington; Cllr Rob Knill (Chacewater Parish Council); Damien Richards (Community Development Officer, Truro City Council).

**Notes:**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Key/Action Points</b>	<b>Log Number</b> (Action by)
<b>1.</b>	<p><b>Introductions</b></p> <p>CW welcomed everyone and invited MOB to advise on the health and safety and housekeeping.</p> <p>Representatives introduced themselves.</p> <p>David Hall - Wild Roseland, gave a brief summary of the various projects currently underway, the Roseland Magazine &amp; Newsletter, successful monthly talks and the Facebook Page.</p> <p>Apologies are noted as above</p>	
<b>2.</b>	<p><b>Highways Maintenance</b></p> <p>Viv Bidgood (VB), Cormac, Highways and Environment Manager provided a presentation (attached with the notes) on Highway Standards. VB referred to the Highway Maintenance Manual which can be found on the Cornwall Council Website:  <a href="https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/transport-and-streets/roads-highways-and-pavements/highways-asset-management-and-maintenance/">https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/transport-and-streets/roads-highways-and-pavements/highways-asset-management-and-maintenance/</a>            VB explained that the manual is in line with the National Code of practice and the 1980 Highways Act.</p> <p>VB will be engaging with the Community Network Panel on a six monthly basis and this will give the panel a feel for the work Cormac undertake and are responsible for. VB covers Falmouth, Penryn, Truro &amp; the Roseland.</p> <p>There is a new Defect Reporting System on the Cornwall Council Website which allows you to report a defect using an automated system. Once the defect is logged it will be forwarded to one of the Safety Inspectors and you will receive a notification. As soon as the defect has been inspected you will then be notified of the outcome (verified or rejected - a risk-based approach is used) and will receive a response once it has been completed.            Example: A category 1 defect on an important road should be made safe within 48 hours of it being verified. Depending on the defect category and road hierarchy determines the time frame.</p>	

Questions, Comments & Answers

Q - How long does it take for a defect/repair to take place?

A - This varies depending on the strategic importance of the road and the risk the defect in question poses to the travelling public. The detail is set out in the Highways Maintenance Manual. The Safety Inspector will determine the defect category from site inspection and therefore, the response time will be dependent upon this. There is an option to sign issues to inform of any danger which then increases the timeframe in which a permanent repair will be progressed.

Q - Ruan Laniorne. You mention the response time of 48 hours for a category 1 defect. What is the response time for a temporary road surface?

A - On a low category road that is deemed by Cornwall Council to be beyond economical repair but is also on our forward programme of surface treatment works, we will display "temporary road surface" boards to inform the public of potential issues in the interim. The boards are then removed following the planned surface treatment scheme. On a daily basis we have a hot box with a 2 men gang with a schedule of work repairing defects, and we have several gangs across the county. If the work involves a repair of over 10m<sup>2</sup> this is beyond the scope of the teams at our disposal as they require a digger/planer etc which our routine pothole repair gangs are not equipped with. In these circumstances we would talk to Cornwall Council regarding how best to progress the road for treatment and it is likely the road will be added to a future programme of work at that stage.

Q - When using the website to report potholes it asks for the size of the pothole - 20-40ml and 40ml or over. It can sometimes be difficult to determine the size?

Are they classified on where? i.e a blind bend

A - If you are unsure, the website gives you example sizes of potholes. A safety inspection will take place which will determine the accurate size and the defect reporting system status will then be updated for you to see.

The Safety Inspector will determine the category and the priority will be higher on a busier road.

Q - Due to the recent snow, the verges have hidden and hazardous obstacles which has led to people tripping over them and vehicles hitting them. Whose responsibility is it to ensure these obstacles are not on the verges? I am referring to Old Carne Hill in this instance.

A - In terms of the Winter Maintenance Policy which is agreed by Cornwall Council, this is reviewed annually in line with best practice and money available. 900 miles of road in the county are on the salting network but unfortunately more rural communities will be affected as they are not on a routinely

gritted network road. Od Carne Hill is not routinely salted.  
Q – During the snow the local bus lost control and people had to disembark and fell over obstacles on the verge  
A – Cornwall Council’s Winter Maintenance Policy details what Cornwall Council contract Cormac to do. There are simply not enough resources to keep these clear and we can only do so much with the resources we have.  
Q – Is it Cornwall Council or the Parish Council responsibility?  
A – Once the snow has gone we need to look at these and deal with them. Without specifics it’s difficult to answer.  
VB suggested putting the query on an email and will respond.

Q – Who is responsible for cutting the grass verges on the A30?  
A – Highways England  
Q – Do you have any influence?  
A – Cormac has no influence.  
Comment – It is embarrassing due to the appalling image it is portraying to visitors to the county.

Q – Are Cormac responsible for the maintenance of the hedges?  
A – The land owner is responsible for the hedge and Cormac are responsible for the footway.

Q – The road from Chiverton Cross to Truro is due for road works and improvements. There is a concern that side roads will then be used as rat runs and surfaces are not being maintained – Carnon Gate into Bissoe and Carnon Down to Chacewater where the traffic will increase drastically.  
Has the traffic been assessed? Are these roads still in the right category?  
A – Yes, routine traffic surveys have been taken and there is a specific team to undertake these, feeding back the information for review.  
Q – Who do we contact with our concerns?  
A – Viv gave his contact details and is happy to listen and take forward.

Q – In rural areas, there are deposits from fields on the highway from tractors etc. With whom does the responsibility lie?  
A – As stated in the Highways Act, it is for the Police to deal with, but they need to be caught in the act. The Police have powers under the Road Traffic Act and are more powerful than Cormac.  
Q – Has this ever been successful?  
A – We will always take a reasonable approach. If it is a main road we will send out a sweeper to clean if deemed an immediate safety issue but we are not able to recoup costs as there will have been no previous communication with the landowner. It is the person who has actually dragged the mud/debris onto the road who is responsible, not necessarily the landowner. Any enforcement action would need to be supported by thorough and specific evidence which often we do not have.

	<p>Any concerns can be reported as a safety issue on the website.</p> <p>Q – What should the width of verges owned by Cornwall Council be cut to?  A – This is detailed in the Maintenance Hierarchy, Appendix D. It is a public document.</p> <p>The verges are maintained in accordance with the manual and annually on the strategic networks. A number of the minor rural roads are no longer routinely attended to due to the reduction in revenue monies being allocated to highways maintenance.</p> <p>CW thanked VB for attending the meeting and giving his presentation – attached with the notes.</p> <p>VB left his contact cards and welcomed people to get in touch with any issues.</p>	
<b>3.</b>	<p><b>Notes of last Panel Meeting (25<sup>th</sup> January 2018)</b></p> <p>Page 7 (5) – CW informed the panel that the letter was sent to Sarah Newton.</p> <p>Page 3 – BB informed the panel that the work regarding the underground river mapping is ongoing in the parish of St Allen and Kenwyn.</p> <p>Page 8 (7a) – Fly Tipping. Would it be possible to invite the relevant officer to a future meeting? This was agreed.</p>	<b>CW/MOB</b>
<b>4.</b>	<p><b>Traffic Management</b></p> <p>No updates</p>	
<b>5.</b>	<p><b>Issues raised by Panel Members</b></p> <p>None</p>	
<b>6.</b>	<p><b>Community Link Officer update</b></p> <p><u>Strengthening Community Networks</u></p> <p>MOB, Community Link Officer gave a briefing on the recommendations for Strengthening Community Networks that had been agreed at Cabinet in September 2017.</p>	

- **Panel to have a representative on any local place-shaping fora** who will report back to the CNP and have the opportunity to inform the development and monitor the delivery of the place-shaping fora's work programme. It was suggested that Truro City Council's nominated Community Network Panel representative also acts as the place-shaping representative and reports back on any matters deemed relevant to the membership of the Panel.

- **Public Engagement** - To enable the public to submit questions in advance of/at Panel meetings or ask for agenda items.

It was suggested that the Chair have the say whether questions or proposed agenda items are relevant to Panel (or single T&PC) or not.

It was felt that it was important to give the public the opportunity to be more involved in discussions and if it's a wider issues, not a town/village issues then this would be fine.

CW (Chair) noted that the panel has a more relaxed view of members of the public attending meetings and people are always welcome to make an active contribution.

A discussion followed about how to get members of the public through the door and how to send out Community Network Panel meeting information to the public.

It was suggested that information be advertised in Parish Newsletters and The West Briton so that people know meetings are happening.

Any question has to be appropriate to the Network, not the individual and a suggestion made was to have ten minutes at the beginning of the meeting for Public Questions so people didn't have to sit through the whole meeting if they didn't want to.

It was agreed that it is really important to work on this for at least a year as success breeds success.

Social Media is a great way of getting information out to the public and there is a Truro and the Roseland Facebook page which MOB administers.

MOB is in discussion with Young People Cornwall and there need to be a broad spectrum of ideas to enable the panel to engage with people.

If the agenda is interesting, people will come along and any speakers need to be able to answer questions.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>CNP Engagement Framework</b> – What would panels like to be consulted on? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Service Performance</li> <li>2. Highway Safety</li> <li>3. Environment – i.e Plastic. MOB noted and will feedback.</li> <li>4. Road Safety</li> <li>5. Police Inspector attendance at meetings – CW to follow up.</li> <li>6. Pre-planning Applications protocol PC/TC/CC. It was felt by some, that officers have already made decisions and approved. It was reiterated that Officers have to make the recommendations but it is the Committee that makes the decision. The Planning Committee is totally independent.</li> </ol> </li> </ul> <p>MOB – Following the January meeting the Police and Community Safety will attend the Community Network Panel Meeting on a six monthly basis.</p>	<b>CW</b>
<p><b>7.</b></p>	<p><b>Future Meetings</b></p> <p>Tuesday 17 July 2018 – 7pm  Tuesday 18 September 2018 – 7pm  Tuesday 20 November 2018 – 7pm</p>	
<p><b>Date of Next meeting:</b></p> <p><b>Tuesday 15 May 2018 – 7pm (AGM)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Representative from Waste/Biffa to be invited.</li> <li>• Policing/Community Safety update</li> <li>• Representatives from Health to be invited.</li> </ul> <p><b>Times and venues for ALL meetings</b></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Times: 7.00pm – 9.00pm</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Venues: To be agreed by the panel</p> <p><b>Future agenda items:</b></p>		

**Contact Officers:**

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

<b>Name</b>	<b>Role</b>	<b>Telephone</b>	<b>Email / Twitter</b>
<i>Mark O'Brien</i>	Community Link Officer	01872 323551 / 07528983420	<a href="mailto:Mobrien@Cornwall.gov.uk">Mobrien@Cornwall.gov.uk</a>  @MobrienCNM
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**Notes published:**