



# Notes

<b>Meeting:</b>	St Austell and Mevagissey Community Network Panel Meeting <i>Virtual MS Teams Meeting</i>
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	Thursday 9 December 2021 at 6.00pm

<b>Present</b>	<b>Title/Representing</b>
Chair - Anne Double CC	Cornwall Councillor - St Austell Central & Gover
Vice-Chair - Cllr Mike Ward	Chairman, Pentewan Valley Parish Council
<b>Cornwall Councillors:</b>	
Julian German CC	Cornwall Councillor - St Goran, Tregony & the Roseland
James Mustoe CC	Cornwall Councillor - Mevagissey & St Austell Bay
Richard Pears CC	Cornwall Councillor - St Austell Poltair & Mount Charles
Jordan Rowse CC	Cornwall Councillor - St Austell Bethel & Holmbush
<b>Town &amp; Parish Councils:</b>	
Cllr Ann Taylor	Carlyon Parish Council
Cllr Mike Roberts	Chairman, Mevagissey Parish Council
Cllr George Muskett	Pentewan Valley Parish Council
Cllr Bill Leach	Chair, St Austell Bay Parish Council
Julie Larter	Clerk, St Austell Bay Parish Council
Cllr Andrea Lanxon	Deputy Mayor, St Austell Town Council
Cllr Colin Hamilton	St Austell Town Council
Cllr Mike Thompson	St Austell Town Council
Cllr Steve Nott	St Austell Town Council
David Pooley	Clerk, St Austell Town Council
<b>Members of the Public:</b>	
2 members of the public present	
<b>Speakers &amp; Cornwall Council Officers:</b>	
Jon Lloyd-Owen	Service Director - Housing, Cornwall Council (min no 3)
Inspector Ian Jolliff	St Austell Sector Inspector, Devon & Cornwall Police (min no 3)
Helen Toms	Community Safety Officer, Cornwall Council (min no 3)
Katherine Kemp	ASB Case Worker, Cornwall Council (min no 3)
Sally Jones	School for Social Entrepreneurs (min no 4)
Caitlin Lord	Community Link Officer, Cornwall Council
Lisa Grigg	Communities Support Assistant, Cornwall Council

<b>Apologies for absence:</b>	
Michael Bunney CC	Cornwall Councillor - St Mewan & Grampound
Cllr Julian Young	St Austell Town Council
Cllr Janet Lockyer	St Ewe Parish Council
Cllr John Kneller	St Mewan Parish Council
Mark Read	Service Director, Customer & Business Operations, Cornwall Council / CLT CNP Representative

Item	Key/Action Points	Action by:
1.	<p><b>Welcome and Introductions</b> Cornwall Councillor Anne Double, Chair of the Panel, welcomed all present.</p> <p>A warm welcome was extended to Inspector Ian Joliff (St Austell Sector Inspector, Devon &amp; Cornwall Police), Helen Toms (Community Safety Officer, Cornwall Council) and Katherine Kemp (ASB Case Worker, Cornwall Council).</p> <p>Officers highlighted the importance of encouraging residents to report ASB and community safety issues so that it can be evidenced and actioned. Details can be reported via;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="http://www.safercornwall.co.uk/contact-us/">www.safercornwall.co.uk/contact-us/</a></li> <li>• <a href="mailto:101@dc.police.uk">101@dc.police.uk</a></li> <li>• <a href="mailto:helen.toms@cornwall.gov.uk">helen.toms@cornwall.gov.uk</a></li> <li>• Cornwall Council – Tel: 0300 1234 232</li> </ul>	<b>ALL</b>
2.	<p><b>Public Participation</b> There were no public questions.</p>	
3.	<p><b>Housing – Jon Lloyd-Owen, Service Director – Housing, Cornwall Council</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The St Austell Single Homeless and Temporary Accommodation Plan was put in place to address a number of concerns raised in relation to a high level of temporary accommodation and emergency placements in St Austell compared to other towns.</li> <li>• Further concerns were raised that a high number of individuals with complex needs and challenging behaviour were placed in unsupported or unsuitable accommodation.</li> <li>• A number of individuals were housed within the town centre which had a negative impact on people’s perception of the town and affected the vitalisation of the town centre.</li> <li>• Since the pandemic, it has been an increasingly challenging time in terms of the housing market in Cornwall coupled with the national housing crisis.</li> <li>• During the last few months, there has been a particular increase in the number of families seeking temporary accommodation.</li> <li>• There are currently 655 households in temporary/emergency accommodation across Cornwall compared to 270 before the pandemic.</li> <li>• There is a huge strain on finding available suitable accommodation which has led to further reliance on the use of B&amp;Bs, travel lodges etc.</li> <li>• St Austell remains at a high level with 75 households currently placed in temporary accommodation. A third are families with a 2/3 bed need and 2 thirds are single occupants or couples with a 1 bed need.</li> </ul> <p><u>Housing Crisis Plan</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The public consultation had a high response rate of 2600 responses which demonstrates the level of concern and awareness around the current crisis.</li> <li>• The Housing Crisis Plan will be considered by Cornwall Council’s Cabinet on the 15 January.</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The 'call for sites' will be considered as part of the plan.</li> </ul> <p><u>Questions, Comments and Answers</u></p> <p><b>Q.</b> Is there an update on the General Wolfe corner?  <b>Answer:</b> JLO - As part of the £40million programme to acquire a portfolio of properties across Cornwall, the former General Wolfe building and adjacent property were acquired. However, a number of challenges have subsequently come to light requiring significant further investment. Discussions are ongoing with Corserv as to how to proceed. Members will be updated as soon as a conclusion has been reached.</p> <p><b>Q.</b> Can you confirm that you are not acquiring any more temporary accommodation in St Austell at this present time?  <b>Answer:</b> JLO - Over the last 2 years we have been acquiring properties in all main towns where we have a concentrated homeless demand. 170 props were acquired across Cornwall. This may include properties in St Austell but this is deliberate in that we need to get a balance across all towns. This is not to increase the number of individuals being placed but is so we can stop putting people in unsuitable accommodation such as B&amp;Bs and travel lodges.</p> <p><b>Q.</b> How is this related to ASB in the town? – is there a correlation between the reduction in temporary accommodation/emergency placements and ASB incidents?  <b>Answer:</b> IJ - It is difficult to distinguish between offences committed by those in temporary accommodation or not as that information is not currently to hand. In terms of overall reported crime for the town, there has been a 2.3% reduction in the last 3 months. I reiterate the importance of encouraging reporting so that action can be taken.  HT – With regard to the Eastbourne Road premises, issues had generally settled down within the last 6 months. In terms of available data, this can be provided but it will be a snapshot due to the transient nature of the individuals.</p> <p><b>Q.</b> There are a number of empty properties I am concerned about and would like to see something done?  <b>Answer:</b> Cllr Lanxon to email details to JLO.</p> <p><b>Q.</b> You quoted 270 families in temporary accommodation pre-pandemic which has now risen to 655 – what is the biggest driver for this drastic increase in such a short time?  <b>Answer:</b> JLO – The 2 main factors are the impact of the pandemic and the current housing crisis.</p> <p><b>C.</b> 90% of people housed in temporary/emergency accommodation in St Austell were within close proximity to the town centre. In other towns it was more dispersed. Pool and Redruth both have growing ASB issues and there does appear to be a correlation with temporary/emergency accommodation placements.</p>	<p>AL</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p><b>Springboard Programme - Sally Jones, School for Social Entrepreneurs</b></p>	

	<p>Sally outlined details of a new funding opportunity for specific towns, including St. Austell, to support individuals to develop their ideas for a community project or business. Please see attached information for full details and eligible areas.</p> <p>Individuals can join the programme at any time from now until December 2022 and will receive 12hrs+ of support plus 4hrs 1:1 mentoring from an active social entrepreneur. Sessions are delivered both online and face-to-face in the eligible towns.</p> <p>Eligible individuals can either be employed (but not self-employed) or unemployed or inactive/retired.</p> <p>The panel were asked to forward this information to any community groups who might be interested in sharing this offer with their members.</p> <p>It was highlighted that, for anyone not within the eligible postcode areas, the School for Social Entrepreneurs are still available to help provide support;  <a href="http://Cornwall The School for Social Entrepreneurs (the-sse.org)">Cornwall The School for Social Entrepreneurs (the-sse.org)</a></p>	<b>ALL</b>
5.	<p><b>Notes of the last meeting (9 September 2021)</b>  The notes of the last meeting were agreed as an accurate record.</p>	
6.	<p><b>Update on St Austell River Project – Verbal report by Caitlin Lord, Community Link Officer</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First meeting of the Working Group held with Cornwall Councillors, Town &amp; Parish Councillors, Three Bays Wildlife Group and Pentewan Valley Climate Action Group.</li> <li>• Agreed direction of travel and first priority project; water quality and pollution.</li> <li>• Separate follow up meeting to be held with SWW and Imerys in the new year.</li> <li>• Presentation to be given to the Cornwall Catchment Partnership.</li> <li>• Next meeting of the Working Group to be held on 13 January.</li> </ul> <p><u>G7 Legacy Fund</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expressions of interest are being sought – deadline is 17 December.</li> <li>• CL to raise with Jeremy Roberts (Three Bays Wildlife) in respect of the Carvinnick project who might be able to assist.</li> </ul>	<b>CL</b>
7.	<p><b>Update on Climate Crisis Working Group – Verbal report by Caitlin Lord, Community Link Officer</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The People’s Climate Festival took place on the 27 November, which was well attended by over 40 exhibitors, speakers and workshops. The White River Cinema also hosted a film screening of ‘2040’ on the 26 November.</li> <li>• Good feedback received from stallholders regarding the networking opportunities and there is a good appetite for future events.</li> <li>• A debrief meeting with the Working Group will be held in the new year.</li> <li>• Thanks were given to all who attended and helped to promote the event and to the town and parish councils who contributed towards the cost to help the event go ahead.</li> </ul>	

	<p><u>Questions, Comments and Answers</u></p> <p><b>Q.</b> How many members of the public attended?  <b>Answer:</b> We did not record this on the day but it will be looked at for any future events.</p> <p><b>Q.</b> How was the event funded?  <b>Answer:</b> The majority of the funding came from the Cornwall Council Carbon Neutral Team and contributions from the Town and Parish Councils.</p> <p><b>C.</b> There is enough of a growing market for green initiatives that events such as this should be funded from the private sector and not from public funds.</p> <p><b>Q.</b> Should a similar event be held, could the possibility of holding it in the town centre be explored as there will be more of a captive audience?  <b>Answer:</b> The college was chosen due to its accessibility, good parking and sufficient space for trialling the ebikes etc, however, this could be looked at for any potential future event.</p>	
8.	<p><b>Traffic and Highways Issues</b></p> <p><u>Question received from Councillor Mike Thompson</u>  <i>"Many of you may be familiar with the Railway overbridge in Mount Charles. Fewer will know of the many reports submitted about the safety of pedestrians on the bridge.</i></p> <p><i>Unfortunately, yesterday afternoon a school student was knocked down on the bridge by a car and had to be taken to hospital by ambulance. The road was closed for some time and there were many witnesses because of the time of day.</i></p> <p><i>I would like to ask Cornwall Council to urgently work with residents to fully understand the issues and work towards implementing processes to improve road safety for pedestrians.</i></p> <p><i>I would further ask Cornwall Council to review the many occasions that road safety in this area has been brought to the attention of Council Officers and Councillors and adjust its processes where it was thought necessary and hold those involved to proper account"</i></p> <p>The chair thanked Cllr Thompson for bringing this to the attention of the meeting and CL undertook to follow up the concerns.</p> <p><u>CNP Highways Scheme</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Highways budget for the next financial year has been approved, which equates to £57,330 for the St Austell &amp; Mevagissey CNP based on 5 Cornwall Councillors (noted that the St Goran, Tregony &amp; Roseland Division will fall under the Truro &amp; Roseland CNA).</li> <li>• The process is currently being finalised but is expected to follow a similar process as previously with Expressions of Interest being sought from the Town and Parish Councils.</li> </ul>	CL

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It will be a particularly challenging timetable as project briefs will need to be signed off by the Portfolio Holder by the end of May.</li> <li>• CL to circulate expression of interest forms to the town and parish councils before Christmas. A priority list will need to be agreed by the end of January so that proposals can then be worked upon with Members and agreed by the CNP.</li> </ul>	<b>CL</b>
9.	<p><b>Update from Cornwall Council</b></p> <p><u>Draft Council Budget &amp; Business Plan 22-26</u> This was considered by Cabinet on 8<sup>th</sup> December and is now open to consultation with residents, businesses, stakeholders etc as follows: -</p> <p>The consultation on the Council’s Draft Budget and Business Plan will start on 8 December 2021 and runs for 6 weeks until 23 January 2022. The consultation involves:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Webpage on the Cornwall Council website with information about the Draft Budget and Business Plan.</li> <li>• Online consultation questionnaire (available as hard copy on request) to provide feedback and a dedicated email address (<a href="mailto:haveyoursay@cornwall.gov.uk">haveyoursay@cornwall.gov.uk</a>) for comments and queries.</li> <li>• Dedicated pages on Let’s Talk Cornwall to engage residents in the spending priorities and the outcomes for Cornwall we should be working towards.</li> <li>• An event for business stakeholders in January 2022.</li> <li>• Consultations with Overview and Scrutiny Committees during January 2022.</li> </ul> <p>Feedback from the consultation and engagement programme will be reported to Cabinet and Full Council in February 2022 to inform the final budget proposals and decision-making process.</p> <p><u>Covid</u> A reminder that our customer contact channels for any Covid related questions continue to be open and resourced as follows: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dedicated pages on <a href="http://www.cornwall.gov.uk">www.cornwall.gov.uk</a></li> <li>• Email – <a href="mailto:covid19@cornwall.gov.uk">covid19@cornwall.gov.uk</a></li> <li>• Phone – 0300 1231 118</li> </ul> <p><u>Casework Assist</u> To help make contact with the Council as easy as possible for Town/Parish clerks, we have been piloting the use of a ‘casework assist’ system with a small number.</p> <p>It’s a single point of entry for any questions, casework queries etc and saves you from trying to find the right person to contact - its already used by our Members and MP’s. The pilot has been successful and we are now in the process of rolling this out to all Town/Parish Councils over the coming weeks so watch this space.</p>	

10.	<p><b>Feedback on local issues from Town and Parish Councils</b></p> <p>The Town and Parish Council were thanked for submitting their written reports which were previously circulated to the panel.</p> <p>Additional points were noted;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pentewan Valley – approx. 40% reduction in parish precept agreed for next year.</li> <li>• St Austell Bay – Ongoing highway problems throughout the parish. Working on a survey with the Highways Manager to address parking issues, traffic flow and general traffic movements throughout the parish.</li> </ul>	
11.	<p><b>Feedback from Cornwall Councillors</b></p> <p>The Cornwall Councillors were thanked for submitting their written reports which were previously circulated to the panel.</p> <p>Additional points were noted;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cornwall Councillor Julian German updated on a recent meeting with the Minister for Arts and plans to use libraries as creative hubs in our high streets. A request has been made for government wifi to be installed in the hubs to allow civil servants to use them as ‘touch down’ bases and to attract local businesses.</li> <li>• Cornwall Councillor James Mustoe has arranged for Carol Mould, Portfolio Holder for Neighbourhoods to do a walkabout in Mevagissey in the new year.</li> </ul>	
12.	<p><b>Any Other Business</b></p> <p><u>Outdoor Education Consultation</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The panel were encouraged to respond to the current consultation – which closes on the 9 January.</li> <li>• Part of the proposals include a proposal to cease operating their services at all Cornwall Outdoor sites by 31 July 2022 and that they will aim to find an alternative provider.</li> <li>• Please see full details of the consultation and how to respond at; <a href="#">Proposed changes to Cornwall Outdoors   Let's Talk Cornwall</a></li> </ul> <p><u>Format of future CNP Meetings</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The panel agreed to aim for the next meeting in March to be a face-to-face meeting but will continue to monitor government guidelines and review as necessary.</li> </ul>	<b>ALL</b>
13.	<p><b>Next meeting dates</b></p> <p>The proposed meeting dates for 2022 were agreed;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thursday 10 March</li> <li>• Thursday 9 June</li> <li>• Thursday 8 September</li> <li>• Thursday 24 November</li> </ul>	<b>ALL</b>

	The meeting closed at 7.30pm	
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**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</b>
<i>Caitlin Lord</i>	Community Link Officer	07565 203843	<a href="mailto:Caitlin.Lord@cornwall.gov.uk">Caitlin.Lord@cornwall.gov.uk</a>
<i>Lisa Grigg</i>	Communities Support Assistant	01726 223604	<a href="mailto:Lisa.Grigg@cornwall.gov.uk">Lisa.Grigg@cornwall.gov.uk</a>

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