**Cornwall Councillor Report – Mevagissey Division – February 2020**

I worked with community volunteers to weed and tidy up the area in front of Wesley Court and Meadow Street Flats. This looks lot better now, thanks to everyone who helped. I am continuing to chase Ocean Housing to paint the buildings and clear the guttering.

Following complaints about the lack of response on requests for ordering in recycling bags and boxes I am trialling a scheme to have these located at the MAC to allow people who can’t get to town for whatever reason to pick them up from there instead of the One Stop Shop on Penwinnick Road.

I have raised complaints from residents about the scaffolding on Polkirt Hill with Cormac, who initially replied as follows:

'Our inspector has reviewed the location and minimum legal road width has been maintained. The scaffold is predominantly on the footway with minimal carriageway incursion. The Streetworks service must licence scaffolds that are placed on the highway so we are unable to refuse the scaffold being here.

The particular difficulty with this location is that although this section of road has been traditionally used as a passing place it is an offence to mount the kerb under section 72 of the highways act 1835. We cannot stop the scaffold from being placed anyway, but this becomes doubly true when the drivers passing at this location are technically doing so unlawfully. The Streetworks service must review all applications and return conditions under the position that drivers are using the highway in a safe and lawful manner.

I recognise that there are site specific concerns here, but we are required to provide a licence for the scaffold and it is at present compliant with the traffic management code of practice so there is no action the Streetworks service is able to take against this scaffold.'

So they are essentially saying that although they are sympathetic, they are unable to do anything because the areas of licensing for the scaffolding they work under don't allow them to do so.

Due to the volume of correspondence I have been receiving about this I emailed them again and asked if there was anything else they could recommend.

*‘'Unfortunately I am unable to provide a different response to the one I previously returned. We cannot compel the scaffolder to remove their scaffold – which is placed on a footway with minimal carriageway incursion. The customer has struck on the crux of the issue in their e-mail; the passing place is not lawful...*

*We have no powers to review the work associated with the scaffold. I do recommend directing any members of the public with concerns to Chris Sedgeman Scaffolding as they are able to modify the structure of their scaffold if they are able to and choose to do so, but until they start receiving the concerns they are unlikely to respond.'*

I have subsequently contacted the agent for 11 and 13 Polkirt Hill and asked them if they could look at this urgently. I await their reply.

As this work originally came about due to the Untidy Sites initiative I wonder if the Parish Council might want to write to the agent to ask them along similar lines. I can provide contact details if needed.

Following the extraordinary Parish Council meeting last week the Parish Council subsequently wrote to me on Sunday and asked me to raise continued concerns with Mevagissey Surgery with the NHS. I have done so and am awaiting a substantive reply.

I am also pleased to confirm that that the Highway Authority have recently issued a licence to plant at land near Willow Carpark, to be undertaken by volunteers, and will consist of wildflower planting suitable for supporting pollinators. The plans have been approved by myself and Highway Manager Rachael Tatlow, and I wish them well in their future activity.

I am about to book beach cleans as part of the Surfers Against Sewage Spring series, which will include a Harbour Clean, so please watch this space for more details.