**October 2020 Cornwall Councillor report – Mevagissey Parish Council**

I hope everyone is well.

The last month has been another busy month with a lot going on.

Further to the presentation from St Austell Healthcare this evening, last week I had one of my regularly scheduled meetings with the Partner who is leading on St Austell Healthcare's take over of Mevagissey Surgery.

It was a productive discussion and I was asked to share my notes from the meeting:

Points to note include:

Their call handling system migrated to the centrally based system yesterday, hence the delays that people have reported in getting through. The ideal situation would be no more than a five minute wait, which is not happening at the moment. The number people can call remains unchanged.

To deal with this, St Austell Healthcare are in the process of recruiting and training an additional four receptionists/call handlers across their estate including based in Mevagissey Surgery.

There are particular pressures at the moment relating to Covid-19 that mean that people are using the phone system more than usual, but callers are advised to be patient, as the team are aware of the issues and are working hard to address them.

I am told that people should avoid calling on Monday unless it's urgent as that's a particularly busy day.

People can also have an online consultation, which I understand is working well, via:

https://www.staustellhealthcare.co.uk/econsult.html

People can also ring at any time up to about 1945 and can also be seen in St Austell after Mevagissey Surgery closes between 1745 and 2000 if needed.

In terms of the clinical team on site, the SAHC team are ensuring a GP partner is at the surgery daily. They also have another doctor in regularly, plus a locum in every day, supported by nurses, Health Care Practitioners and Emergency Care Practitioners made up from existing Meva staff and from SAHC, a good clinical presence.

The new clinical system (System 1) has been put in in place smoothly from 1 October which means records can now be accessed electronically across SAHC, as well as by patients via the NHS app.

In terms of flu jabs, the Eden drive in is working smoothly. If notified patients have problems with booking, please, call the number on the letter you will have received rather than the surgery direct.

Finally, in terms of prescriptions, they are no longer doing repeat prescriptions over the phone as this is against national guidance. You can still request them in person or by email, or via System 1 on the NHS app.

I will continue to meet with the surgery regularly and feedback from these meetings going forward.

Although not related to the current contract holder at Mevagissey Surgery, I have also written to NHS England and the CQC raising concerns over the previous contract holder and procurement exercise, following an updated CQC report that was issued earlier this month.

The meeting I arranged on 29 September with Ocean Housing, Cormac and the Parish Council was very productive.

It was raised that the Parish Council could possibly take on responsibility for the maintenance of the ‘path’ that runs through the middle of Wesley Court and Meadow Street under a LMP with Ocean in the same way it manages footpaths in the parish.

Ocean went away and worked through the weed spraying costs and has now said it can spray the areas in question each time they spray their own land here at no cost to the Parish Council.

There would, however, be a one off cost of £293.75 + VAT to clear the area of the existing weeds which can’t be dealt with by spraying.

If the Parish Council are happy with this, Ocean can work out the details.

Ocean is also looking trimming back two trees in the area and orders have been placed to re-string the drier and replace the padlock on the lockable post on the drying area.

I am still waiting for updates on the painting of the buildings and maintenance of the guttering.

The path to Heligan Mill from the cycle trail has now been completed which marks the last of the major PROW upgrades from the pilot funding I secured. They are now also upgrading a number of the wooden signs in the area.

I have raised numerous fly-tipping complaints around the recycling bins that the parish council is now responsible for. Make no bones about it, these facilities, whether run by Cornwall Council or the parish council, are paid for by the taxpayer and should not be used as a dumping ground for commercial waste. It is also not acceptable to just dump rubbish next to them. I await the Parish’s thoughts on the continuation of this service with interest.

I have reported two broken benches for repair on Hitler’s Walk.

The bench on the end of Penwarne Lane has been replaced with a new bench (paid for by a member of the public) in memory to a parishioner who recently passed away.

I have also today hear back from Cornwall Council’s legal department regarding the potential to transfer the look out beneath the Nare Apartments. They say that the s106 would not need to altered as there is a successors in title clause within the agreement. For the parish to take this on they would have to buy the land that footpath is on and then the clauses within the s106 will pass to them and they would be bound by obligations within the s106. If they were to buy the land the Parish Council would need to have a copy of the land transfer so Cornwall Council can add it the existing s106 as proof the PC are the new owners of the footpath.

I have been involved in a number of the other items up for debate on this evening’s agenda but due to its extended nature, I will comment on those, as needed, as the meeting progresses.

Finally I am pleased to confirm I have been unanimously selected as the Conservative Candidate for the Mevagissey and St Austell Bay Cornwall Council division at next year’s local elections. I pay tribute to Cllr Tom French for the current St Austell Bay division who has decided not to stand again. I look forward to standing again in May next year and hope to represent the new division, which will fully encompass Mevagissey Parish, in the years to come.