**Ward Member report June 2018**

I regret I have not been as busy as usual this month due to having a break which included being honoured to attend the Royal Garden Party at Buckingham Palace in my capacity as Cornwall Councillor for Mevagissey. A real honour and thank you to the Lord Lieutenant of Cornwall’s office for the invitation.

At the end of May we received the Speed monitoring results for Valley Road from the device that was put there temporarily earlier this year.

Cormac have said that the cost of a permanent Vehicle Activated Sign aka London Apprentice, could be considered through the Community Network Budget.

They say the only issue with the permanent sign is that perhaps over time it may lose its effectiveness if regularly drivers are passing through, whereas if we install a device on a temporary basis, it may be more effective over the long term.

I understand a policy is also being developed to assist parish councils wanting to purchase their own units and have asked for a copy of this once it is completed.

I am happy to take this further should the Parish Council wish.

GDPR issues – Bob Egerton, the Cabinet Member at Cornwall Council responsible for this area, replied in detail to feedback from other Cornwall Council on the changes and their implementation. I have forwarded a copy of this to the clerk.

A number of Cornwall Councillors of all parties and some Parish Councillors raised this with Steve Double MP and he has subsequently written to the Minister asking about this and whether the changes have been applied correctly. I have asked for a copy of the reply once he gets it.

On a related note, the outstanding planning enforcement investigation above the harbour has now had a formal enforcement notice opened on it. Despite asking for clarification on this and the general untidy sites initiative, I am still yet to receive an update from Cornwall Council on how, if at all these updates will be received from now on. Something I am concerned about.

I seem to have spent vast amounts of time this month chasing Cormac around to get verges and our open spaces cut. As of writing this they have cut the B3273 from Pentewan to Mevagissey because of the repeated health and safety concerns. They have also committed to cutting the open spaces in the village before Feast Week although this had not been done as I write this on 19 June…

I organised with the Community Action Group to strim, mow and tidy the verges and raised flower beds on the old surgery side of Valley Road from opposite the virtual pavement down to the fire station. Thanks to the volunteers who came out to help and Willow Car Park for supporting with equipment and water to clean the sign!

I met with residents at Portmellon Park to discuss the double yellow line proposals at the estate that are on the agenda this evening.

I was pleased to visit Mevagissey School for their 25th Anniversary event to celebrate the opening of the current building. I was pleased to be there as a pupil when it originally opened and it was good to go back and see former and current teachers and pupils to celebrate this milestone.

I have spoken to the Harbour Trust about properly securing the building on East Wharf that used to be the toilets to avoid confusion from people trying in error to access them, and extra work for the Parish’s cleaner.

The Boundaries Commission has published its draft findings of its review into the new boundaries which Cornwall will have for Cornwall Council divisions at the next election in 2021.

I am disappointed that the Boundary Commission has chosen not to take the ideas and submissions that I worked with Mevagissey and Pentewan Valley Parish Councils forward.

Particularly so given their reasoning about shared characteristics of coastal villages given that Charlestown and Duporth are both essentially suburbs of St Austell and not separate villages.

Also that Cornwall Council and the Boundary Commission in its guidance has said it wanted to maintain a rural and urban divisions separately where ever possible and not split parishes, so the recommendations it has gone with, splitting Pentewan Valley Parish and incorporating the Mevagissey division all the way up through what is essentially St Austell as far north as Tregrehane, seem to fly in the face of this.

The draft proposals are open for further public consultation now so please feel free to add your own comments if you would like to. The Boundaries Commission has said it would particularly welcome feedback on its ideas for this area.

Finally I would like to congratulate Cllr Shephard and the NDP Steering Group for the excellent outcome of the referendum for the Neighbourhood Development Plan. A landslide ‘yes’ shows a strong endorsement for the document and I look forward to continuing to use it to support my arguments for and against developments in the Parish in the future.