

CC Report for Town Council Meeting 15 July 2021

This report covers the period 12 June to 9 July to ensure the report can be seen by all town councillors with all other council papers prior to the above meeting.

Needless to say, virtual meetings have continued with a never-ending frequency! Since my last report there have been a further 3 visits to Truro, the first on 21st June - Planning, the second 24 June - Pensions and thirdly 2 July - Audit. The next full Cornwall Council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 13th July.

One local meeting held on 18th June which has already been reported upon by the Library and Community Hub Manager with Citizens Advice which was also attended by Cllr Kate Ewert. A very interesting and enlightening look into the workings of Citizens' Advice and what support and assistance can be given, which is pleasing to note that there is full information now available at the Library, via the Hub/Web.

I have visited one of the schools and plans are in hand to visit the other two within Torpoint prior to the Summer Break.

Concerns expressed by both Kate and I on the last report in relation to Social Housing appear to be fully justified. A virtual meeting took place on 1 July with like-minded other County Councillors where it was obvious standards were not being met/maintained. Of immediate concern was that Cornwall Housing had reported themselves to State bodies in not following compliance with various requirements under State Legislation. We were informed that immediate steps are being taken to rectify several issues with more frequent onsite visits by senior management. Salamanca Street has been listed as a site of high priority for just such a visit but at the time of this report no firm date has been made, I have requested prior notice of this planned visit so that I can also attend.

With such a shortage of housing currently available the Portfolio Holder Olly Monk is actively seeking any areas within Cornwall that could be utilised as sites for park homes/pop up homes.

There has been some very strong feedback as regards CC's current policy concerning grass cutting the majority of which have been far from complimentary and these will be fed back in due course to Highways. It is fully recognised that Cormac have stated that where any facilities are no longer utilised as a result of long grass they are quite prepared to ensure these areas are cut more frequently as is the case at road junctions to ensure safe viewing by motorists.

Lastly, I omitted from last month's reports finalisation of membership of committees/working groups to which I have been appointed which are as follows:

1. Children's and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
2. Audit Committee.
3. Pensions Committee.
4. East Sub-Area Planning Committee (Vice Chair).

Outside Bodies:

1. Tamar Valley AONB Partnership (Kate serves on AONB .Cornwall)
2. Mount Edgcumbe Joint Committee (Kate also serves on this committee)
3. Tamar Bridge and Torpoint Ferry Joint Committee.