

CC Report for the Town Council Meeting 25th May 2023

This report covers the period 14th April to 19th May to ensure the report can be seen by all fellow town councillors with all other council papers prior to the above meeting.

Following on from last month's report:

Belle View Square: No Update.

Macey St: Awaiting date as to when re-establishing guttering, with these last few days being quite warm with good sunshine paid a visit to the area, no indication of any tarry deposits seen.

Kingsley Avenue: Received an email earlier today, a feasibility study is currently underway as to use for this site with (possibly?) some housing, awaiting outcome of study.

Harvey St Flats: Areas have remained clear.

Banking Hub: No Update, despite further emails nothing else heard.

Car Parking Review: Despite the best efforts of some County Councillors, calling for a "Call-In" to discuss the implementation later this month all routes have been exhausted and the "Call In" was not upheld.

Trevol Business Park: No update as yet on when the joint survey by the Environmental Agency and Fire & Rescue Service will be undertaken at the old waste disposal site.

Potholes: As you may be aware Central Govt., has distributed extra money throughout England as regards the fixing of potholes. Cornwall's share exceeds £4m. However, what is being firmed up is a survey of potholes with a study taking place of the methodology of pothole repairs, training required, time from reporting to action being taken and most importantly when action taken how long is the repair good for. There have been some reports of potholes having tarmac "thrown" into them and within 2 weeks back to square one, the tarmac having been washed out again. It is the intention of the Portfolio Holder to ensure Cornwall Council and road users get good value for the extra money being provided.

20mph Introduction – As previously reported Torpoint is on the list for the 20 is plenty scheme in 2024. As a town council we will have a say as to where the scheme will be implemented. Reports of those in the pilot scheme have shown a compliance of over 80%. A mobile Police Team is monitoring those areas where there is an alleged continuous flouting of the revised speed limit.

Refuse Collections – As previously forwarded to all town councillors (26 April) Waste disposal depots are being reconfigured to take in the food waste which will come into operation late 23/early 24. This configuration will result in some changes to the current collection times as distances may be increased/decreased for waste lorries, the knock-on effect for householders is that the collections may be earlier/later, on the current collection day, therefore waste must be ready for collection by 07:00 to assist.

Community Chest – This has now opened for the 23/24 any councillors knowing of deserving causes please do not hesitate to get in touch with me, the full allocation for Torpoint has been entirely spent in the last 2 years.

Public Pathways – I had a rather disturbing email, followed up with several phone calls concerning public footpaths. The particular case in question involved a person selling their house and it transpires that according to the current maps a public path runs right through the middle of the property! This, on first look, might be regarded with some amusement, however the upshot is that this may well involve a great deal of cost to the seller (in 4 figures!) to resolve. I had not heard of this before taking it as read (as no doubt others do) that on purchasing the property a land search is

undertaken, by solicitors that all is well. Unfortunately, in some cases these searches have not been as thorough as supposed and do not come to light until such times as the house is sold again where a more diligent solicitor spots the error which in turn can lead to extra costs and a hold up in the whole purchase chain. I have examined this further and have also had discussions with the relative Portfolio Holder who informs me that in Cornwall there are some 300 individual cases where a foot path is required to be re-routed and a further 120 currently in the pipeline as a result of construction with some dating back centuries!!! In Torpoint's case the more modern cases of this happening arise around the Thanckes Park development (completed late 80's!) and some involve properties in both Carbeile and Maker Roads. The aim will be to pull all of these together and undertake a collective Public Paths Order for the whole ward rather than undertaking individual orders as the advice being that this would be both time consuming and impractical. Watch this space!

CC Meetings attended during this month:

Wednesday 12th April Extraordinary Pensions Committee

Monday 17th April and Monday 15th May Chy Travail Bodmin East Sub-Area Planning Committee

Tuesday 18th April NCH Truro Full Council.

Friday 21st April NCH Truro Audit Committee Meeting.

Numerous Virtual Meetings, mostly updates and information purposes.