

Cornwall Councillor Report – Carlyon Parish – February 2023

I hope you are all well.

I met with the Parish Clerk and Community Link Officer on 7th February to look at Tregrehan Mills Park and the Jubilee Field as part of the ongoing devolution discussions between the Parish Council and Cornwall Council. I will continue pushing for these village assets to be devolved to the parish council, who I believe will be best placed to manage them, as soon as possible.

On 7th February I also went and walked around the various watercourses and the top of the bridleway above Tregrehan Mills.

While the water running down onto the road has ceased, this is purely down to the better weather and the underlying causes have not been sorted.

I will continue to work with the Parish Council to push all relevant parties to take the action that is needed to analyse and correct the historic problems that cause the flooding here and further down the valley. To this end I have asked for a meeting with Rhys Hobbs, Cornwall Council's new Flood Prevention Manager, to bring him up to speed on these issues and what Cornwall Council as the lead flood authority is doing with the landowners and the Environment Agency to help resolve them.

I have agreed with Cormac's recommendations following their consultation on the speed restrictions on Bodelva Hill, which is that they should be implemented as advertised. These should be put in place soon.

The 'winter works' package funded under Coastal Access Improvements by Natural England, have completed, which included surface improvements on the SWCP along the edge of Sea Road and the boundary of the Carlyon Bay Hotel.

Speaking of the hotel, on 14th February it was good to meet with Matthew Brend of Brend Hotels, and Ali Ennaji, General Manager of the Carlyon Bay Hotel, to talk about the innovative work they are doing with vocational training and apprenticeships via the Brend Training Academy.

I've often heard it said (including by me!) that in Cornwall we can't just be all about the tourism and hospitality sector. The late David Penhaligon MP famously said 'You need more in an economy than just tourism, ice cream and deckchairs'.

And that is true, but it does not mean that at the same time we should not try to make the tourism and hospitality industries that we do have in Cornwall the best they possibly can be.

Brend's Training Academy achieves that, and I was very impressed by the variety of in-house training options offered to staff across their estate, with regular cohorts recruited annually and the existing work force nurtured and grown to achieve their best potential.

All of the staff who I spoke to during my visit had entered the hotel at a lower level and subsequently worked up to their current position via the training offered, with more training planned for the future. A great way to achieve a well-qualified and experienced work force for this sector, and one that I would encourage businesses across Cornwall to look at as an example of best practice.

Finally I wanted to put on record my thanks to Caitlin Lord, who is shortly leaving Cornwall Council and has been an excellent community link officer for the area. All the best for the future Caitlin!