

Cornwall Councillor Report – Carlyon Parish – April 2023

I managed to get a week and a bit off for the Easter Holidays so haven't done as much as normal. Nonetheless, here are some of the highlights of issues around Carlyon Parish over the past month.

The Beryl Bikes are now in place in St Austell and the surrounding area, with bays and bikes allocated for Carlyon Bay at Crinnis Beach carpark, as well as at the Eden Project. They appear to be getting a good deal of use around the town and I am told that the provider has a dedicated member of staff to go and retrieve any that are misplaced.

I had my annual visit to Charlestown School, meeting with Headteacher Mark Clutsom.

It's always great to visit this school and see the staff and pupils, and catch up with some of the work they are doing, in this instance the Anderson Shelter that has been built alongside some raised beds to 'Dig for Victory' to help immerse the children in their Second World War history topic.

We also talked about Curriculum Kerwenek, which we recently covered in our Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee, the school's excellent collaborative work with Charlestown Harbour, and Mark's passion for IT, which is very evident in the innovative ways children learn throughout the school.

Thanks to everyone who came out to support the Parish Spring Clean on 2 April.

I arranged a meeting with Rhys Hobbs, the new Flooding Manager at Cornwall Council, and members of the flooding sub-committee, which took place on 13 April. Although I was not able to stay for the whole meeting, I hope it was a productive one and it is always good to show the council officers the issues on site so they can relate to them better when they look at future work.

Actions received from Rhys at 1730 today were as follows:

'[Cornwall Council] to continue working with the landowner in relation to the clearance of the culvert under the Land Drainage Act so we can assess how this impacts the flows in the short term

'[Cornwall Council] to engage with the EA with regards to the potential way forward in the medium to long term and address the issue of the main river variation (de-maining of the unused stretch and en-maining of the ordinary watercourse).

I also have followed up with Cormac re the School Lane issue

They will investigate, though from looking at the land registry large proportions of the land and structures are not in CC ownership, so it may be that we as CC can make limited interventions other than to provide advice/recommendations to those who have the riparian responsibilities.'

Finally, community projects helping to tackle climate change or boost nature recovery are being invited to bid for a cash injection of up to £5,000 from Cornwall Council and Crowdfunder.

The Cornwall Climate and Nature Fund is aimed at supporting Cornwall to become carbon neutral, help nature recover and to protect biodiversity in land, rivers and seas.

To apply, community groups need to have a crowdfunding project or set one up on the Crowdfunder website.

If their activities meet the criteria they can apply for a grant to match fund up to 50% of costs up to £5,000.

If you want any more information on this, please contact me and I will be happy to help.