

## **Cornwall Councillor Report – Carlyon Parish - July 2023**

I hope you are all well as we move through July.

A couple of updates regarding the flooding issues around Tregrehan.Mills.

Cornwall Council let me know they received a call from the relevant landowner on 18 July to say that they were intending on starting to dig down to the culvert at the point of the sink hole on the same day. I have asked to be kept informed of any progress and findings as appropriate.

In more annoying news further up the Valley, the Environment Agency have been in touch basically saying they would not support any rerouting of the river that previously burst its banks. The EA said:

*'Earlier this year we had discussions with the representative of the landowner mentioned in Simon Deverill's email below who had expressed an interest in returning the Tregrehan Stream back to its historic channel pre the floods and breach of its bank in 2012/13.*

*We have carefully considered the implications of returning the Tregrehan stream to its former channel with regard to flooding and the environment. We have concluded that returning all of the flow to its historic channel would not be appropriate due to likely increased flood risk. The historic channel of the Tregrehan Stream has limited capacity to pass higher flows, and has culverted sections along its length. This is likely to have been a contributing factor in the breach of its channel back in 2012/13 when the channel appeared to have been overwhelmed during high flows. If all the flow in the Tregrehan Stream was returned to its historic channel, this would likely result in overtopping of the channel banks during high flows. This risks further breaches during high flows and potential flooding down the public highway impacting the village downstream.*

*We also considered the returning of a proportion of the flow down the historic channel. This could be achievable 'in principle', but would need a carefully designed control structure being constructed where the breach occurred in 2012/13, with limited controlled flow being directed down the historic channel. A formal overspill structure would also be required to direct all the remaining flows down its current route. The current input of flows from the Charlestown leat into the historic Tregrehan stream channel would also need to be considered. Overall this would be a very challenging project to design and construct.*

*A Flood Risk Activity Permit (FRAP) would be required from us prior to any works being undertaken so that we can (as the regulating body for works on the Tregrehan Stream - main river section) assess any proposal to ensure that it would not increase flood risk or cause environmental harm. We are not in a position to assist or contribute any funds to enable these works to be carried out and it would be entirely the responsibility of the landowner to carry out the works (if permitted) and ensure appropriate ongoing long term maintenance.'*

I have had an update from the Devolution Team that the Tregrehan Mills park and recreation field transfer is imminent. I hope to see this accomplished soon.

On 18 July I welcomed the new Community Link Officer, Sarah Scoltock to the division, and drove around the whole area with her. Sarah is keen to meet with local parish councils in due course, so please invite her to your meetings if you haven't already.

On wider matters, one thing I thought readers might be interested in is that the Department of Health and Social Care is inviting interested organisations to register expressions of interest for its £1 million Community Automated External Defibrillators (AED) Fund, aimed at increasing the number of AEDs in public places where they are most needed and help save lives.

The funding is part of the Government's drive to equip the health system with the right technology to ease pressures, reduce backlogs and cut waiting lists, and to improve public access to care when they need it.

As part of the grant award, applicants will be asked to demonstrate that defibrillators will be placed in areas where they are most needed, such as places with high footfall, vulnerable people, rural areas, or due to the nature of activity at the site.

Examples could include town halls, community centres, local shops, post offices and local parks, to ensure that defibrillators are evenly spread throughout communities and easily accessible if someone is experiencing an unexpected cardiac arrest.

An estimated 1,000 new defibrillators are to be provided by the fund, with the potential for this to double as successful applicants will be asked to match the funding they receive partially or fully.

Organisations who submit an expression of interest will be notified once grant applications open to the Department of Health and Social Care's £1m Community AED Fund.

Please let me know if you are interested in applying for a defibrillator and I can provide further details on how to do so.

Finally I was delighted to support my friend and neighbouring Cornwall Councillor Michael Bunney by nominating him as Chairman of the new South Cornwall Community Area Partnership, for which he was elected unopposed and unanimously.

I was also pleased to be elected unopposed and unanimously (I think!) as Vice Chair.

Michael and I have worked well together for approaching 10 years now, across party boundaries, with the best interests of our communities and the wider area in mind at all times.

I hope to work with Michael and the wider Community Area Partnership for the good of the area, over the next year and beyond.

As ever, should anyone wish to get in touch about anything, please feel free to do so via [cllr.james.mustoe@cornwall.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.james.mustoe@cornwall.gov.uk) or at 07885 277670.