

## Cornwall Councillor Report – Carlyon Parish – December 2025

I hope you are all well as we head towards Christmas!

Cormac visited Gwallon Keas on 2 December to go through the next stage of the adoption process. As part of this I fed in concerns raised with me recently by residents.

They have now provided the below update, which I hope is of interest:

*'We have noticed a few locations where footways need to be extending beyond ramps features, and kerb heights adjusted to ensure pedestrians (and more importantly vulnerable road users) can dismount the footways safely, either to cross the road or join a shared space. Other defects include, areas of ponding, block paving sinking/uneven, blocked drainage gullies, damaged kerbs etc.*

*Whilst out there we spoke to a couple of residents in the shared space area. I explained the design of the estate and reason for the grass service strips instead of footways. It's a shame this wasn't communicated to them when they were purchasing their properties.*

*I think the majority of the residents in that area would prefer footways instead of grass service strips but unfortunately that is not something I will be able to get the developer to change. It has, on the whole, been constructed as per the adoption drawings, and apart from a couple of locations there didn't seem to be an issue with the grass service strips being destroyed by parked vehicles.*

*The developer will need to fix these defects including contacting the residents about the service strip encroachment [garden grabbing].*

*These are what is known as the Part 2 remedial works and on completion I will issue the Part 2 certificate.*

*I will also need the highway drains to be surveyed, approval of the fire hydrants, and as-built drawings.*

*After the Part 2 certificate has been issued there will be a 12 month maintenance period, during which time the developer is still responsible for the estate.*

*A final inspection will then take place before adoption. So realistically it'll be at least another 18 months before we adopt, but it really depends how fast the developer carries out the remedial works.'*

I will continue to work with the council and Cormac to ensure elements of the adoption process within our control are actioned and progressed as soon as is practicably possible.

The next round of the Cornwall-wide Community Infrastructure Levy is opening in January.

The upcoming round aims to support more infrastructure projects that strengthen connections between communities. The goal is to make both existing and new places work better together.

Projects may include:

- Upgrading community assets to increase capacity where development has created extra demand
- Improving connectivity within and between communities to enhance access to local facilities
- Creating or upgrading footpath links
- Enhancing recreational and educational facilities

To find out more, see the link [here](#)

I was concerned to hear the announcement from First Bus that they will be ceasing operating their services in Cornwall from February 2026, and appreciate the worry this will bring to the people who rely on these services to get around, as well as those who work for First Bus and whose jobs are now at risk.

Thank you to those people who have reached out to me about various aspects of this announcement and future plans for the affected routes.

Cornwall Council's Cabinet Member for Transport, Cllr Dan Rogerson, reached out to members, and I have included some aspects of his communication below:

*'The decision to withdraw from Cornwall is an entirely commercial decision, and not one of the Council.*

*Cornwall has one of the largest rural bus networks in the Country with 50% of services primarily being delivered by Go Cornwall Bus (under contract and funded by Cornwall Council) and the remaining 50% on a commercial basis by First Bus. Cornwall Council does not fund First Bus services, aside from the separate Truro Park and Ride contract.*

*In response to the announcement made by First bus today, Cornwall Council will work tirelessly with other operators to understand how the commercial network can continue to run beyond 14 February. The Council simply does not have additional funding to support the gap left by First Bus. We fully recognise its critical value in transporting the people of Cornwall to their places of work, study, appointments and social network. We fully understand the critical role that bus has in Cornwall's wider economy as a major employer and a connector of people and services.*

*We will work closely with Cornwall's MPs to lobby central government to for the funding that is needed to ensure the long-term stability of our bus network, particularly in the light of the recent Royal Assent of the new Buses Services Act 2025 that sets out the value of 'socially important' services. Arguably, all of Cornwall's bus services are*

*socially important given they connect our communities to each other and the essential services that people rely on including health, employment and education.*

*However, most importantly, [we] will also work with the industry to ensure they communicate with the people of Cornwall on a regular, and in a timely, manner given we know just how unsettling this news may come to the travelling public who rely on our bus network.'*

I am grateful to Cllr Rogerson for setting out this position in a timely manner. I will do all I can, as far as my role stretches, to try to safeguard the routes currently run by Go Cornwall/First Cornwall that operate in the Mevagissey and St Austell Bay Division.

Up at County Hall I was pleased to be a supporter of, and to have had significant input into the creation of a cross-party motion put forward by Conservative, Lib Dem, Independent, Green and Reform councillors for the most recent Full Council calling on Cllr Leigh Frost, the Leader of Cornwall Council, to write to the Home Secretary and record Cornwall Council's strong opposition to plans from Government for Mandatory Digital ID.

This is something I have had a good deal of contact from local people from, all in opposition, from across the political spectrum, and I believe it is the wrong decision for our country.

Apart from the issues around personal freedom and choice perspectives that relate to such a scheme being mandatory from those who have contacted me, I also have concerns about the security of any data that is collected under this mandatory scheme and what else it could be used for in the future.

I was pleased to see the motion pass with a veritable landslide – with Cornwall Council being a trailblazer in the country for such opposition – and hope the Government will listen and act accordingly.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank the Parish Council for their support and hard work over the year, and wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy 2026.

As ever, should you require my assistance with any matter, please let me know via email on [cllr.james.mustoe@cornwall.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.james.mustoe@cornwall.gov.uk) or on 07885 277670.