

Cornwall Councillor Report – Carlyon Parish – January 2023

I hope you are all well and Happy New Year to you.

I was able to take a week off over Christmas so this report may be a little shorter than usual.

I joined the Chairman and Clerk for what I thought was a positive and productive meeting at Carlyon Bay Hotel last week.

Cormac have said they will shortly be putting the chips down on the new bit of coastpath in-between Carlyon Bay and Charlestown that I flagged with them last year.

On 22 December Cormac provided the following update regarding the flooding issues near Tregrehan Mills:

'The landowner and EA are going to investigate the possibility of finding a way of temporarily diverting some of the water at the breach in the main river back down its older route parallel to the highway. This would need careful consideration within various rules and regulations and is not a guarantee that a solution can be found. Whilst this investigation takes place the landowner has started clearing vegetation from around the channel parallel with the highway to enable better access to it and for the culverts and channels to be maintained. The plan will be for the open channels to be cleared of some silt where appropriate and thought given to the possible removal of some of the shorter sections of culvert.'

Cornwall Council will also work with the landowner with plans for them to potentially excavate down to the blocked culvert downstream of the area where the watercourse is currently ponding and creating issues for the PRow. This work could not be undertaken until a period of drier weather but we hope to be able to come to an agreement with the landowner so that this can be undertaken as soon as possible next spring/summer.'

On 10 January, they provided this additional update, which I fed back to the working party ahead of their meeting on 16 January:

'We are looking into possible ways of alleviating the flow on the PRow and highway and will update you as soon as there is a firm decision on this.'

I have also emailed the landowners representative today to ask for their plans to work on the culvert blockage/collapse during the spring/summer to remove impediments before next winter.'

I will continue to push Cormac to work with the EA and landowner to improve the conditions in this area. Having visited the stretch of road on 15 January, it was clear that the water on the highway itself is a growing issue that needs to be resolved.

Finally, on 17 January I was pleased to join the unanimous vote at Cornwall Council to take advantage of new powers offered in the Government's Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill, which will allow us to charge second homes that are not primary residences and holiday lets that pay council tax, 100% additional council tax from 2024.