**Mevagissey Parish Council – Cornwall Councillor report – November 2020**

The second period of COVID-19 restrictions remains challenging for many of us and I would like to extend my continued thanks to all on the Parish Council and volunteer group for their dedicated work for the community during this time.

Ocean Housing have now attended and cleared the weeds from the courtyard in Wesley Court/Meadow Street and will now do this as regular maintenance. They have also scraped moss from the pavements nearby.

I continue to liaise with them on regular reports of ASB in the area and would appreciate the parish council’s feedback on this.

The one way system ended for good on 31 October. Cormac have apologised for their subsequent delay in removing the signs but did eventually get around to doing it nearly a week later.

I received an email in response to my correspondence to Building Control about the scaffolding on 11 and 13 Polkirt Hill, and in turn 15 Polkirt Hill. It is as follows:

‘1.       Building Control have inspected 15 Polkirt Hill and it is considered dangerous under the provisions of Section 77 of The Building Act 1984.

2.       The internal support works put in place by the owner of 15 have mitigated the immediate danger, to allow time to agree a solution.

3.       The owner of 15 has decided to demolish and rebuild, this was not an instruction from Building Control, we have only asked for the danger to be removed.

4.       The owner of 15 has submitted a planning application to demolish and rebuild.  Discussions are ongoing between the owner, the planning and conservation teams, to agree a suitable replacement.

5.       The owner of 15 has submitted a demolition notice under Section 80 of the Building Act and we have issued the necessary counter notice as required by Section 81.  This is largely an administrative process and does not over-ride the need to obtain any other permissions as necessary, indeed the counter notice makes this clear.  The demolition ‘permission’ is valid for 3 months, however it is a formality to extend it.  It should be noted that the wording on the counter notice may be read as an instruction, however, it’s the way the legislation is written.

6.       Last week Building Control were informed that number 15 have moved sufficiently to be supported by the scaffolding around number 13.  We contacted the owner of 15 to confirm that if the scaffold around number 13 was indeed supporting his property, there must be immediate discussions between the owners to ensure support was maintained if necessary.

7.       Inspections carried out this week by Building Control have confirmed that number 15 is not supported by the neighbouring scaffolding, indeed there is clear space between number 15 and the scaffold.

8.       Our planning colleagues have been informed the scaffold around 13 does not support 15.

… as long as the scaffold offers no support to number 15, we have no objection to the scaffold being removed.’

I have subsequently contact the scaffolding company for 11 and 13 Polkirt Hill with this information on three occasions and asked for an update but have regretfully not had a reply from the project manager.

In related info, the application for 15 Polkirt Hill, which has unusually been called in by an officer, is due for committee on 30 November via a virtual meeting. I will discuss this further at the appropriate place in the meeting.

Regarding the request for a meeting of a Mevagissey Traffic Group or similar, the highways manager has said that, similarly to other towns and villages where vehicular traffic is a priority topic, the most appropriate route would probably be for a formal feasibility study to be carried out, to understand any viable options to address what it is the Parish Council is trying to achieve.

It would be advisable for a study to be provided, because it will allow engineer time to review fully what options are feasible, and the associated costs of any feasible scheme.

Once the basis of the request is known estimated costs of a study can be provided, for consideration through any available funding streams – external or internal. Internal funding streams would be the CNP process, or CIL process (if applicable), or the Local Transport request list, but this could be a few years before allocated funding.

Cllr Facey has provided this information and I have passed onto the Highways Manager, to which I await a reply.

Cormac have told me that there was an opportunity to secure funding under Natural England to improve the signage of eight circular walks that are available from the South West Coast Path (SWCP) in Cornwall. The aim is to encourage visitors to explore further than just the SWCP and hopefully improve the visitor experience as a result.

Cornwall Council worked in conjunction with the guided walk app and online guide, IWalk Cornwall, www.iwalkcornwall.co.uk/about\_us.html , and eight circular walks of their possible 138 coastal routes were chosen. The routes will have additional and improved signage using oak fingerposts at road sides, with waymark posts being used where the route may be difficult to follow.

One of the circular walks that was chosen is Mevagissey to Portmellon and new wooden signs have gone up on that walk.

I continue to get fly-tipping reports around the community recycling facilities, these have all been passed on to Cornwall Council’s enforcement department with names and addresses if they are included.

I have reported the knocked down blue no HGV sign on Valley Road by the bus stop to be put back up.

I continue to chase Cornwall Council for a substantive reply and way forward regarding the unstable cliff above East Quay.

Regarding the railings proposal at Portmellon, the proposal from Cormac that the Parish Council will be looking at this evening was the first I have heard of it! I want to know who has suggested this, as I have never been asked about it in the six years I have been councillor.

Finally, I was honoured to lay a wreath on behalf of Cornwall Council on Remembrance Sunday in Mevagissey. My thanks to Cllr Facey who organised a safe and socially distant order of wreath laying on this poignant and unusual occasion.