

Report to Looe Town Council November 2017

New Cornwall Council Crowdfunding platform & environmental seed fund

I announced in September that there is a new Cornwall Council Crowdfunding platform. I hosting two Crowdfunding information sessions as part of our new partnership with Crowdfunder, the link for the presentation is

https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/uploads/cornwall_workshop_september17.pdf

The members community chest element of this new platform is now live also to complement the **Grow Nature Seed Fund Crowdfunding platform**

<https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/funds/crowdfund-cornwall>)

I have pledged £1000 from my community chest to help other projects gain new volunteers, raise awareness of their group or organisation and raise funds of course. I would be pleased to present to Looe Town Council and other local community groups to explain how the new bespoke Crowdfunder Cornwall platform works.

The Growing Nature Seed fund aims to improve our area for the birds, bees and other creatures and create wonderful spaces for humans! 2 projects have been approved already including the bude Community Orchard project and the Lanstephan play equipment project. The total fund is £10,000

For the right project I can help match fund with a contribution from my community chest.

Just email me with your idea edwina.hannaford@cornwallcouncillors.org.uk

<http://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/funds/crowdfunder>

Looe Neighbourhood Plan - Polean Development

Armand and I have been lobbying hard behind the scenes to secure a project team and funding to get the redevelopment of Polean off the ground as part of the neighbourhood plan.

We are fortunate to have Dr Sandra Rothwell as lead officer for both Liskeard and Looe.

Sandra is CEO of the CORnwall Local Enterprise Partnership and head of economic development in Cornwall Council.

Rob Andrew is coordinating efforts in towns who re keen to take economic growth plans forwarding is working with us in the ground.

We have secured some capital funding from CORnwall Council to undertake this work to unlock Capital receipt to fund infrastructure and buildings.

We are considering an application for the DCLG Neighbourhood Planning Grant Fund for the match funding for such a Master Plan.

It's important that the whole town pulls together to develop this area which is essential for jobs. The neighbourhood plan has identified a number of potential uses for the area including space for a cycle hub, new health centre, social housing, managed office space, storage and workspace.

The plan could include the land as part of the Library devolution under consideration by Looe Town Council.

It's critical we move faster to bring the Neighbourhood plan to fruition as we are still open to speculative development and appeals and that we have similar policies to Polperro Community Council as the site borders both parishes.

Out of hours emergency telephone numbers

If you become aware of or have a constituent who needs help in an emergency out-of-hours, it's important to know who to call. Please feel free to share the following information with constituents where possible.

Emergency services

For the police, fire service, coastguard or medical emergencies, call 999.

For non-emergencies, call the police on 101 and get medical advice by calling 111

Anti-terrorist hotline - phone the Police on 0800 789 321

Utility companies

For gas, water and electrical emergencies

Wales and West - if you smell gas phone 0800 111 999

South West Water - to report a water leak phone 0800 230 0561

Western Power - to report a power cut phone 105 or 0800 6783 105

Council services

Social care emergencies (request help for an adult or a child) - 0300 1231 116

Council Housing emergency repairs - phone 0300 1234 161 if there is:

A serious threat to health and safety, such as a gas leak or dangerous electrical fault

Major damage to the structure of the building

A serious property related security problem not including lost keys

Total prolonged loss of essential service, such as gas, water or electricity that results in a serious impact to immediate health or safety of house occupants

A person is homeless tonight due to not having suitable accommodation available for their occupation

Highways emergency (report urgent or hazardous issues) - 0300 1234 222

Flooding

Report flooding or drainage issues on public roads by phoning 0300 1234 222

Environment Agency Floodline 24 hour advice - 0345 988 1188

Antisocial behaviour including noise, waste or other nuisance issues - 0300 1234 212

Draft budget information

Full Council will consider its budget proposals on Tuesday in Cornwall Council.

Read more about the Council's business plan, draft budget for 2018/19, Medium Term Financial Plan and supporting papers in the Cabinet papers:

- [View all the Cabinet budget papers](#) (View item 8: Council Business Plan, Budget 2018/19, Medium Term Financial Plan 2018-2022, and Residents' Survey 2017)
- [View the Council's service plans for 2018/19 to 2021/22](#) (appendix 3 of the business plan and draft budget item) for adult social services and adult transformation commissioning, children and family services, education and early years, neighbourhood and public protection, environment, Resilient Cornwall (fire services), transport and infrastructure, planning and sustainable development, economic growth, housing, customer and support services, and wellbeing and public health.

Cornwall Council's budget challenge

Like other local authorities across the country, Cornwall Council is facing less funding from central Government, as well as increased pressure as a result of rising demand for services. The Council has had its budget reduced by £300 million since 2009 and, with the main grant we receive from central Government being significantly reduced by 2019/20, we now face the challenge of finding another £75 million within the next four years.

To do this we need to make difficult decisions about Council tax and how we provide services. Each year we prioritise spending on services that make sure children and young people get the best start in life, that communities feel the benefit of economic growth and that support vulnerable residents to live independently.

We are proposing to find the £75 million by delivering some services differently, charging for some services which are currently free and increasing some existing fees and charges where appropriate. In addition to this we will continue to become more efficient and effective in how we work and reduce our staffing levels through vacancy management and natural turnover, reduced agency support, the use of temporary contracts, reskilling and redeployment.

In line with Government policy, the Council is also proposing to increase Council Tax next year by 1.99%, with an additional 3% to fund adult social care services in order to ensure this priority service has sufficient funding to meet the increasing demands and needs of its users. The overall 4.99% Council tax rise means an increase, for a Band D property, of £1.34 a week or £69.80

Where the Council budget comes from

As one of the largest unitary councils in the country, Cornwall Council has a budget around £1 billion a year. We use the budget to provide services to more than half a million residents and over five million visitors a year.

The services we provide include social care for adults and children, housing, planning, leisure, waste and street cleaning, education, public health, community safety, street lighting and many more.

We don't get all of our money from Council tax, only a quarter, about £270 million, of the budget comes from Council tax. The other three quarters comes from other sources:

- £162 million comes from Business Rates
- £520 million comes from the Government but the majority of this can only be used for specific services like schools, housing benefit and public health
- £95 million comes from the services we charge for, like planning and licensing and parking
- £10 million comes from other sources including investment income

Where the Council budget comes from:

How we spend money across the Council

We have a budget close to £1 billion a year which we use to deliver services to more than half a million residents and over five million visitors a year.

Read more about [how the Council delivers value for money through the services we provide](#).

View our [How your Council delivers value for money infographic](#) for more information on how we spend the budget to fund services.

Local Councils invited to help shape the delivery of future waste and street cleansing arrangements”

You may be aware that the current contract to collect household waste and recycling and clean streets and beaches (operated by BIFFA) will come to an end in March 2020. We are now in the process of preparing a contract for the next period after 2020 and want to gather views from Town and Parish Councils on where and how improvements can be made, particularly in relation to street cleansing.

Research has showed that 25% of the current black bags could have been recycled and 35% was food waste.

Evidence from other Local Authorities shows that 75% of which collect waste that can't be recycled fortnightly, shows that this could enable Cornwall to rise from its current recycling rate of 35.7% to meet the 2020 50% national recycling target.”

Cabinet has therefore agreed to pursue a weekly recycling and food collection service with a 2 weekly residual collection to promote recycling. Cornwall recycling rate is far behind other area of England at only 38% with the best reaching 60%. The Government have set a 50% recycling rate so we must do something radical. There will have to be different arrangements in some places where storage is already difficult. This work is being developed between now and February 2018.

Officers in the Council's waste and devolution services would therefore like to work with interested towns and parishes to help shape the future waste service delivery and are inviting a group of local councils to a workshop session with key officers to consider future arrangements and service delivery, using local knowledge and experience to inform the shaping of any new waste arrangements.

This session will focus on gaining local council perspective and input to help officers to consider the needs of local councils within the context of the devolution agenda and shaping contractual specifications.

The session will be held on Wednesday 13th December 2017 between 0930 and 1230 in the Chair's Dining Room at New County Hall, Truro, TR1 3AY.

If you are interested in being part of a group discussion on the topic and have experience and knowledge to share, please get in touch with Scott Sharples ssharples@cornwall.gov.uk to express your interest. We will confirm attendees and arrangements in the first week of December based on a first come, first served basis (whilst ensuring as broad a spread of types of councils as possible). We are aiming for a group of around 6 local councils to make the discussion as productive as possible and to give time to explore the topic with each attendee. We will aim to include a mix of local councils to gather a range of input from across the sector and will compile key points that can be shared more widely.

PERFECT project for green and blue infrastructure

Cllr Toms and myself attended a workshop on Green Infrastructure last week. It's designed to improve the quality of development and make space for nature which in turn contributes to human health and well being making better places for us to live and work. This is linked to the Environmental Growth Strategy which I championed and was adopted at full council last year.

The PERFECT project will be reporting back regularly on progress and this can be viewed at:

www.cornwall.gov.uk/perfect

What is Green Infrastructure?

Green infrastructure is a planned network of green spaces and inter-connecting links designed, developed and managed to meet the environmental, social and economic needs of the surrounding area.

Green infrastructure provides many benefits for local people including areas for exercise, relaxation and play, wildlife areas, flood alleviation, food and fuel production and sustainable transport links. Improving and protecting these assets is a key aspect of planning in Cornwall.

The Green Infrastructure Strategy for Cornwall

Cornwall Council adopted the first Cornwall Wide Green Infrastructure Strategy in 2012. The Green Infrastructure Strategy for Cornwall document provides a strategic framework to manage and enhance the wider natural environment for the benefit of people, biodiversity and places. It also sets out an approach to how Cornwall wants to guide and shape the planning and delivery of Green Infrastructure up to 2030. This is further strengthened by Policy 25 of the Cornwall Local Plan.

Work on updating the Green Infrastructure Strategy commenced in February 2017 as part of the PERFECT Interreg Project.

The Cornwall Environmental Growth Strategy

This new Environmental Growth Strategy is a first of its kind in the UK.

'In 2065, Cornwall's environment will be naturally diverse, beautiful and healthy, supporting a thriving society, prosperous economy and abundance of wildlife.'

A first of its kind, environmental growth is focused on helping nature to do more for us. The Strategy was adopted by Cornwall Council in September 2016.

Localism summit

As part of my Neighbourhoods Portfolio, I am hosting four Localism Summits over the coming weeks. The aim of these events is to offer our Town & Parish Council partners a chance to find out more about some of our work which impacts on them, and which often involves them. The agenda will cover four key themes; (i) Strengthening the Community Network Panels, (ii) Devolution, (iii) The new Waste Contract and (iv) the budget. There will also be a Q&A session at the end for delegates to raise any points of concern.

The nearest event is on 29 November – 1200-1630hrs

Liskeard Town Council Offices, 3-5 West Street, Liskeard, PL14 6BW

Each venue is limited to 50 delegates, and obviously the priority is for our Town & Parish Council partners to attend, but it will be on a first come first served basis. If you would like to attend you will be most welcome. Should you wish to come along, please email communitynetworks@cornwall.gov.uk so we can manage numbers accordingly.