

Meetings attended March 2022

10th March 2022 - Wadebridge and Padstow Network Panel.

Another good attendance for the network meeting that I attended and was joined by Cllr Dawe. The main topic that was discussed this time was the cycle lanes in Wadebridge, a presentation was given by Phil Keymer and then a discussion took place on possible ways of improving the cycle network through Wadebridge to make it safer, ideas included reducing the speed limit throughout the town, using different colour tarmacs as Bodmin have to make people more aware of crossings and cycle paths. Most ideas involved great expense but advice was given to different funding that could be applied for to help out with this.

Clive Wherry was in attendance to answer any questions that were raised from the police report, most of the crime figures had started to come down and the ones that showed a marked increase when questioned seemed to be isolated ongoing cases that involved individuals but for numerous cases. Cllr Dawe did thank the police for being seen to be visiting Padstow on a more regular basis, their presence does seem to have made a difference to the ASB around the town and they have been interacting with the youngsters.

Oliver Jones was present and went through all the projects that Highways had undertaken, and also the schemes that were in the process of being dealt with. He took questions and agreed to meet with certain Councillors in their parishes on certain schemes that they felt needed addressing.

It was agreed by the majority of councillors present to try and set up a meeting with SW water and to also include Camelford & Bodmin on the problems that are ongoing on the River Camel with pollution and nitrates entering into the river resulting in major issues, especially after heavy rainfall when overflows and pumping of effluent occurs. This is having an impact on a lot of planning applications from Wadebridge up through villages that have watercourses that feed into the River Camel.

17th March 2022 - Mayors of Cornwall meeting

Attendance was down a bit for this meeting compared to normal as a lot of Mayors/Deputy Mayors had other engagements.

Topics that were discussed this time were how preparations were going throughout Cornwall with regards to the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations. It seems that most towns are now finalising their programmes and it's looking as though there will be a lot of things going on throughout the County to celebrate. Other topics talked about were who present at the meeting were still hoping to be in the chair come May, and who had served their time and were handing over the baton to a new chair, the Mayor of Truro and Mayor of Penzance spoke about different funding and large projects that were going on in their respective cities/towns

21st March 2022 - Introduction to Planning.

This was a zoom link meeting presented by Andrew Towleron. A very interesting and informative meeting which Cllr Dawe also attended. The presentation was put across in a way that made it very easy to take the information in, with good upto date explanations to reasons of what should be considered to either support or not support a planning application, as well as explaining that even though most councils are only consultees when coming to making a planning application decision, with NDPs becoming more widely used as a tool in decision making by planning authorities. Planning committee will be receiving some useful information in the next few weeks from the office from this meeting which I'm hoping they will find useful.

22nd March - Planning training session of which the Environment Agency covers.

This was another zoom meeting that Cllr Dawe and myself attended, this meeting was mainly on Supporting Sustainable Development, Flood and Risk Management and the Environment Agency's role and responsibilities. A very corporate presentation from two gentlemen that were not even based in Cornwall, and it was really not a presentation that Cllr Dawe or myself could really say that we had come away having gained a wealth of new knowledge.

James O'Keefe
(Deputy Mayor)