

LUDGVAN PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman:

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MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 7th JUNE 2017, IN THE LUDGVAN OASIS CHILD CARE CENTRE, LOWER QUARTER, LUDGVAN.

[Subject to confirmation at the next monthly meeting]

PRESENT: Councillors; R Sargeant (Chair); R Mann (Vice-Chair); A Branchett ;C Cartwright; M Hollow; D Osmand; S Miucci; M Squire; L Trudgeon.

IN ATTENDANCE: Steve Hudson (Clerk)

Public Participation Period

Joe Poynton from the A30 Action Group was first to address the Council stating that he was a long time campaigner for a bypass and since 1996 there has been as 28% increase in traffic which continued to rise by more than 2% per year. All other settlements have been bypassed and that in the Highways England consultation on the Road Investment Strategy, a year ago, had elicited hundreds of responses. A bypass was now one of eleven projects being considered and it was his wish for the Council and campaigners to join forces to pursue the objective.

Cornwall Councillor Simon Elliot expressed his concerns that the housing targets in Penzance contained in the Local Plan and the lack of associated jobs would further increase pressure on the road.

A number of other participants then expressed their views:

The need is to improve the road we already have, a bypass is pie in the sky particularly given the geographic remoteness.

Once the St Erth park and ride is open there will have to be a bypass as there will be gridlock.

There is a need for evidence of the economic benefits for a strong argument to be made.

Nothing will be achieved without a strategic approach, we must set out what we want to achieve and then devise methods for achieving it.

Agree with the need for an evidence base and a strategic view but we don't want to miss out on one at the expense of the other.

The volume of traffic and speed is the issue I had to grab a child's arm to stop them stepping out in front of a lorry.

LPC 614 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillors; D Badcock J Hewett; N Honess;

LPC 615 Declarations of interest in Items on the Agenda

None

LPC 616 Dispensations

None.

LPC 617 A30 St Erth to Newtown Roundabouts

Councillor Cartwright opened the debate stating that 400 homes have their lives blighted by 20,000 plus vehicles a day passing their doors.

He proposed that: Bearing in mind the concerns about road traffic expressed by parish residents who responded to the Neighbourhood plan questionnaire and the overwhelming support for a bypass demonstrated by visitors to the neighbourhood plan consultation meetings:

Ludgvan Parish Council appoint an ad hoc committee under standing order 5d, the Terms of Reference to be as follows:

Name: Ludgvan Parish Council Roads Committee

Membership: At least 3 councillors and up to 3 non councillors .

Object: The committee to act on behalf of the council to pursue the councils support for a bypass road from St. Erth to Long Rock and to engage with relevant authorities and persons, including other parish and town councils, Cornwall Council, Highways England, The Department of Transport and relevant Ministers of State with the object of facilitating and encouraging the building of the road and the implementation of interim road safety improvements.”

He agreed that the words **with detailed Terms of Reference to be approved in due course** be added.

Having seconded the proposal Councillor Squire went on to say that the present road cannot cope and needs bypassing. There was however, a need for immediate safety measures between the roundabouts at St Erth and Newtown. The problem at Crowlas Crossroads being so significant that access and egress was extremely difficult. Safety was the most important issue including a reduction in the speed limit.

Councillor Branchett echoed the need for a bypass but felt that the main priority was the safety measure included in the Highways England Route Study. He didn't agree with the need for a Committee that would blur lines of communication felling closer liaison with the A30 Action Group was a better way forward.

These sentiments were agreed with by Councillor Trudgeon.

Councillor Hollow enquired whether cameras could be installed to catch those committing motoring offences in the village.

Councillor Miucci agreed with the need for regular communication but that there was no need for a Committee. The priority should be the safety measures and expressed concern that the pursuit of two things at once might mean neither were achieved.

Councillor Mann felt that it was urgent that the safety measures be implemented and gave notice of an amendment.

The Chair stated that regular meeting with Highways England had led to the proposed safety improvements and the issue was the failure to deliver them when promised. The problem was the lack of expert information enabling the Council to represent all who may be affected and he felt the Council should pursue the safety improvements and then the bypass.

Councillor Mann then proposed the following amendment which was duly seconded by

Councillor Hollow.

The whole Council forms an ad hoc Committee, meeting as and when, to gather evidence when it becomes available.

The Committee to look at all present road issues regarding the A30 supporting all possible methods of improving safety and traffic issues in the long and short term.

Councillor Cartwright finished the debate by stating his proposal included the gathering of information and would represent the whole parish and that the Neighbourhood Plan consultation resulted in 12 opposing a bypass whilst over 100 were in favour. There was a need to act and respond quickly as things develop and a Committee consisting of the whole Council would be too unwieldy.

The amendment was put to the vote which was carried by 6 votes to 2 with one not voting and thus became the substantive motion.

Councillor Squire stated that the current MP and other candidates in the election were onside and given the positive response received from the Secretary of State for Transport when he visited Crowlas in respect of the proposed safety measures there was an opportunity not to be missed. He moved the following amendment which was duly seconded:

That continued and regular pressure be put on those in power and the relevant agencies to deliver the promised safety improvements between St Erth and Newtown roundabouts.

This was put to the vote and passed by 7 votes to 0 with two not voting.

The substantive Motion was then put to the Council and it was by 7 votes to 0 with two not voting **RESOLVED that:**

The whole Council forms an ad hoc Committee, meeting as and when, to gather evidence when it becomes available.

The Committee to look at all present road issues regarding the A30 supporting all possible methods of improving safety and traffic issues in the long and short term.

Detailed Terms of Reference to be approved in due course.

That continued and regular pressure be put on those in power and the relevant agencies to deliver the promised safety improvements between St Erth and Newtown roundabouts.