

CLERKS REPORT – 13. COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW – CORNWALL COUNCIL (SEE ATTACHED 13.a) - To approve updating the Community Governance Review team with the developer interest and pre-application discussions on the Tencreek site

BACKGROUND – Cornwall Council has been conducting a Community Governance Review. This process was impacted by the Covid pandemic and the 2021 Cornwall Council elections. Cornwall Council is looking to finalise the process. The draft recommendations are attached. (13.a.). However, they were made in the autumn of 2020, on the basis, of certain circumstances which have since changed. It is recommended that the Cornwall Council Community Governance Review team are given an update on the developer interest and pre-application discussions before the 29th April 2022 deadline.

COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW – is a legal process by which the boundaries of parish and town councils might be adjusted to more accurately, reflect the actual location of built facilities on the ground. An example, would be the location of the Liskeard Tavern, Liskeard Argos+ and the Costa Coffee actually being in the Menheniot Parish rather than the parish of Liskeard. This has on some occasions led to issues with for example a Town Council opposing an on the edge of town development through concern of it impacting the vitality and viability of the town centre. Whilst, the Parish Council might support the approval of the development. This was the case with the Costa Coffee store.

PROPOSED CHANGES – (Dobwalls & Trewidland Parish) – the consultation has resulted in some recommendations, being supported by neighbouring Parish Councils which see the Planning benefits of regularising the locational of all of an estate or facility in one parish. This has been the case with the Liskeard Town Council proposals with regards the boundary with Dobwalls & Trewidland Parish. This is indicated in the excerpt (23-26) below from the Cornwall Council recommendations (13.a attached).

“LISKEARD TOWN COUNCIL (SEE ATTACHED – 13.a. CORNWALL COUNCIL – COMMUNITY NETWORK AREA 15 LISKEARD – LOOE)

“1506 Liskeard

23. Two proposals have been made with regard to Liskeard parish.

24. (i) Liskeard Town Council wished to change the boundary with Dobwalls and Trewidland parish (1502), so that the whole of the Moorswater Industrial Estate and the sewerage works would become part of Liskeard parish, as shown edged red on Maps 2.1 and 2.2 in the Public Consultation document for Liskeard and Looe Community Network Area (CNA15). This proposal was supported by Dobwalls and Trewidland Parish Council.

25. Cornwall Council considered that this change would better reflect the identity and interests of the area and secure more effective and convenient community governance.

26. No submissions were received, nor further proposals made, during the public consultation in relation to this recommendation.”

PROPOSED CHANGES – (Menheniot Parish) – the proposals put forward by Liskeard Town Council for Menheniot were not just the transfer of the existing commercial buildings, but the remaining majority of the Tencreek site. This site has not yet been developed, although there are the necessary access roads into the site. The site has been the subject of mixed residential and commercial uses planning consents. It should be noted that the precept paid by the occupants of residential units is paid to the local Parish or Town Council. Menheniot Parish Council opposed any change to the boundary. Cornwall Council did recommend changing some of the existing built development from Menheniot Parish area to the Liskeard Parish area. Cornwall Council noted that the mixed use residential and commercial consent had lapsed. They recommended the decision on any future revisions should be deferred to after the 2021 Cornwall Council elections. Their recommendations are set out 27. – 33. below)

“LISKEARD TOWN COUNCIL (SEE ATTACHED – 13.a. CORNWALL COUNCIL – COMMUNITY NETWORK AREA 15 LISKEARD – LOOE)

27. (ii) Liskeard Town Council also wished to change the boundary with Menheniot parish (1508) to include an area of land south of Liskeard, including Bolitho Farm, the junction of the A38 and A390 and land to the east of this junction for which planning permission has been granted, as shown edged red on Map 3.0 in the Public Consultation Document for Liskeard and Looe Community Network Area (CNA15). Menheniot Parish Council opposed this change.

28. Based on the evidence then available, Cornwall Council recommended a smaller scale change limited to the eastern side of the junction (including the Bubble Retail Park, the Premier Inn and the land with planning permission) as it considered that this would better reflect the identity and interests of the community in the area and secure more effective and convenient community governance.

29. During the Public Consultation Period thirteen submissions were received from residents of Menheniot parish opposing the change. Partly on the basis that Menheniot Parish Council serves that area well and partly because the area has not yet been developed and so it would be premature to transfer that area at this stage. A Cornwall Councillor also made a submission raising a number of issues including affordable housing, schools' education grant and Section 106 (Planning) implications, which he suggests need to be addressed before any boundary change between Liskeard and Menheniot, as being proposed, is finalised. Willton Homes West Ltd, who own the development site at Tencreek Farm, which is within the area proposed to be transferred, was neutral as to any change in the boundary.

30. Subsequently, although remaining a proposed allocated site for development in the Menheniot Neighbourhood Development Plan, it has transpired that the planning permission has lapsed. Having regard to the representations received and as the reason for including the land with planning permission no longer applies, with

no indication as yet received as to when or whether any planning application will be made in the foreseeable future, the Panel was invited to consider that this land should no longer be transferred to Liskeard parish at this time. Such a transfer can be considered in a future review. On that basis, on balance, the Panel was recommended to make a smaller scale boundary change limited to the area of land encompassed by the A38, the slip road and the A390 together with the Premier Inn and the Liskeard Tavern, as shown on the Map 3.0a attached, being transferred from Menheniot parish to Liskeard parish (Central ward 2021 boundaries), subject to any necessary consent from the LGBCE, in relation to Electoral Division Boundaries and Internal ward boundaries.

31. Should the boundary change, as shown on alternative Map 3.0a (attached), be made the 2021 Electoral Division boundary should also be adjusted to align with it. A number of properties would be transferred, but the electoral ratio would not be significantly affected. The Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) would need to consent to the consequential change to the Cornwall (Electoral Changes) Order 2019. In any event, the LGBCE's consent will be required for the parish boundary change as the 2019 Order would similarly need to be updated to include the land to be transferred from Menheniot parish (unwarded) to the Liskeard parish (2021 Central ward).

32. The Electoral Review Panel discussed the officer recommendation and following that debate the Panel was of the view that due to the lack of agreement between the parishes concerned, the complexity of the issues raised and time constraints, as well as that the details of the development might be known by then, in order to assist with the decision, it was suggested that the matter be deferred for future consideration following the May 2021 elections.

33. Recommendation - That (i) the area shown edged red on Maps 2.1 and 2.2 in the Public Consultation document for Liskeard and Looe Community Network Area (CNA15) be transferred from Dobwalls and Trewidland parish to Liskeard parish and be included within Liskeard South ward (2021 boundaries), subject to any necessary consent from the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE), and (ii) to defer the boundary issues between Liskeard and Menheniot for future consideration following the May 2021 elections”

POST AUTUMN 2020 PROPOSALS – There have been preapplication approaches to Cornwall Council (as the Planning Authority and the authority supporting the preparation of Neighbourhood Plans), Liskeard Town Council (as the town centre most impacted by out of town development and the organisation responsible for supporting the production and use of the Liskeard Neighbourhood Plan as a guide to development), Menheniot Parish Council have also been part of the pre planning consultations (as the Parish Council in whose area the Ten creek site falls for purposes of the statutory Planning consultation response etc.)

The pre-application discussions have been for the same scale and type of mixed use residential and commercial activities taking up the whole of the remainder of the that had been previously consented.

Cornwall Council have played a key role in trying to avoid another “bridge to nowhere” scenario by getting the different developers to liaise on sites servicing and access.

RECOMMENDATION: To approve updating the Community Governance Review team with the developer interest and pre-application discussions on the Tencreek site.

14. LOCAL CYCLING AND WALKING INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN (LCWIP) a). To agree the Local Cycling and Walking Instructure Plan as the basis for the further work and attracting funding.

This is a large 90mb file, therefore please follow the link to the report using the fileshare facility <https://share.sustrans.org.uk/share/public/?folder=2afc1c21>

The password is: liskeard

b). To agree in principle to push for a 20 mph zone for Liskeard

c). To note the agreed priorities for more detailed design and the revised timetable for the completion of the work.

A priorities workshop was held on 17 February 2022, to consider the routes detailed in the LCWIP and prioritise three routes to take forward for detailed design. Areas selected include Charter Way, Plymouth Road and Dean Street. Sustran’s engineering design team are now developing these further. Due to delays in the availability of some information the work will be completed in late May/early June.

In the meantime, Sustrans continue to work on the proposals for the bus stops and a cycle hub, which could be combined into an active travel hub. The brief for this work has changed since the commission began, and engagement is taking place with stakeholders such as Cornwall Council and the bus company to review the options available. Another workshop may take place to consider this further when the necessary information (plans, surveys etc) have been gathered.

19.B. CORRESPONDENCE - 4th April 2022 – GWR – Notification that Liskeard Railway Station has been placed on a shortlist of stations being considered under the Department for Transport “Access For All” funding stream.

From: GWR - Mark Hopwood <mark.hopwoodGWR-MD@gwr.com>

Sent: 04 April 2022 11:36

To: Steve Vinson <townclerk@liskeard.gov.uk>

Subject: Bidding for accessibility improvements

Dear Steve

The Department for Transport (DfT) have asked Great Western Railway and Network Rail to jointly submit nominations for Access for All (AfA) funding. This is a nationwide funding pot for station projects across the UK, with the improvements being delivered within Control Period 7 (2024 to 2029).

In the previous Control Period GWR was awarded funding for one new station scheme under AfA which is generally used to fund major improvements such as lifts and new footbridges. We want to do better, that said, we know that there will not be sufficient funding to make all the changes we want to see. We are therefore working together to prepare the best possible bids.

To help with that we have jointly scored all the remaining GWR stations which are not fully accessible (104) against criteria set down by the DfT and have taken the decision to focus our bids on the twenty stations which scored the highest.

We are therefore intending to bid for improvements to Liskeard station.

The DfT scoring criteria includes footfall, numbers of customers currently seeking assistance, proximity to alternative accessible stations and evidence of stakeholder support from disability groups, local authorities, Members of Parliament and local communities.

Stations also score for other local factors such the availability/potential for match funding, any new developments (particularly for housing) within 800m of the station, and any other supplementary information that would indicate a more pressing need for accessibility – for instance a hospital or nearby extra care facility or plans for developments like this.

To make sure we have the best bid possible, we are writing to ask if you could send us a letter of support, and encourage others to do so, so that we can maximise the score for stakeholder support. Any supplementary information you can give, particularly linked to the DfT criteria, would also be very gratefully received. These need to be sent to us by Friday 8 April so that we can assess and fully prepare the bid prior to submission. Letters, and any additional information, can be emailed to us through Jane Jones on jane.jones@gwr.com.

If you have any suggestions for other groups/organisations that we should approach for support please do let Jane know and she will contact them. If you would like further information on the process, or have any ideas on how we can make the most compelling bid possible, please do let us know.

Best wishes

Mark Hopwood CBE, Managing Director, Great Western Railway

Mike Gallop, Western Route Director, Network Rail

From: Liskeard Town Clerk <townclerk@liskeard.gov.uk>

Sent: 07 April 2022 16:24

To: Jane Jones (Jane.Jones@gwr.com) <Jane.Jones@gwr.com>

Cc: office1@liskeard.gov.uk

Subject: FW: Bidding for accessibility improvements

Hello Jane – we are very pleased to hear that Liskeard station has made it to a short list of 20 for possible investment under the Access for All funding. You will recall that we had previously supported a bid pre-Covid. We are circulating the email from Mark Hopwood to local partners and contact that will be familiar to you from the previous bid. My observations at this point would be:

Liskeard station was upgraded in 2004 and probably meets the relevant accessibility criteria from that time. A project to improve access at the railway station would help improve the town's overall offer to disabled users of transport infrastructure. Liskeard accommodates specialist facilities such as the ECHO Centre (which supports with people physical disabilities) and the Morley Tamblyn Lodge which supports people with learning disabilities.

Liskeard station is used by the intercity London Paddington - Penzance service. It also operates the local DMU service. The station also houses the interchange for the Liskeard - Looe branch line which is very popular with tourists as well as residents. GWR are presently supporting efforts to promote the increased use of branch lines for commuting and tourism. An upgrade in the capacity of the Liskeard main station to provide better disabled access would have benefits to the residents of Liskeard and Looe and visitors. In addition, to the rail service, the town is well located on the A38 trunk-road. It has National Express coach service links. The local bus route has stops adjacent the station. There is a taxi rank. There is car parking in the vicinity of the station.

Liskeard is centrally located within the wider South East Cornwall catchment area. The population of the town is 10,000. However, an additional 40,000 live in the wider area and many would use the Liskeard rail services. The Neighbourhood Plan provides for 1,400 additional houses which should increase the number of residents by 2,500.

Liskeard Town Council and partners have successfully obtained Government grant from the "Town Vitality Fund". This £50,000 is to commission a Local Walking and Cycling Infrastructure Plan, which considers accessibility needs of all.

We have appointed Sustrans to carry out the work, and after work with local stakeholders and wider community engagement the report provides recommendations, which includes route 1 covering the route from the railway station to Liskeard Community Hospital. The report is 90mb so here is a file share link

<https://share.sustrans.org.uk/share/public/?folder=2afc1c21>

the password is: liskeard

The terms of reference for the group (attached) may also help to highlight the focus on accessibility and connectivity and the wide community and stakeholder involvement and support.

The next steps in this project will be to unlock funding to bring forward some of the recommended improvements, which would complement funded improvements at the station.

I hope that this is sufficient for your purpose. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions. We will feed in further information and comments as we are ourselves contacted.

Best Wishes

Steve Vinson

Town Clerk

Liskeard Town Council