

LANREATH PARISH COUNCIL EXTRAORDINARY MEETING MINUTES

Date of Meeting

10 December 2024 commencing 18.30

Present

Cllr Peter Bartram, Cllr Sandie Christiansen, Cllr Sue Cave, Cllr John Gundry, Cllr David Heard – Vice-Chairman, Cllr Shelley Honeyman, Cllr Peter Seaman – Chairman, Cllr Stephanie Vickery, and Mrs Rebecca Warren - Clerk

One member of the public in attendance.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the Meeting.

1. Apologies

None.

2. Members of the Public are invited to address the Council

Chairman gave a brief explanation of the reason for, and purpose of the meeting, after which he invited the member of the public to address the meeting.

The resident of Lanreath asked who had instigated the proposed 20 mph roll out across Cornwall. Chairman responded that Cornwall Council had voted for this in 2023 after trials of 20 mph zones in the county. Vice-Chairman informed the meeting that this is a national initiative, and Wales had introduced it unilaterally.

The resident raised the question of where funding would come from, and was advised that provision has been made from central government.

The resident queried the benefit of a 20 mph limit for places such as Lanreath where in their opinion it would be impossible to enforce.

Chairman stated that he would refer in due course (when the item is discussed later in the meeting) to Police information regarding enforcement. Vice-Chairman commented that perhaps reducing the limit to 20 mph may cause non-compliant speed to also reduce, so that speeders may be in a lower range of excess than currently.

3. Disclosure of Interests

None.

4. Liskeard and Looe Community Network Area – consultation on Cornwall Council proposed implementation of 20 mph in Lanreath and other parishes.

Chairman informed the meeting that at a Cornwall Council Cabinet meeting (22 March 2023), members approved the Cornwall wide roll out that will see the new 20 mph limit introduced in phases in urban and residential areas, after hearing how successful pilot schemes to reduce the speed limit, supported by local communities, in Falmouth, Penryn and Camelford, saw speeds come down.

Objections received during the consultation on the Phase 3 roll-out are therefore unlikely to revoke Cornwall Council's overarching intention to make the necessary Orders to regulate traffic in Liskeard and Looe Community Network Area (CNA) with the implementation of 20 mph speed limits.

Comments objecting to the proposed extent of the implementation, specifying the grounds on which they are made, are more likely to be considered.

Comments of support, objections, or any other representations, must be sent in writing, with objections specifying the grounds on which they are made, to Cormac Solutions Ltd. Infrastructure Design, Radnor Road, Scorrier, Redruth, TR16 5EH. Any representations must be submitted by **20 December 2024**. Alternatively, comments can be submitted by email, or via Cornwall Council's Traffic Consultation web site: www.cornwall.gov.uk/TrafficConsult

Once registered on the consultation web site, responses to this and other current traffic consultations can be submitted.

Although the consultation provides for anyone to comment on any of the plans proposed for the towns, villages and settlements included in Phase 3, Chairman suggested that Lanreath Parish Council restrict its review to the plans proposed for Lanreath Village. This was seconded and unanimously approved.

Councillors then were shown by the Chairman a plan of Lanreath showing the extent of the proposed 20 mph zone, and the existing 30 mph zone. He also provided photographs of the sites covered by the zone through the village. It was noted in the subsequent discussion that the 30 mph zone would change to 20 mph but would stop short of the inclusion of St Marnarch's cul-de-sac (first right on entering the village from the B3359 junction from Pelynt towards Liskeard). The proposals did not include the extension of the current 30 mph zone to the village sign on the road into the village from the B3359 (same junction Pelynt to Liskeard).

At this latter location (between the village sign and the existing 30 mph zone) there are a number of residential properties, and Councillors recalled that an occupier of one property had previously submitted a request to the Parish Council for the extension of the 30 mph limit to nearer the B3359 junction – to reduce the speed of vehicles approaching the 30 mph zone, and provide a safer environment for children.

The Chairman provided information to the meeting regarding enforcement from the link below, as a number of Councillors expressed concern as to how effective this would be.

<https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/transport-parking-and-streets/roads-highways-and-pavements/20mph-speed-limits/#police>

The Devon and Cornwall enforcement information states that the Police cannot act on individual complaints of speeding, and that there must be three months' minimum of Community SpeedWatch evidence before an enforcement session will be set up. Only then can drivers be identified as exceeding the speed limit and referred for prosecution.

During Councillors' continuing discussion an extension of the 30 mph zone to where the village signs are located was considered to be of potential benefit (although this may be outside the scope of the funding), and that the proposed 20 mph zone should include St Marnarch's cul-de-sac.

Chairman proposed that a submission to the consultation be in terms that -

Lanreath Parish Council has reviewed the plans for implementation of a 20 mph limit in Lanreath Village, and considers that the proposed zone should be moved out to include St Marnarch's (grid reference SX 18260 57036). This is a residential street and it is anomalous that it has not been included in the plan.

Further, and to address existing issues of speeding near residential properties in the village, the 30 mph zone should be extended to the village sign on St Marnarch's Road (grid reference SX 18459 57061). This is a narrow road with few passing places, and a number of residential properties. It is a main road into the village from the junction of the B3359.

On the basis of the above Lanreath Parish Council approves the plan.

Seconded by Cllr Honeyman, and unanimously agreed. Clerk tasked with submitting the comments on line.

Chairman stated that individual members of the community can submit their own comments and information as to how to do so has been posted on the Parish website.

5. Government Consultation regarding Remote Meetings and Proxy Voting.

Chairman referred the meeting to the Clerk's report following her attendance at an online event concerning the Government Consultation. He reminded Councillors that during the COVID emergency Councils were given a dispensation to hold meetings online – this dispensation no longer applies and legislation is required to enable meetings to be held remotely.

Clerk confirmed that the Government Consultation is to consider the principles, and to ascertain the general appetite for change. Details would be worked out, hopefully in consultation with Local Authorities, before there would be any change in legislation.

Councillors discussed the relative merits of face-to-face as opposed to remote meetings, and questioned the effectiveness of hybrid meetings for small authorities with limited technical support and perhaps only one administrative staff member. It would be technically difficult for members of the public to attend hybrid meetings and be able to fully engage in the process. It was suggested that meetings could be online in some instances – where illness or absence would otherwise cause a postponement – and be used as an additional tool rather than an alternative to face-to-face meetings.

As for proxy voting – pre-determination may make this problematic, and the Clerk reminded the Councillors of their duty to maintain an open mind pending conclusion of consideration of matters at meetings.

After further discussion, Chairman proposed that Clerk be tasked with submitting comments from Lanreath Parish Council before the closing deadline of **19 December** in terms that *it considers there are significant advantages to having the ability to hold fully remote meetings where circumstances dictate, however hybrid meetings would require technical equipment and support that many smaller authorities do not have access to. Proxy voting raises issues of pre-determination that may be impossible to overcome.*

Cllr Gundry seconded the proposal and it was approved by the meeting. Clerk so tasked.

6. Parish Council scheduled meetings commencement time.

Cllr Christiansen proposed that meetings held in the winter months (November, January, and February – there being no scheduled meeting in December) should start at 18.30 hrs so that Councillors and members of the public could get home in good time, and perhaps avoid freezing conditions.

After a short discussion, the proposal was seconded by Cllr Honeyman and passed by a majority. Clerk to ensure that the amended start time is included in future agendas as appropriate.

7. Any Other Business

A complaint had been made to a Councillor regarding the state of the Toilet in Lanreath. Matter to be included on the January meeting agenda for full consideration, in the interim Clerk to make enquiries of the contracted cleaner.

8. Public Participation

Member of the public commented that the 20 mph regulations appeared to be a fait accompli and he questioned the necessity for it in Lanreath – a quiet village, and not a through route.

9. Date and time of next meeting

21 January 2025 at 6.30pm.

Meeting ended at 7.32pm