

2011 *Stepping Stones*

A LOCAL SNOW AND ICE PLAN FOR OUR PARISHES

The winter of 2009/2010 was unusually harsh and the end of 2010 saw another very cold spell with a fair amount of ice on the roads. Many of the parishes' roads were impassable for several days because they fell outside the scope of County Highways' plan which gives priority to major roads only. There was a particular problem with the principal rural unclassified route from Lostwithiel to Lerryn, St Veep, Penpol and Highway which links a substantial population with the Railway Station, the A390, medical services and banks. The problem was compounded last winter by the salt/grit boxes being empty at the beginning of the cold spell. Parish Councils were told in the early Autumn of 2010 that owing to cuts in the central Cornwall Council budget they will be expected to take responsibility for their roads in the next financial year 2011/12. This means the costs will fall on the local precepts but it also means that we are in control.

St Veep and St Winnow PCs think it would be sensible and cost effective for the four councils – Lostwithiel TC, St Winnow PC, St Veep PC and Lanteglos PC- whose remits cover the main road from the A390 to Highway & Bodinnick, to work together on a co-ordinated Snow & Ice Plan for future winters. The Plan would cover grit spreading on the roads from a specially adapted four wheel drive farm tractor which would be hired by the four councils on a pre-arranged agreement. It would also cover the topping up of existing grit boxes, the provision of some extra grit boxes at strategic places and the provision of self-help bags in population centres. The aim is to keep our principal routes open and our public places safe for people to move around whilst taking reasonable precautions.

Our partners in the execution of the local Snow and Ice Plan are County Highways and Cornwall Council via the local Cornwall Councillor. A local farmer will store the salt/grit, deliver the road treatment, carry out top-up services of pre-purchased salt/grit bins and place the self-help bags in strategic places.

Led by St Veep PC, the draft plan is in place this January 2011 ready for finalising with the other parishes and the partners. The Clerk to St Winnow and St Veep parish councils -Morley Tubb is acting as the plan manager and he will work closely with designated councillors from each parish council will be local wardens. (see LH column for advice on self-help snow clearing)

BRIEFINGS

Parish Land

St Veep PC has a management plan for green areas in public ownership. By carefully phased grass cutting the plan balances the need for tidiness and the needs of wildlife. The work is carried out by a fully insured contractor who also maintains the public footpaths. If householders wish to help with the care of parish lands they should first approach the Clerk so that insurance cover can be agreed and the wildlife management plan maintained.

Guidance from Cornwall Council on clearing Ice and Snow Yourself

There is no law stopping you from clearing ice and snow on the pavement outside your property or from clearing approach paths or public spaces. If an accident did happen it is unlikely you could be sued if you are careful and use common sense to ensure that you don't make paths and pavements more dangerous by your actions.

Some tips:

- *Start early to clear snow before it compacts to ice.
- *Don't use hot water on snow-it might turn to ice.
- *Make a pathway down the middle of the area to be cleared so that you work from a clear surface
- *If you can, spread salt on the area you have cleared (but avoid plants)
- * Be a good neighbour.
- * Take care yourself !

JOINT PARISH PLAN PROGRESS

Following the Parish Plan Consultation event in September 2010 the comments received were analysed and a First Draft Household Survey produced. The Parish Plan Working Group (2 councillors from each Parish Council plus the Parish Clerk) met to consider how to proceed. They invited the nominees from Parish Organisations to join the Working Group. They also formed a Consultative Group of interested individuals who have offered to help. Their comments feed back to the Working Group. A second draft of the Survey was circulated to both groups for comments, as a result of which a 3rd draft will be produced for circulation during the first week in February.

It is anticipated that the Household Survey will be ready for distribution to all households in the two parishes towards the end of February/early March. The Household Survey will cover issues such as:

Housing, Heritage, Tourism,
Footpaths, Young People, The Elderly,
Transport, Planning and Development, Litter,
Recycling, Education, Health & Welfare,
Highways & Parking, Safety & Crime,
Community Facilities.

*Councillors Rob Briggs and Penny Philp spearhead the plan for St Veep.
Councillors Shane Aldridge and Richard Read act for St Winnow.*

PARKING AND HIGHWAYS

Lerryn Car-park

Consultation with Cornwall Council continues as legalities are sorted out with the Land Registry over ownership of the car-park land. Meanwhile the Parish Councils are keeping a close interest in proceedings.

Speed Limits-update

Arrangements for setting a speed limit through Lerryn are still moving slowly. In order to keep down the considerable legal costs involved it is hoped to share traffic orders with Lanteglos PC which is also seeking to set new speed limits.

PARTNERS

Lerryn C of E Primary School

Headteacher –Mrs Fiona Corfield, who took up post last September, writes:

What an amazing first term! There are very few Headteachers who have the privilege of working in one of the most idyllic settings in the country. As you descend into the valley to the bridge over the creek the view that opens up before you is breath-taking! Prior to my appointment at Lerryn I worked in many schools in a range of very diverse communities, but nothing prepared me for Lerryn. The level of support and kindness from the governors, staff, children, families and community has been extremely touching and I would like to thank everyone for making me feel so welcome, and for giving me the opportunity to become part of a very special community.

At its meeting on the 13th January St Veep Parish Council minuted a welcome to Mr David Badger who has been appointed as the Key Stage 2 teacher at the school. Mr Badger writes:

I am married and have one son, Jude, aged 6. My wife, Elaine, is Cornish and is Assistant Head at St. Mewan School. I originate from the West Midlands and have been teaching for over 20 years. I worked in Redditch, Worcester and Dorset before becoming a Deputy Head in Staffordshire. After relocating to Cornwall in 2006 I worked at a variety of Cornish schools including Pondhu Primary. I love being in Cornwall and realise that I am very fortunate to live and work in such a beautiful place. I too have yet to drive over the bridge in Lerr

LOCAL

Lerryn River Stores. St Veep Parish Council sees our excellent Lerryn River Stores as an important resource for the community and is keen that it should maintain its viability in the current harsh economic climate. Not many residents realise that much of the Post Office function does not produce a profit. For example the shop makes no money on the considerable sales of the Christmas stamps. The council ask residents and second home owners to use the shop regularly and help to keep Lerryn alive. We use it or lose it!

Floating Road Blocks

St Veep PC ask all boat, kayak & canoe owners with vessels moored along Lower Town Road to make sure that they are tied up fore and aft and not allowed to float over and settle onto the road at high-tides.

THE RED STORE Two shared workshops are in use and a gallery room with toilet and kitchen is available for hire. Current users are St Veep PC, local artists and craftworkers, Lerryn WI, Lerryn History Society, Lerryn Art Group and Lerryn Primary School. The room has also provided an excellent venue for family celebrations this past year. The Community Interest Group (CIC) which runs the Red Store would welcome further helpers and will be holding an 'Open Morning' soon. For booking and information contact jan.collett@virgin.net

Your Parish Councillors

St Veep

Cllr Ken Hoskin (Chair)
Cllr David St John
Cllr Penny Philp
Cllr Shirley Eddy
Cllr John Halkes
Cllr Rob Briggs
Cllr Tracey Fowler

St Winnow

Cllr Eric Baker (Chair)
Cllr George Tucker
Cllr Robert Truscott
Cllr Keith Bailey
Cllr John Foot
Cllr Richard Read
Cllr Shane Aldridge

**Clerk to the
Parish Councils**

Morley Tubb

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Cornwall Council

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CC General Enquiries

and all services

0300 1234 100

www.cornwall.gov.uk

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Looe Police Station

Station Road'Looe.

Tel: 08452 777444

Neighbourhood Beat Manager

P.C. Helen Libby,

Community Support Officer

PCSO Tom Barnes

How to contact us:

General enquiries

08452 777444

EMERGENCY only 999

Crimestoppers

To give anonymous

Information 0800 555111

**Veep PC meets the second Thursday of each month at 7.30. St Winnow PC meets bi-monthly on a Tuesday.
Details are on the website or notice boards**