

COMMUNITY AREA PARTNERSHIPS

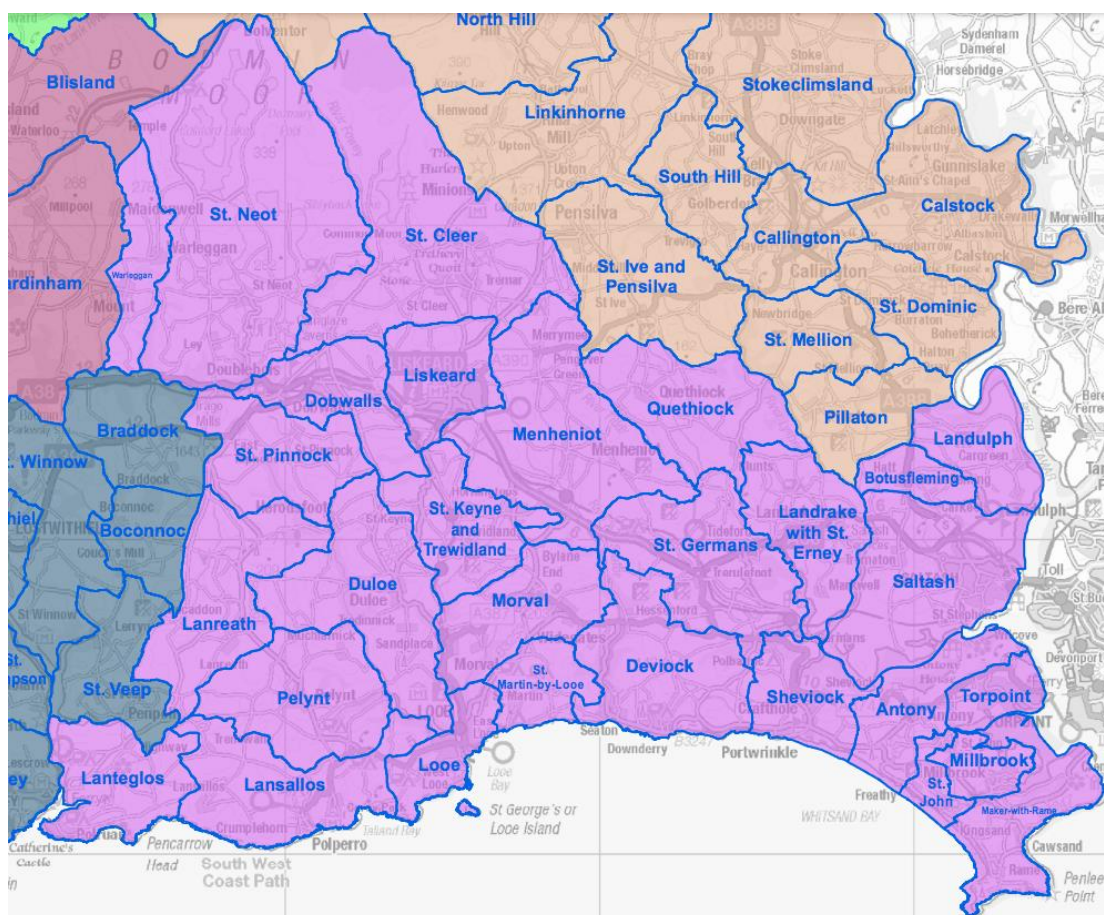
SUMMARY

In my view the Community Area Partnerships (CAP) is poorly considered and will not improve on the current Community Network Panels (CNP) and will make it unwieldy, protracted and bureaucratic.

The aspirations that “the area partnerships need to be better empowered and equipped to tackle the priority issues for our communities, whether specific to local areas or common across Cornwall” is I suggest flawed as the CNP has evidently proved to have achieved those aspirations.

The existing CNPs delivered on all of the proposals of the new suggested CAP. It will not in any way improve the situation by trebling the amount of members.

I also find it difficult to comprehend as to whom and why they have “carved” the CAPs in the fashion that they have done. In my proposed CAP they do not include the towns and parishes that also lie next to the Tamar River or are the neighbours of Botus Fleming and Landulph such as Pillaton, St. Mellion, St. Dominick, Callington and Calstock, and it is faintly ridiculous.



Our proposed CAP includes Saltash, Torpoint, Liskeard and Looe, 11 electoral divisions and 29 parishes.

Clearly the architect(s) of our CAP has never attended a Cornwall Gateway CNP meeting. The meetings last over 3 hours on average and often much longer. By trebling the size of the participants, it would follow that at the very least the 3 hours would be extended to over 9 hours per meeting. This would be an untenable position.

It should be remembered that the majority of individuals attending the CAP meetings are actually volunteers. Increasing the length of time that delegates would need to attend the meetings is not really acceptable. Consideration of utilising remote meetings (Microsoft Teams) does not solve the lengthy meeting periods. An increase in the travelling times to attend the meetings notwithstanding an increase in traffic bearing in mind that Cornwall Council declared a climate emergency in 2019 would not be ethically palatable.

Increasing the number of other attendees, such as the police, would require other officers to attend being required to cover the other areas.

The smaller parishes in South East Cornwall have historically not fared well in receiving funding or assistance in improving infrastructure and resources. The “bottom up approach” in the CAP draft vision does nothing to persuade me otherwise.

For example Botus Fleming and Hatt were in 2018 designated by Council Council as being an unsustainable community in the areas of economic, social or environment. The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) also confirmed that my parish has very poor infrastructure and a serious lack of resources and amenities. Introducing the proposed CAP will seriously hamper any opportunities for our community to fight for any improvements.

It is our contention that my parish has been the victim of poor planning decisions and unscrupulous building developments. We are not a holiday venue, although we are within Tamar Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (TVAONB).

We are also a “dormitory” parish where many of our residents work in Plymouth and Saltash The parish did not own any green spaces for sport or leisure activities. This was almost unique in Cornwall. The Parish Council did not have the £70,000 to purchase the field outright and had to loan the money over a 20-year period. This has been achieved without any outside assistance.

Hopefully this summary of our local situation can demonstrate that the proposed CAP (or any “levelling up” opportunities) will not improve things for us, a very small cog within a big machine.