



Cornwall Statement of Community Involvement

Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004

Representation Form

Please return your completed form

by email: localplan@cornwall.gov.uk OR

by post: Cornwall Council, Local Plans Team, Pydar House, Pydar Street, Truro TR1 1XU OR

by hand: New County Hall reception (Truro) or any Cornwall Council One Stop Shop
before 5pm on Monday 22nd January 2018

Fair Processing Notice

The feedback provided will enable Cornwall Council to finalise the Statement of Community Involvement and will be retained for the life of the plan. Full names and comments provided will be published online and in hard copy.

By completing the Representation Form and submitting it to the Council you are giving your consent to the processing of your personal data by Cornwall Council and that any information received by the Council, including personal data (but excluding personal contact details and any signatures), may be put into the public domain, including on the Council's website. Publication will not include any information which you provide on the accompanying Equality Monitoring Form which will be retained for up to three months from the close of the consultation.

Part 1

Your contact details

You must complete this page for your representation to be accepted. The Council cannot accept anonymous representations.

Name: ..Michael Hills (Secretary).....

Organisation (if applicable): ...Gulval Village Community Association.....

Address:[REDACTED].....

.....

Postcode: ...[REDACTED].....

Email Address:[REDACTED].....

Telephone number:[REDACTED].....

If an agent, the individual or organisation you are representing:

.....
 Please let us know whether you wish to be notified via the address/email address you have provided (or other specified address/email address) of the following for the Statement of Community Involvement:

- (i) The adoption of the Cornwall Statement of Community Involvement. ✓ Yes / No

Part 2

Your comments

You may append additional sheets if you need more space to respond to any of the questions.

1. Please set out below any concern(s) you have with the Cornwall Statement of Community Involvement including any change(s) you consider necessary to address this concern(s).

You will need to say how the change(s) will address your concern(s) and it would be helpful if you could put forward your suggested revised wording to the text. Please also state which paragraph (s) your concern(s) and change(s) refers to.

Paragraph	Concerns, changes and reasons/evidence
Introduction	<p>While the wording and intentions of the document are supported the real issue is that the process is largely ineffective in practice in engaging and involving the majority of local people who have little understanding of the planning process, especillay the significance of the Plan preparation process.</p> <p>In particular the wording rings hollow given the extremely limited involvement of the local community in the preparation of the Cornwall Local Plan Site Allocations DPD..</p> <p>How does no public consultation between 2012 (when the documentation comprised wide ranging and very general 'options') and 2016 (when the approach and proposed Allocations were very firmly in place) constitute meaningful community involvement?</p> <p>How does a local Councillor Steering Group, not publicised in terms of content or progress or open to the public, constitute meaningful community involvement?</p> <p>To have any credibility or value the Council has to be more realistic about the general lack of awareness and understanding of planning processes, and the consequent need to publicise this document and the various stages of the Plan preparation process much more effectively., SEE ATTACHED CONTINUATION SHEET</p>
Para. 4.4	<p>Consultation on planning applications once submitted. "Anyone can request a search for a particular type of application, an address or a parish and will receive an email notification when the Council receives an application meeting one or more of the search criteria;" SUPPORTED but how many organisations are aware of this opportunity? How is it to be publicised?</p> <p>Para. 4.4 Table 2 (planning applications) Local councils not to be consulted on - Minor developments (less than 10 dw etc); CONCERNS - developments of less than 10 dwellings can be very significant in villages and many towns Proposals for 8 or 9 dwellings would have a significant impact on most villages. CHANGE REQUIRED: Continue to consult Local Councils on Minor Developments.</p> <p>SEE ATTACHED CONTINUATION SHEET</p>

Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) – Response to Consultation

CONTINUATION SHEETS

Introduction CONTINUED

The SCI explains the process quite clearly but how many people, without some knowledge of the Planning system, would know it existed or where to find it.

It was necessary to know it existed to be able to find this consultation on the Council website!

Para. 2.1 of the Draft refers to the Council consulting “general consultation bodies” as well as statutory consultees, with further detail being set out in Appendix 1: Consultees.

Appendix 1: Consultees defines “General Consultation bodies” as “Voluntary bodies some or all of whose activities benefit any part of the local planning authority’s area”.

Para. 2.2 identifies that “there should be significant effort to engage people at the early stages of preparing planning documents, where there is greatest opportunity to influence policies and strategies.”

However, our experience of the current Local Plan process demonstrated that, despite being a properly constituted community association whose activities benefit part of the local planning authority’s area, and who had expressed views and concerns relevant to the Plan preparation process from an early stage, we were not included in any relevant database until we had submitted a formal response to the October 2016 Public Consultation.

Changes required:

1) Notification to all households (with Council Tax bills etc) of proposed policy or Plan preparation in the coming year – including details of relevant stages and any planned consultations, and where to find information on the Council website or at an area office..

2) Commitment to a genuine attempt to establish a database of local organisations and community groups or interested individuals throughout the Plan preparation process, and regular updates to those organisations throughout the process, to continue to raise awareness and promote understanding of the process..

The database could be established via Community Network teams, local Councillors and Councils (all charged with a responsibility to publicise), prominent advertisements in local press - whatever was done in this respect for the Allocations DPD was not effective – and updated as and when the interest of “general consultation bodies” or individuals becomes evident.

3) Notifications of various stages of the Plan or policy to Parish Councils and local community organisations for display on community notice boards.

4) A commitment not to bury the Plan process through its most significant stages of development in a closed Steering Group - the process must be open and transparent to the wider community at all stages.

5) Preparation and wide community circulation of an A4 flier to raise awareness of the SCI, its relevance to community involvement in planning processes and where to find it.

Para.4.4 Table 2 Consultation on planning applications CONTINUED

Local Councils not to be consulted on Householder applications

CONCERNS The impact of some Householder applications can be significant in smaller settlements as well as in Conservation Areas and the AONB

CHANGE SOUGHT Continue to consult Local Councils on Householder applications..

The implications of development proposals in outdated parish areas that include villages as well as a town should also be considered – in terms of community involvement and consultation the Council should not pursue a ‘blanket’ urban approach to such parishes; individual village communities should have a similar voice to those in rural parishes

CHANGE SOUGHT The impact of a proposal, in terms of scale, on its location and the relevant community should be a factor in determining appropriate consultation..

No neighbour consultation on

- Departures from the Local Plan
- Public right of way
- Waste operations

CONCERNS – this is an erosion of individuals’ awareness of developments that could have a negative impact on them

CHANGE SOUGHT consultation with neighbours on these categories of development

No site notice for

- Householder applications

CONCERNS Householder applications can have a significant impact in some situations; Site notices are important in raising public awareness.

CHANGE SOUGHT site notices to be posted for Householder applications. In terms of resources, this could be implemented by providing the notice with acknowledgement of the application and requiring the applicant to display on site until the application has been determined.

General comment

CONCERN While the advantages of electronic communication are recognised there is a real risk of excluding significant numbers of people from the process because of the reliance on online communication. Those who do not have internet access or who would find responding online difficult must continue to have an equal opportunity to be involved by other effective means.
