

# Treverbyn Parish Plan 2010



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## **Supported by:**

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Treverbyn Parish Council

Cornwall Council



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Please note: Respondent comments included in Section 6 are shown; *"in italic font within inverted commas"*. All comments are as written by respondents.

# 1. Executive summary

Started in mid 2008 the plan process has involved a small but dedicated steering group, the returns of 755 households and the views of at least 1700 residents of the Treverbyn parish.

The parish council has been involved at all stages and has been directly involved at public events in support of the volunteer members of the steering group. It has formally adopted the Plan and Action Plan, and is committed to use its priorities as the lead guidance in the future decision making.

Our thanks go out to supporting partners Cornwall Council (and the former Cornwall County Council), the former Restormel District Council and Defra funding (through the Local Area Agreement) administered by Cornwall Rural Community Council, who have provided the majority of the financial funding.

This report brings together all of the results from the initial public consultation events, the extensive household survey, public presentation events and priority validation process.

It is clear that individuals within the parish have much to contribute, but need to feel empowered and reassured that their contribution is valued and protected from the small minority who feel that the consequences of their actions are un-noticed. In the ever-visible areas of speeding, bad behaviour and vandalism we recognise that early direct

action in association with enforcement authorities is needed. Broader issues relating to employment and development (which include planning and economic growth) will require a longer-term view, and improved publicity and communication of how the wider area plans might affect the local situation will hopefully encourage more people to directly share their views. Finally the concerns about service provision (health, transport and recycling) are noted and remain high in the action list, but are areas that the parish council cannot directly deliver, but will exert influence within the relevant providers and make information available.



Each of the individual priorities expressed will trigger specific action, but more importantly will allow the parish council to measure the strength of its activity against well-qualified public expression. Over the life of the plan, which is of course just a “snapshot” of feeling from yesterday the



priorities will need to adjust to many conflicting and urgent issues of planning, service priority and local events, but this process has served to prove that there is an effective route to measure public opinion within the broadest way.

Already we have in place a community police officer and a local PCSO dedicated to this parish, with weekly surgeries for public consultation and much higher beat visibility. Much work has been completed on community facilities (children's playgrounds, community halls, open spaces and footpaths). Less visible have been the changes and improvement to local bus services and a new NHS dentist in St Austell. Very visible has been the advancement of the proposed "Eco town" development within the Imerys Clay Country Vision.

Importantly I take this opportunity to thank everyone for their hard work and involvement. The 755 households who returned the detailed questionnaires in the survey, the local individuals attending the public events and giving such illuminated opinion, the volunteers who filled envelopes, manned the public events and moderated discussions at steering group meetings, including the parish councilors who made themselves available for consultation with the public. Particular recognition should go to Sue and Gary Lake in providing the technical and organisational support to the whole process, without their knowledge and dedication you would not be reading this report.

**Chris Rowe**  
**Parish Plan Implementation Committee**



Our vision for Our Parish is for...

*... a safe and involved community,  
with well defined village identities  
and strong sense of personal  
responsibility supported by efficient  
and relevant public services  
delivered by responsive and  
informative authorities.*

## 2. The background to the Parish Plan

As the parish council has an increasingly large responsibility to represent the views and priorities of the local population, mainly due to the structure changes in local government in Cornwall, it was seen as desirable for all parishioners to have the opportunity to express their view in the form of a widely distributed survey.

The aim of the survey and consultation activities was to measure some priorities that could confidently be incorporated into this Parish Plan, which over the next five to ten years would guide the activities and decisions of the parish council.

It is often seen that fears and opinions expressed are influenced by current news and publicity, an example being the “eco town” proposals for various brown field sites of the clay industries. We have allowed for as wide an expression of views as has been possible within the time and resources available, and have distilled some easy to understand priorities that can be recognised by all involved, particularly as parishioners see the evidence of actions taken and results delivered by all the agencies and partners involved in actually providing the services and facilities in the parish.

This parish plan will, of course, not stand alone as the only source of influence in the broad collection of partners and providers of the complex range of services and infrastructure

enjoyed in this busy heartland of mid-Cornwall. Cornwall Council, Devon and Cornwall Police, the NHS, private bus companies and many commercial and industrial employers will all have their own priorities and action plans often influenced by central government, national and world economic conditions. However, what matters most locally here in the Treverbyn Parish is now recognised and will remain in focus when local actions are taken.





### 3. Introduction

The Treverbyn Parish covers a wide area that includes the villages of Bugle, Carthew, Carclaze, Rescorla, Trethurgy, Ruddlemoor, Stenalees, Trethowel, Penwithick, Scredda and areas of Boscoppa, Gover Valley and Cooksbarrow (also the hamlets of Molinnis, Lavrean, Rosevean, Rosevear, Kerrow Moor, Bowling Green, Chynoweth, Carn Grey, Carluddon, Resugga Green, Hallaze, Treverbyn, Caudledown, Trenance, Greensplat and Carloggas.)



Most of the parish was originally included in the manor of Treverbyn, owned by the Courtenay Earls of Devon, and the Duchy manor of Tewington. According to A.L. Rowse, "what

surplus wealth there was - rentals, tolls of tin and minerals - went mostly 'up the country' to support those great estates of the realm". There is not a single manor-house or country-



house, which Rowse felt contributed greatly to the feelings of independence and self-reliance ingrained in the people. The parish was mostly moors, high up and exposed, composed primarily of granite, which was thinly inhabited by small farmers who also streamed for tin. Then Cookworthy discovered the secret of china clay and porcelain, and developments were made in pumping engines for tin mining so they were no longer limited to the surface. The parish started to grow in population as people moved in to mine the wondrous resources.



Life was very hard for the miners locally. Men were exposed to horrendous hours, dangerous conditions, and primitive ventilation; often, they died in their 40's of "miners lung". (It was not until 1874 that a law was passed restricting women and children to working only 12 hours a day). Some children started in the mines at 8 years of age, but this was not the norm. In 1910, one miner earned 16 shillings a week to support a family of five. Most of the miners farmed a bit to support themselves, and looked to whatever might provide



for their families - such as having a small store in their ground floor, over which they lived.

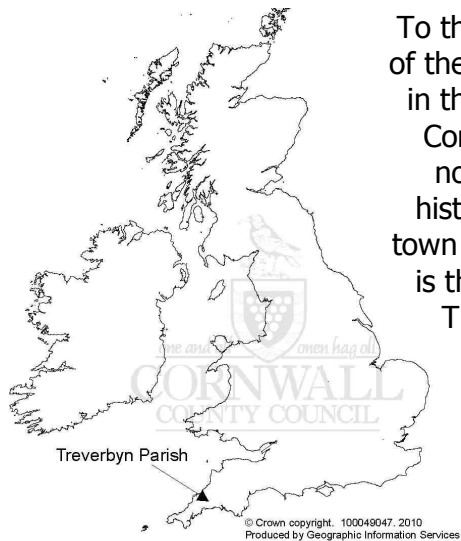
Treverbyn was created from part of St Austell in 1850; population growth has been steady since then;

- \* Population in 1851 - 2003 persons
- \* Population in 1861 - 2109 persons
- \* Population in 1871 - 2489 persons
- \* Population in 1881 - 2712 persons
- \* Population in 1891 - 2867 persons
- \* Population in 1901 - 3301 persons
- \* Population in 1911 - 4064 persons
- \* Population in 1921 - 4283 persons
- \* Population in 1931 - 4251 persons
- \* Population in 1951 - 4088 persons
- \* Population in 1981 - 4780 persons
- \* Population in 1991 - 5441 persons
- \* Population in 2001 - 6159 persons

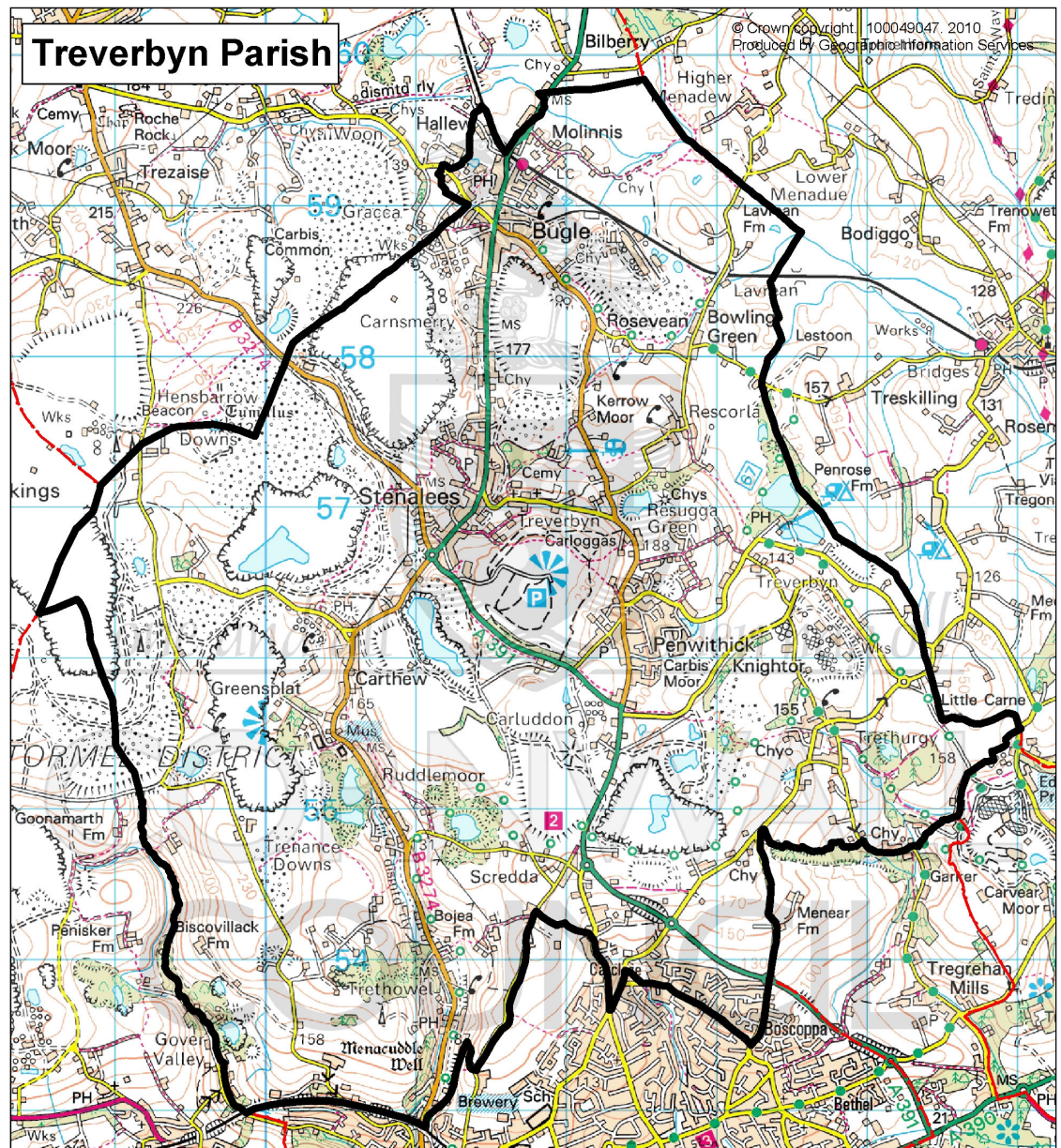
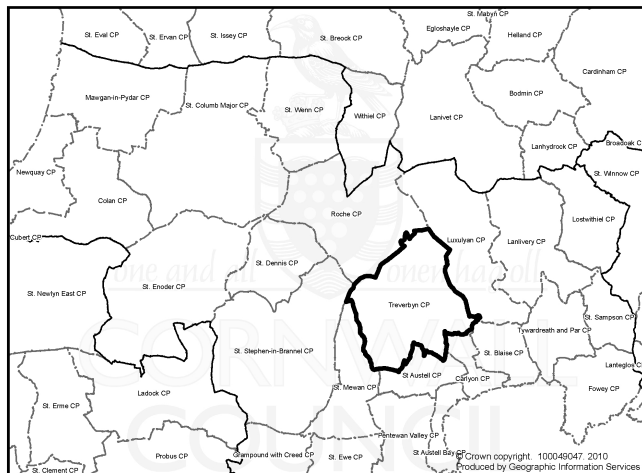




## 4. Where are we?



To the Southwest of the British Isles, in the County of Cornwall, just north of the historic market town of St. Austell is the Parish of Treverbyn.



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## 5. The process

During 2008 the Parish Council held public meetings at six locations around the parish, from the public reactions and ahead of the establishment of the Cornwall Council Unitary authority, a Parish Plan steering group was formed from a small team of volunteers.

The steering group oversaw the production of an extensive questionnaire, to both establish some statistical preferences over a wide range of issues affecting all parish residents and, invite personal comment on these and indeed any subject of concern.

In October 2008 the questionnaires, incorporating a prize draw invitation, were posted to every known address in the parish, a total of 3117 households. 755 Households returned completed questionnaires, representing the views of over 1700 people.

In December 2008 nine households were presented with prizes following the independently supervised prize draw. Then the hard work of extracting and entering the 209,135 items of information started.

By May 2009 all the data was entered, along with the information from the 71 youth and 52 child respondents. Next all of the 7600 individual written comments had to be input and collated to help validate the statistical analysis. The final consolidated document is over 400 printed pages.

During October 2009 all of the above work had been summarised in the draft report and indicated priorities... now we asked, "What's most important to you?" The steering group presented the 10 indicated priorities at a further series of local public events in December 2009 to produce an ordered Top 10 to prioritise the focus of the final Parish Plan.

Full and detailed documents containing all of the statistical information and the full-consolidated comments (computer PDF file only) are available with the reference documents from the Parish Clerk; (see page 26)

So, what did the data tell us?



## 6. Summary of results

### Employment



The majority of adult respondents were in employment, with some 30% retired and, 6% unemployed. Of those employed 41% worked as an employee and of these 24% worked in public services.

93% of those in employment work within Cornwall, with 23% actually working in the parish.

*"There are so many people unemployed there does not appear to be enough jobs to go around"*

*"Anything (employment space) that contributes towards longer term sustainability of local communities (not necessarily industrial) e.g. market garden - renewable energy"*

*"Units up to 10 people only if carbon neutral and environmentally conscious businesses"*





## Transport

Most people rely on their own transport, mainly car or van, for all personal transport, however 64% of respondents have some level of difficulty in travelling.

Many people would consider using public transport given more information, better services and competitive fares, this may prove important in the future use of crowded roads and increased fuel prices.

It is no surprise that given the chance to comment on "speeding" 3 out of 4 respondents provided a clear message. This was the largest source of written comments also, only 9% of returns failed to give information.



*"If I walk to town I have to cross busy roads 5-6 times because of inadequate footpaths. Cycling is too dangerous roads too narrow/busy"*

*"Trethurgy village - although 30 mph. also along the road leading to Carclaze past Carn Grey. Eden Road is used as a speedway for motorbikes and cars"*



*"Do not install traffic calming, no good for emergency services, more police and harsher fines for speeders"*

*"Through the main street of Bugle, cars go too fast, and is worse at night time, need more policing at night"*



## Education

There seems to be a general satisfaction with education services and availability. The level of interest, cost and lack of transport imposes a restriction on some members of the community, however with a relatively small number of respondents providing data there can be no clear conclusions here.



*"I think Treverbyn is at maximum size now already - Penwithick is twice as big as it used to be - the school cannot cope! Am not happy about Eco-town either - save our countryside!!"*



*"I am not qualified to give opinion on 'needs' for housing, but I believe all existing social problems should first be addressed before new estates arrive and add to problems. There is no provision for youth! No housing should be permitted without parking facilities. The area needs to provide employment/schooling/sports centre/youth centre and training centre"*

## Services

Over half of residents have no access to an NHS dentist, and a similar number would like to register. Although not a responsibility of either parish or unitary council, clearly this is a major area of health provision that is lacking.

The second largest area of comment is the issue of roads and pavements. 50% of respondents experience some sort of problem; with comments and suggestions that impact directly or support issues raised in other areas of the survey.



*"We need a dentist desperately. We will have a generation of children with rotten teeth or none"*

*"The parish needs an NHS dentist"*

*"The only dentist we could register with is in Fowey. Not very convenient"*

*"There are no NHS dentists in the parish"*

*"We need a local dentist. Perhaps at Roche Med Centre for Parish occupants only"*

*"On NHS Dentist waiting list for 3 years."*

*"Only dentist I could register with is in Devon"*

*"Lack of pavement between Penwithick and Carluddon and also along stretches of new road from Carluddon down to the bypass"*

*"The A391 through Carluddon does not have a pavement/footpath, the hedges are rarely cut and any verges are ankle deep in mud and muck"*

*"Impossible to walk safely on pavements because of inadequate clearance of leaves, soil and rubbish debris on paths also overgrown hedges and trees"*

*"Lack of pavements at Carluddon makes walking into town dangerous"*

*"Lack of pavements around Treverbyn and Singlerose Road (there is a footpath but not big enough to take a pushchair)"*



## Environmental issues

84% of respondents claimed to use the kerbside recycling services, and with a significant number of the 91 “no” respondents commenting that they use recycling services elsewhere (ASDA is popular), this suggests Treverbyn has made a significant contribution to the County’s targets. However, the response to improvement tempers this apparent success, with 52% believing more items should be recycled using this service. The comments offered were the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest volume of suggestions, with plastic featuring highly.



Addressing other problems highlights 31% of respondents experience problems with anti-social behaviour, this along with the 304 comments returned indicates some close attention should continue to be given here. Continued support of the PCSO and Neighbourhood PC and increased awareness of local weekly surgeries will help gather intelligence for relevant authorities.

Strong opinions were expressed on the subject of footpaths and high volume of comments highlight a need to consider the use, publicity and maintenance of local and longer distance footpaths across the parish. There is a need for more effort to link and map available rights of way.

*"The kerbside collection is very good now that they are doing a weekly collection"*

*"More plastics other than just bottles such as tubs and containers"*

*"Efforts must be made to make everything from a normal household recyclable - including plastics"*

*"5 different bags now - where can we store it?"*

*"Carloggas Down (hill) the directional arrow markers are missing. Would be nice to have a map at the top."*

*"No signposts so don't know where they are - could do with leaflets and map"*

## Housing



The great majority of the respondents (98%) live in a dwelling that is their main residence and not temporary accommodation. Additionally 85% do not feel the need for alternative accommodation in the next 3 years.

A mixed message about the provision of more and affordable housing within the parish was received. There is some concern that the parish cannot accommodate any more housing (this may be a very local issue) but a substantial majority indicate approval for new affordable property that would meet the long term needs of local people.

*"More houses mean more traffic etc., which brings noise, pollution etc., these things need to be taken into account before more developments are allowed. Many of the local roads are merely lanes"*



*"Not only do we need more housing but we also need people to work in the Parish to create more jobs for locals because too many people in the Parish are not working and claiming benefits"*



## Sports, leisure and recreation

Strong satisfaction was shown in both the provision of children's playgrounds and activities within the village halls of the parish. As always with open questions there were many suggestions for further activities and pastimes. Youth clubs feature highly in the list of needs. Requests ranging from swimming pools to ski slopes have been made within the 159 responses.



Many of the suggestions do have a solution in the region, but cost and travel restrictions play a part in their attractiveness.



*"Sometimes lack of transport i.e. weekends Sunday service or no service i.e. Wheal Martyn"*

*"Would like my elderly mother to be able to get to appropriate clubs etc., by public transport in the day"*

## Information and local government

There is general satisfaction in the publicity of the Parish Council, however further development of the website and use of local newsletters would go some way to addressing the needs of those not satisfied.

As far as attitudes to the outgoing District Council and previous County Authority, feelings switch to dissatisfaction, much of it due to lack of knowledge or communication. Now that the Cornwall Council Unitary Authority is established, parishioners should demand improved information where required.



*"A newsletter would inform people and maybe then we can get more involved and take an interest in our parish"*

*"Don't receive any information from Parish Council"*

*"Get more young people involved - it might encourage them to think more about what they want for their community - after all - they are going to be living in it for the longest"*

*"Did not know we had a parish council"*

*"No newsletter. Website not kept up to date"*

*"I know nothing about the parish council - I didn't even know there was one"*



## Planning

There is a fairly neutral view of local planning. However, the written comments provide a stronger negative feeling; there is a clear message of a lack of information, consultation and perceived poor decisions.

The only clear message about general development relates to larger industrial/commercial units and here there is strong resistance from respondents (3 to 1 against).

Taken with a broader context of the responses to the Imerys Clay Country Vision, there is a strong community feeling that needs to be given serious consideration and more public information is required.



*"I believe that the parish is fit to burst with the amount of new houses going up. There is simply no more room without destroying green fields"*

*"Mixed feelings - some planners listen to local concerns but there has been far too much intense housing development. Needed more sympathetic development"*

*"Allowing too much housing development without improving local activities to match population increase also real employment needs ignored"*



## The future

Seen as an opportunity to gauge public opinion the questions relating to the Imerys Clay Country Vision were added “as presented” by Imerys, the results have been returned “as received” for inclusion in their future public consultation.

The “yes” versus “no” statistics send a general message of support, however the comments evoked a significant response (taking 8 of the top 20 spots in volume), much of which expresses the scepticism of a community, often let down by the short-term nature of commercial investments.

Much detail is obviously missing in the proposals as made, and many respondents go on to question where the sustainable employment need will be met. Affordable and



“Eco” homes are not affordable, at any price, without reliable employment prospects.

This subject is set to dominate planning and development discussions for many years to come, the hope is that the strength of feeling expressed in this survey will be translated into public involvement in future local meetings.

*"They need to listen to people in the area they have to live with the planning when implemented"*

*"It's not really an eco-town but a division of areas and pressuring already stretched resources i.e. road infrastructure and neutralising clay reserves"*

*"There is not enough proportion of low-cost housing. Sustainable communities, certainly no one is suggesting where the employment will come from"*

*"I am strongly opposed to the eco-town being built at Baal Pit and I think local people's views should be taken into account"*

*"Haven't heard about this but very interested"*

*"You've got to do something with them, and nobody else can afford to follow through any other scheme which has so far been proposed"*

## The priorities

The survey highlighted several clear areas of strong feeling, backed up with excellent anecdotal evidence from the comments. These clear messages were distilled into ten distinct “priorities” that were further tested by a simple order of importance survey conducted at public events in December 2009.

The results from this refinement exercise provided confirmation of the results of statistical analysis and interpretation of the comment responses. The order of the “top 10” is;

- 1 Speed of traffic**
- 2 Anti-social behaviour**
- 3 Employment**
- 4 Housing**
- 5 Buses**
- 6 Planning**
- 7 Roads and pavements**
- 8 Footpaths and rights of way**
- 9 Dental health**
- 10 Recycling**

Armed with these clearly ordered priorities the plan now needs to propose clear and measurable actions. Visible and significant activities that reassure parishioners that relevant action supporting their priorities are being taken and continue to be sustained towards the best possible outcome.





## 7. The next steps

The Treverbyn Parish Plan has been produced in close consultation with the Parish Council, and considerable guidance has been adopted to allow the swift translation from a proposal to a ready to deliver action document.

As has been previously stated there are many parties involved in the delivery of the adopted actions, all with political, resource and economic priorities that may differ from the immediate needs of local residents and businesses. It will be the measure of the Parish Council's resolve to keep its visibility in lobbying and communication influenced and guided by the people's priorities.

In adopting this action plan, the Parish Council will undertake to improve all areas of communication and visibility on behalf and for the parishioners. Several areas of improved information are already embodied in the action plan (website, newsletter, public access to meetings, etc.), however this is considered only a start to much greater public involvement. The success of this Parish Plan will not only be measured by the actual delivery of the action plan, but in the reaction and recognition of the residents and businesses of the parish.



## 8. The Parish action plan

<b><u>Priority</u></b>	<b><u>Action</u></b>	<b><u>Partners</u></b>	<b><u>Timescale</u></b>
Speed of traffic	Enforcement of existing limits. Improved signage in 20/30 mph areas as the law allows.  Further restrictions, limits, physical restrictions, re-route signage and local action groups.	Devon and Cornwall Police – traffic department.  Cornwall Council – Highways.  Devon & Cornwall Safety Camera Partnership.	2010 and ongoing.
Anti-social behaviour	“How to report a problem” and what happens to your information?  General publicity.  List of local black spots.  Agree location(s) to patrol.	Devon and Cornwall Police.  Local “newsletters” and parish notice boards.  Youth offending team.	Surgeries in place.  Ongoing development.
Employment	Identified sites.  Development grants.	Known businesses and employers.  Cornwall Council – Economic Development.	2010 and ongoing.
Housing	Survey of needs.  Investigate “self-build” project opportunities.	Social Housing Associations.  Prospective developers.  Cornwall Council.	Survey 2010.

<b><u>Priority</u></b>	<b><u>Action</u></b>	<b><u>Partners</u></b>	<b><u>Timescale</u></b>
Buses	Publicity, local newsletters, sponsored promotions (smart cards are coming!).  Timetables in Parish Office.	Cornwall Council.  Local bus operators.	2010 and ongoing.  2010 events in villages.
Planning	More information. "How to get involved".	Website.  Newsletter, parish notice boards.	2010 and ongoing.
Roads and pavements	How to report a problem?	Website, parish notice boards.	2010 and ongoing.
Footpaths and rights of way	Local footpath notice/map(s).  Leaflets in parish council office.  Permanent signs in village centres.	Website.  Cornwall Council.	2010 and ongoing.
Dental health	Publicity, "how to get on a list".	NHS Primary care trust.  Local NHS dental practice(s).	Ongoing.
Recycling	Local facilities list.  Bags and Stickers to be available in Parish Office.  Encourage "re-use" to avoid recycle or disposal.	Cornwall Council.  Serco.	2010 and ongoing.



## 9. Photograph index

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	Carthew Triangle, looking north, B3274
Page 22	Clay trails signs, Lavrean
	Bugle crossroads, looking south from A391

# Appendix/reference documents

*(Documents on computer data CD, PDF format only)*

## **1. Parish plan documents;**

Questionnaire – includes youth and child  
Survey report  
Newsletter  
Sample poster  
Sample priority tick sheet

## **2. Data and analysis;**

Raw data from survey  
Final analysis coding sheet  
Final analysis  
Consolidated comments

## **CD available from; (by personal collection only)**

The Parish Clerk  
Treverbyn Parish Council  
Treverbyn Parish Office  
Penwithick Community Hall  
57 Penwithick Road  
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