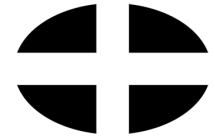


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THE TEMPLE TO BODMIN A30 ACTION GROUP

This press release is from the Temple to Bodmin A30 Action Group and is for immediate release.

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Good News for Cornwall – Bad News for Temple!

Thursday 4th October 2007

The Temple to Bodmin A30 Action Group welcomes the excellent news of the forthcoming Surf Lifesaving World Championships to be held at Newquay in 2010. This will obviously be a major event for both Cornwall and the Nation that will bring much needed revenue to the county.

While congratulations are due to those involved, there are obvious questions about the bigger picture of the impact of such an event on Cornwall with 4,000 plus entrants and in excess of 30,000 visitors expected. Newquay's infrastructure is likely to struggle with such a huge influx of competitors and spectators expected from around the world, as this event is to be held over just two weeks, not an entire holiday season. Newquay Airport, even with its new facilities, is unable to cope with this type of volume and an upgraded Newquay-Par branch line with additional services from Paddington will not provide the transport levels required. This leaves the trunk road network to deal with the majority of the transport requirements of getting people and equipment in and out of the county.

The A30 at Temple - the first single carriageway section of road one meets when approaching Cornwall from the east – was unable to cope with the 'normal' influx of traffic this summer with 5 mile tailbacks regularly reported in both directions. Whatever will it be like for a major world event of this size?

This would appear to leave a problem where we have just three years to plan and improve our entire transport infrastructure. The South West Regional Development Agency, Cornwall County Council, Restormel and Newquay Councils have all contributed to the initial bid costs with the estimated £6m cost of hosting the event to come from the public coffers and private sponsorship. It will be interesting to see how much of this money will be ploughed into supporting infrastructure to ensure these Championships are a success.

The planned upgrade for the Temple to Bodmin stretch of the A30 was due to commence in 2008 and has tragically been put back until 2016 at the earliest. We estimate, based on the original schedule, that there was a possibility that dualling of this section of the A30 would have been completed by mid-2010 allowing the safe and free flow of traffic through to Newquay and beyond.

Surely now is the time to get this plan back on track to ensure the success of these and future Championships and then we can all reap the benefits of an improved and safer road well into the future.

We welcome the support of members of the public, the business community and transport agencies, in our objective of getting the Temple to Bodmin section of the A30 dualled at the earliest opportunity. Further information and contact details are available on our website at www.dualtheA30now.co.uk

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All editors:

Please contact me if you need any further information or wish to arrange interviews.

Regards

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