

CORNWALL COUNCILLOR UPDATE FOR APRIL 2022



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I have decided to write an overarching update each month, that will be sent to the 6 Parishes and 1 Town Council that sits within the **Rame Peninsula & St Germans** division. I hope that this will give an overall picture of the work being done across the division and will help inform Parish & Town Councillors.

Cornwall Council –

The big debate over a directly elected Mayor for Cornwall continues, as it stands we are hearing lots of rumour and whispers but no solid facts on what is on offer to make the case for changing the governance of Cornwall. The CEO of Cornwall Council, Kate Kennally, is leading negotiations with the Government department over our "wish list" for devolution, this will continue over the summer months. It will be interesting to see the nuts and bolts of the deal when it comes back to us, but the general feeling amongst residents that I speak to is that it isn't particularly a welcome idea.

I was delighted to join others Cornwall Councillors at New County Hall at the end of April for our first ever Youth Council meeting. This involved our newly elected Members of Youth Parliament for Cornwall leading volunteers from across the Duchy, between the ages of 10 and 21, in the first steps of establishing a Youth Council. The passion, intellect and commitment on show from these young people was really inspiring and I look forward to watching this grow and supporting the Young People as we move forward.

I am still working closely with the Rame Peninsula Public Transport User Group over the cuts to our services in the area - it seems that services across the border areas of Cornwall have been cut quite drastically, we are told these are 'anomalies' and I am working closely with other Cornwall Councillors at this end of Cornwall to try and get a resolution to these 'anomalies'.

Myself and other Cornwall Cllrs from the Cornwall Gateway community network area met with representatives of Cornwall Housing during April, it was a stark meeting with the senior team that took over last year. They have been completely honest in the failures of Cornwall Housing in the past, and have a clear plan to bring our housing stock back up to standard - but were clear that this is not going to be a quick process. With this in mind, it was a shame that at Full Council, the Council voted to go back on the long standing previous commitment to work towards votes for 16 & 17 year olds.

I am pleased to be able to report that my Community Chest is open for grants again this year, we have been allocated £3000 each to spend on community projects and I welcome applications from anyone who may be interested and looking for funding.

There are criteria that need to be met, but it is a pretty accessible form of small funding so please do get in touch if you would like to apply - or let your residents know if there is a project they would like support with!

Around the Peninsula

In **Millbrook** we are looking forward to the final report on the feasibility study into the West St narrows being issued at some point in May - we are really hopeful that this will give us a good way forward in dealing with the serious concerns that we have in the area.

In **Antony** the design is underway for the extension of the 30mph zone to cover both junctions into Wilcove - in the future we will be looking at extending the 30mph all the way into the village of Wilcove.

In **St Germans and Tideford** I am delighted to report that the air filtration units will be being installed in all 14 properties in the next week. Full training is being given to the residents and it is hoped that this will make a huge difference to the people of Tideford that have been suffering with air quality issues for far too long.

In **Torpoint** the challenges with Wildanet have been continuing, I am receiving less complaints but still too many. At least we now have a positive line of communication with the company. The wild flower areas in Sycamore Drive should be underway now as well - I really look forward to seeing them come to fruition.

And in **Maker with Rame** I was pleased to support getting the sea wall repairs underway underneath the Old School House. The repairs are for repointing on the wall, new coping stones and then the wall will be assessed every 6 months going forward to keep on top of the issue - we had seen some serious issues arising there in recent years. I am also pleased to say that Cawsand Carpark, that is owned and operated by Cornwall Council, is on the shortlist for having electric vehicle charging points installed - if this comes through it should happen fairly quickly.

In **St John** I have been working with planning policy officers and Parish Councillors to look at a new Chief Planning Officers letter for the cliffs area to try and establish some new guidelines about development on the cliffs. The old document needs some refreshment if we are to protect the visual integrity of the cliffs.

Meetings -

April's meetings as your divisional member included –

Misc Licencing

Full Council

Cornish National Minority Working Group

Violence against Women and Girls Working Group

Central Planning Committee

Numerous online briefings and training sessions

Tideford Air Quality Meeting

Town and Parish Council Meetings

Upcoming meeting dates for your diaries –

Community Network Panel – 15th June 2022 – evening

Climate Change Network meeting – 9th June 2022 @1400hrs