

## **Cornwall Councillor report – St Austell Bay Parish Council - May 2021**

Good evening everyone and I hope you have been able to enjoy some of the lovely weather that we have been having over the past few days.

It's been a busy time for me, getting used to the 'new' parts of my division and meeting with various people and organisations, along with taking part in the first formal meetings of the new Cornwall Council.

In terms of casework received, I have had various concerns raised with me about footpaths, and overgrown verges and hedges around the parish, and have raised these with Cormac who will take action either themselves, if it is their responsibility, or by raising it with the land owners.

I have also received a number of approaches from residents with regards to the hybrid planning application that is on the agenda for this evening's meeting. I'd like to thank them for getting in touch and reassure them that I am listening to concerns given, and have already had a lengthy discussion with the planning department about this case. I have also attended Carlyon and Pentewan Valley Parish Council meetings this week and listened to their feedback on this application. There is a strict process involved when Cornwall Council consider any planning applications, of which St Austell Bay Parish Council is a statutory consultee. Please rest assured that if I am asked to call this application in to committee by the Parish Council, then I will certainly do so.

I have been consulted on, and given no objection to the slight rerouting of the footpath that runs up to the vicarage from Charlestown.

I took part in a couple of litter picks for Charlestown Chums as part of Keep Britain Tidy's Big Spring Clean that were well attended – thank you to Pat Smith and all concerned for volunteering to look after our area.

Going forward, I am very happy to advertise and promote any litter picks or beach cleans like this on my (newly renamed), Mevagissey, Pentewan, St Austell Bay and Carlyon Community Action Group Facebook page to hopefully increase participation and awareness in the local area.

I have also put in a bid to Clean Cornwall for more litter picking equipment to replace some of the older stuff that was reaching the end of its lifespan.

At County Hall I was honoured to be elected as Chair of the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee. This is one of the main committees that holds Cornwall Council to account in a particular area, and I am looking forward to working with the committee members to ensure our children and young people are best served in the future.

I have cautiously resumed my volunteer community action group, covid safe and outside in groups below the numbers needed under current regulations, and have the first session scheduled for Portmellon on 27 June.

If the Parish Council has any ideas about where to do them, or would like to do one and have me assist, I will be happy to organise or help as appropriate.

Finally, my Community Chest fund will shortly be open for bids and I would encourage anyone who is interested in applying to get in touch with me so I can consider bids.