

Cornwall Councillor Report – St Austell Bay Parish Council – December 2023

I hope you are all well as we head towards Christmas.

It has been great to be involved in some of the festive events locally, and in particular the Christmas lights around the harbour at Charlestown look stunning.

Over the past month winter has definitely arrived and I have spent a lot of time reporting and dealing with issues around the heavy rain we have been experiencing on a seemingly daily basis, as well as the somewhat unexpected snow that we had on 30 November!

Regarding the very cold weather, the gritters are now out and about when needed on the gritting routes around the county and will remain so until March.

I appreciate the parish council's disappointment regarding the latest response from Cormac and Cornwall Council on the traffic schemes on Duporth Road. I have provided a copy of the Local Transport Plan 2022 to the Chair which is what I believe they have used in coming to their decision on this and am happy to support the parish council if they make an evidence-based challenge to Cormac/Cornwall Council based on the outcome of their FOI request.

The rollout of the new bins for the waste and recycling contract change in January is continuing, with Cornwall Council holding another engagement event in St Austell Library earlier in November.

I have been told of occasions where Cornwall Council's contractor has delivered new bins to properties that shouldn't be getting them, i.e. holiday lets that pay business rates, or even occasions where properties that have already had them delivered have had another set delivered. Anything like this should be reported to cornwallrecycles@cornwall.gov.uk Equally, if you have not had any new bins by the second week of January, please contact cornwallrecycles@cornwall.gov.uk and ask them to send you one.

The various maintenance things that Cormac's countryside team were doing on the paths around Charlestown have all been completed now, and the chippings have all settled down nicely. A Godsend given the changeable weather we have been having recently!

I attended the AGM of the Duporth Development Community Interest Company at the end of November and provided a report back on Cornwall Council's ongoing work with the developer to ensure the roads and some of the paths on the estate are adopted, which is nearly finished now, as well as my continued work with Cornwall Council to hold the developers to account in ensuring the land around the estate is transferred to the CIC in good order where appropriate.

I'd like to take the opportunity to thank the Parish Council for all their hard work over the year. It has been a pleasure to continue working with you all and I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a peaceful, happy and prosperous 2024.