

## **Cornwall Councillor Report – St Austell Bay Parish – January 2022**

Happy New Year to you all!

I hope you all managed to get a bit of time off over Christmas and I did manage to take a week off.

In terms of general updates since we last saw you all:

Cormac have now replaced the damage sign for Porthpean Road at the Duporth crossroads that I reported earlier last year.

Replacement of the missing sign at the top of the Porthpean Beach ramp has been agreed and will be included under Coastal Access improvement programme. It will be replaced as part of this wider package of work.

The gutters on the Porthpean Beach toilets have been reported to Cormac and they have been asked to deal with it.

The knotweed around Porthpean Beach that I reported will be included in the first treatment program of the 2022 season. For maximum effect this is done in July, when the knotweed is in full growth. The second treatment will take place in autumn just after flowering. Thereafter the site will be monitored but all being well the treatment provided should kill it all off.

I also raised the faded wording at the top of the beach ramp on the road with the Highways team and I was informed that the wording has been left to fade because it isn't prescribed wording. There are other waiting restrictions in place in this area that manage the parking arrangements.

In Charlestown Cormac will be resurfacing the section of SWCP above the eastern cliff around the 21 February. They need to get the fencing put back first though, which is hopefully happening this week. Prior to this, they will look at any damage caused by the recent works and rectify. This will of course, not be at the cost of the residents.

Around Duporth and Porthpean I am in liaison with Cormac and the Duporth Development CIC about getting works done on a dead oak tree that could be a potential hazard to coast path users and neighbouring properties on Carrickowel Point, following a report from a resident.

Another coastpath update, Cormac have agreed to put down gravel to make the new bit of the path up behind the coastguard cottages less slippery, and they will do this at the same time as the other works they have scheduled in this area in the Spring.

I have also asked them, if they have any resource left in this financial year if they would consider putting down gravel to make the path down the side of Chandler's Walk and another section of Mill Lane less slippery.

Also on the coastpath, the new palisade fencing between Duporth and Charlestown was installed on 23 November.

Also in Duporth there was quite a major sewage leak in the woods behind the new development in December. It was in a very difficult place to reach and a difficult repair to make so there were a lot of movements of tankers for a few days around the estate while they had to have an interim solution with a pump. I liaised with South West Water to ensure they left the site tidy afterwards, and the works were completed by 24 December.

I have also secured some wildflower seeds for the Charlestown History Group for the Battery, which I gave to the Clerk to pass on.

Finally, at the end of last year, up at County Hall I was pleased to second the Motion for Cornwall Council to declare an ecological emergency.

As a keen environmentalist I am always looking for opportunities to ensure Cornwall Council is on the top of its game in the fight for our environment.

The statistics around this motion are scary- we are seeing species being lost across Cornwall at an alarming rate, and this motion formalises the council's response, joining us with partners for a combined approach to addressing the decline of our natural environment, and working with our existing resources to take action accordingly.

With the recent COP26 in Glasgow, it has never been more appropriate to declare an ecological emergency, and today's motion does just that, while highlighting the existing work that is taking place and the need to do more.

I look forward to continuing to work with you all as we go forward into 2022 and beyond.