

## **Cornwall Councillor Annual Report 2025/26 – St Austell Bay Parish**

I am pleased to now be in my sixth year as Cornwall Councillor for St Austell Bay Parish, and overall twelfth year as a Cornwall Councillor and would like to thank the Parish Council, and residents and businesses in general for your continued support.

I continue to work on a variety of local issues, and in all areas like to work closely with my parish councils to achieve real positive change and help address longstanding issues.

A few highlights include:

Working with Charlestown School to explore possibilities for improved traffic management outside the school, as well as pushing for Cornwall Council to readvertise for a crossing assistant at this location, which has now been filled with the crossing assistant in place.

Working with the Forest for Cornwall team to get donations of trees to local organisations, particularly important following the storm damage earlier in 2026.

Working with the Parish Council and Cormac to get the residents parking scheme in place on Duporth Hill.

Working with Cormac to expedite funding and work on Porthpean Beach slipway after this was badly damaged in the January 2026 storms.

Worked with Cormac to expedite and progress resurfacing works on Duporth Hill and Ridgewood Close.

Arranging and running the first annual Parish Boundary Walk.

I continue to sit as a volunteer member of the Duporth estate CIC as assets there are moved towards ownership of the residents.

I was pleased to see the part-funded by Cornwall Council works to repair Charlestown Harbour's gates repaired completed earlier this month.

I also continue to include the Parish in my regular ongoing litter pick and beach clean schedule. For 2025/26 this has included working with my St Austell Tidy Up Team, to pick up tons of litter locally, including 155 sacks recently over the Keep Britain Tidy Great British Spring Clean which lasted for two weeks in March, nearly three times as much as we collected in same period over the previous year!

I have also in my day to day work, continued to get out and about, meeting local residents, organisations, and businesses and always try my best to represent your issues and interests at County Hall.

There are always loads of local casework issues ongoing, particularly regarding potholes and verge trimming – I do my best to get a speedy and positive response once I get involved.

At County Hall over the past year I have:

Led the campaign to Keep Cornwall Clean - which includes working with the council and partners to better promote and highlight the resources available for community litter picking and beach cleaning, in order to establish a joined up network of groups, such as the ones I already work with in my division, across Cornwall.

Led the campaign and proposed a motion at County Hall to highlight the damaging impact of business rate reforms on Cornwall's retail, hospitality and leisure businesses. The Government subsequently watered down some of these changes and we are still calling on them to do more.

Written a motion calling on Cornwall Council to oppose plans for mandatory digital ID, which was passed with strong support in the chamber, making Cornwall Council the first council to take such a step. The Government subsequently u-turned on the mandatory element of its proposals.

With regards to my Community Chest, I have awarded grants over the past year to Porthmeur CIC, Charlestown Regatta Committee, Young People Cornwall, St Blazey Amateur Operatic Society, and St Austell Sea Cadets.

Finally, I love getting involved in the various community events in the parish and my thanks go to all who volunteer in their communities. A special shoutout to the Regatta Committee who had me as their pasty competition judge last year, and I hope to return and give it another go, along with the beer tent, this year! My thanks go to all who volunteer in their communities.

I would like to congratulate the Parish Council on their excellent work and positive approach and attitude. You are a pleasure to work with and I always look forward to coming to the monthly meetings.