

Cornwall Councillor Report – St Austell Bay Parish – July 2022

I hope everyone is well and has had a chance to enjoy (or hide from) the glorious weather!

I have recently met with the Highways Manager and understand that we should get an update on the recently allocated highway schemes in August, and I hope they will then proceed towards implementation for next year.

The project around Porthpean Outdoor Education Centre continues to proceed in a positive direction and while this is still currently an ongoing commercial in confidence matter, I hope Cornwall Council will be able to make an announcement on its future by the end of the month.

Regardless of what happens with the Outdoor Education Centre, I have been assured the toilets at Porthpean will remain open, and run by Cornwall Council, until the new provider takes over.

Finally, I would like to congratulate the Parish Council on their installation of the new benches at Porthpean beach, which are an excellent addition to the area and well-used. It's also good to see the steps to nowhere finally going somewhere!

I attended another meeting of the St Austell Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan earlier this week. There are lots of good ideas about joining up existing routes, improving signage and access and creating new ones. They will be sharing a consultation map highlighting the routes they are planning to do work on, in the next month, and will be making recommendations on a way forward in the Autumn.

Finally, I am absolutely delighted to report that the Ramblers have now withdrawn their objection on the change to the right of the way on the coastpath around Charlestown.

This will mean that the section from Carlyon Bay to Charlestown will reopen officially immediately, and the other section to the Battery by the end of the week.

For information the next section of the coastpath which has been closed for separate reasons around Duporth now has its works planned to start shortly. Site preparation works will commence on the 8th August for two weeks followed by works on the realignment commencing on the 22nd August. Cormac aim to have the entire route reopened and accessible by the end of October.

This is excellent news and I would like to thank Cormac for their continued hard work through what has been a long and strenuous process, as well as dealing with almost daily calls from me! Also thanks to the residents of Duporth Bay for your patience and understanding throughout.

I look forward to walking the whole of the route later this year!