

Cornwall Councillor Report – St Austell Bay Parish – May 2023

I hope you are all well as we go through May.

In some highlights from my work for you over the past month:

It's been good to see Cormac start their work on the road to and through Trenarren, following my earlier request, and subsequent insistence that they avoid delaying it. I visited the works on 11 May and the difference between the previous surface and what is there now is staggering. Although the works have been extended, I hope this is because they are taking the time to cover all of the areas that need doing.

Apologies for any inconvenience for the residents of Trenarren and Trevissick Farm, but I hope the final outcome will be worth the wait.

I raised my very strong concerns with Cornwall Council's handling of the Charlestown and Duporth traffic management scheme to the Cabinet Member responsible for Transport both verbally and in writing, having sent a very long email to him that I have copied to the Clerk. He is currently considering next steps and I hope will reply shortly. I have said that I will be happy to meet with him and the parish council chair and clerk if necessary in order to move this forward.

Now that Cormac have finished their various improvements on various rights of way around St Austell Bay Parish, my next target is the path that goes down and around Polmear Farm from Carlyon Bay. Cormac have confirmed that the works for this path are on their list for schemes. I have spoken to them this week and suggested they put down chippings, and they have also said they are going to rod the pipe that goes under the path as this may be blocked and backing up, causing the boggy patch that people are complaining about.

I have scheduled a meeting with planning regarding The Nest, and at the time of writing will hopefully be attending a site meeting on 18 May with the parish council and local residents.

Cornwall Council have been in touch about upcoming changes to waste and recycling collections, which will be taking place later this year.

Construction works are being carried out to prepare Cornwall's rubbish and recycling transfer sites for the introduction of weekly food waste collections. While the facilities are upgraded, some sites will be closed, and crews will need to take different routes while making collections.

This means that from May rubbish, recycling and garden waste collection times may be earlier or later than usual in some areas.

All households are being reminded to put their rubbish, recycling and garden waste out at 7am on their designated collection days to make sure they don't miss their collections.

Temporary changes to recycling processing

During the works, there will be temporary changes to the way some recycling is processed. Some recyclable materials collected from Cornwall homes will be

transported to other recycling facilities in the South West. These materials will be mixed during transport but will be re-sorted once they arrive at the recycling facility. All recycling collected from households in Cornwall will be recycled.

Cornwall Council is asking that everyone continues to sort their recycling into their recycling bags and box as usual before they put it out for collection.

Weekly food waste collections and fortnightly rubbish and recycling collections

Later this year Cornwall Council will introduce weekly food waste collections and fortnightly rubbish and recycling collections to all households across the county. The new collections will be rolled out in five stages, area by area.

Food waste containers and a wheelie bin or protective sack will be supplied to each household in advance.

Each household will be contacted directly with more information about the new services before they are introduced in their area. In the meantime, residents who need more recycling bags or boxes can order them via Cornwall Council's website.

There's more information about the new food waste, rubbish and recycling collections on Cornwall Council's website.

I have already been in touch with the senior responsible councillor for this area as there will be a number of households in our area that will not have capacity to take a wheelie bin, and have been assured they will be contacted individually as below. Wait and see for now...

Regarding the Shared Prosperity Fund, on 9 May Cornwall Council launched another strand of this with a new £4.6m pot of funding for rural communities and businesses, with eligible organisations encouraged to put forward projects that will strengthen those areas and provide new opportunities for residents.

The money is for investment into community infrastructure and nature-based solutions that maximise Cornwall's unique natural assets and complement wider aims around net zero transition and nature recovery.

Examples of schemes that can apply for funding of £200,000 up to £1m include:

- Development or improvements to local nature trails, information boards and visitor centres that encourage tourists to visit outside of the normal peak summer season
- Increasing accessibility and use of green and blue spaces such as community gardens, watercourses and footpaths
- Restoration, refurbishment or improvement of cultural, historic, natural and heritage assets and sites
- Active travel infrastructure, such as cycling and walking routes, in rural and remote communities, that link to existing networks and public transport.

The Rural England Prosperity Fund, awarded by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA), will be delivered alongside the Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Good Growth Fund.

Applications for the Rural Fund are open now with a closing date of 24 of July 2023. Successful applicants will have until the end of March 2025 to complete their projects.

Further details can be found on the Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Good Growth Fund website.

Finally, it was good to represent Mevagissey and St Austell Bay Division at the Cornwall Civic Service to mark the Coronation of King Charles III on 7 May. I also spent that weekend attending various civic events and street parties locally – thanks to everyone who invited us!