

Cornwall Councillor Report – St Austell Bay Parish – May 2024

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

Following the Elective Surgical Hub getting planning permission last month, I was pleased to go up to the site and meet with the site manager as work is already underway. It is really cracking on and the plan is still to have it open for the summer, which will be amazing if this is the case.

I continue to meet regularly with Cornwall Council and the contractors working on Porthpean Outdoor Education Centre following their fire last year. Works are still on schedule, with all external works now being complete and the plan is for them to reopen fully in May, on the 25th, and they would welcome the Parish Council to come up and see them once this has happened.

I (briefly) attended the meeting with Cormac, Parish Councillors and the Regatta Committee about the Regatta Field on 1 May. I await Cormac coming forward with proposals for the £20,000 of Section 106 that needs to be spent soon to help alleviate the flooding issues on this valuable community asset.

I visited Ridgewood Close and spoke with residents about a variety of issues. The main one was the state of the road itself, and I have asked that Cormac prioritise this for resurfacing as soon as possible because it is a right mess. I hope this will be done shortly.

I have requested as a general issue for any applications in my division that are being called in to not be considered until after Cornwall Council's Constitution and Governance Overview and Scrutiny Committee have looked again at their decision to disallow members of the planning committee from asking questions of members of the public and parish councillors. The committee are considering this in their June meeting. I am grateful to the Parish Council for supporting me in my own efforts to get this decision revoked.

Regarding Charlestown Leat, Maxwell has undertaken a walkover of the leat with a colleague and produced an action plan noting by observations on site – he noted the leat had been blocked by garden waste in places. He has had a follow-up meeting with Charlestown harbour and other members of the Council whereby we agreed a collaborative action plan of strategic clearance in problematic areas. For follow-up he has engaged with myself and other local councillors to spread the word to residents about keeping the leat channel free from waste which seemed to worked as it has made its way into Cornwall Live 'St Austell homes flooding because of idiots fly-tipping garden waste' - Cornwall Live – an excellent headline, as ever from them!

As ever, should people need my assistance for anything, please contact me on 07885277670 or at cllr.james.mustoe@cornwall.gov.uk