

CORNWALL COUNCILLOR UPDATE FOR OCTOBER 2024



cllr.kate.ewert@cornwall.gov.uk



07873 193631



@KateForKernow



Cornwall Council and around the Peninsula-

Next year's local elections

In some personal news, I am delighted to share that I have been reselected by my local party to stand as the Labour candidate for Rame & St Germans in next years local elections in May. It has been the privilege of my life to be lucky enough to represent this area for the last 3.5 years, and I hope to have earned the trust of people in the area. Whatever happens, I will continue working my socks off for this area for as long as I am afforded this extraordinary privilege.

Casework update

Over the last month or so, I have working with families in St Germans and Polbathic who's children attend Looe secondary school. Parents had been paying the capped bus fee's for their children's transport to school everyday. Unfortunately, Looe isn't on the designated school list for St Germans - even though it is the closest school to drive too - which means parents do have to pay. I am working with the MP, Anna Gelderd, to try and get this policy changed. There are many reasons why a parent, or a child, might feel a certain school is best for their child's specific needs, and while I accept that there have to be limits to policies, I think there has to be reason applied. Looe is the closest school to St Germans and I will continue to push to make this fairer and more affordable for families in St Germans and Polbathic.

Antisocial behaviour in Millbrook

We have been subject to quite a lot of antisocial behaviour in Millbrook village over the last 12 months, I have been working closely with the local policing team, the parish council and Action for Children Cornwall in trying to resolve this. We have had a lot of success and I was pleased to be able to secure funding for youth outreach work in the village. This has resulted in a big decrease in the amount of trouble we had been seeing, but also a reduction in police reports as well. We are looking to set up a youth club in the village going forward, as that is something that the young people had told the youth workers that they would like to see.

Sadly, however, we saw an arson attack in the brand new skatepark in Millbrook on Halloween. Someone decided it was a good idea to set fire to the picnic bench next to the new ramps ...
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causing a massive amount of damage to the tarmac. After the time, effort and money that went into delivering the skatepark, this was absolutely gutting - so many in our communities came together to deliver something spectacular in the skatepark, and it is so disappointing to see this has happened, there were a lot of very young children out and about in the area and this could have been so much worse if they had been caught up in it. If anyone knows anything about the arson attack, please do report it to the police.

Traffic Lights on the A374

Sadly, I haven't yet received an update on the works on the A374 - I will keep pushing for this to be done as quickly as possible, and I have noticed workers in the area over the last week, so hopefully there is progress to report soon.

Highways updates

Residents in Crafhole will be very aware of the road improvements that are underway in the village - I know it has been very disruptive, but the end is nearly in sight! This has been a scheme that has been hard fought for, and has been done in partnership with the Parish Council and local residents who have been telling me since I was first elected (and before) about the problems faced in the village. The removal of the speed bump at the east end of the village should hopefully mean less noise and damage - damage to both the services under the road from the vibrations but also to the houses where drivers would try and straddle the bump and knock properties.

In Antony Village, the ongoing works to build a refuge for pedestrians continues to cause frustrations. I know it seems like it would be a simple job, but due to the lay of the road it is much bigger than it would seem. This scheme, though, will provide a much safer crossing area for residents in the village and will be worth it I am sure. Thanks to all for their patience while this is ongoing.