

CORNWALL COUNCILLOR UPDATE FOR AUGUST 2025



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As predicted, August was a very quiet month in terms of Cornwall Council work, and I am thankful to have been able to take a small holiday with my family towards the end of the month. Projects have been bubbling along in the background, but there is not much in the way of updates to report.

Sandways

This continues to rumble along without a satisfactory outcome after much upset was caused by a Cornwall Council social media post and press release saying the tents would be removed as soon as weather allowed - I continue to work with the association and support them however I am able. I remain grateful with how supportive Maker with Rame PC are being and how reasonable to camping association are being as well.

Together for Families:

I am pleased to report that we have the first part of our work programme for the year established and we have agreed to look at school transport as part of this. I find it incredibly frustrating, especially for families that live in St Germans and Polbathic, that the nearest geographical school to them - Looe - is not their designated school and therefore the council will not pay transport costs. However, if they chose to send their child further to Saltash there school transport would be entirely free to the families. This is a situation echoed all over Cornwall, where people live in areas that are close to schools but the mapping system designates a different school causing financial hardship for many. There are a multitude of reasons why a family might chose a different school to their designated school - from SEND to family support and if their child needs a fresh start with new peers around them. Families have long been able to chose which school to send their kids too, and I think the policy that Cornwall Council has is outdated and not working for the people it is meant to serve. I know there are many Councillors across the Duchy that agree and share my frustrations on this "computer says no" policy, and I am hopeful that we can get the policy changed to reflect the needs of our communities. I will continue to report back on this important issue.

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Continued:

Flooding

While I was away on my holiday, we were hit with an extraordinary amount of rainfall - I read that it was something like 6 months worth of rain falling in just a few hours. This level of rain fall is just something that our, often, Victorian era drains can cope with - even if they had been cleared recently. I am aware that there are some that hadn't been cleared recently and that wouldn't have helped obviously, but with the sheer amount of mud and silt that got washed off fields and so on, the drainage system just couldn't cope. Cornwall Highways were out as quickly as they were safely able to scrape and clear flooding and mud, and our fantastic communities were out supporting each other and the local businesses in the clean up that followed. Thank you to everyone that got their wellies on, their spades out and helped.

Tideford Signal Crossing

This project is moving along incredibly quickly - in terms of how councils move that is! The public consultation is due to start in the middle of Sept, and run until early October. As soon as I have the "Just Talk Cornwall" link, I will share this across my social media and via emails. I am really please that Cornwall Council have listed to feedback and are pushing for a yellow hatched box on the east bound side of the road (heading towards Trerulefoot) so that the Bridge Road junction doesn't get clogged up.

The Great Wall of St Germans

I am also pleased to report that after a bit of administrative delay, the repairs to the wall in St Germans at the top of Quay Road is going to be fixed very soon. City Bus have admitted liability and have accepted the quote to repair the wall so work is due to start any day. Huge thanks go to residents of St Germans who sent in videos of the bus hitting the wall while it was turning around - accidents happen of course, I am just pleased this is being resolved.