

CORNWALL COUNCILLOR UPDATE FOR OCTOBER 2025



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Tideford Crossing

I am delighted that the consultation for the puffin crossing in Tideford was a success - there were 37 replies in total, 28 were in complete support, 5 supported with additional measures and 4 objections. This means the officer in charge has signed this project off and it will continue to the next stage. There are some hoops to get through first, the road is owned by National Highways and they are completing a Section 6 agreement with Cornwall Council, which will hand over ownership of this section to allow CC to complete the works. It hands back to National Highways afterwards. But the project is progressing nicely and at speed.

Budget Scrutiny

We are now moving towards the budget setting time for Cornwall Council. As in previous years, the Council will not receive its financial settlement from Central Government until December. This is the last year of annual settlements as the Government took the decision to move to multiyear settlements instead. This is hugely welcomed by local authorities as it allows for forward planning and not year to year. It also means that local authorities will have more time with concrete funding allocations to work out spending, instead of the short 6 weeks that we have had for a long time.

The other great news is that the Government's Fair Funding review looks set to see Cornwall receive more funding across all areas as, for the first time ever, central Government is taking into account rurality and coastal areas instead of the usual deprivation formulas. Cornwall has pockets of wealth and severe deprivation, as you will all know, but services cost a lot more to deliver when you have rural and dispersed communities. A good example of this is if you look at special education provision. In a city/urban setting, one school can be built and families will all be within a few miles of it, making transport to the setting affordable and easier. In a place like Cornwall, however, if one setting was built in say, Bodmin, we would still need to transport children from across the entirety of the Duchy adding extra costs all around. I am really pleased that this will finally be recognised.

Fly-tipping

We seem to have had an increase in residents putting out black rubbish bags not in the Council provided bins/sacks. These will not be collected by Biffa as their contract states only to collect waste that is in the proper receptacles. When waste isn't collected, a notice is put on the bags ...

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... reminding residents of the proper process. Repeat offenders run the risk of receiving fines for fly-tipping. Biffa do examine the contents of the bins for identifiable documents etc so that they can contact the residents directly, but this does take some time to process. If a resident needs a new bin - ie theirs has been stolen or damaged they can order that [HERE](#) or if they feel they need an extra bin they can request that [HERE](#). For most households, the bins already provided are adequate if they are also recycling as well. They hold around three to four black bin bags. But, I know, for some bigger families, or families that have extra waste for specific reasons then they need extra waste bins provided.

If you see bags left behind, please do report to Biffa through their online system [HERE](#)

Millbrook Narrows

Folk will remember the consultation that was run a while ago after a feasibility study was commissioned by Millbrook Parish Council - Cornwall to see what, if anything, could be done to improve the road through the top of West Street in the narrows. From that study and consultation a plan was agreed, which is to install sensor pads in the road which will trigger a flashing sign in the Dodbrook side of the narrows alerting drivers that are heading out of the village that vehicles are coming down into the village. The idea being that it makes it safer for pedestrians and means bigger vehicles can navigate through without hitting buildings - or people. Time will tell how successful this will be, but it is the best solution that engineers could come up with considering the geography and houses right alongside the road here.

This work is scheduled to take place in the first week of December, and the road closure has just been granted for this. The road will be closed between 0930 and 1430 from the 1st December for approx one week. This allows the schools buses and commuter traffic to still get in and out of the village with as little disruption as possible.

That said, it will be disruptive and will no doubt cause frustration amongst residents. The works will be very noisy and the crews will be cutting into the road surface to lay the sensors. They will be using a water system to try and control the dust that will be caused.

The usual diversion will be in place, taking vehicles up around the cliffs, so expect disruption across the road network as people use the St John Road etc. Details [HERE](#)

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Safety Review of A374

In the last week, myself and neighbouring Cornwall Councillors attended a meeting with Highways Officers to review the work done on the safety review of the A374. This is a comprehensive review that was first raised by a resident in Sheviocck Parish. The review looked at speeds of vehicles through the A374 from Trerulefoot to Torpoint, as well as behaviours and road lay out. It has come up with a number of improvements along the road and, while the report is not ready for public release just yet, it does point to some significant improvements all along this road. I will be keeping a close eye on this, and just as soon as it is signed off I will share amongst parishes.

Torpoint Bridge works

After much back and forth, and with special thanks to Freeman Mike Pearn for his excellent historic record keeping, we have confirmed that the bridge at the bottom of Ceder Drive towards to the football club, is owned by the MoD and that they have responsibility for the repairs and maintenance on the bridge. Cornwall Council Countryside team now have all this information and are taking the next steps to get this resolved.

Sycamore Drive resurfacing

There has been confusion over the lack of notice for the resurfacing of Sycamore Drive in Torpoint. I was not made aware of this work at all, until signs went up and residents contacted me to ask what was happening. The resurfacing is now done, and we are waiting on the lines being repainted on the estate. Of course it is welcome to get this work done, after being told previously it wasn't a priority area. I have reported potholes and wear and tear on that estate many times! I am disappointed with the communications both to myself, and to the residents on the estate though. Cormac have used a different type of system for this resurfacing which, we are told, is more durable and sustainable, but it doesn't look as neat when being laid. I am assured that within a few weeks you can not tell the difference - we will see how this pans out!

Kate.