

# CORNWALL COUNCILLOR UPDATE FOR MAY 2022



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I have decided to write an overarching update each month, that will be sent to the 6 Parishes and 1 Town Council that sits within the **Rame Peninsula & St Germans** division. I hope that this will give an overall picture of the work being done across the division and will help inform Parish & Town Councillors.

## **Cornwall Council –**

On May 24th we held our Cornwall Council AGM, Cllr Pauline Giles was re-elected unopposed as Chair of the Council, and Cllr Jordan Rowse as her Vice-Chair; they seem to work very well together and Pauline certainly does her duty well of representing Cornwall Council around the Duchy. Cllr Linda Taylor was re-elected as Leader of the Council, albeit with a challenge from an Independent Cllr, Loic Rich.

At the same meeting I was pleased to move a motion on Homelessness and Transport which was supported by members of my group and members from Mebyon Kernow. The motion called for regularisation in our school transport policy so that children of families that are being housed in emergency accommodation, oftentimes a good distance from their own communities, will still be able to stay in the schools where they are settled and feel safe. Currently our policy is we will pay for school transport for a term and then the child would need to move to a school near the emergency accommodation they have been placed in. The problems we are finding, as we are gripped by the housing crisis, is that families are now staying in emergency accommodation for 5 months plus, but frequently being moved from one town to another. We must do all we can to protect these children and give them a semblance of normality while their worlds are turned upside down. The other part of the motion called for proper resourcing of the department at the Council that investigates breaches in our post RTB (right to buy) policy - currently there isn't the capacity to investigate and implement breaches to the covenants on these properties and this isn't good enough. Council Housing is built from the public purse, for the public good - it shouldn't be used for profiteering while we have families camping in Premier Inns for months on end. The motion was referred to Cabinet for discussion, as it had financial implications which is what we expected but we are pleased that these important issues are being discussed.

The Rame Peninsula Public Transport Users Group are holding a public meeting in Crafhole at the Village hall on Monday 20th June at 1830 regarding the cuts to our bus services. All are welcome to attend, and we will be joined by officers from the Council and the bus company as well.

At Children's and Families Oversight and Scrutiny Committee I raised concerns regarding the NHS dentistry provision on the Rame Peninsula, especially in regard to our children and young people, some of whom haven't seen a dentist for 3 years. There was much agreement that this is an issue impacting children across Cornwall and we have agreed to put this on our work programme for the coming year.

**Citizens Advice** have produced division by division reports on the work they are doing to support residents within our communities. I have attached the report here for your information. It makes quite start reading but it is interesting to see the detail.

## **Around the Peninsula**

In **Millbrook** we kicked off the Spring with the welcome return of the Black Prince Flower Boat Festival. It was an incredibly well supported day, and we were delighted to welcome the Chair of Cornwall Council to attend. She made mention of the brilliant community spirit that was clear on the Rame and wanted to thank residents for their efforts.

In **Maker with Rame** it was a delight to welcome **Luke Pollard MP** to the villages of Kingsand and Cawsand on the second stop of his First Homes not Second Homes campaign. Luke and I spoke with many residents and listened to their concerns, he received great support locally.

In **Torpoint and Antony** the design and consultation has been completed for the extension of the 30mph zone to cover both the junctions to Wilcove. While some residents asked for the zone to be extended further it just wasn't possible in this scheme. Myself and Cllr Tivnan agreed that this is the first step in making that stretch of road safer.

Across all 7 of the Parishes that are within the **Rame Peninsula & St Germans** area I have been delighted to attend the Parish AGMs where Chairs and Mayors have been voted in for the coming year. I want to thank all Parish and Town Councillors for their hard work and dedication and for their support to me over the past year. You are all exceptional!

## **Meetings -**

May's meetings as your divisional member included –

Misc Licencing

Full Council

Cornish National Minority Working Group

Children's and Families OSC

Central Planning Committee

Numerous online briefings and training sessions

Town and Parish Council Meetings

## **Upcoming meeting dates for your diaries –**

Community Network Panel – 15th June 2022 – Isambard House, Saltash Station,  
Albert Road, Saltash, PL12 4EP - doors open at 1800 for an 1830 start

Rame Cluster meeting - Wednesday 6th July - 1800