

MICHAEL BUNNEY

Report: Feb 2024. ST.MEWAN

Cornwall Councillor for St.Mewan, Grampound, St.Ewe, Pentewan Valley and all the farms and hamlets in-between

Apologies for not being with you this evening. I am still recovering from a nasty bout of Covid, that has really knocked me out. I am covering anything urgent still, please always feel free to ask me any questions and get in touch by email if there is anything I can help with

Community events.

I have contacted the Lord Lieutenant, who has agreed to join us to open Trewoon Queen Elizabeth 11 garden on 11th April

I am speaking to Grampound WI for the Centenary and Sticker WI will be joining us. I am also speaking at Polgooth Ladies Group next month

I donate all funds from these talks to local charities and will be handing all donations to St.Austell and Truro food banks over the winter.

It was lovely to run assemblies on Cornish history for St.Mewan School. The children were brilliant (as were the staff) and knew lots about local history

I am speaking at Sticker Memory Café in March and this is one of the many local groups I gave a grant to from my community chest. Applications for this reopen in April, so please encourage any groups to contact me to apply for a small grant, around £200.

I chair the White River Community Project and we have drawn up plans for nature recovery, flood mitigation and community environmental protection. We are working towards £40k of funding and have secured a commitment to provide £20k already.

Roads, drains etc

I received many reports from residents about road problems and flooding and reported these to Highways.

Following requests from Trewoon residents I contacted the transport team and got the bus stop moved in Trewoon next to the bus shelter, which obviously makes sense. This was appreciated and folk can now stay dry whilst waiting for the bus.

In the recent cold spell I phoned up Highways every night to proactively request gritting in Polgooth and checked myself on 2 nights. Cormac will only do reactive gritting on non-main roads though, and when the stewards checked the ice hadn't yet come. I have shared the emergency tel for residents to phone if it is bad. 03001234222 is the 24hr emergency number. You just have to press one to get through to Highways and after 10pm I find it is easy to get through.

Resurfacing of the Trelowth bridleway has been completed and this is a major improvement. I have received many messages of thanks from residents. We have been pressing this for the last 2 years and residents have tried to get this done over the last 60 years.

Polgooth to London Apprentice patching has been done and is a lot better. Cormac has confirmed surface dressing will be applied later in the year, to seal the road surface. They do this in the April to Oct months usually, to allow the dressing to fix better

I have met the area steward to look at flooding on Cooperage rd, Trewoon and he is submitting a work request for next financial year

There is almost no money left in the Community Highways Budget, so most of our expressions of interest will need to be resubmitted again after May 2025 I am afraid. I hope the line repainting and small section of additional waiting restrictions at St.Mewan School can be still be budgeted for though. The School has been asking for this for a long time and I have submitted 2 applications for it. Safety at schools is a key priority in the local plan, so we have a strong case. Cllr Rees Webb and I met the Headteacher to discuss further. There will be a community network highways committee meeting to agree how to allocate the small remaining budget, so finger crossed.

New highways schemes will need to be submitted after May 2025 now

The next 20mph meeting is on 10th June and the parish councils will be invited to consider further areas for the next phase of the 20mph zones. This will be the beginning of the consultation, but it would be helpful if the parish council could have a clear view on which areas you would like added e.g. Sticker, Trewoon etc

Please do report any highways, drains, floods concerns via the website “report something Cornwall” www.cornwall.gov.uk/report-something or the emergency tel 03001234222

Planning.

I am involved with many planning enforcement cases and will continue to work closely with the parish council on planning applications. I will always support your decisions and think it is important applications are in line with your neighbourhood development plan. I am very happy to support you and take any major applications that you are concerned about to planning committee

I continue to work hard as your Cornwall Councillor and have met many residents to help with case work. I will be volunteering again at Grampound Community Shop as soon as I am properly better and present my Cornish history talks; I donate all proceeds from these to local charities.

Oll an gwella. (All the best in Cornish)

Michael Bunney

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