

**MICHAEL BUNNEY**  
**Report: March 2024. ST.MEWAN**  
**Cornwall Councillor for St.Mewan, Grampound, St.Ewe, Pentewan Valley**

Apologies for being a little quieter over the last month. I was recovering from a nasty bout of Covid, that has really knocked me out. I continued covering anything urgent still and am better now. 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/ projects** St.Pirans Day was on the 5<sup>th</sup> March and I am helped organise the St.Austell Festival on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> March, with events across the town centre and the parade at 1.30pm. We also organised traditional Cornish singing on Gorran Haven Beach and a Cornish breakfast in the village hall afterwards. It was lovely to see some St.Mewan and St.Ewe residents join us. Gool Perran Lowen!

I met with local historian Barry West, who is leading a memorial project on the Quaker Cemetery at Tregongeeves and the life of Loveday Hambly. We are aiming to erect a memorial and wild flower garden to mark this important historic site. Barry is coming in April to speak to you.

Last week I helped open Trewoon Community Hub, which has now been launched and will be a great drop in centre for the community and to continue the community fundraising

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

I spoke to Grampound WI for the Centenary and Sticker WI joined us. I am also speaking at Polgooth Ladies Group this 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 also speak regularly at Gorran School on local history

I am speaking at Sticker Memory Café next week and this is one of the many local groups I gave a grant to from my community chest. I am also opening the St.Marks Flower Festival in Sticker in June.

Applications for my community chest will hopefully reopen in April (depending on council budgets), 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.

I have written to Cprnwall Community Land Trust to ask them for a speaker to come to speak to the parish council about land trusts. I am waiting for them to reply.

**Roads, drains etc**

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

We have secured agreement for a pedestrian crossing over the A390 to make it easier to cross between Higher Trehiddle and St.Mewan. I submitted this application to Highways and we pressed for better lighting and signage.

It will be constructed by March 2025

At St.Mewan School, the line repainting and additional small section of waiting restrictions has been agreed as a possible community network highways scheme and will go out for consultation later this year. This has been requested by the school for many years to improve traffic flow and I submitted an application for it.

The community highways budget has no money left now. Highways have assessed all the schemes, including the ones the parish councils submitted and have them on a waiting list. But, all highways schemes will need to be resubmitted after May 2025 now, if a budget is agreed after then.

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

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.

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

The next 20mph meeting is on 10<sup>th</sup> 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 view on which areas you would like to be considered 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](http://www.cornwall.gov.uk/report-something) or the emergency tel 03001234222

### **Planning.**

I am involved with many planning enforcement cases, especially at Meadow Lakes, Hewas Water and will continue to work closely with the parish council on planning applications. I have called the St.Stephens Rd, Sticker application to committee in April and I will back up the parish's view. I will always support your decisions and think it is important applications are in line with your neighbourhood development plan. I always stress this to developers who contact me and advise them to meet with the parish council and me if they are considering applications. 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.

Oll an gwella. (All the best in Cornish)

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