

Cllr P Wills September Report

Cllr Paul Wills (full report available on website)

I hope you all had a lovely summer with family and friends and enjoyed some nice weather. Since we last met Cornwall Council, St Columb Major Town Council and St Wenn Parish Council did not meet in August. St Mawgan Parish Council did, and I send a report.

Yesterday I attended a meeting of the Constitution and Governance Committee at New County Hall where we recommended to Full Council several measures on how the Council is governed over the coming years. Details of this are available on the Cornwall Council website.

I have assisted the Police in viewing CCTV in St Columb which included an accident outside the Post Office a few weeks ago involving a vehicle and a pedestrian.

I met with the St Columb Major Boxing Club, which is meeting twice a week in the Youth Club, age groups from 7 upwards. This new Club is doing well and working with the Youth Club Committee to provide this asset for the young people of the area including St Mawgan Parish. I have committed £500.00 from my Cornwall Councillor's Community Chest Fund for new equipment. The Youth Club Committee have done some sterling work over the summer months keeping our young people entertained and I congratulate them on a job well done.

I attended, via Teams, an update for all Members of the Cornwall Council on the current Covid situation in Cornwall. As we are all aware the figures are worrying for us all, with Cornwall now the highest in the country. This is no doubt down to the number of people coming to Cornwall on holiday. We are a tourist county. However, the unrepresented number of people visiting over the summer has contributed to Cornwall being in special measures now. We must all keep on our guard. The virus is still with us. I have no doubt that the vaccine rollout has helped greatly in keeping the numbers of those who need hospital treatment low, but we must not be complacent in our attitude.

I have met with the managing director of Pall St Columb, via Teams. They plan an extension to the factory in the coming months, which will extend their output into the medical sector. This will increase the number of jobs by about 200. They are already a big employer in the area. I fully support their need for expansion.

I have had several meetings with residents from all over the division regarding many different matters from planning concerns, aircraft noise, housing needs/benefits, council tax concerns, schooling and much more.

I will say this: If a resident submits a planning application, please wait until the plan has been determined by the qualified officer appointed to your application. The same if you object to an application. It is pointless contacting me asking for a site visit whilst the application is still to be determined. 95% of the time I will agree with Town and Parish Councils and the appointed officers' recommendations. On the rare occasions that I disagree, I will take the action I feel is appropriate. I will not be swayed by others, nor will I make promises I cannot keep.

I am delighted that the Cycle Hub for Cornwall has been granted planning and will be built within the St Columb Major, St Mawgan and St Wenn Electoral Division, close to the airport. This will be a huge asset for the area generating jobs and bringing much needed revenue.

I am concerned about the airlink from Cornwall to London. We all accept the aviation industry is in crisis since the pandemic hit. It is likely to take years before we are at the levels of air transport seen pre-pandemic. However, the airlink is again a vital part of our travel infrastructure and we must do

all we can to maintain it. I will be making representation to Full Council on this matter when we meet at the end of this month.