

Since we last met,

Finally, a decision notice on the proposed development at Cornish Fresh has been served and the application has been refused. This has been a very long and drawn-out process, far too long in my opinion and yours, I'm sure.

The next battle is the former creamery at Trevarrian. As you will recall I took this application to committee for consideration and committee refused the application, it then went to appeal, and that appeal was lost on a technicality. Councillors and residents are no doubt aware that the new Labour government are committed to building one and a half million new homes over the course of this parliament and are planning to change the law on planning matters so that these new homes can be built. The Creamery is considered to be brownfield, and this will no doubt weigh heavily in its favour. We can only go through due process and continue to oppose this application.

I chaired a working group from the Standards Committee to review Cornwall Councils Code of Conduct, which is adopted by nearly all local parish and town councils. A number of small changes will be put to the Standards Committee for approval in February and become part of the Code. This will include a back sheet, which will be given to all Councillors County wide following the elections in May of 2025 which will require each councillor to sign and commit to abiding by the code and undertaking code of conduct training within the first six months of election.

I attended the Airport Consultative Forum meeting; passenger numbers are slightly down on this time last year. Work continues on the new passenger security entrance. I did ask about drainage and was assured by Andrew Boomer that all drainage was now in house and there was no need to cross the road onto private land. The proposed privatisation of the Airport rumbles on, Cllr Gardner assured me that there are no plans for housing. A decision is expected by cabinet, should agreement be reached with the preferred bidder, by mid-January 2025.

I attend Full Council at County Hall where we debated a motion on supporting our farmers. The motion called for the leader of the Council to write to the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and the 6 Cornwall MPs, to outline the Council's dismay at the decision in the Budget to restrict Agricultural Property Relief and calls on the Government to stop the Family Farm Tax. Also, that the Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change engages with local farmers and community representatives to consider what support the Council can provide to support them. Plus, a progress update is provided to all Councillors, following the motion of 23rd May 2023 "Supporting Cornwall's Farmers" I vote to support all aspect of the motion.

I chaired a full meeting of the Standards Committee details are available online.

I attended RAF St Mawgan's "Veterans Christmas Lunch" being a veteran myself and supporting the event through my Cornwall Councillors Community Fund as did Cllr Gardner.

I led the parade for the switch on of the Christmas lights in St Columb Major, it was wet, but still not a bad turn out considering.

It only remains for me to wish you all a very happy Christmas and above all a peaceful 2025.