

CALLINGTON VOICE



MK Calls for Abolition of Tolls



At the meeting of the Tamar Bridge and Torpoint Ferry Joint Committee in December in Plymouth, the thorny issue of the Tolls was once again raised, and once again I stood firm to oppose any increase in charges.

It was disappointing to see pressure being put on Councillors from the head of finance of Cornwall Council to vote for an increase in charges for a crossing that is not a choice for many tens of thousands of people but an every day necessity. I spoke at length to criticise this and also the failure of both Councils, the MPs and the Government to accept this principle. Two options were put to a vote, the first was for an increase to £3.20 (£1.60 tag) which saw a tie with 4 in favour and 4 including me, against. The casting vote of the Chair voted down this proposal but a revised one of £3.00/£1.50 was approved by 6 votes to 2 with me voting against.

Nowodhow Rag Konsel Kernow/

News from Cornwall Council

Litter Picking to return for 2024

In the past I have worked hard with the local volunteers to keep our town clean and tidy. Whilst Litter Picking by Cornwall Council does occur on some routes, others such as estates is left out and in the past a small group of volunteers had taken it upon themselves to volunteer and starting in January the aim is to restart this so we can keep our town and community clean and tidy.

The official litter picking events will be on the Third Saturday of each month starting on Saturday 20th January with people meeting at St Mary's Close. I have a limited number of pickers etc so if you would like to join me on the day, please drop me an email on andrew.longmk@gmail.com or send me a message on 07812 597257.

Planning application going to Committee

Since 2009 when Cornwall Council was formed, I have sat on both East and Strategic Planning and, in this time, I have only had four applications going to Committee. In January, it will be No 5 as I have requested that the application for 14 new houses off Haye Road near the Health Centre be decided by Committee and just before Christmas I got confirmation that this would occur in January.

The reason why I have called it to Committee is the issue of access and the use of the junction of Haye Road and Frogwell Road for this entrance. I will report the result of the Committee Decision next month.

Damage to Launceston Road Fountain



As the observant amongst you will have seen, there has been considerable damage to the historic fountain on Launceston Road which happened when a delivery was made to the new storage units behind it.

The owner was very quickly on the phone to the Town Council to advise and the Council are in the process of organising quotes to get the monument repaired. The delivery company have held their hands up and admitted responsibility and are co-operating with us to get this repaired as quickly as possible.

January Surgeries

Saturday 6th January - St Dominic Village Hall

Saturday 13th January - Callington Town Hall Pannier Market

Saturday 27th January - Callington Town Hall Pannier Market. All from 10am to 12 Noon

Cornish Gorsedh Coming to Callington

2024 will be a big year for Callington on many levels. We have been working with Callington Lions, the Rotary Club, CAVE and the Mayfest Committee to bring a series of amazing events throughout the year and last month it was confirmed that the Cornish Gorsedh festival will be making a return to our town for the first time in over 40 years.

The event, which is the highlight of the cultural Calendar for the Cornish culture and language and work is already underway to sort out a venue for the event which will take place on the weekend of the 7th and 8th September.

Alongside the event itself we will be holding a series of events from gigs to a traditional Cornish 'Shout', walks and talks and hopefully a good more besides.

A working group will be formed in January to oversee getting ready for this incredible event and we will be looking for volunteers to assist with the Town Council, the Old Cornwall Society and the Gorsedh itself to make this an event to remember.

So for 2024 we already have the following events amongst many more, coming up

Gorsedh Proclamation
Callington Mayfest
Tansys Golowan
Cornish Gorsedh
Honey Fair
Kelliwik Golowi
Callington Christmas
Market

Not bad for a population of just over 6,000!!