

Councillor Report – October 2026



Cllr Rowland O'Connor

Cornwall Council

Division: St. Columb Major, St. Mawgan-in-Pydar & St. Wenn

Welcome to my October update for residents of St Columb Major, St Mawgan and St Wenn. As always, this report is intended to provide a straightforward update on some of the local issues I have been working on, matters raised with me by residents, and useful information and opportunities from across Cornwall.

Please Report It

Cornwall Council has changed the way it schedules some routine maintenance of the public realm, with greater importance now being placed on issues reported directly by residents.

This means that using Cornwall Council's Report It services is increasingly important. If you see something that needs attention - whether that is a pothole, damaged street furniture, overgrown vegetation, a streetlight fault, litter or another issue with the public realm - please report it directly to Cornwall Council.

Doing so ensures that the issue is formally recorded and can be considered as part of the Council's maintenance and response programme.

Report an issue to Cornwall Council: <https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/report-something/>

For road and pavement problems specifically, Cornwall Council provides a dedicated reporting service covering potholes, vegetation, drains, road surfaces, signs, street furniture and other highway issues.

Report a road or pavement problem: <https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/transport-parking-and-streets/roads-highways-and-pavements/report-a-problem-with-a-road-or-pavement/>

Policing in St Columb Major

I have received confirmation from the Chief Inspector that the current policing situation in St Columb Major is being actively addressed.

I appreciate the concerns that residents have raised with me and will continue to keep in contact with the police regarding the situation.



Planning

Further to my September report, changes to Cornwall Council's planning protocols that had originally been expected to take effect on 31 October 2026 were brought forward and implemented from 23 September 2026.

I will continue to monitor how these changes operate in practice and what they mean for residents and local councils within the division.

PA26/06022 - St Columb Major

A number of residents have contacted me with concerns regarding planning application PA26/06022 in St Columb Major.

I have asked Cornwall Council Planning Officers for a briefing on the application and the issues that have been raised. Once I have received that information, I will report back directly to the residents who have contacted me.

Residents can also view the application and associated documents through Cornwall Council's Online Planning Register. Search using the reference PA26/06022.

Cornwall Council Online Planning Register: <https://planning.cornwall.gov.uk/online-applications/>

St Mawgan-in-Pydar

Parish Council Meeting - 14 October

The next scheduled meeting of St Mawgan-in-Pydar Parish Council takes place on Wednesday 14 October.

Parish Council meetings are open to members of the public and include a period for residents to address councillors. Please check the Parish Council website for the agenda, venue and final meeting details.

St Mawgan-in-Pydar Parish Council meetings:

<https://www.stmawganparishcouncil.gov.uk/meeting/>

Road Closure - Five Lanes to Trevenna Cross

Residents should be aware of a planned temporary road closure on the Road From Five Lanes to Trevenna Cross, St Mawgan, between the property known as Nancolleth and the junction with the Road From Trevenna Cross to Bolingey Road.

The closure is scheduled for 19-23 October 2026, between 7:30am and 6pm on weekdays, to allow service-connection works to take place.

An alternative route will be signposted. Pedestrian and vehicular access to properties will be maintained.

Mawgan-in-Pydar Public Footpath No. 2

Cornwall Council has made a Public Path Diversion Order affecting part of Public Footpath No. 2 at Old Coastguard Cottages, Mawgan-in-Pydar.

Residents wishing to make a representation or objection to the Order should be aware that the published deadline is Wednesday 14 October 2026.

Representations can be sent to Cornwall Council's Public Rights of Way team, quoting reference HAD 320.

View the Public Path Order and supporting documents:

<https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/environment/countryside/public-path-orders/made-public-path-orders/>

St Wenn

I continue to monitor matters affecting St Wenn, Rosenannon, Tregonetha and the surrounding communities and welcome residents contacting me directly about issues that require Cornwall Council involvement.

At the time of preparing this update, St Wenn Parish Council's website does not list an October Parish Council meeting. I will add any significant updates as they are published.

St Wenn Women's Institute

Second Wednesday of each month, 7:30pm

St Wenn WI is a local community group which meets at St Wenn WI Hall. The group welcomes visitors as well as members and hosts a variety of speakers and occasional outings and social activities.

Residents interested in finding out more can view details through the St Wenn Parish Council website.

Chief Officers Employment Committee

Several residents have asked me to comment on the ongoing situation involving Cornwall Council's Chief Executive. This is understandable, particularly as I am a member of the Chief Officers Employment Committee.

The matters being considered by the Committee are complex. As elected members, we have a responsibility both to represent the public interest and to respect the rights of individuals involved. Most council business is conducted openly. There are, however, circumstances where councillors are legally and properly required to consider confidential personal or employment information in private. Meetings dealing with such information may therefore contain exempt proceedings. The dates and existence of these meetings are nevertheless published by Cornwall Council.

I recognise that residents also have legitimate concerns about matters such as accountability and potential costs to the public purse. Those concerns are understood.

No elected member should take confidentiality lightly. Where confidential information is provided to us, however, we have a responsibility to respect that confidentiality while using the information available to make the best decisions we can.

For that reason, there are limits to what I can properly say publicly while these matters are ongoing.

What I can say is that I will continue to approach my responsibilities on the Committee carefully and independently and, as always, do my best to serve the interests of residents of St Columb Major, St Mawgan and St Wenn.

Thank you for your understanding.

Upcoming Events & Activities

St Columb Major - Just Be

Thursday 8 and Thursday 22 October, 2pm-4pm

The Columba Centre in St Columb Major is hosting its regular Just Be community afternoons. Residents are welcome to come along for coffee, cake, conversation and crafts in the Vyvyan Room.

St Mawgan - Morning Worship

Sunday 18 October, 11am

St Mawgan-in-Pydar Church will hold its October Morning Worship service at 11am.

St Mawgan Churchyard Working Party

Saturday 24 October, 10am-12 noon

Residents are invited to join the St Mawgan Churchyard Working Party, helping to maintain the churchyard and improve its biodiversity.

Volunteers are asked to bring gardening gloves. It's a practical opportunity to get involved, meet others and help look after an important part of the village.

October Half-Term

October half-term begins on 26 October for Mawgan-in-Pydar Primary School.

The Eden Project is also holding Halloweden from 24 October to 1 November, providing a range of activities during the October half-term period.

Further Afield in Cornwall

- Falmouth Oyster Festival - 8-11 October
- Lowender, Redruth - 15-18 October
- Eden Project Ice Rink - from 17 October
- Falmouth Book Festival - 19-25 October

Free Tree Saplings - Forest for Cornwall

Cornwall Council's Forest for Cornwall programme is once again giving away free tree saplings to residents across Cornwall this winter.

There are six native species available - dogwood, hazel, rowan, crab apple, bird cherry and wayfaring tree - and each sapling comes with information about how to plant and care for it.

The giveaways begin in November and continue at locations across Cornwall through to February 2027. The first events are at Liskeard on 14 November, St Agnes on 21 November and Bude on 28 November, with further giveaways taking place in the new year.

Whether you are an experienced gardener or planting your first tree, this is an opportunity to add a native tree to your garden free of charge and contribute to the Forest for Cornwall. Remember to bring a bag to take your sapling home.

Find dates, locations and further information: <https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/council-news/environment-culture-and-planning/save-the-date-for-forest-for-cornwall-free-tree-giveaways/>

Looking Ahead

During October I will continue to follow up resident casework, monitor the implementation of the new planning arrangements and pursue the local issues raised with me across St Columb Major, St Mawgan and St Wenn.

Further updates will be added to this report during the month.

Contact Me

If you'd like to get in touch, please contact me at cllr.rowland.oconnor@cornwall.gov.uk.

This report is for information only and is intended to keep residents updated on local matters. It does not represent personal views, editorial commentary, or promotional content.