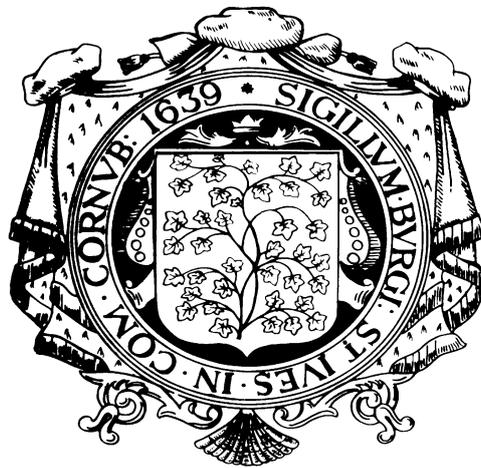


# St Ives Town Council

**Annual Report 2012/2013**



**Presented to**

**Annual Meeting of Electors**

**Monday 22 April 2013**

**7.00pm at the Guildhall, St Ives**

## **Contents**

	<i>Page(s)</i>
Mayor's Introduction	2 – 3
The Council	3
Planning Committee	4
Resources Committee	4 – 5
Environment Committee	5
Community and Amenities Committee	6
St Ives Visitor & Information Centre Committee	7
Devolution Single Issue Panel	7
Other Activities	8
Traditions of the Town	8
Household Information	8
Financial Information	9
Grants Awarded	9 – 10
Town Councillors	10
Representation on other bodies	10 – 11
Council Staff	12
Contact the Council	12

## **Mayor's Introduction**

This report gives a brief overview of the work of St Ives Town Council during the year 2012/2013. It has been a busy year for the Town Council as we have continued to assume responsibility for various functions previously exercised by Cornwall Council.

The Visitor & Information Centre, which we opened in 2011 has continued to provide a vital service to the many thousands of visitors on whom the prosperity of the town is so dependent. On 1<sup>st</sup> April 2013, after a long period of negotiation, the Town Council finally took over responsibility for the Guildhall from Cornwall Council. The building has been given a facelift with external re-painting and the construction of a disabled ramp and with a considerably increased usage of the building since the Town Council took over responsibility for the bookings, we look forward to this important local asset being much more fully used for the benefit of the local community.

Our next challenge is to take over responsibility for the provision of public conveniences in the town. Cornwall Council is drastically reducing the funding for these facilities and the intervention of the town council should result in the economies required to meet the resources available, whilst giving the best possible provision in terms of cleaning and opening hours. After public consultation and lengthy discussions with Cornwall Council we have agreed to take over the provision of the service in the very near future. We will receive a grant from Cornwall Council, but this will by no means cover the full cost of providing the service, but as this is a service which is vital for our continued success as a major tourist destination, and in view of the value of the facilities to local residents and businesses, we feel that we had no alternative but to step in.

The controversial issue of the Beach Dog Control Orders has also kept us busy during the year. As a result of requests to modify the Orders, we carried out an extensive formal public consultation. With so many directly opposing views, we were aware that we would never find a solution which fully satisfied all parties, but we took full account of all the points raised in the consultation as we endeavoured to find a solution which was as fair as possible to all involved. A decision was taken to request Cornwall Council to revoke their orders and to implement our own Beach Dog Control Orders which take effect on 1<sup>st</sup> May.

Planning matters have also kept us busy and the Planning Committee has continued to meet monthly to consider every planning application. Decisions on these applications are made by Cornwall Council, and in some cases by an appeal to the planning inspectorate, and there has been considerable concern about some of the recent developments in the town. The Localism Act allows local communities to have greater control over local planning matters by formulating a Neighbourhood Plan and after a consultation process, it was decided to start work with the local community on drawing up a Neighbourhood Plan for this area.

Although planning matters are often the main concern, we are aware that there are numerous other matters which are of interest to local residents and we have continued to hold open forum meetings in Lelant, Carbis Bay, Halsetown and Penbeagle to hear from local residents about any matters which are important in their area.

As Mayor, it has been my privilege to be invited to events organised by many of our local clubs and societies and it never ceases to amaze me just how fortunate we are to have so many people here in St Ives who are willing to give so freely of their time for the benefit of the local community.

During the course of the year I have attended numerous opening events, award ceremonies and visits to people as they reach important milestones in their lives: golden weddings, diamond weddings and 100<sup>th</sup> birthdays. It is always a real pleasure to attend these celebrations and to share the reminiscences

We have continued to uphold our old traditions with the usual celebrations of Mayor Choosing, the Loving Cup ceremony and Feast Day. We have also worked with various local organisations to celebrate other special events including St Piran's Day, May Day and, in June, numerous events throughout the town to mark the Diamond Jubilee.

Our activities during the year have also had an international flavour as we have recognised our links with other towns around the world. We have welcomed several visitors from Laguna Beach in California who are linked with us through their "Sister Cities" programme. In September we were delighted to welcome a delegation from Mashiko in Japan to witness the signing of a Friendship Agreement at a ceremony in the Guildhall. We continue to be twinned with Camaret in France and we are looking forward to welcoming visitors from our French counterpart to strengthen these links.

In February we were sad to receive Cllr Colin Sanger's resignation from the council for medical reasons. Cllr Sanger was a great asset to the Council and we are pleased to hear that after a successful operation he is making a good recovery. As this civic year draws to a close, we also bid farewell to a number of councillors who have decided not to stand for re-election. Of particular note is Cllr Terry Tonkin's dedicated service of well over 40 years. With his retirement we lose our last connection with the pre-1974 Borough. We also bid farewell to three other former Mayors: Cllrs Yvonne Watson, Harry Issacs and Bill Fry and also to Cllr Katrina Slack who has served for six years. We are grateful to them all for their hard work and dedication in so many ways.

2012/2013 has entailed a heavy workload for all councillors and also for our Town Council staff who have worked well beyond the call of duty. I am very grateful to all of them for their help and support during this very busy year.

Councillor Ron Tulley  
Town Mayor

## **The Council**

The Council is made up of 16 Councillors representing the three wards of St Ives North, St Ives South and Lelant & Carbis Bay. The parish of St Ives includes the areas of Lelant, Carbis Bay, Halsetown and St Ives. The Town Mayor for the year 2012/2013, for his second term, was Councillor Ron Tulley and the Deputy Town Mayor was Councillor Colin Nicholls.

Meetings of the Council and Committees are open to the public to attend (with the exception of the consideration of reports of a confidential nature) and there is provision for public speaking at the start of each meeting. Details of meetings, including dates, agendas and minutes are published on the Town Council's noticeboards and website.

During the year, nearing completion of his 14<sup>th</sup> year of service on the town council, Colin Sanger resigned as Councillor from the town council due to health reasons.

## **Planning Committee**

Chairman – Councillor Ron Tulley

The main responsibility of the Planning Committee is to submit observations on planning consultations to the planning authority, Cornwall Council. Cornwall Council is duty bound to take the views of town and parish councils into account when determining planning applications, as statutory consultees. To date, approximately 366 planning applications have been considered this year, an average of 28 applications per planning committee meeting.

Whilst the majority of planning applications are determined by Cornwall Council under delegated powers, some are considered by the West Sub Area Planning Committee. For the majority of applications from the St Ives parish considered by the committee, a representative of the council attends to speak in support of the Town Council's comments.

## **Resources Committee**

Chairman – Councillor Andrew Mitchell

Committee Chairman's Report:

The Resource Committee deals with all things financial and most of the legal dealings of the Council. It has direct responsibility for all issues relating to personnel, property and most importantly as it effects every household in the St. Ives, Carbis Bay, Halsetown and Lelant area; the council budget and precept.

2012/2013 has been a very busy, interesting and challenging year for the whole council, including the Resources Committee with many important projects coming to fruition. The hand-over for the running and up-keep of the Guildhall has finally happened and due to Cornwall Council's actions the Town Council has had to take on the Public Toilets.

This has resulted in business plans and tender documents having to be drawn up with much work and scrutiny by this committee. As the Resources Committee we also worked with other committees of the council to ensure that these extra activities can be carried out with very little increase to the council budget and therefore public purse.

We have also put into motion ideas as to how make the council's assets work harder to generate further income and these can be picked up by and worked upon by the new council.

Communications continue to be developed, with the website continuing to grow in content and in user visits to the site ([www.stivestowncouncil.co.uk](http://www.stivestowncouncil.co.uk))

As the work of the other Committees of the council can involve future expenditure and/or liability to the council, the Resources Committee shadows a lot of the work the other

committees do and can offer a scrutiny role on these items before they go the Full Council for a final decision.

This is the end of a six year term and although there are many challenges which face the newly elected members; namely a full review of the staffing compliment and financial regulations of the council to ensure they are fit for purpose to meet the extra responsibilities, I believe this committee and full council passes on a healthy level of reserves and good starting point for the new council.

As the retiring Chairman I would like to take this opportunity to thank my Vice-chairman, Cllr. Colin Nicholls, all members of the Resources Committee for their attendance and support at meetings and particular thanks to Louise and Linda for their input and guidance on producing committee papers and reports.

Councillor Andrew Mitchell - Chairman, Resources Committee.

## **Environment Committee**

Chairman – Councillor Tim Andrewes

Committee Chairman's Report:

The Environment Committee has achieved a number of improvements to Palemon Best Recreation Ground. We have worked with the St Ives Bay Youth Council to identify an additional piece of play equipment, which will be installed over the coming months. We have also supported the creation of a community orchard, which has resulted in a number of fruit trees being planted on site. We also arranged for a new path to be cut from the recreation ground up to the summit of Carnstabba Hill, which now provides an attractive walk and some amazing views.

The Committee has also overseen the review of the beach dog control orders for the St Ives area. An extensive consultation was carried out last summer, and as a result the original proposals were amended before they were finally agreed by the Town Council in November. The new orders will come into force on 1<sup>st</sup> May.

The Committee has continued to support local people in their efforts to cultivate flowers and shrubs around the town. We also planted up the harbourside planters with succulents and other perennials and plan to make further enhancements over the coming year.

The Environment Committee continues to run the twice-yearly Free for All recycling events, which have been well supported by local people.

Councillor Tim Andrewes – Chairman, Environment Committee

## **Community and Amenities Committee**

Chairman – Councillor Tamsyn Williams

Committee Chairman's Report:

The Committee has worked to improve the amenities and life of the community. At our meetings we have a slot specifically for the public, and this year we have had, among others, the Judo Club share the plans for their 50th anniversary; a speaker from the Village Housing Guild; and those who run St Ives Active Plus, a voluntary organisation which helps to rehabilitate people in the community. Please come and talk to us as it is interesting and helpful to hear what is going on.

Also we have continued to hold meetings in different parts of the neighbourhood.

Wonderful progress has been made with the Guildhall, and our thanks go to councillor Tim Andrewes in particular whose hard work has helped this to happen. The lease is now ours. The Committee has simplified further the charges, and bookings continue to increase with all sorts of events now taking place there. The building has undergone repairs, and Cornwall Council has given us £20,000 to improve the kitchen. Transfer of the toilets is on-going and we have gone out to tender for cleaning contracts.

The allotment site at Trowan is nearly full to capacity, and there are plans to improve the parking area. With many people still on the waiting list, we are maintaining our search for new sites.

Following last year's survey of our footpaths, we have secured 24 waymarkers for free from Cornwall Council alongwith the go-ahead for us to install them. This is the start of a programme of improvements for which we have set aside an extra £1000. We have opened a path on Carnstabba Hill, and secured a pedestrian route for the new estate by Palemon Best, particularly to help children walking to school.

For the Queen's Jubilee we held meetings to encourage and help the community to stage events. To commemorate the event we put £1000 towards new play equipment at Palemon Best. The Youth Council has chosen a roundabout.

We responded to a letter about St Ives-born composer George LLoyd whose centenary falls this year, as a result of which there will be a concert of his music in the Guildhall in June.

To make progress on the Neighbourhood Plan, the Committee organised a series of open meetings across the borough, and a few councillors have attended training sessions.

Finally this Committee manages the £10,000 of grants for community-based projects, and a list of successful applicants are listed later in this report. The money is there for the community and to apply there is a form available from the clerk.

Councillor Tamsyn Williams – Chairman, Community and Amenities Committee

## **St Ives Visitor & Information Centre Committee**

Chairman: Councillor Tim Andrewes

This committee is responsible for overseeing the running and operation of the St Ives Visitor & Information Centre. The V&IC was created to be an information point to serve visitors and local residents alike. As well as helping tourists find accommodation and information about attractions, local residents can benefit from the wealth of knowledge and information available from the staff and volunteers at the V&IC. With the publicity and promotion that the V&IC brings to individual businesses and to the area in general (including through the V&IC website [www.stivestic.co.uk](http://www.stivestic.co.uk)) the town council is working to support the tourism economy and local businesses.

Committee Chairman's report:

2012 saw the second year of the centre's operation under Town Council management. From the start, the centre has benefited from the input of volunteers, staff and business members, without which it would not be possible to provide this valuable service. Now that the centre has settled down, staffing and other changes have been introduced to take the service forward, with a new management team in place and greater degree of autonomy from the main town council organisation.

Footfall has remained at a high level, with an encouraging increase in retail sales over the past year.

Councillor Tim Andrewes – Chairman, Visitor & Information Centre Committee

## **Devolution Single Issue Panel**

Chairman: Councillor Tim Andrewes

The panel's main focus over the last year has been the Guildhall and the public conveniences. The negotiations with Cornwall Council over the transfer of the Guildhall were protracted, but were completed in time for the lease to be signed on 1<sup>st</sup> April this year. A significant number of repairs have been undertaken by Cornwall Council, who are also making funds available to refurbish the kitchen. The town council has generated a significant number of new uses for the concert hall and meeting rooms, which will bring in much needed revenue to help offset the costs of running the building.

With regard to the public conveniences, the Town Council conducted a major consultation last summer to understand the public's views on the current service and how it should be provided in future. A considerable amount of time has been spent trying to obtain accurate costings for the toilets, and to negotiate the best possible deal with Cornwall Council. The transfer of the service is currently due to take place on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2013.

## **Other activities**

In addition to the work of the committees listed above, the Town Council as a whole have also been involved in the following.

- Open Forum meetings have been held at locations throughout the parish (Lelant, Carbis Bay and Penbeagle, to give an opportunity for local residents to discuss topics with town councillors – gaining a better understanding of what the council does, and enabling the town council to take action on local issues.
- The Town Council is a statutory consultee for street naming, and street trading licences, in addition to planning applications.
- Supported the work of the St Ives Bay Youth Council.
- Organised the annual Fun Run from Lelant to St Ives with 183 runners taking part last year, many raising funds for local good causes.
- Held the annual St Piran's Day Parade
- Supported the continuation of May Day, St Ives in Bloom, and Good Friday boating at Consols.
- Organised the annual St Ives Gardens Competition to encourage and recognise those that contribute to the overall look of the area through their gardening skills
- Held the third St Ives Citizen of the Year Award
- Continued to liaise closely with the Police regarding their work throughout the parish and encouraging community links whenever possible.
- Continued to allow the use of the St Nicholas Chapel on the Island for Wedding Blessings

## **Traditions of the Town**

The following ceremonies and traditions have continued to be observed by the Town Council:

- Mayor Choosing / Drinking from the Loving Cup
- Town Mayor Civic Sunday Service
- Remembrance Sunday
- Christmas – provision of Christmas trees for St Ives, Halsetown, Carbis Bay and Lelant, and Mayors visits to hospitals and residential homes
- Lelant Feast
- St Ives Feast
- The Mayor's presentation of a plaque to those celebrating a Golden Wedding Anniversary

## **Household Information**

There are approximately 11,210 residents living within the geographic area of St Ives Town Council and of these, approximately 9,100 are registered electors. The Town Council's precept (collected via Cornwall Council) was set at £162,140, approximately £33.22 per Band D property.

## Financial Information

Set out below is a summary of the Council's payments and receipts for the financial year 2012/2013. These figures are provisional as the Council's accounts are currently undergoing their annual audit. When complete, the Annual Return of the Council's Accounts will be available to view at the Town Council offices.

	<i>£ Receipts</i>		<i>£ Payments</i>
Precept	158,150	General Administration	110,218
Agency Services	1,382	Agency Services	1,382
Chapel income (St Leonards and St Nicholas)	2,831	Grants	7,020
Leases	41,969	St Nicholas Chapel Grants	1,400
Other	126	Civic and Community Events	7,131
		Services	22,907
		Other	14,206
V&IC (Visitor & Information Centre)	48,162	V&IC staff & running costs	49,678
	<u>£258,953</u>		<u>£212,342</u>

### Allotment finances

Income: £3,306

Expenditure: £2,455 (rent of field and maintenance)

### Grants Awarded

From a grants budget of £9,515

Organisation	Amount
Chy an Gweal Luncheon Club	£500
Old Penwithians	£50
St Ives Judo Association	£500
St Ives Archive	£500
St Ives Allotment Association	£220
St Ives Chamber of Trade & Commerce	£2000
Fore Street Chapel	£200
Chamber of Trade - Christmas	£750
Lelant Village Hall	£1000
Lelant Village Lights	£200

St Ives September Festival	£500
CHICKS	£150
Shallal (with September Festival)	£100
The Kingdom Skate Event	£350
<b>Total allocated to date:</b>	<b>£7020</b>

## Town Councillors

St Ives Town Councillors are listed by Ward below. Their contact details are available on the town council website [www.stivestowncouncil.co.uk](http://www.stivestowncouncil.co.uk) or by contacting the town council offices.

<b>NORTH WARD</b>	<b>SOUTH WARD</b>	<b>LELANT &amp; CARBIS BAY WARD</b>
Andrew P Mitchell Colin C Nicholls G E Terry Tonkin Norman P Laity Suzanne J Tanner	Tim Andrewes Bill Fry Harry R G Isaacs Joan Tanner Ron Tulley Tamsyn Williams	Maxine Armstrong Katrina Slack Joan H Symons Yvonne Watson

## Town Council representatives on other bodies (as at 22 April 2013)

	<i>Organisation</i>	<i>Representative(s) / Trustee(s)</i>
1.	Annie Ball Reid Charity	Member: J H Symons
2.	Chamber of Trade	Member: C C Nicholls
3.	Community Co-opted School Governors:	
4.	~ St Ives Infant School	Governor: M Armstrong
5.	Cornwall in Bloom	Representative: B Fry
6.	Community Network Panel	Member: Town Mayor (Councillor R Tulley) Deputy: B Fry
7.	Craze Hunkin Almshouse Trust	Trustee: G E T Tonkin
8.	e-Planning Task Group	Representative: B Fry
9.	Hayle Harbour Advisory Committee	Member: Vacancy Deputy: B Fry
10.	Island Youth Centre	Member: T Andrewes Deputy: B Fry
11.	Leach Pottery Advisory Group	Member: B Fry
12.	Lelant Village Hall Committee	Member: Vacancy Deputy: B Fry

13.	PAROW (Penwith Access and Rights of Way)	Member: T M Williams Deputy: Vacancy
14.	Penwith Area Crime Prevention Group	Member: Y Watson
15.	Penwith Rural Transport Forum	Member: R Tulley
16.	Penwith 50+	Representative: R Tulley
17.	Partners and Communities Together (PACT)	Members: C C Nicholls, J Tanner
18.	Pre-application Task Group	Representative: G E T Tonkin
19.	Rough Coast Community Arts CIC	Member: M Armstrong (Director)
20.	St Ives & Carbis Bay in Bloom	Member: B Fry
21.	St Ives Area MCTI (Management Group)	Member: Y Watson Deputy: B Fry
22.	St Ives Bay Line Forum	Members: Vacancy and Town Mayor
23.	St Ives Bay Youth Council	Member: Mitchell A P
24.	St Ives Concert Band	President: Town Mayor
25.	St Ives Culture Forum	Member: Vacancy
26.	St Ives Museum Trustees* (3) <small>*until vacancy is created through resigning etc</small>	Trustees: C C Nicholls, J H Symons, J Tanner.
27.	St Ives Sure Start Centre – Advisory Board	Member: G E T Tonkin
28.	Tate Gallery Advisory Council	Member: C C Nicholls Deputy: B Fry
29.	Tate Gallery Community Liaison Group	Member: T M Williams
30.	Town Framework Plan Steering Group	Representative: T Andrewes and N Laity
31.	Traffic Forum	Member: R Tulley
32.	Travel Group – St Ives Infant School	Member: T M Williams
33.	West Cornwall CCTV Interest Group	Representative: Town Mayor Representative: Y Watson
34.	West Cornwall Healthwatch	Member: A Mitchell
35.	Cornwall Association of Parish and Town Councils	Member: G E T Tonkin

## Council Staff

Town Clerk / Responsible Finance Officer – Louise Dowe

Assistant Town Clerk – Jeremy Ward

Clerical Officer (p/t) – Linda Holmes

Clerical Assistant (p/t) – Lucy Hackett

Visitor & Information Centre:

V&IC Manager (p/t) – Andy Dale

V&IC Assistant Manager (p/t) – Julie Cox

V&IC Information Assistants (p/t) – to be appointed (seasonal)

Handyman / Caretaker / Environmental Enforcement – Andrew Lawry

Traffic Control Officer / Caretaker / Environmental Enforcement (p/t) – Frank Perkins

Traffic Control Officer (p/t) – Robert Sheriden

Guildhall cleaning (p/t) – Gill Davies and Jackie Trotman

Mace Bearers: Alan Major and Simon Major

<b>Contact the Town Council</b>	<b>Contact the Visitor &amp; Information Centre</b>	<b>For more information about events at the Guildhall:</b>
<p>Town Clerk, St Ives Town Council The Guildhall Street An Pol St Ives, Cornwall TR26 2DS</p> <p>Telephone: 01736 797840</p> <p>Email: <a href="mailto:townclerk@stivestowncouncil.co.uk">townclerk@stivestowncouncil.co.uk</a></p> <p>Website: <a href="http://www.stivestowncouncil.co.uk">www.stivestowncouncil.co.uk</a></p>	<p>Visitor &amp; Information Centre Manager St Ives V&amp;IC The Guildhall Street An Pol St Ives, Cornwall TR26 2DS</p> <p>Telephone: 0905 252 2250 (call charge of 20p per minute applies, towards funding the service)</p> <p>Email: <a href="mailto:info@stivesvisitorinfo.co.uk">info@stivesvisitorinfo.co.uk</a></p> <p>Website: <a href="http://www.stivestic.co.uk">www.stivestic.co.uk</a></p>	<p>Website: <a href="http://www.stivesguildhall.co.uk">www.stivesguildhall.co.uk</a></p> <p>Tel. 01736 797840 (Hall Bookings)</p> <p>Tel: 01736 798577 (Box office ticket sales)</p>