



St Ives Town Council

Annual
Review
2021-22



Introduction from Mayor Kirsty Arthur



Town Mayor
Kirsty Arthur

Welcome to the Town Council's annual report of the year 2021-22, my first as Mayor of this amazing place.

It has been a pleasure to serve the community over the last 12 months, and it's amazing to see the town returning to life after what has been a hugely taxing couple of years. Whilst the Coronavirus is still with us, we are all trying to live with it and return our lives to some kind of normality. Some of us have lost loved ones and have experienced plenty of uncertainty in our lives. Yet we will also remember it as a truly unique year, when our community found itself on the world's stage, hosting the G7 summit. Through an amazing community spirit we rose to the challenge as we welcomed world leaders, thousands of police and security and others following the event. We enjoyed the excitement for the most part, and still managed to go about our daily lives with resilience and a smile.

We have much to celebrate in the parish as our community groups continue to help support local people to re-emerge from the pandemic against a backdrop of a rising cost of living crisis. Local businesses have also struggled to stay afloat and to recruit and retain the staff they need, but through hard work, are re-building to deliver great services.

I must also highlight the efforts of our young community members - without them, our summer season would not have been a success.

It has been a year of new beginnings in the Council itself. In May 2021, following the local elections, we welcomed in a new Council with some familiar faces and many new ones! I am particularly proud of how the Councillors work together – we leave political allegiances at the door when it comes to the good of the town.

Despite COVID, we managed to progress a number of exciting projects - we completed the delivery of the amazing new skate park on time and to budget and have once again stepped up to take over services from Cornwall Council including looking after 220 benches, such simple everyday service but valued by everyone. Our ambitious plans to regenerate the Guildhall are moving forward, and we are confident that we will soon secure Town Deal investment to put the historic Guildhall back on the map with more live performance and events.

Our Cultural Services Manager heads a new library team and we're expanding our programme of events and activities both inside and out. From Government's Welcome Back fund we organised some exciting Spring events including our new Kite Festival and we aim to do more.

We pride ourselves on being a local council with the community at the heart of what we do. One of the first things I implemented as Mayor was some workshops with the new Council, spending time to agree a vision for the future and what's needed. We have used this to develop the first strategic plan for the future, which we will shortly be consulting you on.

This annual report explains what we have achieved over the year. We encourage you to take a little time to find out about the Council's work, to get involved, and perhaps even consider becoming a Councillor as we truly believe we have exciting times ahead.

Kirsty Arthur



About the Council

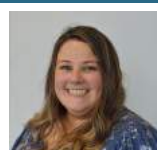
Halsetown



Lisa Arthur



Charlie Hodson



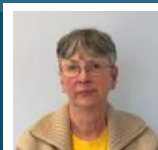
Kirsty Arthur



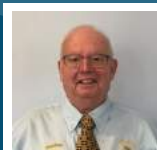
Suzanne Tanner



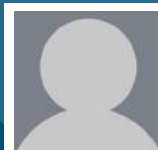
Andrew Mitchell



Joan Beveridge



Kenny Messenger



Councillor Vacancy

St Ives West

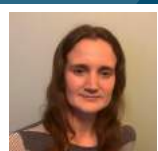
East & Carbis Bay



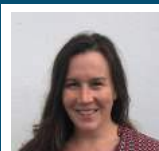
James Ryall



Luke Rogers



Sinead McNamee



Rachel Gaunt



Steve Hynes



Tony Harris



Andy Dale



Johnnie Wells

Lelant

About the Town Council

St Ives is a Town Council with 16 councillors, supported by a town clerk and 24 council employees. Local Town and Parish Councils form the second tier of local government. Unlike the Unitary Cornwall Council (which has to deliver statutory services like housing, planning and waste) Town Councils focus on very local services. From benches to footpath cutting, running the new skate park to the library - we use our well-being powers to help our communities.

Our Core Values

The Council has developed four core values. Core values explain the Council's guiding principles which it will seek to follow in all that it does, how it works internally and with and for others:

Ambitious for the future. We want St Ives to be a happy, healthy vibrant place where everyone can thrive. We will be forward thinking and innovative to achieve positive outcomes

Celebrating our history and culture. We value the rich history and culture which make St Ives special. We will continue to celebrate, promote and invest in our unique heritage

Championing St Ives. We will put St Ives at the heart of everything we do

Collaborative – working with others. We can achieve far more by working with others. We will work closely with other councils, the local community, voluntary groups, and businesses to develop common goals and get things done.

Committees

The Council manages its work in 6 Committees. Each of the Committees delivers an annual work programme to help the Council deliver. Each has priority projects and an annual work programme:

The Community and Environment Committee

Is responsible for social, cultural, community and environmental issues and projects

The Facilities Committee

Is responsible for the repair and maintenance of Council's physical assets and properties and how they are run. It also looks after weddings, events and live performance at the concert hall

The Planning Committee

Is responsible for commenting on planning proposals and implementing and reviewing St Ives Neighbourhood Development Plan

The Finance and General Purposes Committee

Is responsible for the Council's spending, land and property, policies, and strategies

The Staffing Committee

Is responsible for dealing with all staffing matters, both policy and operational

The Devolution and Place Shaping Panel

Is responsible for taking the lead on discussions and negotiations with Cornwall Council for devolved services, facilities and functions.

Councillors Attendance

Council

	17 May	19 May	10 Jun	01 Jul	09 Sep	04 Oct	04 Nov	09 Dec	17 Feb	03 Mar	14 Apr	% Att.
Arthur, L	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100
Arthur, K	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100
Beveridge	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	91
Bradford	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	EC	N/A	N/A	N/A	75
Dale	✓	✓	✓	✓	EC	EC	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	73
Gaunt	N/A	N/A	✓	✓	X	X	✓	✓	EC	X	✓	56
Harris	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	91
Hodson	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100
Hynes	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	X	X	64
McNamee	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	60
Messenger	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100
Mitchell	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100
Rogers	X	X	✓	✓	X	X	X	✓	X	X	X	27
Ryall	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	91
Tanner, S	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	EC	✓	✓	✓	91
Wells	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	91

Planning

	20 May	16 Sep	07 Oct	11 Nov	02 Dec	06 Jan	03 Feb	24 Feb	24 Mar	% Att.
Arthur, L	N/A	X	✓	X	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	33
Beveridge	X	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	78
Bradford	✓	X	✓	X	EC	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	29
Hodson	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	89
Hynes	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	78
Messenger	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100
Mitchell	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100
Rogers	X	X	X	X	X	✓	X	✓	✓	33
Ryall	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	89
Wells	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	78

C&E

	27 May	26 Aug	21 Oct	13 Jan	03 Mar	% Att.
Arthur, L	X	✓	X	✓	✓	60
Beveridge	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100
Dale	✓	EC	✓	✓	✓	80
Harris	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100
Hodson	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100
McNamee	N/A	N/A	✓	✓	✓	100
Messenger	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100
Rogers	X	✓	✓	X	X	40
Ryall	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100

EC = Extenuating Circumstances

Facilities

	03 Jun	02 Sep	28 Oct	20 Jan	10 Mar	% Att.
Beveridge	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100
Dale	✓	EC	✓	✓	✓	80
Gaunt	N/A	X	X	✓	✓	50
Harris	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	80
Hodson	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	80
Messenger	✓	✓	✓	✓	EC	80
Ryall	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	80
Tanner, S	✓	X	X	EC	X	20
Wells	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100

F&GP

	01 Jul	30 Sep	18 Nov	27 Jan	31 Mar	% Att.
Beveridge	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100
Dale	✓	EC	✓	✓	✓	80
Harris	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100
Hynes	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	80
Messenger	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100
Mitchell	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100
Wells	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100

Staffing

	10 Jun	09 Jul	25 Oct	01 Mar	% Att.
Arthur, K	✓	✓	✓	✓	100
Dale	✓	✓	✓	✓	100
Harris	X	✓	✓	✓	75
Hynes	X	✓	X	✓	50
Wells	✓	✓	✓	✓	100

Devo.

	29 Jul	25 Nov	% Att.
Arthur, K	✓	✓	100
Beveridge	✓	✓	100
Dale	✓	✓	100
Gaunt	X	✓	50
Harris	✓	✓	100
Messenger	✓	✓	100
Mitchell	✓	✓	100
Wells	✓	✓	100

What we do

Your council tax pays for the police, Cornwall Council and Town and Parish Councils - it can sometimes be confusing to know who is responsible for what:

- Cornwall Council is the principal Council in Cornwall. It has lots of legal duties to deliver services such as schools, care for children and adults, highways, domestic waste, planning.
- In addition, there are 213 Town and Parish Councils in Cornwall. These are local councils and they don't have many legal responsibilities (things they have to do), but they do have many powers which they can use to help their local communities. Town Councils are becoming more and more ambitious about what they want to achieve for their communities. With large councils having their budgets cut, local councils are stepping into the gap to do more and prevent services being lost. St Ives Town Council currently own, deliver and manage the following services:
 - The public CCTV system
 - 7 lots of public toilets in the parish
 - The library and visitor information service
 - The Guildhall concert hall, putting on events and live performance
 - Weddings at the Guildhall and chapel blessings at the Island Chapel
 - Heritage buildings including the two historic chapels, the Guildhall and library, the huer's hut, Market House, St Ia's well
 - 220 public benches
 - 74 allotment plots
 - Island Community Centre
 - Funding a community grants programme
 - Running youth projects
 - Manages retail and commercial spaces for rent (eg Market House, the Guildhall, the Island Centre)
 - Hosting important traditional feasts and events (Feast, Knill, Good Friday boating, mayor choosing, New Year's Eve)
 - The Palemon Best park and skate park
 - Host farmers, arts craft markets
 - Provide responses to 211 planning applications
 - Adopt and implement a Neighbourhood Development Plan
 - Licensing and enforcement for ticket sellers and street businesses

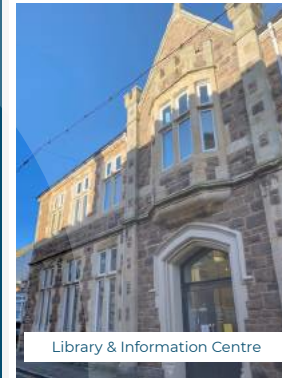


Spring clean of the island with Councillor Dale & Councillor Beveridge



Credit: Joey Lamb

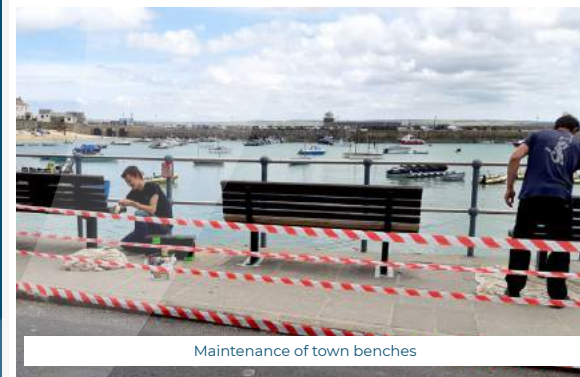
Wedding at the Guildhall



Library & Information Centre



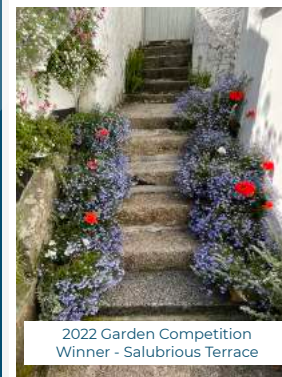
Island Chapel lit up to raise awareness of Organ Donation



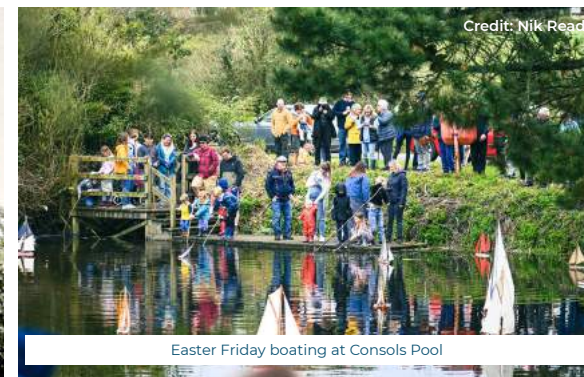
Maintenance of town benches



New furniture at Palemon Best



2022 Garden Competition Winner - Salubrious Terrace



Credit: Nik Read

Easter Friday boating at Consols Pool

Community & Environment Committee



Committee Chair
Andy Dale

Committee Aims

- To improve the quality and number of community facilities in the parish
- To develop closer links with community initiatives and voluntary sector groups
- To respond to the declared climate change emergency

Future Goals

- Deliver projects in our climate emergency action plan
- Increase the amount and quality of community infrastructure in St Ives, (benches, bins street planting, allotments, play equipment) and ensure it is managed locally
- Invest in affordable housing and support the management of the Craze Hunkin Trust almshouses
- Support the delivery of a community café at the Palemon Best recreation ground
- Work with BID to deliver an innovative commercial waste solution
- Working with others, deliver local community events, including the Town's key festivals and New Year's Eve
- Ensure the better management of the harbour front through new licencing arrangements
- Continue to prioritise investment and funding for youth projects

What's Happened This Year

- Completed the new, world class Palemon Best skatepark in May 2021
- Other park improvements include a new drinking / refill fountain, picnic tables and benches, bike racks and a re-laid minis football pitch
- Secured planning permission and are supporting the development of a community café
- Funded the successful Skate ranger project in partnership with the skate park group
- Took over the management and maintenance of 220 benches in the parish. A new maintenance programme is being rolled out and the introduction of new St Ives design blue recycled plastic benches
- Introduced a Public Spaces Protection Order to regulate and licence activities at the Wharf and Harbour front
- The Council's developed its first climate action plan and is working with other organisations to deliver actions. Many are underway, such as switching to 100% renewable energy across the Council sites
- The Committee has led the work on low carbon transport including consulting on a cycling and walking strategy, and brought in electric charging and carshare schemes at the Town Council
- Maintaining high quality footpaths and coastpath routes
- Continues to give grant funding to important local organisations including the Hayle Day care centre, the Archive, September Festival
- Completed a re-design of the Council's website

Facilities Committee



Committee Chair
Johnnie Wells

Committee Aims

- To improve the quality and energy performance of the Council's property and buildings
- To manage high quality facilities available for the benefit of the community and which deliver income to support service delivery
- To increase the number of community buildings and spaces

Future Goals

- We will aim to make more of our buildings accessible through the introduction of a Guildhall lift and support for changing places toilets
- We will repair the library roof
- We will re-tender the toilet cleaning contract and pilot charging for high volume sites
- We will modernise the library layout and introduce new signage
- We will celebrate the Town's rich cultural past, supporting heritage plaques and submit a funding application for the huer's hut

What's Happened This Year

- The Council has submitted a business plan for Town Deal funds to redevelop the Guildhall and re-imagine it as a dynamic arts venue for the 21st century, upgrading facilities and increased capacity
- Managing repair and maintenance programmes in the Library & Information Centre and Market House to safeguard our historic buildings
- Saw the return of a programme of live performance at the concert hall, including sell out live music and ground breaking theatre
- Re-opened the library and Library & Information Centre with a programme of events and activities
- Built a permanent bar in the Concert Hall
- Introduced a Council travel plan and electric charging points
- Modernised facilities at the Island Community Centre, including heating

Planning Committee



Committee Chair
Kenny Messenger

Committee Aims

- To provide meaningful scrutiny and comments on all planning applications
- To support an effective pre-application process
- To be lead committee for the review of the neighbourhood development plan
- To respond to important national and countywide policy documents

Future Goals

- Support the development of planning briefs to safeguard important community assets, including the former Edward Hain Hospital and the huer's hut
- Review the role and status of the St Ives Neighbourhood Development Plan
- We will proactively use planning policy and future investments to protect independent businesses and the high street and meet the needs for affordable housing
- Support affordable housing and local needs housing proposals

What's Happened This Year

- The Planning Committee met monthly and provided comments on 219 planning applications
- Held a number of pre-application meetings with developers and provided feedback on their proposals
- Supported planning conditions which safeguarded new dwellings as permanent homes by applying the H2 planning policy
- Provided an effective voice in a number of enforcement matters, including objections against the Carbis Bay Hotel development

Finance & General Purposes Committee



Committee Chair
Tony Harris



Feast Day Celebrations

Committee Aims

Budgeting: To increase the Council's financial resilience maximising income, identifying efficiency savings and increasing the level of general reserves.

Procurement: To oversee the review and successful letting of contracts for capital works, services and utilities

Property Management: To ensure that the Council's commercial property portfolio is operating efficiently

Audit: To review all financial, risk and internal control measures for the year

- Develop a communications strategy and align our new website design and social media platforms to give the Council a strong, relevant identity
- Measure our performance against other councils to continuously improve how we work and secure accreditation as a quality local council

Future Goals

- Work with others to try to secure the former Edward Hain Hospital for the Community
- Double the community grants budget and seek to increase its take up
- Explore innovative ways to fund our projects through tourism contributions
- Manage small affordable commercial and retail spaces to assist local businesses and aim to increase the portfolio through devolution
- Invest in our IT infrastructure so we can work in a smarter way and be accountable to our communities, including moving all our data to the cloud and setting up permanent live streaming for our meetings
- Implement a management agreement for the Craze Hunkin Trust to support our local charity

What's Happened This Year

- Confirmed our status as living wage employer, leading by example, and providing sustainable and permanent employment opportunities
- Secured £200,000 in Government borrowing to invest in capital projects
- Reviewed important policies for investment, risk, dealing with debtors
- Provided £14,000 grant funding for good causes
- Secured external grant funding to deliver projects including £40,000 from places of change, £16,000 from Welcome Back, £10,000 from low carbon transport, £10,000 travel to work grant, £30,000 for town benches and £31,000 for the guildhall feasibility study
- Switched all energy contracts to renewable tariffs
- Reviewed all rents and leases to ensure the Council is generating income
- Rationalising our financial reserves, moving us to a more financially secure position

Staffing Committee



Committee Chair
Kirsty Arthur



Easter Boating at Consols Pool

Committee Aims

- To develop policies and procedures to support the Council's ambition to become an excellent employer
- To invest in the staff's development, as an effective professional team

Future Goals

- Develop individual training plans for staff and councillors
- Continue to support and recruit new apprentice roles
- Review policies and procedures to support a modern work force
- Launch a new staff and member forum

What's Happened This Year

- Became an accredited Living Wage employer, paying all our staff a living wage
- Expanded the Council's workforce to respond to service development needs
- Ended the use of casual workers and zero hours contracts
- Delivered an annual training programme for staff and councillors
- Recruited the Council's first two apprentices to meet the Council's future business needs
- Completed and implemented job evaluation
- Supported all staff through the pandemic with a flexible home working policy and paid any furloughed staff 100% of their salary

Devolution & Place Shaping Panel



Committee Chair
Andrew Mitchell



Flight Day 2022 on The Island

Committee Aims

Devolution means taking on the ownership and management of Cornwall Council assets at local level. The Council has taken on toilets, the Library & Information Centre and benches and has asked if it can take over the ownership of many other community assets including green and open spaces and buildings. The Council has several aims in doing so:

- Using land assets to address economic issues, (affordable workspace, housing) and prevent assets being sold off for holiday and second homes
- Re-imagining and investing in important green spaces to develop parks fit for the future and community growing spaces, allotments and nurseries
- Taking on some income generating assets to create cross-subsidy that funds expanding environmental services, green parks and spaces
- Developing a property portfolio which supports affordable workspace, maintains a broad base of retail businesses on the high street

Future Goals

- We will progress an ambitious devolution package to take on the ownership and management of key parks and green spaces and work with the community to re-imagine their future role

- Through devolution we will explore more opportunities for community growing and allotment spaces
- We will manage small affordable commercial and retail spaces to assist local businesses and aim to increase the portfolio through devolution

What's Happened This Year

Devolution negotiations take time – it is a slow process. To support negotiations, the Council has developed its first devolution strategy and submitted it to Cornwall Council, setting out the assets the Town Council wants to take on and why. In 2021-22, the Council took all the park benches into ownership to improve their repair and condition and has drawn up a new memorial benches policy.

The Council has also funded a new post of Green Infrastructure Officer to lead planning work looking at all the green spaces and parks in the parish and plan for their future.

Resources & Finances

How the Town Council is Funded

The Town Council's budget for 2022-23 is £1,241,498.32. Unlike many local Councils, the Council is able to raise some of its budget from services it charges for, like weddings and shop and office rents. By doing this, it keeps the Council Tax charge as low as possible. Next year, it plans to raise £368,017 of its budget this way, that is 30% which doesn't fall on local Council Tax payers. The amount sought from Council Tax (also called the precept) is £873,481. This means that a proportion of your overall Council Tax bill, paid to Cornwall Council, is passed onto the Town Council. The proportion is small, 7.1%, relative to the rest of your bill.

Average Cornwall Council tax bill for 2022-23 in St Ives (band D) property = £2,108.89

Of this:

Average annual Town Council element for 2022-23 (band D) property = £169.74

Monthly cost of Town Council services for a Band D household = £14.15 (£3.26 a week)

What is the Council's Budget Spent on?

A significant proportion of the Council's budget goes into running front line services, such as all the public conveniences, the Library and Visitor and Information Service and also repairing and maintaining the historic buildings it owns, such as the chapels. It cuts footpaths, carries out street weeding and manages the recreation ground. It also give grants to local community organisations and has just taken over the management and improvement of 220 benches in the parish. The table on the following page shows the Council's income and expenditure by Committee.

For next year, the Council has committed to a large programme (over £250,000) of capital investment. In 2022-23, we are investing in:

- Repairs and replacement of the library roof
- Investments at the Palemon Best recreation ground as a contribution to the skate park project
- Funds for the Community Land Trust affordable housing scheme
- Upgrading public toilets
- Funds for the modernisation of the concert hall to upgrade the facilities for a new programme of live events
- Installation of a customer lift for wheelchair users and those with mobility issues so they can access weddings, events and meetings



Resources & Finances

Overview of Proposed Budget 2022/23

	Draft Budgeted Income (£)	Draft Budgeted Expenditure (£)
Finance & General Purposes		
Administration	3,250	383,758
Community Provision	33,156	21,400
Planning	-	2,400
Devolution	-	-
Use of Reserves	-	-
Facilities Committee		
Concert & Guildhall	89,938	99,850
Guildhall Bar	42,450	28,300
Library & Information Service	58,590	240,335
Public Conveniences	18,000	152,450
Island Centre	16,950	11,750
Market House, Huers Hut & Lodges	53,128	4,400
Chapels	12,200	3,700
Facilities Maintenance & Management	32,950	218,390
Community & Environment Committee		
Allotments	4,905	2,850
Civic/Hospitality	-	26,800
Amenities & Public Realm	2,500	29,115
Palemon Best & Open Spaces	-	16,000
Total	368,017	1,241,298



Council Team



St Ives Town Council

St Ives Town Council

The Guildhall
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 @stiveslibrary