

Cornwall Councillor Report – Carlyon Parish – January 2026

I hope you are all well as we head through January so I am looking forward to what I am sure will be another busy year to come!

Looking back to December, we had some amazing events in Carlyon Parish and I was delighted to get involved and see so many people out and about enjoying the festive activities

I was lucky enough to get a couple of weeks off over the Christmas period to spend some time with my family and I hope you were all able to mark the occasion how you wanted to.

At the time of writing, the first full week of the New Year has already been an extraordinarily chaotic one with schools across my patch late opening or shut on several days due to the icy weather at the beginning of the week, followed by the absolutely unprecedented Red Weather Warning of Storm Goretti, which played out over 8 and 9 January, leading to a sad loss of life elsewhere in the Duchy and huge numbers of trees falling across Cornwall, creating significant disruption to our roads being blocked, powerlines coming down and water supplies being cut off. While locally, we were not as badly affected as some down west, where power and water supplies were lost for several days, it certainly remains the most severe storm I have ever encountered in my 12 years as a councillor.

The clear up operation was massive, and I'm sure we are all grateful to everyone, emergency services, Cormac and local people who helped in getting this done as quickly and safely as possible.

Last week it was good to attend a packed public meeting to discuss the most recent plans from Brend Hotels to change the public right of way on West Crinnis Field in Carlyon Bay.

I am pleased that the Rights of Way team from the council took the unprecedented step of holding this meeting, along with Carlyon Parish Council.

The huge turnout of people, well over 200 folk on a cold January night, goes to show just how important the field and its access is, not just to Carlyon Bay, but the wider St Austell area too.

The Rights of Way team now needs to work with the applicant to come to a solution that will be supported by residents and recognises the historic and ongoing significance of this green space to Carlyon Bay and the wider community.

A reminder that the Community Infrastructure Levy Cornwall-wide annual funding pot is now open, and I would encourage the parish council to apply for it. Details on how to apply are [here](#)

The second funding newsletter from the Cornwall South Community Area Partnership has also been published, with numerous funding opportunities available. You can find this [here](#)

Looking forward, up at County Hall I am putting forward a motion at January's Full Council to draw attention to the plight of our retail, hospitality and leisure sectors, who are due to be hammered by the Government's new 'reforms' to Business Rates, which in practice could see these for certain businesses double from April. These sectors, which provide a great deal of employment in my division, are already under pressure due to changes over the previous couple of years and we need to be doing all we can to support them, not put them under even more pressure, which will just lead to closure for many. At the time of writing, it looks like the Government might be u-turning (again!) on this, but I will certainly do all I can to help Cornwall Council play its part in supporting our local businesses should they not back off.

As ever, should you need my assistance with anything, please get in touch at 07885 277670 or on cllr.james.mustoe@cornwall.gov.uk and I will be happy to help where I can.