

Cornwall Councillor Report – Carlyon Parish Council – July 2026

I hope you are all well as we head through July.

It's been great to see the building momentum nationally of the campaign to support our coastguards as the MCA proposes to remove their remuneration and make their roles into fully voluntary ones.

When I submitted my cross party motion calling on Cornwall Council to support our local coastguards and for the Leader of Cornwall Council Leigh Frost Cornwall Councillor for Bodmin St Petroc to be mandated to write to the Secretary of State in opposition to these changes, I was blown away by the support I received from councillors from across the chamber, ahead of the Full Council meeting on 21st July where this would have been debated.

However I was also conscious that this was a very fast moving situation as the Government was looking to bring these proposals in after the summer, I wanted to ensure Cornwall Council set out its position as soon as possible.

When I first submitted my motion I also wrote about the Government's propensity to change its mind on tough decisions - I wasn't anticipating that they would dump their Prime Minister though, which will probably also lead to a ripple effect of Ministers changing throughout the Government over the next few months, further disrupting any negotiations on this critical issue.

So with this in mind, I have been in discussion with Cllr Frost about the best way to process this. Leigh is supportive of my motion, having already written to the MCA with his concerns shortly after I submitted it, and given the overwhelming support from councillors prior to the meeting in July, we decided the best thing to do, in order to progress this now, is for Cllr Frost to adopt the content of the motion and write in advance of Full Council, which he has now done.

I am grateful to Leigh for his support and understanding of this massive issue for coastal communities across Cornwall, and am pleased that he has been able to act pragmatically and accomplish the goal of my motion several weeks earlier than I originally anticipated.

Rather predictably, following this, the Government did u-turn, in the week before the motion was originally due to go to Full Council, and the plans have now been paused.

I hope that in the future, the Government will listen to the voices from Cornwall, and across the country, and come to a workable outcome that does endanger the continued operation of our Coastguards.

We await their response.

I wanted to highlight the family rockpool sessions which are taking place at Charlestown over the summer with Healthy Cornwall. Their information on this is below:

'Family Rockpool Safari Sessions

Get outdoors this summer with our free family rock-pooling events, giving children the chance to explore, discover, and enjoy hands-on coastal adventures.

Charlestown Beach, St Austell

- *Wednesday 29 July, 11.30am - 1.30pm*
- *Tuesday 4 August, 2 - 4pm*
- *Thursday 13 August, 12 - 2pm*
- *Tuesday 18 August, 2.30 - 4.30pm*
- *Wednesday 26 August, 11am - 1pm*
- *Tuesday 1 September, 1.30 - 3.30pm*

Please note this is a family event, we are asking all guardians to stay throughout the session.

Booking is essential. Get in touch to register your place by emailing the team at healthy.cornwall@cornwall.gov.uk

As ever, should people need my assistance with any matter, please contact me at 07885277670 or via cllr.james.mustoe@cornwall.gov.uk and I will do my best to help.