

MAYOR'S REPORT

MARINERS GARDEN WALL

The Geotechnical report has been received and shows that there are no solid foundations within 20 metres of the surface. This is likely to mean that the solution will be a concrete mass construction to fix the wall to. The report will be sent out to engineers for pricing of a design. I have asked for this to be done quickly as we need to know the effects on the budget precept for next year. The garden will be closed off shortly as there are safety concerns.

COMMUNITY NEWS COMPETITION

I would like to highlight the Community News Competition with a closing date of the 30th November, 2016. Firstly a Short Story competition for the age group up to and including school year 6, and should be no more than 450 words. A photographic competition of all ages showing seasonal photographs which have not previously been published including social media.

ST MARTINS CHURCH CLEAN UP

The annual St Martins Church clean took place on the 1st October, 2016 and 30 local residents took part. This was the best attended event of this type for many years and it was great to see the change over the day. Trees were trimmed, grass cut and paths cleared a lot of work but great to see.

LOOE YOUTH THEATRE

I recently went to see the Looe Youth Theatre production of Blood Brothers at the Community Academy. This was performed by the Master Glass group and what a performance they gave, it was an excellent production and brilliantly acted by the youngsters. The show was a credit to Val Cottrell and her team and the youngsters were a credit to the town.

FREEDOM OF TORPOINT

Rayna and I went to the Freedom of Torpoint parade where HMS Raleigh exercised their right to march through the town. After a short ceremony by the ferry terminal they marched through the town, a good display with some of the recruits only being in the force for four weeks.

I have also attended a number of other events including a visit to Sclerder Abbey to see the changes made so far by the Chemin Neuf Community. This was also attended by other councillors and members of other churches. The Abbey has a very interesting history which is strongly linked to the Cornish.

I would like to thank the residents and businesses for their support in the town this year. The weather has made it a good season for us all. The Town Council staff and Councillors wish you all a Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

Cllr Armand Toms

Looe Valley Line Report

It is very pleasing to report that in terms of the line's use, the Looe Valley Line has seen just over 104,000 journeys this year so far, a rise of 5.6% on last year and 1,000 more than the previous highest, which was in 2013. The expanding use of the line continues and is very encouraging both in terms of increased visitor numbers but also in commuter terms.

Important Notice Regarding Engineering Works

The huge railway engineering works taking place on the main line into Paddington, with both electrification and the new Elizabeth Line (Crossrail), means that Paddington station itself will be closed from Saturday 24 to Thursday 29 December inclusive. Trains will run to and from Ealing Broadway station. Ealing Broadway has no step free access so anyone who is travelling with heavy luggage, children or who generally finds steps difficult is advised to change trains at Reading and go to Waterloo instead. All of this means anyone planning to travel over this period needs to plan in advance and journey times will be longer than usual. Full information is available at GWR.com

From December 2018, Looe (and Cornwall generally) will benefit from all this work with brand new trains on the Paddington – Cornwall route, two trains an hour between Plymouth, Liskeard and Penzance, thanks to Cornwall Council and, on the Looe Valley Line itself, two coach trains all year round and additional weekday evening trains too.

The Elizabeth Line, which will provide new fast links into and across central London from Paddington, is also set to open in December 2018.

Saving Money on Train Fares.

The Devon & Cornwall Railcard is available to all residents of the two counties and offers great discounts on off peak travel in the two counties. It costs £10 and gives discounts for a year. The holder gets 1/3rd off, can take another adult also for 1/3rd off and up to four children for £1 each too. More information at GWR.com

Many thanks to Richard Burningham of the Devon & Cornwall Rail Partnership, for providing the above information.

Our thanks and best wishes for Christmas go to all those involved in providing the rail service between Looe and Liskeard.

Further reports and updates on the Looe Valley Line will be provided in the Community News during the coming year.

Cllr Chris Rose

Looe Town Council Planning and Public Consultation Report

From the beginning of this council year in May, your Planning Committee has considered sixty planning applications against twenty four for the same period in 2015. November applications are already double to last year.

Being a statutory consultee, at our monthly meetings we discuss and make recommendations on planning applications to Cornwall Council who make the final planning decision. As we receive planning applications, these are listed on our website under Planning Information. At the same time, Cornwall Council will be contacting the relevant parties who will be informed, with letters being sent to the immediate neighbours, giving 21 days to comment. A decision on the application cannot be taken until the expiry of the 21 day public consultation period.

Comments can still be received by Cornwall Council after the 21 day consultation period and will be included in the Cornwall Council officer assessment provided the decision has not been issued. However, early return of your comments, with a copy to Looe Town Council, is recommended, preferably prior to the 21 day consultation period to ensure your views are made known to the case officer for inclusion in their assessment of the proposals and to enable the case officer to act upon the comments you made, i.e. to request further information/reports/surveys within the life cycle of the application.

Pre-applications are now available to view on the Cornwall Council [online planning register](#). They are not under legal consultation and notification rules and may not contain detailed information as they are only in the early stages. Pre-applications will have PREAPP as the end of the reference number.

All current planning applications are available to view on the Looe Town Council website.

My thanks go to Annette in the office for her hard work in keeping the website and planning applications list up to date and for keeping me on the right track during meetings. My thanks also to Anne, our Town Clerk, for all her hard work, her support and organisational skills and not forgetting my planning councillor colleagues for turning out in all weathers to visit sites and attend meetings.

On behalf of the planning team, we would like to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and prosperous new year.

Cllr Chris Rose – Chair of Planning and Public Consultation Committee

Looe Town Council Website Report

www.looetowncouncil.gov.uk

It is now over a year since we went live with our new website. Since then we have gone from strength to strength with additional information being added on a virtual daily basis.

Our aim when developing the site was to provide an easy and transparent way to access not only minutes, accounts, agendas and attendance records but also community information together with often needed emergency contact phone numbers.

To make the website as easy as possible to use, you will find on the opening page we have included six clearly marked tabs to take you directly to the information you may require. These tabs are headed as follows;

Agendas and Minutes
Council Information
Community Information
Emergency Information
Add a Community Group
Planning Information.

Please let us know if there is any additional information you think we should include.

In the next addition of Community News, we will update you on our facebook page so please watch this space.

Cllr Chris Rose