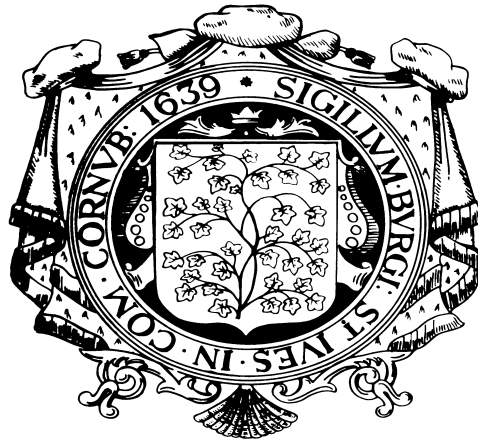


# St Ives Town Council

Annual Report 2008/2009



Presented to  
Annual Meeting of Electors

Monday 11 May 2009  
7.00pm at the Guildhall, St Ives

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## **INTRODUCTION**

This report has been produced in accordance with the Town Council's wish to be open in how it conducts its business. We have set out to give an overview of the work of the Council over the past year. Also included is financial information which show how the Council spends money on your behalf. As in previous years, the Council is pleased to have been able to award financial support to a number of community based organisations and continue to support other projects through the participation of Town Councillors and the co-operation of the Council.

Councillor Colin Sanger  
Town Mayor

## **THE COUNCIL**

At the Annual Meeting (and Mayor Choosing Ceremony) in May 2008, Councillor Colin Sanger was elected as the Town Mayor and he appointed Councillor Mrs Yvonne Watson as the Deputy Town Mayor. The Town Mayor and Deputy Town Mayor, in addition to chairmanship duties at Council meetings, have attended numerous and varied events and functions over the course of the past year.

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 of the Council. A list of the dates of Council and Committee meetings is available from the Town Council offices.

The Minutes of all Council and Committee meetings are available to view at the Town Council offices and will soon be available to download from the Town Council's website which is due to be launched in the near future.

## PLANNING / COUNCIL MEETINGS

The planning authority (Penwith District Council for the year 2008/09 – Cornwall Council as from 1 April 2009) is responsible for determining planning applications. Before arriving at a decision, the planning authority consults with a number of organisations (statutory consultees), which include Town and Parish Councils.

The Council meets to consider planning applications at scheduled meetings throughout the year and votes to agree the consultation response of the Town Council for each application. These recommendations are then forwarded to the planning authority for inclusion as a consideration to be taken into account when deciding planning applications. In 2007/2008, the Council submitted a recommendation on 376 planning applications for the St Ives area.

The Council gives careful consideration to each individual planning application consultation it receives.

## GRANTS / FINANCE SUB-COMMITTEE

Membership: Town Mayor, Councillors T Andrewes, H R G Isaacs, C C Nicholls, M Peters, J Tanner and R Tulley.

The Grants and Finance Committee consider grant applications and financial matters that require a decision by Councillors. After due consideration, the Committee agree a recommendation on each item which is subsequently presented to Council for approval. The Sub-Committee has no decision making powers.

In 2008/2009, with a grants budget of £4,250 the following grants were awarded to local organisations:

St Ives Concert Band	£250	Zion Church	£250
Penwith Senior Lifeskills	£50	St Ives Pilot Gig Club	£150
St Ives May Day Association	£100	Lelant Village Lights Fund	£150
Ayr Field Community Group	£150	St Ives Town AFC	£500
St Ives September (Fringe) Festival	£250	St Ives Arts Club	£300
St Uny C of E School	£200	St Ives Christmas Lights Appeal	£400
Victim Support Cornwall	£100	1 <sup>st</sup> St Ives Scout Group	£400
St Ives Children's Centre	£400		

## **PUBLIC COMMUNICATION SUB-COMMITTEE**

Membership: Town Mayor, Councillors T Andrewes, A P Mitchell, C C Nicholls, R Tulley and T M Williams.

This Sub-Committee was established in order to improve the Council's methods of communicating with the public. Over the past year, the Council has issued press releases, advertises in the local press, included events on the 'What's On' features of local radio, and displayed posters.

An exciting new development is the Town Council website which is due to be launched in the near future. Also, plans for a new Town Council noticeboard are underway. The Sub-Committee has no decision making powers.

## **SEAGULL NUISANCE SUB-COMMITTEE**

Membership: Town Mayor, Councillors B Fry, H R G Isaacs, C C Nicholls, R Tulley and Y Watson.

The Council is fully aware of the problems caused to visitors and residents alike by aggressive gulls swooping at food and causing alarm and injury, and also the problems caused by seagulls to residents throughout the area. This Sub-Committee was created with the aim of finding effective ways to combat the problems caused by seagulls.

In addition to the Council's Seagull Control Service (a contract to prick rooftop eggs to reduce the number of seagull chicks hatching – a service now in its sixteenth year), the Town Council is also working to educate people about the hazards of eating outside by placing signs at key points around the town. The Sub-Committee has no decision making powers.

## **WASTE/RECYCLING WORKING PARTY**

Membership: Councillors T Andrewes, B Fry, H R G Isaacs, K Slack, G E T Tonkin and T M Williams.

This Working Party was created in order to give full thought to initiatives to help reduce waste and encourage recycling in view of the importance of the natural environment to St Ives. The key project being pursued is a Jute Bag scheme which enables smaller retailers to join the scheme where a group order may be placed for jute bags displaying a striking St Ives design and featuring the names of participating businesses. The success of the scheme is dependent on the number of businesses who wish to take part. The Working Party has no decision making powers.

## **ALLOTMENTS SUB-COMMITTEE**

Membership: Councillors T Andrewes, H R G Isaacs, P J Richards, C E Sanger, R Tulley and T M Williams.

The Allotments Sub-Committee is actively working to identify an area of land suitable for use as allotments, with the aim that the Council will be able to provide allotments for the growing number of people that have joined the allotment allocation waiting list.

Over the past 12 months a suitable area of land has been identified and, as the land owners, Penwith District Council agreed to transfer the land to the Town Council for use as allotments. There have been delays due to legal issues which are being resolved, but the Town Council remains determined to provide allotments for the town as soon as possible.

Meetings have been held with potential allotment holders and the Town Council have supported the creation of an Allotments Association. With a Constitution and a management committee, the Association is already playing a consultative role to ensure that the allotment provision will be appropriate for the needs of the area.

The Sub-Committee has no decision making powers.

## **ST. IVES IN BLOOM GROUP**

The Chairman of the St Ives in Bloom Group is Councillor Bill Fry. The In Bloom Group is made up of representatives from St Ives Town Council, Cornwall Council, local organisations and individuals.

In 2008 the South West in Bloom entry was co-ordinated by Penwith District Council and resulted in a Merit Award for Ayr Field, St Ives, and Outstanding Achievement Award for Penamayne Court, StIves, and a Gold Award in the Sargent Cup for St Ives and Carbis Bay. St Ives and Carbis Bay in Bloom were selected to enter the Champion of Champions Group and were awarded a Silver Award.

In view of changes in the requirements to be successful at regional and national level, and a new way of working with the Open Spaces Team at the former district and current unitary councils, the Town Council is supporting the work of the St Ives in Bloom Group in breathing some new life into the scheme and actively encouraging greater community participation.

## COMMUNITY TRANSFER SINGLE ISSUE PANEL

Membership: Councillors T Andrewes, B Fry, C Sanger, G E T Tonkin and R Tulley.

This Single Issue Panel was created in April 2008 to enable Councillors to draft the aims of the Council with regard to the potential for transfer of assets and services in view of local government reorganisation.

Over the past year, the Single Issue Panel has been at the forefront of discussions with key officers from the former district and county councils, and of the new Cornwall Council. A great deal of background work has been put into plans so that negotiations may be as informed as possible. This included early work on developing a model business plan to help the devolution process. Various assets and services of the former district and county councils have been considered, to ascertain which would be better devolved to the Town Council.

The Town Council has submitted an expression of interest in a pilot for 'Active Partnership' with Cornwall Council - the process put in place by the unitary authority to control how any responsibility for services or assets will be transferred to town and parish councils. Discussions are ongoing, with the initial aim of securing elements of local service delivery for the town.

The Panel has no decision making powers and will make recommendations to Council.

## 2008/2009 COUNCIL OVERVIEW

Over the past year, the Council has considered the following:

### The new unitary authority

The reorganisation of local government brings opportunities for the Town Council to make a bid for taking on additional services and/or assets. Careful consideration is being given to building a business case based on potential benefits in local service delivery and devolving assets, where appropriate, to the local level. As a first step, the Town Council has submitted an expression of interest in taking part in Cornwall Council's 'Active Partnership' scheme. The Town Council will also be playing an active part in the Community Network for the area.

The way in which Planning Applications are dealt with is being kept under close watch by the Town Council, to ensure that the Town Council keeps pace with the new procedures being implemented by the unitary authority.

### Consultations on electoral matters

In view of the transition to a unitary authority for Cornwall, there have been consultations on electoral matters related to the timing of parish council elections and the electoral ward boundaries for the new Cornwall Council. The Town Council has given its comments on these consultations, aiming for the best means of democratic representation to be ensured.

### Consultations

Over the past 12 months the Town Council has commented on a wide variety of many consultations, each time making every effort to ensure that observations are well thought through and in the best interests of the people of St Ives.

### Police Liaison

The Police provide a report to each meeting of the Council, giving crime statistics for the parish of St Ives, and also giving the opportunity to discuss general policing matters. Town Councillors attend meetings of PACT (Police and Communities Together), at which the focus is on partnership working in tackling issues prioritised by the community.

## Beach Beat

For the 2008 summer season, the Town Council funded £1,000 towards the Beach Beat scheme which provided the additional presence of a dual trained lifeguard / Police Community Support Officer on and around the RNLI patrolled beaches. This additional presence was considered a real benefit to the area and the work of the Beach Beat officer was commended by many beach users and local businesses.

## Public Path Network – Local Maintenance Partnership

The Town Council continued to act as agent for the County Council in ensuring that the network of public paths in the St Ives area is maintained to ensure accessibility. The Town Council receives a grant for 90% of the cost of the maintenance work carried out. The grant has a maximum limit and so, even with the additional funding allocated by the Town Council, it is not possible to fund maintenance for all footpaths in the area. However, every effort is made to clear the key paths used and enjoyed regularly by local residents and visitors to the area.

## Open Spaces

The Council's open spaces at the Malakoff and the Palemon Best Recreational Ground at Penbeagle continued to be maintained for the enjoyment of all, working in partnership with the former Penwith District Council.

## Dogs on beaches and dog fouling

In response to concerns raised by members of the public, the Town Council stressed to the former Penwith District Council the importance of enforcement regarding dog fouling and the times when dogs are allowed on beaches. In June 2008 the Chief Environmental Health Officer attended a Council meeting and gave an assurance that the timescale for the review and amendment of Dog Control Orders for St Ives would be considered, with a view to carrying out a review as soon as possible. However, with a review not in place by the date of the changeover to a unitary authority, it is now expected that St Ives will be considered as part of the Cornwall-wide review. Representations continue to seek for St Ives to be included in the first stages.

## Liaison with the former Penwith District Council and Cornwall County Council

The Town Council continued to support the work of other authorities and to act as an intermediary regarding matters such as refuse and litter, street lighting, highways and footways, tree preservation and countryside stewardship.

The Town Council has also made clear to the former Penwith District Council it's wish for the former Woolworths shop in the town to be fully utilised as soon as possible, to meet the retail needs of the town and in view of the visual impact that the building has on the surrounding environment.

## Liaison with organisations

The Town Council raised concerns with May Gurney, County Highways and South West Water regarding the road closures in early 2009 which caused considerable disruption to those travelling to and from St Ives on the two main roads to the town.

The Town Council, in response to the flooding incidents in April 2009, supported the Environment Agency's 'Open Surgery' event and will be seeking involvement in the investigation process and in any improvement plans for the future. It is essential for businesses and residents that everything possible is done to minimise the risk and impact of flooding in St Ives in the future.

## Opposition to closure of Post Offices at Lelant and The Stennack, St Ives

The Town Council objected to the closure of these two Post Office branches on the grounds of the importance of the service they provided to the local community. Unfortunately each of these branches were subsequently identified for closure.

## The Island Chapel and St Leonard's Chapel

These two distinctive local chapels, St Nicholas Chapel at the Island, Porthmeor and the historic fisherman's chapel at Smeatons Pier, are each open to visitors during the summer months. Opening times vary.

St Nicholas Chapel relies on voluntary helpers to be in attendance during opening times. Funds raised through donations contribute towards it's upkeep and also enable contributions to local charities. (Anyone wishing to volunteer to open the chapel to the public can contact the Town Council office on tel. 01736 797840 or email [stivestowncouncil@gmail.com](mailto:stivestowncouncil@gmail.com))

## The Market House, Market Place

The Market House is owned by the Town Council and is leased to the Constitutional Club (1st floor) and traders (ground floor shops). The income from these leases is used to maintain the building and as an income stream for the Town Council.

## Parking and Traffic

In response to concerns at traffic and parking issues in the town, the Town Council funded additional hours for Parking Enforcement Officers in St Ives for the 2008 summer season. Parking is seen as just one aspect to be improved as part of the move towards free-flowing traffic and provision of adequate parking. The Town Council have participated in each stage of the developing Parking Strategy for St Ives.

The Town Council also put a package of traffic improvement measures to County Highways, with the intention that they could bring about achievable improvements for the coming summer season. The outcome of these suggestions is awaited.

## Public Transport

In response to concerns raised by members of the public, and in line with the aims of the Town Council, negotiations with a local bus company have led to plans to increase the bus services available to people from the Downalong area to get to the Stennack and Market Place, with potential to extend the route to the supermarket at Carbis Bay, with the benefit of enabling onward links to Hayle and Penzance.

## Operation of the Town Council

Following an in depth review of the Town Council's Standing Orders and Financial Regulations, new editions of each of these key documents have been adopted. Another review into the Council's committees has led to agreement on the new committee system to be launched for the 2009/2010 Council year.

## Shoppers Loyalty Card for St Ives

The Town Council were pleased to support the introduction of this scheme to encourage town centre shopping in St Ives.

## Supporting community initiatives

- Unfortunately, due to a number of circumstances, there was a failure in plans for the usual partnership working which usually secured the clearance of weed from Consols Pool in readiness for the traditional Annual Model Yacht Sailing event on Good Friday. Despite the Town Council's best efforts and financial support to enable volunteers to travel to the site to carry out the necessary work, this plan also failed due to exceptional circumstances. The cancellation of the event was highly regrettable and has strengthened the Town Council's resolve to ensure that this tradition continues in future. It was heartening to note that a number of people who still gathered at the pool on Good Friday were keen to help towards this aim.
- The Council organised the town's Annual Fun Run, held on 2nd May 2009. With over 130 runners, this enjoyable community event also gave an opportunity for local groups to fundraise through sponsorship.
- The 2008 St Ives Garden Competition was again deemed a success, with prizes awarded in a number of classes. The Council is pleased to acknowledge the efforts of the many gardeners in the town that help to contribute to the floral displays of the town as a whole.

## Upholding traditions of the Town

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

- Town Mayor Civic Sunday Service
- Mayors Buffet Tea
- Remembrance Sunday
- Christmas – provision of Christmas trees for St Ives, Halestown and Lelant, and Mayors visits to hospitals / residential homes
- Lelant Feast
- St Ives Feast
- Mayor Choosing / Drinking from the Loving Cup
- The Mayors presentation of a plaque to those celebrating a golden wedding anniversary

## FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Set out below is a summary of the Council's payments and receipts for the financial year 2008/2009.

	<i>£</i> <i>Income</i>		<i>£</i> <i>Expenditure</i>
Precept	93,375-00	General Administration	89,961-97
Agency Services	1,766-30	Agency Services	2,428-06
Interest	3,252.09	Capital Expenditure	3,000-00
Leases	29,469-43	Grants / Financial support	3,650-00
Other	21,738-27	Civic and Community Events	8,119-30
		Running costs	21,096-52
		Other	8,014-33
	<hr/> <u>149,601-09</u>		<hr/> <u>136,270-18</u>

Note: these figures are provisional as the Council's accounts are currently undergoing their annual audit.

The Annual Return of the Council's Accounts will be available to view at the Town Council office.

## FINANCIAL / HOUSEHOLD INFORMATION

There are approximately 11,165 residents living within the geographic area of St Ives Town Council and of these, it is calculated that 9,318 are registered electors (as of 31 March 2009). The Town Council's precept (collected via the former Penwith District Council) was set at £93,375, approximately £19.10 per band D property - an increase of £1.17 from the previous year.

## TOWN COUNCILLORS

St Ives Town Councillors are listed by Ward below, along with contact details.

<i>Councillor</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Tel. No.</i> <i>(01736)</i>
<b>NORTH WARD</b>		
L Channon	19 Trelawny Road, St Ives TR26 1AN	799563
A P Mitchell	36 Parc An Creet, St Ives TR26 2ES	797538
C C Nicholls	Bahia, Tregos Road, Carbis Bay, St Ives TR26 2QU	794126
M Peters	Trevarno, Orange Lane, St Ives TR26 1RH	797228
G E T Tonkin	Dewetha-Ger, Westward Road, St Ives TR26 1JX	797637
<b>SOUTH WARD</b>		
T Andrewes	15 Street An Garrow, St Ives TR26 1SG	795387
B Fry	4 Pintail Avenue, Saltings Reach, Lelant, St Ives TR27 6GN	756359
H R G Isaacs	10 Tregenna Terrace, St Ives TR26 2DL	794151
J Tanner	Try Golowys, 4 Parc Bean, St Ives TR26 1EA	795371
R Tulley	3 Tregenna Terrace, St Ives TR26 2DL	795398
T M Williams	11 Bellair Terrace, St Ives TR26 1JR	795695
<b>LELANT / CARBIS BAY WARD</b>		
P J Richards	Flat 1, Coast B&B, St Ives Road, Carbis Bay TR26 2RT	795918
C E Sanger	12 Ayr Court, St Ives TR26 1EQ	797699
K Slack	Stonecrop Cottage, St Ives Road, Carbis Bay, St Ives TR26 2RT	791976
J H Symons	Lannanta Cot, Trenoweth, Lelant, St Ives TR26 3ET	798869
Y Watson	Rosewyn, Church Lane, Lelant, St Ives TR26 3HY	753140

**TOWN COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES ON OTHER BODIES  
(AS AT 31 MARCH 2009)**

<i>Organisation</i>	<i>Representative</i>	<i>Deputy</i>
Hayle Harbour Advisory Committee	B Fry	C E Sanger
Lelant Village Hall Committee	J H Symons	B Fry
Community Co-opted School Governors:		
St Ives Infant School	J Tanner	
St Ives Junior School	vacancy	
St Uny School	vacancy	
Tate Gallery Advisory Council	C C Nicholls	B Fry
Tate Gallery Community Liaison Group	T M Williams	
Island Youth Centre	T Andrewes	B Fry
Annie Ball Reid Charity	vacancy	
St Ives Emergency Planning Committee	B Fry, H R G Isaacs, J H Symons, vacancy, Town Clerk	
St Ives Age Concern	L Channon	B Fry
Cornwall Association of Parish / Town Councils	Vacancy	Vacancy
CAPTC (Penwith Committee)	Vacancy	Vacancy
West Cornwall HealthWatch	P Richards	Vacancy
St Ives Archive Study Centre	C E Sanger	
St Ives in Bloom	B Fry	
St Ives Bay Line Forum	R Tulley	
St Ives Museum Trustees (3)	M Peters, J Tanner, A P Mitchell	
Partners and Communities Together (PACT)	C C Nicholls Town Clerk	
Penwith Area Crime Prevention Group	Y Watson	
Off-Street Skateboarding Association	Vacancy	
Leach Pottery Advisory Group	B Fry	
St Ives Culture Forum	C E Sanger	
St Ives Area MCTI (Management Group)	C C Nicholls	T Andrewes
PAROW (Penwith Access & Rights of Way)	T M William	C E Sanger
Penwith Rural Transport Forum	R Tulley	
PDC - Tourist Information Review	C E Sanger	
Traffic Forum `	R Tulley	
St Ives Chamber of Trade	C C Nicholls	
St Ives Concert Band	Town Mayor	

## **COUNCIL OFFICERS**

Town Clerk / Responsible Finance Officer – Louise Dowe  
Administrative Assistant – Jeremy Ward  
Clerical Assistant – vacancy

## **CONTACT THE COUNCIL**

Town Clerk, St Ives Town Council, The Guildhall, Street An Pol, St Ives, Cornwall  
TR26 2DS

Telephone: 01736 797840  
email: [stivestowncouncil@gmail.com](mailto:stivestowncouncil@gmail.com)