

# St Austell Town Council



## Annual Report 2010/11

**Your guide to St Austell Town Council,  
what we have achieved and  
how to get in touch.**

## Contact Details:

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 St Austell One Shop  
 39 Penwinnick Road  
 St Austell  
 Cornwall PL25 5DR

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E-mail: [office@staustelltowncouncil.com](mailto:office@staustelltowncouncil.com)

Website: [www.staustelltowncouncil.com](http://www.staustelltowncouncil.com)



Clerk:  
David Pooley



Deputy Clerk:  
Sara Gwilliams

## Cornwall Council

Cornwall Council was formed in April 2009 and replaced the old Cornwall County Council and the District and Borough Councils including Restormel Borough Council. It has wide ranging responsibilities, including:

- Education
- Social Services
- Highways and Transportation
- Planning and Housing
- Libraries and Arts
- Fire Brigade
- Magistrates Courts and Probation Services
- Waste Disposal and Refuse collection
- Environmental Health
- Leisure and Parks
- Youth Services
- Council tax and Benefits

Cornwall Council can be contacted at:

Cornwall Council  
 County Hall  
 Treyew Road  
 Truro  
 Cornwall TR1 3AY

Telephone: 0300 1234 100

E-mail: [enquiries@cornwall.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@cornwall.gov.uk)

Website: [www.cornwall.gov.uk](http://www.cornwall.gov.uk)

Cornwall Council has five Councillors representing St Austell. These are Councillors Double, Oxenham, Polmounter, Stewart and Walker.

# Message from the Mayor

It has been an exciting, busy and enjoyable year. As a Town Council we have achieved a lot, although there is always more to do.

An overwhelming 72% of residents responding to a town council questionnaire made promoting St Austell to both people and businesses a high priority and I have made the most of media opportunities including accepting the offer to make regular videos with [cornwallchannel.co.uk](http://cornwallchannel.co.uk). to promote the work of the Town Council and St Austell.

Our town has been honoured to have been chosen to host Armed Forces Day on Saturday June 25th . The Town Council and Royal British Legion have worked together to arrange the event which will be a day for all the family and November 19th will again see the breathtaking Torchlight Carnival take to the streets with the support of the Town Council.

St Austell has been entered in the RHS South West In Bloom Competition and I am personally spearheading the application for St Austell to be awarded City Status in the Queens Diamond Jubilee Civic Honours Competition based on St Austell's unique identity as a blueprint for emerging sustainable technologies and development. Whether or not we win the 'journey' will have shown that St Austell has aspirations and ambitions, will have promoted St Austell, raising the potential for inward investment, much needed employment opportunities and increased tourism.

St Austell is on the cusp of an exciting era. With the emergence of the St Austell, St Blazey and China Clay Area Regeneration Plan and the Core Strategy Plan an important aspect of Town Council work is influencing future development for the future benefit of St Austell and protecting what we have. Working with the Community Network Manager £5,000 was secured as seed funding for the restoration of our historic Market House and our Council has provided funding to Cornwall Council for a Conservation Area Appraisal, which will provide a tool to manage the protection of our historic buildings.





Funding for the long awaited regeneration of Fore Street, has been secured with the help of some of our Cornwall Councillors. When complete this will add to the already improved areas throughout our vibrant and exciting town.

St Austell is a jewel in the crown of St Austell Bay and we are lucky to live in such a beautiful area. However, 'Bathroom rubbish on British shorelines has risen by an average of 40% in the past year.' Ben Bryant Guardian 21/4/11. Marine Conservation Society beach watch officer, Lauren Davis, urges people not to use the toilet as a 'wet bin'.

PLEASE CUT OUT THE POSTER ON PAGE 13 AND ATTACH TO YOUR BATHROOM DOOR AND HELP KEEP OUR BEAUTIFUL BAY CLEAN or go to [www.staustelltowncouncil.com](http://www.staustelltowncouncil.com) and click on Don't Flush on the left hand side of the homepage to download.

We should never forget that we are custodians, of all that is around us, for future generations to come. Thank you.

*Clr Jill Trehwella*

Mayor of St Austell 2010/2011



## **St Austell Town Council**

St Austell Town Council was formed following elections in June 2009 and comprises of 20 elected Councillors (4 Councillors representing the Gover Ward, 4 Councillors representing Poltair Ward, 2 Councillors representing St Austell Bay Ward, 5 representing Bethel Ward and 5 representing Mount Charles Ward). A list of current Councillors is included on page 12 of this report.

The next Town Council elections will be held in 2013.

Each year, the Council elects one of their number to be the Mayor who acts as the civic leader and chairs Council meetings. The Council has adopted the latest Code of Conduct and is committed to sound corporate governance arrangements.

The full Council meets approximately every six weeks. Meetings are held in Cornwall Council's One Stop Shop at Penwinnick Road, St Austell and there is a public participation session within each meeting. This enables members of the public to ask questions of the Council and raise awareness on matters of interest.

In addition to the full Council meetings, the Council has three standing committees to ensure the effective management of its business:

- Finance and General Purposes
- Planning
- Communities

There is also a public participation session at each standing committee meeting which enables members of the public to make comments or raise issues to the various committees about items on the agenda. From time to time, working groups are formed to address particular issues. A calendar of Council meetings for the forthcoming year can be found on the Council's website at [www.staustelltowncouncil.com](http://www.staustelltowncouncil.com)

The Council employs two full-time and one part-time members of staff who are based at the St Austell One Stop Shop, Penwinnick Road, St Austell, PL25 5DR. These are:

David Pooley – Town Clerk  
Sara Gwilliams – Deputy Town Clerk  
Helen Minall – Administrative Assistant (Part-time)

The Town Council serves the Town of St Austell which has a population of approximately 22,000. Services and facilities provided within the town of St Austell are also enjoyed by people living in the surrounding villages and by the many tourists who visit the town each year. St Austell has been identified as an area

which is capable of significant economic and residential growth. The Town Council is very keen to ensure that this growth is managed properly and that appropriate infrastructure accompanies it. St Austell is one of four areas chosen by central Government for the development of Eco Communities and this is likely to bring with it many challenges but also many opportunities to improve infrastructure, economic wellbeing and quality of life in the area.

As a recently formed local Council, the Town Council currently manages very few services. Its role is mainly a representative role to ensure that local views are taken into account by the larger organisations operating in the area.

The Town Council is consulted on all planning applications in its area and in relation to many of the other services provided by Cornwall Council.

The Town Council is keen to work in partnership with Cornwall Council and other agencies in order to ensure delivery of the highest quality services and facilities to local residents.

## **2010/11 Activities**

### **Marie Curie Field of Hope**

Town Council staff and Councillors were pleased to organise the creation of a Field of Hope on the grass verge between Holmbush and Charlestown Roads in conjunction with Marie Curie.

5000 bulbs were obtained and planted by volunteers at no cost and a bench was installed using funding from Cornwall in Bloom to create a small oasis of tranquillity near these busy roads. Partly as a result of the success of this project and a number of others the Town Council was awarded a Cornwall in Bloom Sprouting Award.



### **Town Centre**

The Town Council helped with the funding and organisation of Christmas lights and Christmas late night shopping entertainment. It has been actively involved with plans for a major refurbishment scheme for Fore Street and Aylmer Place which will cost in the region of £1.3 million and start in the summer of 2011. Work is progressing in conjunction with this scheme on information signs for the various gateways to the town centre and improved signage throughout the town.

A conservation area appraisal is being organised partly funded by the Town Council to ensure that the historical buildings in the town are preserved and properly maintained. In partnership with Cornwall Council, Cornwall College and

the Chamber of Commerce a new Shopmobility Scheme, Go St Austell, has opened and has recently taken over the old Oxfam book shop to help ensure its ongoing viability.

### Armistice Day

The Town Council, working closely with the Royal British Legion, took responsibility for organising the Town's Armistice Day parade and procession in 2010. The Mayor and Town Councillors participated in this well respected, high profile annual event.

### Carnival

The Council continued its funding and support for the torchlight carnival which was in its second year after a



break of 10 years. This was once again a tremendous success and our special thanks go to those who helped to organise and took part in the event.

### Town Council Website

The Town Council has launched a website which not only includes lots of information about the Town Council but also includes links to interesting material about St Austell. Our website can be found at [www.staustelltowncouncil.com](http://www.staustelltowncouncil.com)



### Other initiatives

The Town Council has:

Secured a contract for CCTV camera monitoring in partnership with Newquay Town Council and Cornwall Council to help maintain CCTV services in our town centres;

Operated a small grants scheme for local community and charitable groups;

Worked with Groundwork to clear and tidy the flower beds in the station;

Responded to consultations affecting the town on many issues including car parking, salt bins, cycle ways, speed limits and public conveniences.

Applied for grant funding and started work on organising the Cornwall Armed Forces Day planned for St Austell on the 25<sup>th</sup> June 2011 which will be a prestigious event for the town;

Undertook pre-planning consultations with a number of developers, arranged a number of large scale public meetings to give residents the opportunity to raise concerns and suggest improvements to major planning proposals and presented evidence to a planning appeal for a major development to the north of St Austell;

Worked closely with local businesses to strengthen their representation and input to local issues;

Worked closely with the clubs and organisations at Polfair Park to improve security and safety generally and to reduce anti-social behaviour.

Secured £5,750 funding from the Big Lottery Fund for the development of a Town Plan for St Austell.

Updated and re-launched the popular St Austell Discovery Map.

Commenced work on a St Austell in Bloom initiative for the 2011 season.





## Committees

### **Planning Committee Membership – 2010 /11**

Councillor Collins (Chairman)  
 Councillor Palmer (Vice-Chairman)  
 Councillor Bennett  
 Councillor Bradford  
 Councillor Derry  
 Councillor Earl  
 Councillor Stocker  
 Councillor Trehwella  
 Councillor Tuite

The Planning Committee meets approximately every three weeks. All members of the committee have received training in the planning system. The Council dealt with over 130 planning applications from April 2010 to March 2011. This included a number of major applications including the Wainhomes Northern Expansion Project which has been the subject of a formal planning appeal.

### **Communities Committee Membership – 2010/11**

Councillor Heyward (Chairman)  
 Councillor Stewart (Vice-Chairman)  
 Councillor Blaylock  
 Councillor Collins  
 Councillor Cook  
 Councillor Keast  
 Councillor Lake  
 Councillor Polmouner  
 Councillor Trehwella  
 Councillor Tuite



The Communities Committee deals with community and environmental matters. It administers a small grants scheme and provided financial assistance to 27 local community groups in 2010/11 totalling £5,750.



## Finance & General Purposes Committee - Membership – 2010 /11

Councillor – French (Chairman)  
Councillor – Bennett (Vice-Chairman)

Councillor Bradford  
Councillor Davidson  
Councillor Derry  
Councillor Double  
Councillor Heyward  
Councillor Palmer  
Councillor Stocker  
Councillor Trehella  
Councillor Walker

The Finance and General Purposes Committee deals with the internal management and governance arrangements of the Council. The Town Council has had to create budgetary, accountancy, banking, audit and risk management arrangements. Sound governance arrangements have been put in place and are monitored by the Committee. The Council's accounts for 2010/11 are shown on pages 14 and 15.

### Working Parties

A number of working groups met during 2010/11 to help progress Council business. These were:

Business Consultation Working Group  
CCTV Consultation Working Group  
Environmental Projects Working Group  
Salt Bins Working Group  
Standing Orders Working Group  
Town Plan Working Group



### **Representatives on outside bodies**

St Austell Civic Pride - Councillor French

St Austell Market House Community Interest Company Board - Councillor Earl

St Austell Forum - Currently Councillor Derry

St Austell Carnival Committee - Councillors Collins, Derry, Heyward and Polmounter

St Austell Chamber of Commerce - Councillor French

Key Individual Networker for Devon and Cornwall Police - Councillor Trehwella.

Cornwall Town's Association - Councillor Earl

CALC - Larger Councils Liaison Group - Councillor Palmer

Volunteer Cornwall Time Bank – Councillor Blaylock.

### **Attendance at Meetings**

Councillors do not receive any payment or allowance for attending meetings or for carrying out any Council business. Despite this, Town Council meetings are well attended by Councillors. Overall, Councillors attended over 74% of the meetings they were scheduled to attend. The Mayor, Councillor Trehwella attended the most meetings (40 out of a possible 43), Councillor Collins attended 100% of the meetings he was due to attend (36 out of a possible 36), Councillor Lake only missed one and Councillor Derry only missed two of the meetings to which they were invited.

### **Annual Accounts 2010/11**

The Council's Statement of Accounts for 2010/11 has been prepared in accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2011. The Council's Accounts are audited annually by an independent internal auditor and forwarded to the Audit Commission for final appraisal. A full copy is available for examination on request by contacting the Town Clerk. The accounts are summarised on pages 14 and 15.

A surplus of £60,659 has been made in the 2010/11 financial year. This surplus will provide the Town Council with a healthy working balance and a degree of flexibility and resilience going forward. It has also enabled the Council to keep its Council Tax for the 2011/12 financial year at the same level as for 2009/10 and 2010/11.

# Your St Austell Town Councillors

	<p><b>Bennett, Denis</b> Mount Charles Ward 01726 63707 denis.bennett@hotmail.com</p>		<p><b>Heyward, Sandra</b> Gover Ward 01726 65045 seheyward@yahoo.com</p>
	<p><b>Blaylock, Susan</b> Bethel Ward 01726 66014 susan.blaylock@btinternet.com</p>		<p><b>Keast, John</b> Mount Charles Ward 01726 61444 john@keast.myzen.co.uk</p>
	<p><b>Bradford, Valerie</b> Bay Ward 01726 813540 val.murray@lineone.net</p>		<p><b>Lake, Monica</b> Gover Ward 01726 63949 mlake@monicalake.plus.com</p>
	<p><b>Collins, Derek</b> Bethel Ward 07508 423735 soundtec@aol.com</p>		<p><b>Palmer, Brian</b> Poltair Ward 01726 65379 brianpalmer379@btinternet.com</p>
	<p><b>Cook, Nicholas</b> Mount Charles Ward 07583 084306 nick.cook@gmx.co.uk</p>		<p><b>Polmounter, Shirley</b> Mount Charles Ward 01726 74173 spolmounter@talktalk.net</p>
	<p><b>Davidson, Bob</b> Bethel Ward 01726 891541 bobtheagent@btconnect.com</p>		<p><b>Stewart, Jenny</b> Gover Ward 01726 73417 jemason@cornwall.gov.uk</p>
	<p><b>Derry, Philip</b> Mount Charles Ward 01726 71346</p>		<p><b>Stocker, John</b> Poltair Ward 01726 67978 cldr.stocker@virgin.net</p>
	<p><b>Double, Steve</b> Poltair Ward 07977 121529 sdouble@cornwall.gov.uk</p>		<p><b>Trehella, Jill</b> Bethel Ward 01726 71193 jill@trewhella1000.freereserve.co.uk</p>
	<p><b>Earl, Wendy</b> Poltair Ward 01726 72861 wendyearl@talktalk.net</p>		<p><b>Tuite, Karen</b> Bay Ward 07710 466110 karentuite61@hotmail.com</p>
	<p><b>French, Tom</b> Gover Ward 01726 73735 tgf@tomfrench.co.uk</p>		<p><b>Walker, Graham</b> Bethel Ward 01726 63707 gew04@hotmail.com</p>

# Help us keep St Austell Bay Clean

Putting items like this 'Dirty Dozen' down the toilet can cause blockages, sewer flooding and pollution:

1. Sanitary towels, panty liners & backing strips
2. Tampons & tampon applicators
3. Condoms & femidoms
4. Disposable nappies
5. Facial cleansing, baby & cleaning wipes
6. Plastic bags & wrappers
7. Disposable mop heads
8. Bandages & plasters
9. Razor blades
10. Cotton buds
11. Incontinence pads
12. Syringes & needles



**St Austell  
Town Council**

This poster is available at [www.staustelltowncouncil.com](http://www.staustelltowncouncil.com)

**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2011**

	£
<b>RECEIPTS</b>	
Interest received	2,660.91
Other Income	7,781.75
Precepts	201,420.00
Mayor's Charities Income	9,290.22
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b><u>221,152.88</u></b>
<b>PAYMENTS</b>	
<b>Employee Expenses</b>	
Salaries and Wages (Inc. on costs)	90,352.36
Recruitment costs	760.00
Training Expenses	998.28
Travel & Subsistence	159.12
Chairman's Allowance	1,023.55
Members' Allowance	48.20
	<u>93,341.51</u>
<b>General Administration</b>	
Office Accommodation	2,720.00
Office Supplies	255.23
Refreshments	246.28
Printing and binding	1,864.23
Postages	754.17
IT Support & Software	381.27
General Publicity	1,509.00
Insurance	1,752.73
Subscriptions	2,552.15
Books and Publications	71.95
	<u>12,107.01</u>
<b>Miscellaneous Expenses</b>	
Grants	14,928.00
Projects	2,604.80
Contribution to Reserves	23,178.00
Civic Ceremonial	1,065.36
Maintenance of mayoral chains	2,203.00
Audit Fees	1,775.00
Mayor's Charities	9,290.22
	<u>55,044.38</u>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b><u>160,492.90</u></b>
<b>Surplus for Year</b>	<b><u>60,659.98</u></b>

## **BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST MARCH 2011**

	£	£	Notes
<b>Fixed Assets</b>			
Ceremonial assets		98,100.00	1
Allotments and other premises		2,521.00	
Office Equipment		516.26	
		<u>98214.99</u>	
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Debtors	4,844.41		2
Prepayments	1,649.48		
Bank Balances	232,403.67		
Cash in Hand	55.51		
	<u>238,953.07</u>		
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Creditors	9,833.97		3
<b>Net Current Assets</b>		<u>229,119.10</u>	
<b>Net Assets</b>		<u>330,256.36</u>	
Represented By:			
Asset Revaluation Reserve		100,621.00	
Capital Financing Reserve		516.26	
General Revenue Balance		175,441.10	
Earmarked Reserves		53,678.00	4
		<u>330,256.36</u>	

### Notes

1. Ceremonial assets have been valued by independent valuers using an insurance methodology as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2010. It is not considered necessary to revalue all assets annually.

2. Made up of interest due on investments, a contribution from Cornwall Council for town centre promotion and VAT due at the year end.

3. Creditors at the year end include administration expenses and monies collected for the Mayor's charities.

4. £33,678 has been earmarked to meet the following grant commitments:

Town Centre promotion	3,000
Produce Market	2,500
Civic Pride	10,000
Signs	6,000
Conservation Area Appraisal	10,000
Cornwall in Bloom	250
Groundwork Youth Project	1,928

A further £20,000 has been set aside to help offset future election costs.

# Future Meeting Dates of St Austell Town Council

- - Full Council
- - Finance & General Purposes Committee
- - Community Committee
- - Planning Committee

Members of the public are welcome to all Meetings

■ - Bank holiday

**JUNE 2011**

Mon		6	13	20	27
Tues		7	14	21	28
Wed	1	8	15	22	29
Thur	2	9	16	23	30
Fri	3	10	17	24	
Sat	4	11	18	25	
Sun	5	12	19	26	

**JULY 2011**

Mon		4	11	18	25
Tues		5	12	19	26
Wed		6	13	20	27
Thur		7	14	21	28
Fri	1	8	15	22	29
Sat	2	9	16	23	30
Sun	3	10	17	24	31

**AUGUST 2011**

Mon		1	8	15	22	29
Tues		2	9	16	23	30
Wed	3	10	17	24	31	
Thur	4	11	18	25		
Fri	5	12	19	26		
Sat	6	13	20	27		
Sun	7	14	21	28		

**SEPTEMBER 2011**

Mon		5	12	19	26
Tues		6	13	20	27
Wed		7	14	21	28
Thur	1	8	15	22	29
Fri	2	9	16	23	30
Sat	3	10	17	24	
Sun	4	11	18	25	

**OCTOBER 2011**

Mon		3	10	17	24	31
Tues		4	11	18	25	
Wed		5	12	19	26	
Thur		6	13	20	27	
Fri		7	14	21	28	
Sat	1	8	15	22	29	
Sun	2	9	16	23	30	

**NOVEMBER 2011**

Mon		7	14	21	28
Tues	1	8	15	22	29
Wed	2	9	16	23	30
Thur	3	10	17	24	
Fri	4	11	18	25	
Sat	5	12	19	26	
Sun	6	13	20	27	

**DECEMBER 2011**

Mon		5	12	19	26
Tues		6	13	20	27
Wed		7	14	21	28
Thur	1	8	15	22	29
Fri	2	9	16	23	30
Sat	3	10	17	24	31
Sun	4	11	18	25	

**JANUARY 2012**

Mon		2	9	16	23	30
Tues		3	10	17	24	31
Wed		4	11	18	25	
Thur		5	12	19	26	
Fri		6	13	20	27	
Sat		7	14	21	28	
Sun	1	8	15	22	29	

**FEBRUARY 2012**

Mon		6	13	20	27
Tues		7	14	21	28
Wed	1	8	15	22	29
Thur	2	9	16	23	
Fri	3	10	17	24	
Sat	4	11	18	25	
Sun	5	12	19	26	

**MARCH 2012**

Mon		5	12	19	26
Tues		6	13	20	27
Wed		7	14	21	28
Thur	1	8	15	22	29
Fri	2	9	16	23	30
Sat	3	10	17	24	31
Sun	4	11	18	25	

**APRIL 2012**

Mon		2	9	16	23	30
Tues		3	10	17	24	
Wed		4	11	18	25	
Thur		5	12	19	26	
Fri		6	13	20	27	
Sat		7	14	21	28	
Sun	1	8	15	22	29	

**MAY 2012**

Mon		7	14	21	28
Tues	1	8	15	22	29
Wed	2	9	16	23	30
Thur	3	10	17	24	31
Fri	4	11	18	25	
Sat	5	12	19	26	
Sun	6	13	20	27	

## Useful Numbers

St Austell Town Council	01726 223374	Cornwall Council	0300 1234100
Traveline	0871 2002233	Railway enquiries	08457 484950
Tourist Information	01726 879500	Library	0300 1234111
Polkyth Leisure	01726 223344	Eden Project	01726 811911
Wheal Martyn Museum	01726 850362	Pine Lodge Gardens	01726 73500
Mobility Centre	01726 624060	NHS Cornwall	0845 1708000
NHS Direct	0845 4647	St Austell Minor injuries	01726 291199
Police	08452 777444	Dental helpline	01872 354375
Kernow Urgent Care	08702 421242	Gas Emergency	0800 111999
Shop Mobility	01726 70706		

In an emergency dial 999 and ask for the service you require.