

# St Austell Town Council

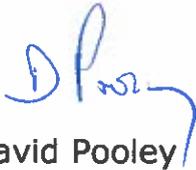


## Community Committee

**To: All Members of the Community Committee** (Councillors: Cohen, Clemo, Hamilton, Hawken, Kimber, Lingham, Nott, Preece, Rowse, Stephens, Taylor, Thompson, Whitehouse and Young).

Dear Councillor

You are summoned to attend a **Meeting** of the **Community Committee** to be held at **Chi Austel, White River Place, St Austell, Cornwall, PL25 5AZ** on **Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2026 at 6pm.**



David Pooley  
**Town Clerk**

17<sup>th</sup> February 2026

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### AGENDA

**1. Apologies for absence**

**2. Declarations of Interest**

(Purpose: To receive declarations of disclosable pecuniary and other non-registerable interests in respect of items on this agenda).

**3. Dispensations**

(Purpose: To receive requests for dispensations under the Code of Conduct).

- 4. Minutes of meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> November 2026** **Pages 1 - 6**
- (Purpose: To agree that the minutes of the above meeting be signed as a correct record).
- 5. Matters to Note**
- A verbal update from the Town Clerk on the actions taken since the last meeting. Note: No decision may be made under this agenda item.
- 6. Public participation (15 minutes maximum)**
- The Chairman will invite members of the public to address the meeting in relation to the business to be carried out at the meeting. *15 minutes will be allocated for public participation (this can be extended at the Chairman's discretion). Each person addressing the Council will be allocated a maximum of two minutes.*
- 7. Deaf Awareness**
- (Purpose: To receive a presentation on deaf awareness from Councillor Nott).
- 8. Poltair Café**
- (Purpose: To note that the existing tenant has given notice and will cease to trade at the café after summer 2026). (Verbal update).
- 9. Poltair Park Play Equipment** **Pages 7 - 10**
- (Purpose: To consider the replacement of the helter skelter at Poltair Park). (Attached).
- 10. Poltair Park – Wheelchair swing (at the request of Councillor Taylor)** **Pages 11 - 14**
- (Purpose: To consider the installation of a wheelchair swing at Poltair Park). (Attached).
- 11. Small Grants Scheme** **Pages 15 - 42**
- St Austell Festival of Children's Literature
  - St Austell Amateur Operatic Society
  - Edible St Austell
  - SALSA
  - St Austell Fire Station

- 12. Tree Policy** **Pages  
43 - 46**
- (Purpose: To consider a draft Tree Policy). (Attached).
- 13. Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) Renewal** **Pages  
47 - 48**
- (Purpose: To consider responding to the Cornwall Council Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) Renewal).
- <https://letstalk.cornwall.gov.uk/pspo2026>
- 14. Closure of Payphones** **Pages  
49 - 50**
- (Purpose: To consider a consultation on the removal of two public payphones) (Attached).
- 15. Projects Update**
- (Purpose: To receive a verbal report on the projects currently being worked on). (Verbal update).
- 16. Dates of Meetings**
- (Purpose: To confirm date of forthcoming meeting 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2026).



**MINUTES of ST AUSTELL TOWN COUNCIL COMMUNITY COMMITTEE held on MONDAY 24<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2025 at Chi Austel, White River Place, St Austell, Cornwall, PL25 5AZ at 6pm.**

**Present:** Councillors: Cohen, Clemo, Hawken, Preece, Stephens, Taylor, Thompson, Whitehouse and Young.

**In attendance:** David Pooley (Town Clerk) and Sara Gwilliams (Deputy Town Clerk).

**Also in attendance:** Councillor Lanxon

**CC/25/29) Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors: Hamilton, Kimber, Lingham and Rowse.

Councillor Young advised that he needed to leave the meeting early.

**CC/25/30) Declarations of Interest**

None.

**CC/25/31) Dispensations**

None.

*\*\*Councillor Stephens arrived during the next item\*\**

**CC/25/32) Minutes of the Meeting held on the 8<sup>th</sup> September 2025**

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on the 8<sup>th</sup> September 2025 be approved and signed as a correct record.

**CC/25/33) Matters to Note**

**General Wolfe.** Cornwall Council has confirmed that the one expression of interest received for the building has been assessed as unviable. It is understood that a report will be submitted to Cornwall Council's Cabinet, possibly early next year, recommending a way forward.

**Trenance to Menacuddle Well footpath.** Cornwall Council has advised Mrs Earl that evidence of historic use by the public needs to be submitted before an application to open the Trenance to Menacuddle Well footpath can proceed.

**Quaker Burial Ground.** The Clerk confirmed that he has been in contact with Mr West and is awaiting a reply.

**CC/25/34) Public Participation**

None.

## **CC/25/35) Emily Hudson, Regional Leader, Smartphone Free Childhood**

The Chair welcomed Emily Hudson, Regional Leader for the Smartphone Free Childhood initiative.

Ms Hudson introduced the Smartphone Free Childhood initiative and the local schools' policies on Smartphones. She explained that the primary schools in St Austell have a "hand in at the office" policy and secondary schools a "switch off and in bag policy" but both policies allow for smartphones to be used on the walk to school, on the bus, in toilet cubicles, changing rooms and behind the teachers' backs. Ms Hudson outlined the detrimental impact that smartphones have on school life and the positive impact a smartphone free policy would have on children.

Ms Hudson advised that Councillor Hilary Frank, Portfolio Holder for Children, Schools and Families, is in support of the initiative and has suggested that contact should be made with the Community Area Partnerships to gain widespread support amongst schools. To date four Community Area Partnerships have booked a presentation with herself.

By way of information, Ms Hudson advised that following a meeting with Newquay Town Council, the primary and secondary schools in the Newquay area have agreed to act collectively and over time become smartphone free.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Town Clerk should write to the Community Link Officer and Chair of the Cornwall South Community Area Partnership to request that Emily Hudson is invited to a future Cornwall South Community Area Partnership to present the Smartphone Free Childhood initiative as suggested by Councillor Hilary Frank, Portfolio Holder for Children, Schools and Families.

## **CC/25/36) Small Grants Scheme**

### *YMCA Cornwall*

Mr Davies, representing YMCA Cornwall advised that YMCA Cornwall is fundraising to build four new units of accommodation at their premises in Penzance. The site currently has 50 units and provides supported accommodation for homeless and vulnerable young people from across Cornwall. Mr Davies advised that there is a waiting list of 40-50 young people and approximately 3% of their residents come from the St Austell area.

Members thanked Mr Davies for his presentation and congratulated YMCA Cornwall on their excellent work helping, housing and supporting vulnerable young people.

It was **RESOLVED** to award a grant in the sum of £500 to YMCA Cornwall for funding towards their "Your Help, Their Future" housing project.

### *St Austell, St Piran's Event*

Ms Fox advised that the St Piran's Event in March was a huge success and drew in a large number of people to the town. She advised that there was a childrens' ride and face painter which kept the children entertained and was well received. Ms Fox stressed that funding for the 2026 event is very challenging and due to this uncertainty, Mebyon Kernow has agreed a one off £300 donation towards the event.

She advised that she is hoping to have a craft fayre in the Market House and activities in Fore Street. The main parade and speeches will be in White River Place.

Members thanked Ms Fox for her presentation and expressed their full support for the continuation of the St Piran's Event in the town centre.

It was **RESOLVED** to award a grant in the sum of £500 to St Austell, St Piran's Day Event for funding towards the March 2026 event.

#### *Farming Mother*

It was **RESOLVED** to award a grant in the sum of £250 to The Farming Mother CIC for funding towards the purchase of books and learning resource.

#### *St Austell Library Support Association (SALSA)*

It was **RESOLVED** to award a grant in the sum of £250 to SALSA for funding towards their Father Christmas and Reindeer Community Christmas Extravaganza on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2025.

#### *St Austell Old People's Welfare Committee*

It was **RESOLVED** to award a grant in the sum of £250 to St Austell Old People's Welfare Committee for funding towards their Christmas Party.

*\*\*Councillor Young left the meeting\*\**

### **CC/25/37) Cornwall Council Highways Improvement Programme**

The Town Clerk explained that £75,000 has been allocated to the Cornwall South Community Area Partnership for community highway improvement schemes and Town and Parish Councils have been asked to nominate one scheme for consideration.

The Clerk further advised that he had taken the opportunity to ask the three Cornwall Councillors and Town Councillors prior to the meeting for some suggested schemes and that the following had been received:

- Creation of pedestrian crossing, Brockstone Road
- Package of mixed waiting restrictions, Daniels Lane, Bucklers Lane and Stennack Road, and Dennison Avenue
- Package of mixed waiting restrictions, Sandy Hill and Bird Sanctuary
- Verge improvements, Boldventure
- Two mobile speed signs, whole of St Austell
- Active travel corridor, A391
- Crossing at Tregonissey Lane End
- Improvements to Robartes Place and Slades Road

It was **RESOLVED** to support Councillor Rowse's suggestion that a package of mixed waiting restrictions at Sandy Hill and Bird Sanctuary should be put forward to Cornwall Council for consideration.

### **CC/25/38) Poltair Café**

The Deputy Town Clerk advised that the tenant of the café in Poltair Park has advised of her intention to cease operating the café after the 2026 season.

She added that the operator has indicated that trade is difficult during term time and during the winter months it is not viable to be open. The Deputy Town Clerk confirmed that a report will be brought to Members in due course about the options available to the Town Council.

It was **RESOLVED** to note the update.

### **CC/25/39) Youth Council Working Group**

Councillor Preece advised that the working group had met three times and had reached out to the two secondary schools and made contact with the Camborne Youth Council. The group feel that the age range for the Youth Council should be Year 9-11 (13- to 16-year-olds) and that the policies and conditions of operation are being looked into. Young People Cornwall have offered The House as a suitable meeting venue for the Youth Council. The Working Group are likely to recommend that the Youth Council are provided with the Town Council's agendas to consider and provided with specific projects of interest to young people eg: an upgrade of a park.

Councillor Preece advised that they were 1-2 meetings away from presenting a report to the Town Council.

### **CC/25/40) Projects Update**

The Town Clerk and Deputy Town Clerk provided an update as follows:

#### *Poundland banners*

Both banners are in situ and looking really good. A minor repair has been carried out following a small tear. The finger post sign will be replaced shortly.

#### *Holy Trinity Church – Piazza*

The piazza was completed in time for Remembrance Day and is to a very high standard. Funding has been obtained for the design of phase 2 at Holy Trinity which will focus on the grounds of the south side of the church.

#### *The Meadows, Pump Track*

The Meadows Pump Track is due to be completed on Wednesday and is likely to attract users from across Cornwall. There will be a soft opening and then an official opening event in the spring.

#### *Town Revitalisation and Improvement Programme Funding*

The status of the five projects within this funding programme are:

- **Priory Car Park.** Directional signs erected. Project complete.
- **Old Fire Station.** Contract let for visual improvement to the site

- **Railings at the Baptist Church.** Contract let for the refurbishment and installation of planters on the railings outside of the Baptist church.
- **Slope from Studio 4 to White River Place Toilets.** Contract let for a number of large planters on the pedestrian slope.
- **Design for Holy Trinity Church Grounds** (phase 2) – design nearing completion.

### *CCTV*

The Town Council has had 5 additional cameras installed across the town, making a total of 25 cameras which are monitored almost 24/7 from Newquay Police station. The mobile camera is currently assisting a social housing provider.

### *Young People Cornwall (YPC)*

Town Council representatives attend the YPC steering group meetings on a quarterly basis. They have had some positive exposure on regional television from Children In Need which recounted a story from a young person whose life was turned around through the help of YPC. YPC also ran the park games across the Town Council's parks over the summer which resulted in a number of young people engaging with YPC. The Deputy Town Clerk will invite Nick Smith to a Town Council meeting early next year for an update.

### *ASB*

Shoplifting continues to be a problem which is keeping the security guards busy on a daily basis. Getting the public to report ASB to the Police is still a problem, but without the logs, the police are unable to act on the issues/target problem areas.

The Town Council is funding the security guards, in partnership with the BID and with the hotspot funding 70 hours (2 x 35 hours) of patrols are currently being carried out per week. It is hoped that more hotspot funding will be made available post March 2026.

Inspector Trevivian has returned from his secondment and has made it clear that his team will be targeting those individuals who are persistently causing trouble in the town.

### *Footpaths*

The Town Council's grounds staff continue to cut 6km of footpaths across the town on behalf of Cornwall Council. On average each footpath is cut approximately 3 times per year.

### **Poltair Park**

A fledgling community group has expressed an interest in a new skateboard park for Poltair Park. The Operations Manager is in regular contact with the lead individual and is looking for funding opportunities.

### **CC/25/41) Dates of Meetings**

It was noted that the next meeting of the Community Committee is scheduled for 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2026.

The meeting closed at 7.49pm.



**ST AUSTELL TOWN COUNCIL**

**COMMUNITY COMMITTEE – 23<sup>RD</sup> FEBRUARY 2026**

**POLTAIR PARK PLAY EQUIPMENT**

**1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To update members on the increasing need to consider replacing the large Helter Skelter play unit in Poltair Park and suggest a way forward.

**2. LEGAL AND RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES**

Current British and European playground safety standards BS EN 1176 and BS EN 1177 have evolved since the equipment was installed. The size and design of the Helter Skelter means it no longer meets key requirements relating to fall heights, barrier design, entrapment prevention, and appropriate impact absorbing surfacing.

The Town Council has a responsibility to ensure play equipment is safe, well-maintained, and compliant with relevant safety standards. With visible corrosion, worn surfaces, and weakened structural components, the existing structure poses a rising risk despite routine maintenance.

**3. RESOURCE ISSUES**

Repairing and maintaining an 18-year-old structure is becoming increasingly expensive. Replacement parts are gradually becoming discontinued or require custom manufacturing, which is raising costs further. Along with this, increased inspections, repairs, and temporary closures are diverting the ground staff's time from other essential works. A replacement is recommended costing in the region of £78,500.

**4. EQUALITIES ISSUES**

Due to its age, the Helter Skelter was not designed with accessibility in mind. Steps, gradients, and lack of ground-level activities exclude many children with physical disabilities or sensory needs.

Modern playground equipment aims to provide inclusive experiences for children of all abilities. Installing a new structure presents an opportunity to improve equality of access and broaden the play experience.

## **5. ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES**

Modern play equipment often uses more sustainable, weather-resistant materials (e.g., recycled plastics, responsibly sourced timber), reducing environmental impact over the equipment's lifespan. Newer play equipment with longer life cycles helps reduce long-term carbon footprints by extending replacement intervals.

## **6. RECOMMENDATIONS**

After researching various options, it is recommended that the Town Council authorise the Operations Manager to replace the Helter Skelter at Poltair Park with a steel "Bird's Nest Tower" with a budget not exceeding £80,000 excluding VAT.

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### **Background**

The Helter Skelter has been a central feature of Poltair Park since its installation in 2008; however, its age and condition now mean that it presents increased risks to users and increasingly high maintenance burdens for the Town Council. The structure also regularly attracts anti-social behaviour and has to be closed off to the public for repairs several times a year. The Helter Skelter offers a large focal point in the centre of the Poltair Park play area so a significant item of play equipment is required to replace it.

After research, officers favour replacement with a Bird's Nest Tower (image attached). There will be a need to remove and dispose of the existing helter skelter, construct and erect the new piece of play equipment and reinstate safety surfaces. It is estimated that the cost of the equipment and works will be in the region of £78,500 excluding VAT.

It is recommended that the Operations Manager be authorised to replace the helter skelter as outlined above with a budget not exceeding £80,000 excluding VAT.

**STEVE SKINNER – OPERATIONS MANAGER**





**ST AUSTELL TOWN COUNCIL**

**COMMUNITY COMMITTEE – 23<sup>RD</sup> FEBRUARY 2026**

**POLTAIR PARK – WHEELCHAIR SWING**

**1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To consider Councillor Taylor’s request for a wheelchair swing in Poltair Park.

**2. LEGAL AND RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES**

The Equality Act 2010 requires the Town Council to take reasonable measures to ensure people with disabilities are not treated less favourably and can access play facilities equally. However, it does not require every piece of play equipment to be fully accessible; the requirement is for reasonable provision across the site. Currently, the play area at Poltair has 2 items of accessible play equipment; a wheelchair Roundabout and a Basket Swing.

Wheelchair swings are considered a high-risk piece of play equipment due to their size, weight and high ground clearance which could trap a child. Due to these risks, they are generally only found in supervised settings such as schools and nurseries where their use can be closely supervised and monitored. They are rare in public parks and are strictly locked when not in use.

**3. RESOURCE ISSUES**

Wheelchair swings are considered specialist equipment and typically cost significantly more than standard swings due to structural requirements such as platforms, ramps, locking systems, shock absorbers and safety restraints. Whilst various companies sell wheelchair swings from around £15,000, in a very busy public park such as Poltair where there is a need for more robust equipment, the cost is anticipated to be in the region of £20,000 to £30,000. There will be ongoing running expenses as it will require locking when not in use and frequent inspections.

In addition to this, due to the space requirements to install the swing, it is envisaged that an existing set of junior swings would need to be removed to make room for it, further increasing the overall costs.

#### **4. EQUALITIES ISSUES**

Wheelchair swings in the right location with supervision can provide essential access for children with mobility challenges, enabling play alongside their peers. They support independence, social interaction, and emotional wellbeing. However, thoughtful placement of swings is essential to ensure that the swing supports integration rather than separation.

#### **5. ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES**

None.

#### **6. RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is your officers' view that without the ability to provide supervision the risks to the Town Council and park users associated with a wheelchair accessible swing in Poltair Park are too great.

Members' views are sought.

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#### **Background**

At the request of Councillor Taylor, research has been undertaken and quotations sought for the provision of a wheelchair swing in Poltair Park. Poltair Park has extensive play equipment in two enclosures; one area for toddlers and another for older children.

The Equality Act 2010 requires the Town Council to take reasonable measures to ensure people with disabilities are not treated less favourably and can access play facilities equally. However, the Act does not require every piece of play equipment to be fully accessible; the requirement is for reasonable provision across the site. Currently, the play area at Poltair has 2 items of accessible play equipment: a wheelchair Roundabout and a Basket Swing.

The nearest wheelchair swing currently is at Polgreen Estate in St Blazey. This is locked when not in use and a wheelchair user has to obtain a padlock code from St Blaise Town Council in order to use it. We are advised that it gets very little use.

Ideally a wheelchair swing should be located on a fairly flat piece of ground and be surrounded by safety fencing to avoid accidental collisions.

The best location that has been identified is in the older children's area in the bottom eastern corner, but it would require the removal of the two general purpose junior swings.

Due to the potential dangers of misuse of such swings, access to a wheelchair swing would have to be strictly controlled possibly using a padlock and key or code which could be obtained from the library or café during operating hours. This would limit access.

Photographs of a wheelchair swing are attached at Appendix 1.

**STEVE SKINNER  
OPERATIONS MANAGER**

**DAVID POOLEY  
TOWN CLERK**

Appendix 1

Wheelchair Accessible Swing



**ST AUSTELL TOWN COUNCIL**

**COMMUNITY COMMITTEE – 23<sup>rd</sup> FEBRUARY 2026**

**SMALL GRANTS SCHEME - APPLICATIONS RECEIVED**

**1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To consider funding requests received under the Town Council's Small Grants Scheme.

**2. LEGAL AND RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES**

The Council has the legal power to grant funding under the General Power of Competence which was formally re-adopted by the Town Council on the 12<sup>th</sup> May 2025.

**3. RESOURCE ISSUES**

The Council has earmarked the sum of £8,000 for the small grants scheme in the 2025/26 financial year. To date £5,525 has been awarded leaving a balance of £2,475.

**4. EQUALITIES ISSUES**

The Small Grants application form asks organisations to demonstrate their commitment to equal opportunities.

**5. ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES**

The environmental impact for proposed projects will vary for each grant application received.

**6. RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that Members:

- (i) Consider and determine whether they wish to support the grant applications received.

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## **Background**

The application forms for the funding requested are reproduced with this report. Supporting information for the grant applications (including financial) can be viewed upon request prior to this meeting.

### **1. St Austell Festival of Children's Literature**

A request has been received from St Austell Festival of Children's Literature for a grant towards the Festival due to take place in the town centre and St Austell Library on 13<sup>th</sup> June 2026.

### **2. St Austell Amateur Operatic Society**

A request has been received from St Austell Amateur Operatic Society for funding towards the cost of hiring rehearsal rooms and the increase in orchestra costs.

### **3. Edible St Austell**

A request has been received from Edible St Austell for funding towards the repair of their timber shelter.

### **4. St Austell Library Support Association (SALSA)**

A request has been received from SALSA for funding towards the cost of hiring donkeys forming part of the Easter activities at St Austell Library.

### **5. St Austell Fire Station**

A request has been received from the St Austell Fire Station for a grant towards improving their memorial garden and planting.

SARA GWILLIAMS  
DEPUTY TOWN CLERK

# St Austell Town Council



## Small Grants Scheme

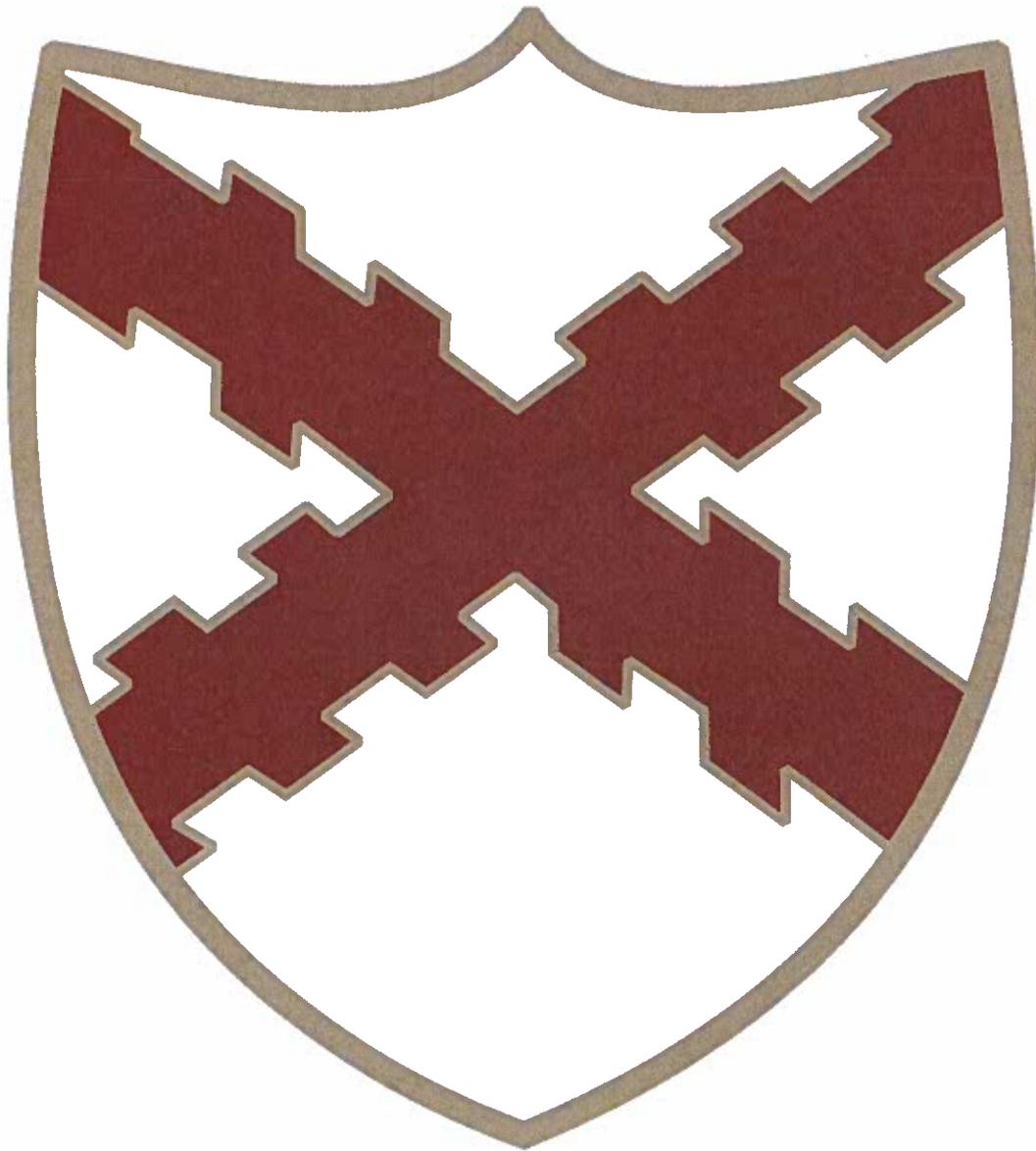
### Application Form

#### PART B

##### 1. Your organisation

<b>Name of Organisation</b>	St Austell Festival of Children's Literature
<b>Charity/company number (if applicable)</b>	Community Interest Company No: 16170176
<b>Are there any Members of St Austell Town Council on your Committee? (if so, please list them)</b>	None

**PLEASE LEAVE THIS PAGE BLANK**



<p><b>What are the aims and objectives of your organisation?</b></p>	<p>We exist to make the joy of reading accessible to every child and family in St Austell and the wider Cornwall community. Our core aims are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Celebrate the proven impact of reading for pleasure on children's life outcomes</li> <li>• Enable children — especially those from disadvantaged backgrounds — to experience live author and illustrator events</li> <li>• Support families in discovering shared reading experiences</li> <li>• Inspire a whole community that embraces reading for pleasure</li> <li>• Strengthen local cultural life by bringing nationally recognised children's authors and illustrators to St Austell</li> </ul>
<p><b>Please demonstrate your organisation's commitment to equal opportunities (please enclose any relevant policies)</b></p>	<p>Equity and accessibility are at the heart of everything we do:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All event tickets are priced at just £1 per person to ensure no family is excluded on financial grounds</li> <li>• Events are held in accessible, town-centre venues and spread across multiple sites to maximise reach</li> </ul>

## 2. Purpose for which the grant is sought

<p><b>Project title:</b></p>	<p>St Austell Festival of Children's Literature 2026</p>
<p><b>Description of project</b> (please continue on a separate sheet if necessary):</p>	<p>The St Austell Festival of Children's Literature returns for its fourth annual festival in June 2026. The festival runs across two days — a dedicated Schools Day and a Family Day — and brings a stellar roster of nationally acclaimed children's authors, illustrators and poets directly into the heart of St Austell.</p> <p>The 2025 festival featured authors including S.F. Said, Laura Ellen Anderson, Dr James Greenwood, Sue Hendra, Alex Falase-Koya, Kate Pankhurst and many others, hosting events at venues including Holy Trinity Church, St John's Church, Unit 4 Studio, and a central festival hub. The 2026 festival will build on this success, increasing reach and deepening community impact — including a significant new partnership with St Austell Library (see below).</p> <p>Key activities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Author talks, storytelling sessions and illustrator workshops for children aged 0–12</li> <li>• A Schools Day programme reaching over 2,000 pupils from schools across Cornwall</li> <li>• A teachers' professional development event with a leading author</li> <li>• A free-to-browse festival hub with author signings, a children's bookshop and craft activities</li> <li>• Free books and Golden Ticket access for children from disadvantaged families</li> <li>• Events aligned with the National Year of Reading 2026</li> <li>• Author events for pre-school children hosted at St Austell Library during the festival weekend</li> <li>• A new Junior Book Club running one Saturday per month throughout the year at St Austell Library, providing a sustained legacy beyond the festival itself</li> </ul>
<p><b>How would this grant be of benefit to the community in St Austell?</b> (please continue on a separate sheet if necessary):</p>	<p>The festival delivers wide-ranging, evidenced benefits to the St Austell community:</p> <p>Cultural and civic pride: The festival brings nationally recognised authors to St Austell that families and schools across Cornwall would otherwise have to travel to London or major cities to see.</p> <p>Educational impact: Research by the OECD (2002) demonstrates that reading for pleasure has the greatest impact on a child's life chances — more so than socioeconomic background, test scores or exam results. Between 2012 and 2021, the number of children reading for pleasure every day fell from 38% to 23%. This festival directly addresses that decline.</p>

	<p>Economic benefit: The festival draws visitors and families into the town centre, supporting local businesses.</p> <p>Reaching the most vulnerable: With tickets at just £1, free Schools Day access for participating schools, and a Golden Ticket scheme for disadvantaged families, the festival ensures that no child is excluded. The festival specifically targets children who do not own books at home.</p> <p>Growing reputation: Now in its fourth year, the festival has grown from a single day with 17 authors to a two-day event attracting over 25 authors and thousands of attendees. A.F. Steadman (author of the Skandar series, Waterstones Children's Author of the Year 2022) is the festival's Patron. The festival is a growing point of pride for St Austell.</p> <p>Partnership with St Austell Library: The 2026 festival deepens the festival's relationship with St Austell Library in two important ways. During the festival weekend, the library will host dedicated author events for pre-school children — building on the success of last year, when ten authors took part in a festival reading quiz held at the library. Beyond the festival itself, we will run a Junior Book Club on one Saturday each month throughout the year, meeting at the library. The library have welcomed this arrangement: they have received requests from families for Saturday activities but have been unable to staff them. This partnership means the festival's impact on the community extends well beyond a single weekend in June, and directly supports the library's own mission to serve local families.</p>
<p><b>What arrangements do you have in place to ensure safeguarding of children and young people (applicable only if your project involves working with this client group).</b></p>	<p>The festival takes safeguarding of children and young people extremely seriously.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lead volunteers are DBS-checked</li> <li>• Clear safeguarding procedures are in place for all Schools Day events, including supervision ratios, school consent processes and designated safeguarding leads on site</li> <li>• Festival venues are assessed for child safety prior to each event</li> <li>• Author contracts include compliance with the festival safeguarding policy</li> </ul>

### 3. Finance

<p><b>What is the total cost of the project?</b></p>	<p><b>£10,000</b></p>
<p><b>Amount of grant applied for</b> (Up to £250) *</p>	<p><b>£1,000</b></p>
<p><b>Have you previously received a grant from St Austell Town Council?</b></p>	<p><b>Yes</b></p>
<p><b>If "Yes" please indicate:</b></p>	<p>a) When: February 2024 b) Amount received: £1,000</p>

<p>a) When b) Amount received c) For what purpose</p>	<p>c) For what purpose: General festival running costs — author fees, venue hire, publicity and accessibility provision</p>
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\* Should you wish to apply for a grant over £250, the Council may consider a larger grant in exceptional circumstances, but you may be asked to provide a presentation to the Town Council.

*Please list any applications you have made for funding from other organisations.*

Organisation	Contribution Sought (£)	Applied (please tick as appropriate)	Granted (please tick as appropriate)
Karrek Financial	£500	Yes	Yes
Polymer Medics	£250	Yes	Yes
Imerys	£600	Yes	Yes
C Serv Ltd	£500	Yes	Yes
FAC Properties	£250	Yes	Yes
Cornwall Community Grants	£5000	Yes	Yes

#### 4. Further information enclosed

Information	Enclosed (please tick)
A copy of your organisation's most recent bank statement(s) (mandatory)	Yes
A copy of your constitution (or similar document showing the organisation's status)	Yes
A copy of your organisation's latest set of accounting statements (if any exist)	Yes

#### 5. Publicity

Please explain how you will publicise and acknowledge the Town Council's grant.

<p>The St Austell Festival of Children's Literature gratefully acknowledges all funders and supporters. St Austell Town Council's contribution will be recognised in the following ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Town Council's logo and name will appear on all printed festival programmes, event flyers and promotional materials distributed across St Austell and Cornwall</li> <li>• The Town Council will be credited as a key funder on the festival website (<a href="http://staustellfestivalofchildrensliterature.com">staustellfestivalofchildrensliterature.com</a>) and on all social media platforms</li> <li>• The Town Council will be credited in any press releases and media coverage of the festival</li> </ul>
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Please return your completed form to:

Sara Gwilliams  
Deputy Town Clerk

## St Austell Town Council



### Small Grants Scheme

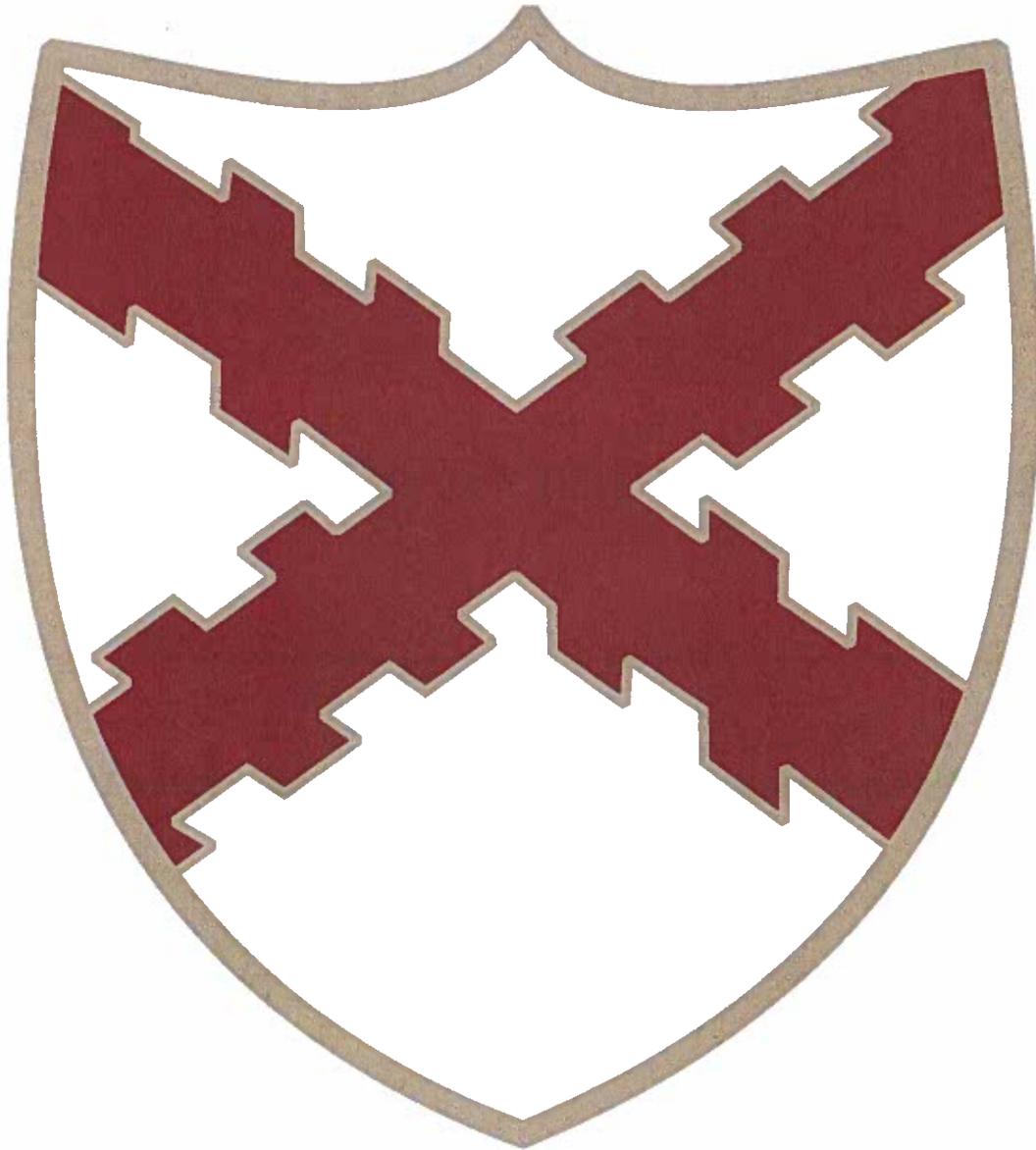
### Application Form

### PART B

#### 1. Your organisation

<b>Name of Organisation</b>	St Austell AOS
<b>Charity/company number (if applicable)</b>	Charity No: 256573 Company No:
<b>Are there any Members of St Austell Town Council on your Committee? (if so, please list them)</b>	No
<b>What are the aims and objectives of your organisation?</b>	To provide live musical theatre for all.
<b>Please demonstrate your organisation's commitment to equal opportunities (please enclose any relevant policies)</b>	Policy attached.

**PLEASE LEAVE THIS PAGE BLANK**



## 2. Purpose for which the grant is sought

<b>Project title:</b>	Come From Away
<b>Description of project</b> (please continue on a separate sheet if necessary):	Musical Theatre production – the story of how Gander in Newfoundland supported the many planes and passengers which were redirected as a result of 9/11. An uplifting true story with music and humour. First amateur licences since its success in the West End – St Austell have Cornish premiere.
<b>How would this grant be of benefit to the community in St Austell?</b> (please continue on a separate sheet if necessary):	Providing low cost access to musical theatre for audiences and participants. Awarded <b>Best Musical for 2025</b> at the Cornwall Drama Association awards.
<b>What arrangements do you have in place to ensure safeguarding of children and young people</b> (applicable only if your project involves working with this client group).	See attached policy

## 3. Finance

<b>What is the total cost of the project?</b>	<b>£27,000 approx</b>
<b>Amount of grant applied for</b> (Up to £250) *	<b>£1000</b>
<b>Have you previously received a grant from St Austell Town Council?</b>	<u>Yes/No</u>
<b>If “Yes” please indicate:</b>  a) <b>When</b> b) <b>Amount received</b> c) <b>For what purpose</b>	<b>£500</b> <b>2025</b> <b>Legally Blonde</b>

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\* Should you wish to apply for a grant over £250, the Council may consider a larger grant in exceptional circumstances, but you may be asked to provide a presentation to the Town Council.

*Please list any applications you have made for funding from other organisations.*

Organisation	Contribution Sought (£)	Applied (please tick as appropriate)	Granted (please tick as appropriate)
Not as yet			

#### 4. Further information enclosed

Information	Enclosed (please tick)
A copy of your organisation's most recent bank statement(s) (mandatory)	X
A copy of your constitution (or similar document showing the organisation's status)	X
A copy of your organisation's latest set of accounting statements (if any exist)	x

#### 5. Publicity

Please explain how you will publicise and acknowledge the Town Council's grant.

Social Media and Programme acknowledgement.
---

Please return your completed form to:

Sara Gwilliams  
Deputy Town Clerk  
The Stable Block  
Pondhu House  
Penwinnick Road, St Austell, PL25 5DP

E-mail: [sara.gwilliams@staustell-tc.gov.uk](mailto:sara.gwilliams@staustell-tc.gov.uk)

## FURTHER INFORMATION:

1. **The date that the production is taking place** – 13<sup>th</sup>-18th April 2025.
2. **Where it is taking place** - Keay Theatre
3. **What our funding will be used for**  
It will be used to cover a large portion of the cost of hire of rehearsal rooms at The House, Polkyth for rehearsal purposes and the increase in Orchestra cost.
4. **If you have sought grant funding from any other organisation** – This our first application but intend to apply to Councillors Community Chest. For the first time this year we held a fund raising concert at The Keay Theatre.
5. A rough income and expenditure account for the production:

<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>p</b>	<b>Income/Funding</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>p</b>
Theatre/tech,sound	10000	00	Ticket sales	18200	Max £26k but this reflects 70% target.
Orchestra	4500	00	Programme Ads/ Sales	1000	
Royalties	4000	00	Membership	2000	
Directors exp, publicity, insurance	2000	00	Foyer sales	800	
Rehearsal space	1500	00	Sponsorship	1500	Applied for.
Scenery/Costumes	5000	00	Fund Raising	3500	
<b>Total cost*</b>	<b>27000</b>	<b>00</b>	<b>Total income*</b>	<b>27000</b>	<b>00</b>

- We have to hire our costumes and scenery as we do not have a home/store in which to create and store scenery and costumes. Rent from hiring such a space would be the same or maybe more that the cost of these two items.
- The Keay theatre does not have adequate sound and lighting and we have to hire in equipment on top of their hire charge.



# St Austell Town Council



## Small Grants Scheme

### Application Form

#### PART B

##### 1. Your organisation

<b>Name of Organisation</b>	Edible St Austell CIC
<b>Charity/company number (if applicable)</b>	Charity No: Company No:14016595
<b>Are there any Members of St Austell Town Council on your Committee? (if so, please list them)</b>	No
<b>What are the aims and objectives of your organisation?</b>	Our vision is to continue to create kind, confident and connected communities through the power of food. It's a community garden that shows participants how to sow, grow and propagate fruit, vegetables and cut flowers. We improve our local environment, increase its biodiversity and share green knowledge in order to boost our health and wellbeing. This year we aim to invite socially prescribed participants from St Austell Health care to our site to provide garden 'therapy' and friendship. These participants will work alongside our volunteers sowing, growing and learning horticultural skills.

<p><b>Please demonstrate your organisation's commitment to equal opportunities</b> (please enclose any relevant policies)</p>	<p>We already welcome anybody who demonstrates an interest in horticulture: children, adults with learning difficulties, adults from Harbour Housing, retired people of all ages. Please see the Incredible Edible website for further information on equal opportunities as we are part of this network which is nationwide.</p>
	<p>Incredible Edible <a href="https://www.incredibleedible.org.uk">https://www.incredibleedible.org.uk</a></p>

## 2. Purpose for which the grant is sought

<p><b>Project title:</b></p>	<p>Repair Timber shelter</p>
<p><b>Description of project</b> (please continue on a separate sheet if necessary):</p>	<p>Our timber shelter urgently needs its timber uprights replacing. We need to ensure this structure is safe and secure, it has been in situ now for several years and the uprights are slowly rotting. This structure is vital as it provides a dry space to continue working if its raining.</p>
<p><b>How would this grant be of benefit to the community in St Austell?</b> (please continue on a separate sheet if necessary):</p>	<p>Edible St Austell is already helping boost health and wellbeing to our community but once participants are socially prescribed to our site, we will be accessible to a large number of patients from St Austell Healthcare. Our location is central , on a bus route and within walking distance if you live in St Austell, you don't have to drive. We have just connected up with the Volunteer Sector Forum in Cornwall in order to reach out to our community as much as we can. We are aware of the level of food poverty in our area and being able to show children or any age group how to grow their own food will be a very positive health benefit. Our site can produce fresh fruit and vegetables that we can also give away to non-participants or if a surplus to the local food banks.</p>
<p><b>What arrangements do you have in place to ensure safeguarding of children and young people</b> (applicable only if your project involves working with this client group).</p>	<p>A number of us are DBS checked but any child who attends is always accompanied by their parents. We are aware of safeguarding procedures and aim to link up with Volunteer Cornwall to access annual safeguarding training.</p>

## 3. Finance

<p><b>What is the total cost of the project?</b></p>	<p>£500 (approx)</p>
<p></p>	<p></p>

<b>Amount of grant applied for</b> (Up to £250) *	<b>£250</b>
<b>Have you previously received a grant from St Austell Town Council?</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>If "Yes" please indicate:</b>  a) <b>When</b> b) <b>Amount received</b> c) <b>For what purpose</b>	

\* Should you wish to apply for a grant over £250, the Council may consider a larger grant in exceptional circumstances, but you may be asked to provide a presentation to the Town Council.

*Please list any applications you have made for funding from other organisations.*

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Contribution Sought (£)</b>	<b>Applied (please tick as appropriate)</b>	<b>Granted (please tick as appropriate)</b>
ScrewFix Foundation	£5000	Yes	No
Wicks	£100	Yes	Not yet

#### 4. Further information enclosed

<b>Information</b>	<b>Enclosed (please tick)</b>
A copy of your organisation's most recent bank statement(s) <b>(mandatory)</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
A copy of your constitution (or similar document showing the organisation's status)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
A copy of your organisation's latest set of accounting statements (if any exist)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

#### 5. Publicity

Please explain how you will publicise and acknowledge the Town Council's grant.

We are reprinting our leaflets and any donation from the town council will be reflected on the new leaflets  
It will also be advertised on our facebook page and instagram.

# St Austell Town Council



## Small Grants Scheme

### Application Form

#### PART B

##### 1. Your organisation

<b>Name of Organisation</b>	SALSA – St Austell Library Support Association
<b>Charity/company number (if applicable)</b>	Charity No: N/A  Company No:
<b>Are there any Members of St Austell Town Council on your Committee? (if so, please list them)</b>	Yes. Sara Gwilliams

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<p><b>What are the aims and objectives of your organisation?</b></p>	<p>To support the Library staff and borrowers in arranging events for all ages and of all abilities, events that can be attended by all by either offering free entrance or at a minimal cost.</p> <p>To help combat isolation, loneliness and isolation in the local community by offering a chance to come and enjoy themselves in a safe, friendly environment.</p> <p>We have hosted talks by local authors, created a community garden for all to enjoy. It is a place of reflection where you can sit and read in peaceful surroundings.</p> <p>We have arranged children's entertainers, musical evenings, workshops for people with dementia, gardening parties for disabled people. Working in partnership with local schools/youth groups to learn how to play musical instruments and creating a book on WW1 and developing their artistic skills. Our main achievements include our Library garden make-over in 2014, our "There But Not There" commemoration of WW1 centenary and a successful event, straight out of the pandemic, with cream tea for the public to celebrate the Tour of Britain cycle race which Cornwall hosted in 2021. The very successful 65<sup>th</sup> Birthday and commemorations of V.E. Day &amp; V. J day, this year in 2025.</p>
<p><b>Please demonstrate your organisation's commitment to equal opportunities (please enclose any relevant policies)</b></p>	<p>We follow both St Austell and CC Policies</p>

## 2. Purpose for which the grant is sought

<b>Project title:</b>	Donkeys, Daffodils and Delectables
<b>Description of project</b> (please continue on a separate sheet if necessary):	We will be hosting a Traditional Craft Fayre on Saturday 28 <sup>th</sup> March and arranging Easter events for the local community including the hiring of Donkeys – relating how they were mentioned in the Bible at Easter time. The donkeys are from a local charity organisation which will also talk about their aims of rescuing various animal breeds. The craft fayre will have stalls provided by local crafters and artisans. We will also run other events around the Easter Holiday break including an Easter Family Bingo and adult and young people photography workshops.
<b>How would this grant be of benefit to the community in St Austell?</b> (please continue on a separate sheet if necessary):	The donkeys will be in the enclosed back garden and available for the local community to see and learn about their welfare and how donkeys have been used by mankind throughout history. An opportunity for many children who would not normally have the chance to see these beautiful animals.
<b>What arrangements do you have in place to ensure safeguarding of children and young people</b> (applicable only if your project involves working with this client group).	We have a safeguarding officer and follow all Town Council policies.

## 3. Finance

<b>What is the total cost of the project?</b>	£ £450
<b>Amount of grant applied for</b> (Up to £250) *	£ 250
<b>Have you previously received a grant from St Austell Town Council?</b>	Yes/No yes

<p><b>If "Yes" please indicate:</b></p> <p>a) When b) Amount received c) For what purpose</p>	<p><b>18/7/12 £250 SALSA start up</b>  <b>5/4/13 £250 community garden</b>  <b>8/7/14 £250 Leaflets</b>  <b>25/6/15 £250 garden</b>  <b>29/6/16 £250 Furniture</b>  <b>29/1/18 Mugs and cooker</b>  <b>13/6/18 There But Not There</b>  <b>22/1/2020 Mural, calendar and Tour of Britain, calendar on hold until 2020, but others events took place under Covid rules.</b>  <b>2/3/22 Jubilee £250</b>  <b>6/12/2024 £250 VE &amp; VJ day &amp; 65<sup>th</sup> Birthday</b>  <b>12/2025 £250 for Christmas reindeer and Santa</b></p>
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\* Should you wish to apply for a grant over £250, the Council may consider a larger grant in exceptional circumstances, but you may be asked to provide a presentation to the Town Council.

*Please list any applications you have made for funding from other organisations.*

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Contribution Sought (£)</b>	<b>Applied (please tick as appropriate)</b>	<b>Granted (please tick as appropriate)</b>
Salsa	200	yes	yes

#### 4. Further information enclosed

<b>Information</b>	<b>Enclosed (please tick)</b>
A copy of your organisation's most recent bank statement(s) <b>(mandatory)</b>	X
A copy of your constitution (or similar document showing the organisation's status)	X
A copy of your organisation's latest set of accounting statements (if any exist)	X

#### 5. Publicity

Please explain how you will publicise and acknowledge the Town Council's grant.

Through local media, Facebook. Instagram, emails, posters and poster boards, word of mouth.

Please return your completed form to:

Sara Gwilliams  
Deputy Town Clerk  
The Stable Block  
Pondhu House  
Penwinnick Road, St Austell, PL25 5DP

E-mail: [sara.gwilliams@staustell-tc.gov.uk](mailto:sara.gwilliams@staustell-tc.gov.uk)

# St Austell Town Council



## Small Grants Scheme

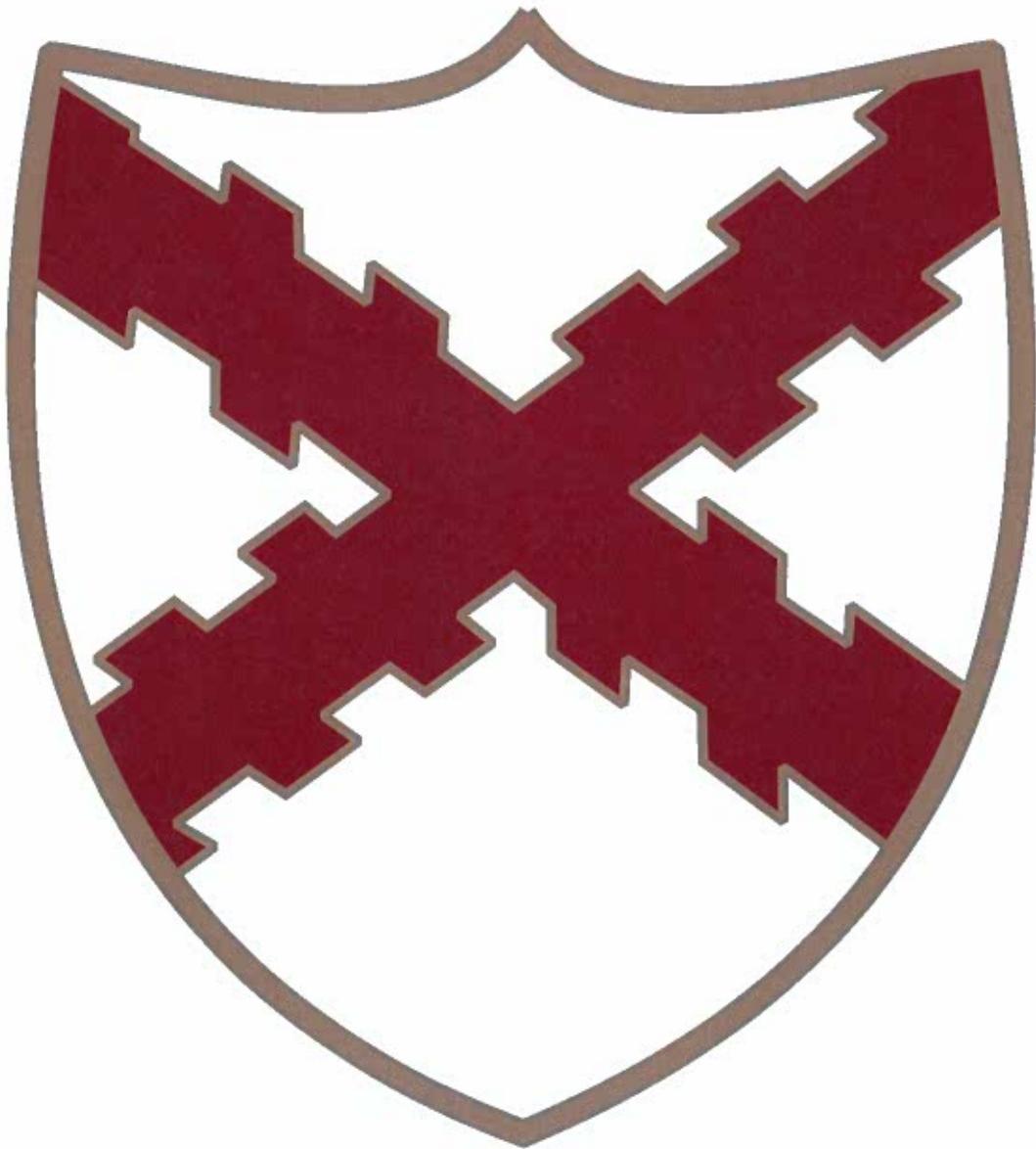
### Application Form

#### PART B

##### 1. Your organisation

<b>Name of Organisation</b>	St Austell Fire Station
<b>Charity/company number (if applicable)</b>	Charity No: Company No:
<b>Are there any Members of St Austell Town Council on your Committee? (if so, please list them)</b>	N/A
<b>What are the aims and objectives of your organisation?</b>	Emergency Service
<b>Please demonstrate your organisation's commitment to equal opportunities (please enclose any relevant policies)</b>	National legislation and codes of conduct adhered to regarding equal opportunities

**PLEASE LEAVE THIS PAGE BLANK**



## 2. Purpose for which the grant is sought

<b>Project title:</b>	St Austell Fire Station planters/memorial garden maintenance
<b>Description of project</b> (please continue on a separate sheet if necessary):	We have a small memorial garden and collection of plant pots outside of St Austell Fire Station we maintain to improve the appearance of the site. We would like to purchase large planters or pots for the front of the station to replace the various smaller pots/tubs we currently have to provide a more uniform appearance to the station. We would also like to replace some of the wood that makes up part of the memorial garden as it has become weathered/rotten.
<b>How would this grant be of benefit to the community in St Austell?</b> (please continue on a separate sheet if necessary):	Improve Fire Station appearance
<b>What arrangements do you have in place to ensure safeguarding of children and young people</b> (applicable only if your project involves working with this client group).	N/A

## 3. Finance

<b>What is the total cost of the project?</b>	<b>£ 250 estimate</b>
<b>Amount of grant applied for</b> (Up to £250) *	<b>£ 250</b>
<b>Have you previously received a grant from St Austell Town Council?</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>If "Yes" please indicate:</b> <b>a) When</b>	

<b>b) Amount received</b> <b>c) For what purpose</b>	
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\* Should you wish to apply for a grant over £250, the Council may consider a larger grant in exceptional circumstances, but you may be asked to provide a presentation to the Town Council.

*Please list any applications you have made for funding from other organisations.*

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Contribution Sought (£)</b>	<b>Applied (please tick as appropriate)</b>	<b>Granted (please tick as appropriate)</b>

#### 4. Further information enclosed

<b>Information</b>	<b>Enclosed (please tick)</b>
A copy of your organisation's most recent bank statement(s) <b>(mandatory)</b>	N/A
A copy of your constitution (or similar document showing the organisation's status)	N/A
A copy of your organisation's latest set of accounting statements (if any exist)	N/A

#### 5. Publicity

Please explain how you will publicise and acknowledge the Town Council's grant.

Social media, local press, Cornwall Council internal newsletters
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Please return your completed form to:

Sara Gwilliams  
Deputy Town Clerk  
The Stable Block  
Pondhu House  
Penwinnick Road, St Austell, PL25 5DP

E-mail: [sara.gwilliams@staustell-tc.gov.uk](mailto:sara.gwilliams@staustell-tc.gov.uk)



## **Tree Management Policy**

### **1. Introduction**

St Austell Town Council recognises the significant environmental, aesthetic, and social value that trees contribute to the town. Trees enhance the landscape, support biodiversity, and contribute to a healthy environment. The Town Council is committed to maintaining and improving a sustainable tree population throughout the parks and open spaces within its control.

### **2. Policy Objectives**

The aims of this Tree Management Policy are to:

1. Increase the quality and quantity of tree stock through appropriate planting in the town's parks and open spaces
2. Maintain a safe and healthy tree population through routine inspections and responsive management.
3. Mitigate the impact of tree diseases, including Ash Dieback, through proactive monitoring and action planning.
4. Promote the planting of native, climate-resilient species while allowing suitable non-native species where beneficial.
5. Improve long-term tree resilience by ensuring species diversity across sites.
6. Ensure responsible replacement planting, especially regarding mature and veteran trees.

### **3. Tree Surveys and Safety Management**

The Town Council will:

- Conduct Annual Tree Safety Surveys on all Town Council-owned and maintained trees. These surveys will be undertaken by an approved arboricultural contractor.
- Follow all professional recommendations arising from survey reports to ensure public safety and tree health.



- Implement and maintain an Ash Dieback Action Plan (ADAP) that identifies trees requiring felling or monitoring, as well as necessary bio-security precautions to limit spread of the disease.

#### **4. Tree Planting Principles**

The Town Council adopts the principle of the “right tree in the right place” to ensure long-term sustainability of new planting schemes.

Tree planting will:

- Prioritise UK-native deciduous species with strong autumn colour, except where non-native species provide horticultural or visual benefits.
- Include increased use of semi-mature trees in urban or vulnerable areas, due to their resilience to drought, vandalism, disease, and mechanical damage.
- Consider climate change resilience, selecting species capable of tolerating hotter summers, drier conditions, and milder winters.
- Aim to maintain species diversity to prevent large-scale loss from pests or disease.

#### **4.1 Replacement Planting**

Where mature or veteran trees must be removed (due to disease, storm damage, safety, or arboricultural assessment), the Town Council will aim to plant three replacement trees for every one felled, subject to site suitability.

#### **4.2 Planting Schedule**

Each summer, the Town Council will prepare a winter planting schedule for implementation in the next planting season.

#### **4.3 Utilities and Infrastructure Checks**

Before planting, the Town Council will consult with relevant utility companies and authorities to prevent damage to above- or below-ground services.



## **5. Trees Adjacent to Residential or Commercial Properties**

The Town Council will not usually prune or remove trees in response to natural and seasonal issues such as:

- Falling leaves, twigs, fruits, nuts, or seeds
- Overhanging branches
- Bird droppings
- Blossom
- Tree sap
- Moisture changes in gardens
- Moss or algae accumulation
- Blockages caused by natural tree debris

The above points are considered minor inconveniences, although individual cases may be assessed if circumstances warrant it.

### **5.1 Issues Not Justifying Tree Works**

Additionally, the Town Council will not carry out pruning or removal solely due to:

- General shading
- Reduced television signal
- Shading of solar panels

## **6. Rights and Responsibilities of Adjacent Landowners**

Residents/landowners may cut back overhanging branches to their legal boundary, provided:

- Removed material is offered back to the tree owner
- Work is carried out safely
- No Tree Preservation Orders, Conservation Area restrictions, or planning conditions are breached

Where a tree is located on a shared boundary, each party is responsible for managing growth on their own side.





City, Town and Parish Councils  
Cornwall

**Your ref:**  
**My ref:** PSPO/2026 CC/SR  
**Date:** 15<sup>th</sup> December 2025

Dear City/Town/Parish Council,

### **Cornwall Council Public Spaces Protection Order (Alcohol Consumption in Designated Public Spaces): Renewal of the current order for June 2026.**

Cornwall Council would like your views on the proposed renewal of the county-wide Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) prohibiting street drinking associated with Anti-Social behaviour.

Whilst the current PSPO expires on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2026, we are seeking to renew it for 3 years from June 2026, ahead of the summer period. The PSPO gives the police and authorised Officers of the Council powers to confiscate alcohol from a minority of drinkers whose excessive drinking causes problems for others in public spaces.

The county-wide Designated Public Place Order (DPPO) was first introduced in 2010. The purpose of the DPPO was to ensure that the consumption of alcohol in a public place did not cause disorder, nuisance or annoyance to members of the Public.

The 2014 Act automatically transitioned the existing DPPO into a Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) on 20<sup>th</sup> October 2017, and this is required to be reviewed every three years.

#### **Background**

The PSPO is designed to ensure the law-abiding majority can use and enjoy public spaces without experiencing Anti-Social behaviour. These powers are not intended to disrupt peaceful activities and are used explicitly for addressing nuisance or annoyance associated with the consumption of alcohol in a public place. It is not a criminal offence to consume alcohol within a designated area. An offence is only committed if the individual refuses to comply with an authorised officer's request to stop drinking.

A PSPO cannot be used to restrict the consumption of alcohol where premises are licensed for the supply of alcohol as licensing law already includes safeguards against premises becoming associated with nuisance and Anti-Social behaviour.

The current Order is effective across all locations to which the public have access across the county as per the attached (Annexe 1).

Alcohol related Anti-Social behaviour can quickly escalate and have a significant and lasting impact upon communities. Whilst most residents, visitors or people living and working in the county drink socially and behave responsibly, their right to enjoyment of our public spaces can be threatened by those who behave in Anti-Social manner. The PSPO will allow Police and authorised officers to ask individuals to stop drinking and have their alcoholic drinks confiscated, if they are deemed to be acting antisocially.

It is an offence to fail to comply with a request to stop drinking or surrender alcohol including any opened or sealed containers in the area covered by the PSPO.

What about street parties and events in parks?

Events within a public place authorised by a premises license or a Temporary Event Notice (TEN) will be excluded from the Police and authorised council officers PSPO powers.

We are writing to you to seek your views regarding the current Public Spaces Protection Order (Alcohol Consumption in Designated Public Spaces) as we know that local Councils know the issues that affect their localities the most and are well placed to identify how best to respond to local needs.

Cornwall Council would like you to consider the attached order and share any comments that you may have with regard to the existing coverage of PSPO, any removal of identified locations or the addition of new locations based on community intelligence linked with Ant-Social behaviour.

Your views are important to us and can be recorded by completing the online consultation questionnaire - <https://letstalk.cornwall.gov.uk/pspo2026>

The closing date for responses is **27<sup>th</sup> February 2026**.

Cornwall Council are proposing to ***“Renew the PSPO under the existing terms”***

Proposals are still at a formative stage (a final decision has not yet been made). Cornwall Council believes the proposals provide enough information for informed consideration and that there is sufficient time for consultation and review. All responses will be carefully considered before any decision is made. If you need more information or wish to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Steve Rowell  
Preventing Extremism & Terrorism Lead Cornwall & Isles of Scilly

Community Services  
Cornwall Council  
Tel: 01872 322222  
Email: [steve.rowell@cornwall.gov.uk](mailto:steve.rowell@cornwall.gov.uk)

## David Pooley

---

**From:** Helen Fincham <helen.fincham@cornwall.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** 12 February 2026 10:08  
**To:** David Pooley  
**Cc:** Councillor Paul Ashton; Councillor Jordan Rowse; Sarah Scoltock  
**Subject:** BT Public Payphone Removal Consultation - Town and Parish Council Engagement - Deadline 9 May 2026  
**Attachments:** BT Public Payphone Consultation May 2026.xlsx

Information Classification: CONTROLLED

Dear David

BT has started a new 90 day Street Rationalisation public payphone consultation to run until **10<sup>th</sup> May 2026**. The Localism team are liaising with Town and Parish Councils on behalf of BT.

**BT are proposing to remove the public payphones at:**

0172672318	CAR PARK JNC CARCLAZE ROAD PCO1 AGAR ROAD ST. AUSTELL	PL25 3AD
0172674270	OPPOSITE JUNCN DANIELS LANE PCO1 BUCKLERS LANE ST. AUSTELL	PL25 3JN

(I've checked mapping and I'm 99.9% certain both of these are in the parish of St Austell Town Council, please could you confirm).

This proposal has been assessed using the criteria set out in Ofcom's [review of the Telephony Universal Service Obligation](#). BT are subject to the OFCOM Universal Service Obligation (USO) which states that if a kiosk is considered to be "Last at Site" (more than 400 metres' walking distance from the next public payphone), there are now 4 criteria that need to be adhered to before they can proceed with Street Rationalisation (BT telephony removal proposal):

- There must be full mobile coverage from all 4 of the main UK operators (Three, EE, O2 and Vodafone).
- The kiosk in question must have had less than 52 calls made within a 12-month period.
- It's not in a protected location (i.e. accident blackspot / high-frequency suicide location).
- No other evidence of reasonable user need.

**If the Town Council wish to 'agree, adopt, or object' to the proposal to remove these public payphones, please complete the attached annex, following the guidelines set out by BT below. Please email me your response by 9th May 2026.**

- Just write **agree** if you're happy for BT to remove the telephony and kiosk.
- If the Town Council or a local community group wish to **adopt**, please add the contact details of the interested organisation to the annex. Please could any interested parties contact BT directly regarding adoption as early as possible, rather than waiting until the consultation ends via [payphones@bt.com](mailto:payphones@bt.com). If no adoption interest is logged BT will assume there is none and will pass unopposed kiosks to their contractors for recovery. If a registered charity wishes to adopt it would be helpful for them to provide their charity reference number when contacting BT. Please visit [bt.com/adopt](http://bt.com/adopt) for further information.
- If you decide to **object**, please complete the last column with your reasons, aligned to the 4 criteria as set out earlier in this email.

BT have advised the public payphones which are located in rural areas, you may wish to check the Ofcom mobile checker to ensure they have used the correct postcode for where the kiosk is located <https://checker.ofcom.org.uk/>

To make sure that the local community are fully informed, BT have placed notices on these payphones.

Please let me know if you have any queries.

Thanks

Helen

**Helen Fincham | Community Link Officer | Saints Coast Community Area Partnership**  
**Cornwall Council | Communities Service**  
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**GYLLYN WARBARTH**  
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