

Falmouth Town Council



Annual Reports 2018



TOWN MAYOR'S ANNUAL REPORT – 2017/18

Having been born and brought up in Falmouth I was greatly honoured to be elected Town Mayor for a second year. Over the last year I have been ably assisted and accompanied to many functions by my wife June including a Twinning trip to Landkreis, Rotenburg, Germany in June. The Deputy Mayor, Councillor Trish Minson has been a very supportive Deputy Mayor. I would also like to extend my appreciation for the help and advice by my fellow Councillors and the support of my Chaplain, Father Ian Froome. A special mention goes to my Police Cadet Chelsea Heidstrom who has been adept and professional in all of the duties she has been asked to carry out.

Some of the really positive news items I would like to report on are as follows:

- Having completed the transition to Falmouth Town Council, Falmouth Library have increased their opening hours and the Information Services are now open 5 days a week in the Former Post Office Building.
- The Information Service, Town Clerk's Office, Town Management and BID all moved into the Former Post Office Building in August. The refurbishment of the first and second floor is progressing well.
- The Environmental Education and Enforcement Officer has made great progress in keeping the streets of Falmouth clean and tidy.
- Public realm CCTV provision is up and running in Falmouth and public wifi provision will follow.
- The Grounds and Facilities Department continue with the highway weed-spraying regime to ensure our high standards are kept on our highways and now also look after the maintenance of highway roundabouts.
- Our innovative popular local shuttle bus services continues to serve our residents and visitors. A free shuttle bus service has been made available to residents during the Western Power street works together with free parking in Cornwall Council owned carparks on Saturdays.
- The Town Clerk received the prestigious Town Clerk of the Year Award from the National Association of Local Councils. A huge achievement for Mark Williams and the Council.
- Falmouth received further success in the South West In Bloom Awards, winning the Plantscape Trophy for the best seaside entry in the South West, resulting in Falmouth being entered in the National Britain in Bloom competition this year.
- Our local event management team will ensure that our Towns events programme continues to be one of the best in the UK.
- The Neighbourhood Plan which will support the Article 4 Direction to help preserve the local housing stock and tenure and see economic growth in our community is ready to be submitted to Cornwall Council.
- My Spirit of Falmouth Award this year was presented to the Falmouth RNLI for raising £100,000 for the cost of improvements to the Falmouth Station ahead of the arrival of their new Atlantic Class inshore lifeboat in 2019.
- Sadly in October we lost Councillor Candy Atherton, who died suddenly whilst representing the Council at the National Association of Local Councils Conference. Candy worked tirelessly for Falmouth both at town and county level and she is sorely missed.

Cultural Services Committee Report 2017/18 – Councillor Geoffrey Evans CC

Over the last year the Committee has worked together as a team to bring all areas of the services together, making it better to work with the public as culture plays a big part in the local community.

The Art Gallery still does stalwart work with its baby painting, local school workshops and charity workshops.

The youth work at the Dracaena Centre has also become a great asset to the town.

The Committee has met at the Princess Pavilion and the next will be held at the Dracaena Centre therefore not just staying in the Council offices.

The Committee is looking forward to the future with great opportunism.

Councillor Geoffrey Evans CC
Chairman, Planning Committee

Finance and General Purposes Committee Annual Report 2017-2018

I took on the role of Chairman of the F & G P committee shortly after the sudden, sad and untimely passing of Candy Atherton CC. Candy was an inspiration for Falmouth and did a huge amount of extra work to benefit Falmouth from behind the scenes. We have lost a true champion and we remain grateful for her endeavours and successes.

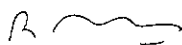
Candy also left the 'business' of Falmouth in good shape. This is the report of what we have achieved in the last twelve months. It owed much to her leadership but also to the capabilities of all the staff. Staff turnover is low and capability high; always a winning combination.

The move from the Municipal Buildings and from the One Stop Shop (for those who remember, the old Lloyds Bank building opposite the Parish Church) to the Old Post Office took place in August 2017 and was later officially opened by Councillor Edwina Hannaford, Cornwall Council Portfolio Holder for Neighbourhoods. We have ensconced in the new administrative offices all Town Council Staff save for those in the Library and Art Gallery (the latter headed up by its Director, Henrietta Boex). The move has gone well and all systems are operational. As the new year takes shape we can expect the higher floors to be let with provision for Registrar facilities and Letting and Assembly Room opportunities. We now have in place our Article 4 Direction that serves to limit further HMOs but issues remain on developers seeking to create yet further student accommodations. Students play a great role in the development of Falmouth but there needs to be a balance between town and gown yet to be achieved. Our Neighbourhood Plan, championed by Candy and now in the hands of our Mayor, is expected to come to referendum later this year. We are disappointed by the delay but we are now nearly there.

Our local community has benefited from a range of grants and we continue to support our amazing cooperation between the Town, the BID and the many Events that make Falmouth so special.

None of what we have achieved could have been done without the efforts of our staff and the work they do for Falmouth. Our thanks to them.

Finally, we have been able to keep our increased precept down to slightly over 2.5% for the coming year. As we go to press, it is too early to say whether the planning to deal with the unprecedented but essential works in the main streets of Falmouth has been successful in limiting the disruption to businesses and their customers.



Cllr. Bob O'Shea
Chairman, Finance and General Purposes Committee
March, 2018

Planning Committee Report 2017/18 – Councillor Alan Jewell CC

May I firstly say it has been a privilege to be the Chairman this year.

I must pay tribute to Diana Merrett who passed away last year, she was a very outspoken Councillor who certainly rattled a few cages in her time as a Councillor and also Councillor Candy Atherton whose sudden passing late last year left a huge void in our Committee, she fought tirelessly for our Committee and our emerging Neighbourhood Plan.

This year we have considered 336 applications. The Article 4 which is now in place has been challenged on many applications and I thank the Committee for standing firm on these applications. We have had many appeals on PBSA's and I thank the members of the Committee and also local members for attending the hearings and letting the Inspectors know the feelings of the town, it is very frustrating that the policies do not hold enough weight to refuse them.

Falmouth is the place to be and as such we are trying to improve the places we live. It's a balancing act we need to develop but at what cost. You don't 'kill the goose that lays the golden egg'.

I must finally thank the staff for their professionalism for helping me over the year, they are an asset to the town.

Councillor Alan Jewell CC
Chairman, Planning Committee

STAFFING COMMITTEE REPORT 2017/18

This year Falmouth Town Council has seen staff numbers rise to 39. We have said, 'goodbye' to some long-serving staff members and 'hello' to some new faces, across all our teams. During 2018 it is expected that staff numbers will increase again.

Falmouth Town Council offers staff varied opportunities to further their careers together with excellent working terms and conditions. We are committed to the continuing professional development of each individual member. During the coming year we will continue to provide training, and encourage all staff members to make the most of the opportunities they are given.

The Council continues to be a National Living wage employer and our staff receive a wide range of benefits including the local government pension scheme, and learning and development schemes. We will continue to honour the National Pay Awards. From April 2018 we will be introducing the Cycle to Work Scheme for all staff.

The Staff Handbook, which gives employees a summary of the key work policies and procedures, has been revised and amended and is currently out for consultation with staff members. During 2018 Staffing Policies will be reviewed and revised where appropriate.

Falmouth Town Council has reviewed its recruitment system and has identified areas which can be improved. These changes will take effect immediately.

We can be proud of the contributions made by every one of our employees, each one of them is important in ensuring Falmouth gets the best service the Council can provide. Without them the Council could not deliver the services that our residents have told us they want, nor could it achieve all that it does.

I would like to personally thank all our staff for their hard-work and goodwill.

Cllr Patricia Minson
Staffing Committee Chair

Licensing Committee Annual Report 2017/18

I would like to start by thanking the Licensing Committee for their common sense in determining the applications we have had before us. It has not been easy with the non-help over some applications where it seems all Cornwall Council want to do is make money on these pop up pitches at the expense of Business Tax payers. I know we have been frustrated over most of these.

It is hard at times to decide if not granting a licence might mean a business closing down but we must stick to principles to the good of the Town overall.

I hope that the existing members will continue next Council year as we work extremely well together.

I will end with thanking the excellent Staff which without their help we could not function.

Kind regards
Steve Eva
Chairman of Licensing
Falmouth Town Council

Councillor Robinson Report for Annual Town Meeting 2018

Since my election in May 2017, I have attended council meetings and worked to become familiar with the workings of the council; met with Simon Penna in my role as Environmental Champion; attended a Fair Trade Falmouth meeting; staffed one councillor surgery; carried out an audit of monthly expenditure; met with architects regarding the proposed new bandstand in Kimberley Park and have continued to meet and talk to Smithick residents about local issues. As Vice Chair of the Staffing Committee, I have also taken part in staff reviews plus shortlisting and interviewing for vacancies. It has been a busy year and disappointing that I have not yet had the chance to meet with residents regarding the proposal for a community cafe in Kimberley Park but I am delighted that the council has renewed its support for the plan and will be getting on with this as soon as possible. I look forward to supporting the neighbourhood plan through the processes of adoption over the next year, so that Falmouth residents may have more faith in the planning process to protect them from unwanted development - one of the biggest issues facing our town.

Falmouth Town Council AGM Report. Councillor B Ross

I would like to thank the electors of Trescobeas ward for re-electing me as their councillor last May. Central government continues to cut funding for local government by around 50% over the last two administrations. Under these arduous condition FTC continues to flourish winning many awards and providing for the people of Falmouth as good quality service as these constraints allow. This council will strive to continue the progressive direction of this council, and accepted the mantel of devolution that this Conservative Government has thrust upon us over the next year.

Improvement in Cultural Services continues. The committees report will highlight the successes and problems that have occurred within this council year. I would like to thank the team effort that has made a real visible difference to our town.

I have continued to work within the cemetery working party and the National Federation of Cemetery friends, as well as the friends of the old Jewish and Congregationalist cemeteries at Ponsharden, and I will continue to sit on the Cemetery's working party. I would like to thank the all those who have made this a pleasure to do.

Also, I continue to work with and to promote Falmouth Fairtrade along with Cllr Robinson. I feel that I have not been as active as I should in this matter, but with a change of circumstance I will be able to do more in this regard in the future.

Locally within my ward I have continued to support LLAMA and attended the various inquires that have affected the ward. Currently a possible Longfield resident association is being considered. I have worked on many and varied small ward issues such as road safety, lighting, boundary disputes, and attend meetings with ward members as required. I have been elected as vice chair of the finance committee of this council. Again, thanks to all who have participated.

Outside of my regular council duty's, I have been elected to the chair of the SAC marine conservation organisation, and within this work to push for a eco and single use plastic agenda, among other local issues such as bird bi-catch and a migrant invasion...Of dodgy Pacific Oysters.

I have also engaged in duties with CALC as your local rep, and have attended NALC and LGA meetings on behalf of the town, which I wish to continue.

I have been asked to serve as a Police ambassador. This position is as of yet to be in place, but will be the link between the PCC and local organisations. This may well be a controversial and still ill-defined role, but I am looking to meet this challenge. The issues are Homelessness, ASB's, Police numbers, and response times. To name but a few.

The new Assembly rooms continue to progress and will be up and running soon, and I look forward to the opening. I also look forward any new challenges that the new Council year provides.

Broderick Ross.

CCTV Stakeholders Report 2017/18

Over the last year I have come to appreciate the running of CCTV and the importance of its use. I have seen some incidents on the system which has had very positive results in the safety of the areas covered and know from the meetings other towns want to join the system for those who do not know is run from Tolvaddon Fire Station by a very professional team which as a Council we should fully support when support is required.

Steve Eva

Representative for Falmouth Town Council on CCTV Stakeholders Group

My first year as a councillor has been a steep learning curve with a constant flow of new information to absorb. In addition to sitting on the full Council and the F&GP committees along with all the other Councillors, I was elected Vice Chair of Planning, which meets every three weeks. I was also appointed to sit on the Falmouth and Penryn Conservation consultation Committee meeting monthly. Duties include attending Pre Planning application meetings, meeting with the chair of planning to identify applications which require discussion at committee and standing in for him when necessary. I have also represented the council at the four Planning Appeals heard in the last year and have attended and spoken at six County Council Planning meetings and briefings. I attend the majority of Save Our Falmouth monthly public meetings and work in close liaison with both them and The Smithick Ward Residents Assoc on local planning issues. I have been heavily involved in the recent Campaign to support the Penrose Student Village having identified its potential to undermine the viability of the recent PBSA developments passed at appeal. I am pleased to report that there are already signs of this having an impact on the Rosslyn and Fish Strand Hill sites both of which have had developers pull out. The projected supply of student housing shows that it is now grossly oversubscribed and this must result in some projects being dropped. There is also a potential knock on effect that HMO rentals may drop making them more accessible to local people. A drop in revenue for some Landlords may mean that they have to sell and this may even affect house prices in HMO areas, making them more affordable. I have also recently visited a Newquay based house builder with the Town Clerk to view a house prototype and discuss their desire to build social housing in Falmouth with the support of the Council. In my role as Councillor for Tourism and Events I am involved in regular meetings regarding individual events such as Christmas and the Sea Shanty Festival along with attending Traders meetings and liaising with the Town Management and Bids teams. This has included meetings with Cornwall Council, Sarah Newton and Western Power regarding the town centre road works to discuss compensation and funding for the excellent mitigation package put together by the Town and Bids Team. This has been a very demanding year for them and they have performed brilliantly. Following on from the road works I have suggested that we turn the temporary tarmac into a visitor attraction for the town by painting it, this could be in the form of a river or flowerbeds. We have several ideas that Henrietta Boex has agreed to investigate with the two Richards that she hopes will tie in with her other plans for this coming year.

As a Smithick ward councillor I sit on the Kimberley Park Monitoring Committee and the same group also looks after the Bowling Green which is currently having seating and play equipment refurbished/replaced. The Park is due to have its new Stage built soon and discussions are underway as to how the Lodge can be best used in future.

Along with Anna Gillet and Tony Parker I am representing the Town Council in the Plastic Free Falmouth Campaign which is being inspirationally led by Kirstie Edwards who has been very well supported by local Businesses.

My aim is for more of the same next year but with the hope that I will find time to address the Parking and Highways issues that I have Identified, most importantly making streets accessible to emergency vehicles. I also want to explore our wider options on dealing with late night anti social behavior by engaging with the University . I believe it is now time to build bridges with them and move forward, they have the potential to be a real positive influence on the Town and its future if we can work with them.

John Spargo

Councillor Coley – Report for Annual Town Meeting 2017/18

Since being elected on the 1st February 2018 to represent Smithick on the town council I have attended the following meetings: two pre- planning meetings, a cultural committee meeting, staffing meeting and full Falmouth Town Council meeting. At these meetings I have supported Plastic Free Falmouth in their quest to tackle single use plastic on its sites and support the work of Falmouth Benefits Advice Centre. In addition, I have taken part in discussions regarding the issue of further student numbers and student accommodation needs and the impact this will have on the town, proposed parking restrictions on waiting at various sites and approved the Neighbourhood Plan. My committee responsibilities include: Planning, Staffing, Kimberley Park Working Party and Falmouth in Bloom. I will also be attending the St Nazaire Parade and Service on Sunday 18th March 2018.

Councillor Louise Coley

TOWN COUNCIL ANNUAL MEETING 2018 – POLICE REPORT

The Neighbourhood Team will continue to support the town in any way we can, resources allowing.

The Neighbourhood Team will focus on issue of identifying vulnerable people within our community, safeguarding and reducing their risk of harm. We will continue to identify issues that increase demand and target these issues in an effort to reduce the demand placed on the police force, which will often align with that of the towns issues. We will continue to work in partnership with the Town Council, the Town Centre Manager, County Councillors, Social Services, Housing providers, Highways, community groups and other emergency services.

PCSO Grey will be taking the cadets forward this year and hoping to increase their level of engagement within the locality.

We have to prioritise what we are able to deal with on a daily basis with the large quantity of work we face. We will continue to prioritise issues we deal with by applying the matrix of RISK, HARM and THREAT.

Three PCSO's have been successful with their applications to the police force as police officers. Their start date is not confirmed. A review of resources across the force will take place and we hope that the vacancies in Falmouth will be filled. In the meantime the number of officers within the office is likely to be reduced in the interim.

Cornwall Council



Localism Report
Cornwall Council

Falmouth Town Council
Annual Town meeting – April 2018

Neighbourhood Plan

I have been working on Falmouth's Neighbourhood Plan, liaising with both your Town Clerk and your consultant. Various meetings have been arranged throughout the year to ensure local plans align.

The Neighbourhood Plan is currently being screened to ensure conformity with a number of current policies.

Devolution

Having completed the devolution of the Dracaena recreation area I am now working with the Town Council to deliver another devolution phase of assets. I am conscious of the Town Councils wish that any further devolution options are cost neutral to the Town Council and will be working hard to achieve this.

Community Network Panel

The Community Network Panel has been holding very well attended meetings throughout the year.

The focus for 2018 will be strengthening the Panels ability to influence local decision making in the following ways:

- Highways Engagement with CNPs on major capital transport schemes;
- Funding provided to each Community Network Panel, to be allocated locally
- Engagement & consultation events will be at or in partnership with CNPs
- Ensure that Panels can raise issues at full Council meetings

- Promoting and supporting Neighbourhood Planning
- Updating on the progress of devolution programmes within the CN area
- Named senior officer contacts at Director level for each CNP
- Engagement in community place-shaping programmes (Planning, Transport, Health plans)

In addition to the above, I am always in regular contact with your Town Clerk and have undertaken a number of initiatives on behalf of the town, such as the Community Information days and providing information to the National Association of Local Councils.

Mark James
Falmouth, Penryn Community Link Officer
Localism Service
Neighbourhoods Directorate
Cornwall Council
Tel: 07528983265
mjames2@cornwall.gov.uk

Falmouth BID in 2017/18 - what's been delivered

The BID has delivered an extensive range of projects across the four voted-in priority areas:

1. MARKETING

Revamped official town website

- The BID funds and manages the official town website, www.falmouth.co.uk, a vital project as determined by the businesses
- Significant development in terms of design and functionality has taken place, enabling the site to be fully responsive across all platforms and smart devices, with greater page content for BID businesses, embedded videos and more
- The website averages around 500,000 unique visitors per year, making it the largest and highest profile such site for the area

Official town social media platforms

- The BID continues to manage the town's official social media activity
- The BID established the town's official platforms that include Facebook, Twitter and Instagram
- The sites have grown significantly – Facebook has 41,000 likes, Twitter 10,000 followers, Instagram 8,000 followers, while Google + has received 100,000+ views. These are now major online platforms to promote and highlight Falmouth

Promotional films and videos

- As requested by BID businesses, the BID has co-ordinated a range of high quality short videos to highlight and promote Falmouth to a wide range of audiences
- This includes: a main Falmouth film; festival videos for Christmas, Falmouth Week, Falmouth Spring Festival, ZestiFAL and Falmouth Oyster Festival, and a Falmouth for Business video
- Viewed by tens of thousands of people and counting, this is another strand within the innovative destination marketing campaign; presenting and showcasing our special location in a quality way

National PR campaign for Falmouth

- As voted for by the business community, the BID continues to deliver the destination PR campaign for the town
- Over the past 12 months of the campaign, around 70 businesses have been promoted or featured, with around 6 million viewing Falmouth-related articles in print and online
- The results can be viewed here - <https://www.falmouth.co.uk/falmouth-press-coverage/>

#LoveFalmouth campaign

- The #LoveFalmouth competition is a viral social media campaign from the Falmouth BID, designed to promote Falmouth as a top place to live, visit and experience

- The #LoveFalmouth photography competition has led to an enthusiastic and passionate response from nearly 2,000 residents, visitors and students
- In 2017 Falmouth BID produced the first official #LoveFalmouth calendar which was sold through participating BID businesses

Support and co-ordination for cruise ships

- Working with partners, the BID has continued to fund additional cruise transfer coaches to enable thousands of passengers to be taxed into the centre of town
- Furthermore, the BID has produced once again a German Cruise Visitor Map & Guide to further enhance the visitor experience of our cruise visitors from that key market

Free Falmouth visitor map

- The Falmouth BID once again commissioned the reprint and distribution of its popular free Falmouth Map
- Over 25,000 copies have been produced and distributed to businesses and visitors over the past 12 months

2. EVENTS AND FESTIVALS

Red Arrows

- Following the loss of sponsor funding, the BID and Falmouth Town Council brokered a proactive partner agreement with other town organisations to secure sponsorship that enables the Red Arrows to display over Falmouth
- The 2017 event alone attracted over 20,000 visitors to the town

Falmouth Spring Festival

- The BID has continued to deliver this early season initiative
- With a strong community focus, the event now attracts around 6,000 early season visitors
- In addition, the festival works with 200 volunteers on landscape regeneration and litters picks, delivers 40,000 daffodils with schoolchildren and students supporting and generates around £30,000 worth of regional PR for the town

ZestiFAL

- 96% of businesses in the BID's second term renewal survey requested a festival of wellbeing/sport
- So, the BID established ZestiFAL which works with over 30 local and Cornish sports providers
- ZestiFAL in July 2017, gave visitors the opportunity to try something new for free including – Pilates, Zumba, tennis, climbing, skateboarding, dance, hockey, rugbytots, circus skills and paddle-boarding

Falmouth Week and Falmouth Christmas

- The BID also continues to support and provide a key funding role for the town's major events via numerous initiatives that help to drive footfall and improve the trading environment

- This includes funding to support infrastructure, marketing, street entertainment and lighting for Falmouth Week and Christmas

3. PUBLIC REALM

Visitor signage

- In line with 97% of respondents within the BID Term 2 survey, the BID has continued to develop and expand the award-winning visitor signage across the town
- The majority of work has not had an impact on the budget either, as the BID has proactively secured partners and sponsors to aid rollout
- New finger posts, street signs, way-markers, interpretation and map boards have been installed along Cliff Rd, Woodlane, town centre sites and at the town's railway stations

Visual impact

- The BID continues to add value to the street environment by co-ordinating and funding the install of bunting, floral displays, street flags, seating and banners
- This includes over 4,000 metres of colourful branded bunting and 200 street flags at the start of each season to brighten Falmouth's streets and public areas as much as permissions and access allow

Volunteer programme

- The BID co-ordinated up to 200 volunteers to support improvements at dozens of sites across the town in the Spring of 2017
- Town businesses, Falmouth Town Council, CORMAC, residents, schoolchildren, students and staff from the Universities of Exeter and Falmouth have all supported the initiative
- Many areas have been regenerated, in addition to beach and town litter sweeps. There has even been an underwater clean-up operation in partnership with Atlantic Scuba Club and a Paddleboard litter collection courtesy of WESUP!
- Furthermore, the BID has supported major mural regeneration projects undertaken at Church Street and Maritime car parks

Vacant Units

- No-one wants to see empty shop premises of course but if it does happen the BID has been proactive in providing colourful vinyl wraps to improve the area until the site is filled
- In 2017 this has included Malins Hall on High St and the ex-Mango's site, working in partnership with Falmouth Town Council

4. HELPING BUSINESSES THRIVE

Free first quarter car parking

- The BID has co-ordinated with partners, the funding and delivery of an extensive free town car parking offer, covering every Saturday over a three-month period

Western Power support

- The BID has sought to provide extensive support with its partners during this challenging time. In addition to drop-in sessions, comms and meetings, supportive measures (on top of the free car parking highlighted above) that have been funded with partners include:
 - A major Pirate FM regional advertising campaign
 - Two free community shuttle buses during the 2018 works
 - Local media campaigns

Love Business free workshops

- The BID has co-ordinated a series of free monthly business training workshops. These took place in the autumn
- Driven by business feedback, these very well attended events have covered numerous topics such as GDPR (data law), websites, digital marketing, pensions and social media.

For a further breakdown of BID activity www.falmouth.co.uk/media



FALMOUTH

the spirit of the sea

Town Management Annual Report to Falmouth Town Council 2016/2017

Detailed below is information compiled over the past year from the Town Management reports.

As well as the day to day running off the town involving business communication, press, cleanliness, business changes, highways, emergency services there are the many other points listed below that have developed over the year.

Treluswell Roundabout

Ruth Abraham and I attended a site meeting to gain a detailed understanding of what is involved for the extensive work that is taking place at Treluswell. You will notice that part of the outline is starting of the new roundabout within the work cordon and we will be liaising closely particularly around events and high season.

I mentioned this at the last council meeting but as we are now obviously in the new council I thought it was important to cover again. I have been keeping in contact with the Cormac team reading works at the roundabout. So for example ensuring works during the shanty festival build up and weekend are reduced where possible. There was a closure overnight on the Monday and Tuesday last week but that was far enough ahead of the event. There will be a significant change in the coming weeks once works within the cordoned off area is ready for traffic. This will mean that the road will shift across while they work on the section which is currently open.

As I mentioned on the last update a major change was immanent and that has now taken place as I am sure you are aware. What is likely to happen is that each time Cormac move round to another section of the roundabout works this will affect the traffic in different ways. The Town Team are continuing to work closely with Cormac to ensure it is as smooth as possible especially as we are now into school holidays and high season.

Business Rates surgery

This recently took place in the Chambers as an opportunity for people from various backgrounds eg Valuation office, Cornwall Council and Sarah Newton MP to discuss what support is available and also how the Business Rates systems works.

Flood meeting for Market Strand properties

This had representatives from South West Water, Cornwall Council and chaired by Dave Owens who is doing work for both organisations externally. He is a direct point of contact to enable

things to move forward both in the short and long term. Due to three heavy outbursts of rain in less than nine months this issue is becoming more serious all the time and flood defence for properties in the area are being looked into before longer-term solutions can be found.

Western Power

Due to the nature of these works it will be included on the majority of my reports going forwards (certainly during the latter part of the year and first quarter of the following one).

Letters have been sent out to residents and businesses in the affected areas. There will be drop in sessions hosted in our reception at the Falmouth Information Service/Old Post Office. This will be hosted by Kier who will be conducting them in partnership with Western Power. Two traders' meetings have already taken place and the next one in early December should also have a Western Power representative attending. From a Town Team point of view, we very much took the initiative to start communications early to help the town as much as possible. Clearly these are extensive works and there will be challenges with deliveries and waste but this is currently being worked on, so anything that can mitigate and help makes sense. When the road is being excavated this will be done in 15/20 metre sections at a time, instead of the whole street in one go.

Falmouth BID are looking to support with additional marketing, free car parking days and events, and welcomes ideas/involvement from businesses.

With less than a month to go until the works take place we have been working on a suite of products to support the town during these works. This is very much a collaborative approach between Town Council/Falmouth BID/Western Power/Kier and other partners such as the Falmouth Packet, Pirate FM and OTS.

While the works will be challenging, and disruption will obviously be an issue everyone is working hard to minimise this as much as possible with a selection of measures that you will be aware of. For clarity these are:

- 1) Falmouth Packet running an ad-campaign 'I'm supporting Falmouth' launching this month.
- 2) Pirate FM ad-campaign, through the ten-week schedule of works. This will be 272 thirty second clips.
- 3) OTS additional shuttle bus plus making the existing one free for the period of the works. This is Mon 8th Jan- Fri 16th March, six days a week.
- 4) Free parking in Cornwall Council car parks each Saturday of the works taking place (this does not include Church Street car park as this will not be able to be accessed due to the works).

It is important to mention that at the time of compiling this report the points above have not been finalised and agreed but very good progress is being made with various parties.

I thought it was useful to include delivery information, so Cllrs are fully up to speed with what is happening. This whole process is very fluid and there will no doubt be amendments as the works proceed.

Deliveries (this will be obviously being monitored as the works commence and tweaked accordingly)

6.00 to 8.00am - articulated/large vehicles

6.45am to 9.00am - waste collection and street cleaning services

9.00 to 11.00am - couriers

please note:

if you are a Market Street business, then deliveries, waste, couriers etc will access your business the usual way through the town

if you are a Church St, Quay St or Arwenack St business, then deliveries, waste, couriers etc will access your business the reverse way through the town i.e. via Grove Place.

At the most recent Traders meeting that was very well attended, information above was conveyed to everyone.

Work has been continuing along Market Street and also Fish Strand hill. This on both sides i.e. down into Church Street car park for the new sub-station and also further up past HSBC. Recently power had to be turned off on a Sunday evening as the power cables were closer to the surface to ensure safety for the workmen (this was short notice and not ideal, but this was only necessary after excavations). Arwenack Street being two-way in order for delivery access etc was always going to be tight and this continues to be monitored.

When this report is presented (5th March) it will be a week on Friday that the works finish for 2018. I would like to say a big thank you for all involved, Western Power Distribution, Kier, Falmouth BID, Falmouth Town Council and all the businesses and residents that have had to cope with disruption over the last few months. We have received several comments that communication across the board has worked very well and although there is no good time to do this work it has been effectively managed.

M&S

All Councillors are likely to be aware of what has been actioned so far but for info please see below.

Press statements/BBC Radio Cornwall interview/Sarah Newton meeting M&S head office representatives.

Save Our Falmouth public meeting.

Town Traders meeting.

Petition support and sent out to the town.

Collating a large volume of email and speaking to numerous people with comments and feedback sent to Sarah Newton ahead of the meeting.

South West Water works

At the last meeting I mentioned that we were liaising with Cornwall Council regarding the odours at Market Strand. I am pleased to say that the 'bungs' under the street have been replaced and while there is no guarantee that the odours will completely go it has certainly made a positive difference.

The essential sewer works taking place in Berkeley Vale are due to tree roots causing damage to the pipework.

CCTV

Work is continuing on this to ensure we are fully compliant with procedures for the system. Ruth A and myself will shortly be going on training, CCTV is locked away and access queries via the Police or Cornwall Council are now through to Tolvaddon at Fire control.

Wifi

Work is progressing on this transformational project that will see Falmouth town centre free WiFi enabled, thereby providing the town with a range of opportunities that arise from being a digitally 'smart' or 'connected' town. The project is being led by Falmouth BID, working with its partner Falmouth Town Council and receiving sponsorship support from Falmouth University. Visitors and residents will be able to access the free Falmouth WiFi platform anywhere along the main thoroughfares from The Moor to Events Square. In what is a highly technical project and indeed a first for Cornwall, we will be able to provide people with a free digital 'Welcome to Falmouth', be able to provide special offers, what's on information and more in an effective, timely and innovative way. This is another example of proactive partnerships as well as another way we can enhance the destination offer. Further information on a 'go live' date will be circulated shortly.

Enterprise Advisor Network

I have been asked to join the Enterprise Advisor Network which I am happy to do. This has people from across the county who are supporting schools with projects such as work experience/business connections/interview skills etc.

Recruitment

Sarah Walker's last working day was Wednesday 21st Feb. The moment we received notice the post was advertised and I am pleased to say that Naomi Morant will be starting in the role later in the month. Thank you to Jude Robinson, Richard Wilcox and Mark with the interview process and the admin team so we have been able to sort this quickly. Sarah did a great job and I sure you will join me in wishing her well. In case you not already aware Sarah has an Events role with Shelterbox.

Markets

Working with Stewart Girvan to install and remove the gazebos on a weekly basis, each Thursday and Saturday to ensure consistency and safety with the installations. This is working well and helps to continue developing the market in the future. Sarah coordinated a large amount of work for the planning and improvements of the market.

EVENTS:

Spring Festival 2017

Paint the Town Yellow Day - the day saw wonderful participation from primary schoolchildren representing St Mary's, King Charles, Falmouth Primary, St Francis, Marlborough and Mabe schools supported by ambassadors from the University of Exeter, who distributed 40,000 daffodils kindly donated to the Town Team from Winchester Growers in Penzance, to town businesses, organisations and passers-by.

Following on from this were two Spring Clean Days when a record-breaking 250 volunteers donned gardening gloves, overalls and wellies to tackle numerous street, garden and coastal areas in what turned out to be the biggest volunteer cleaning and gardening effort in the Festival's history. Falmouth's business, residential and student communities supported and worked alongside the BID including the University of Exeter, Cormac, Falmouth Town Council, Falmouth Bay Residents Association, Falmouth & District Hotels Association, Falmouth University, Greenbank Hotel, Wilko, Tesco Metro & Express, Atlantic Scuba, Fathom's Free and Falmouth Civic Society.

Rockpooling, Fitness on the Moor, art workshops and guided walks have featured throughout the festival. The major event is the four-day Folk & Cider Fayre taking place over Easter Bank Holiday weekend with 80 westcountry ciders and excellent music line-up

Falmouth International Sea Shanty Festival

At the time of compiling this report the festival was a few days from beginning but we are well planned for 2017. For this years we have 63 groups over 24 venues and the planning for this is immense due to such an involved festival. I am sure most of you are aware but the main focus of this event is a free/fun enjoyable atmosphere throughout the town while at the same time raising money for the RNLI. Over the last few years we have raised in the region of £8000 to £10000 per year in collections. There is one paid for event and that is at the Princess Pavilion, this is seated and tickets are £10 per person.

We are working with many many volunteers and everyone works hard to ensure the festival is a well run, well organised event. The skill set level for something of this scale has to increase year on year. As well as the monthly planning meetings we held an emergency table top exercise to be prepared as much as we can be. This is even more prevalent due to recent events. To give you an idea there are 764 people to be catered for on the Friday evening Welcome Buffet and that is an event in itself for the groups when they arrive.

Our online/offline presence includes drone footage for the aerial tour/ live Facebook streams also from the air (weather depending), 360 indoor images taken during the festival, live video streaming from the Custom House Quay stage and a range of other photography. The Falmouth Packet did a great 8 page pull out all about the festival, plus there have been features in various other publications.

The Moor/ Prince of Wales Pier and Events Square are packed with markets and other main stages working closely with the Seven Stars pub, Falmouth Festivals on Events Square and the Piermaster.

Full details including the detailed aerial tour of the town, venues, groups and performance schedule is available at www.falmouthseashanty.co.uk that we run from our office.

Siting hand in hand with the shanty festival is the Falmouth Classics and new for this year on Custom House Quay is a maritime village. This adds another flavour with different stalls/activities taking place as well as 160plus boats taking part in the Classics with the majority on the Yacht Haven it is a great synergy between the two events.

Falmouth Week

The week is nearly upon us and we are just putting finishing touches to the planning required for the event.

I am sure you are all aware of the very recent relocation of the Red Arrows display. This has been an immense amount of work in a very short time. Some of the details that we worked on in January have had to be changed all within the last few weeks. There has been an increase in security, first aid, support on the water, 4x4 response etc etc.

To be clear the reason for the display changing which is affecting displays globally is down to safety and taken by senior members of the RAF. It is a not a local decision and it was either

relocate the display in a very short timescale or it would not be able to go ahead. Clearly the latter was not going to be an option. I would like to say a big thank you to everyone that has worked on this last minute significant change. The Town Team have worked closely with Event Planning, Emergency Services, Streetworks, The Flight Display Director, RED 10 and various other organisations to ensure this can go ahead.

Other parts of the week include the sailing regatta organised by the Port of Falmouth Sailing Association with marquee at Greenbank Gardens, Pink Wig, the Carnival, The Moor activities including plenty of children's entertainment (when the Art Gallery are involved on some days), RNLI Fun day on the Weds including Custom House Quay, Action Sports Tour on Church Street car park, Big Wheel on the Pier, Fireworks and the huge volume of evening entertainment which South West Bars and Events organises on Event Square (including Science in the Square run by the University of Exeter).

Please pick up a programme and do visit and enjoy the many events taking place throughout the week. www.falmouthweek.co.uk has all the detail including the 360 tour that will be live on the site by the 31st July. Social media will have the very latest up to date information, such is the nature of the event there are always updates.

The week was a great success starting off with the 1000 Pink Wiggers raising in the region of £20,000 which is a superb effort. This was followed by the carnival which had a large number of spectators to support the annual event.

New for the sailing this year was a 'Regatta Village' at Greenbank Gardens. This was organised by the Port of Falmouth Sailing Association supported by the Greenbank Hotel. It was created as one central venue that all sailors can go back to after the respective clubs have held their individual daily events. All being well this will return for 2018.

We have had such a variation of evening entertainment this year with the excellent performance space and acts provided by South West Bars and Events and also daytime events with more children's activities as well and music on the Moor from Creation Station and Simon Neild.

With the Action Sport Tour on Church Street car park through to the Big Wheel and Simulator we wanted a mixture for everyone.

Then we ordered the rain to stop and the sun to come out for the Red Arrows display! We think in the region of 40/45 thousand watched the display. I mentioned it on the last report but the work that goes into to changing a display of this scale with four and half weeks is very significant and all the various organisations worked hard to ensure it went well. There will always be tweaks with such a short timescale to change the logistics and they will be included with the wash up.

The fireworks was a great display and making the decision midday on the Friday to delay until the Saturday at 10pm was exactly the right one. It is always very difficult to make this call as we

all know how changeable the weather is so it is pleasing when it is correct. The social media/website/radio stations worked very well to ensure thousands watched the display on the Saturday night.

Approximately 120,000 visitors to the town and the Falmouth Week website alone had 96,000 page views just during the dates of Falmouth Week.

A big thank you to all the sponsors (including the Town Council)/supporters and volunteers of the week to ensure it was a great week to be enjoyed by so many people.

Oyster Festival & Parade

This went well with 200 involved in the parade and approx. 45,000 attending the main event.

Remembrance Sunday

This will be the first year that the Town Council are overseeing the parade/road closures and traffic management as the police are no longer involved.

Christmas activities

Switch on will be taking place Thurs 30th Nov. With the Moor marquee activities, Film screening 8th (evening) Cornwall Film Festival (Elf), Creation Station daytime of the 9th and Frozen evening of the 9th. Live Nativity is 10th Dec. We will be continuing what started last year with real Christmas trees throughout the town that are hosted by businesses which was very well received (this is supported by BID as well). New for this year is the New Year's Eve Fireworks display from the Pendennis Castle sponsored by The Royal Duchy Hotel. This will be contained within the grounds that will not be open to the public.

The switch-on went well despite the weather earlier in the evening. There was a good turn out and feedback on the lights has been very positive.

The Creation Station 'Christmas Crafts on the Moor' is taking place in the marquee Sat 9th with the Frozen evening taking place later that day. Then on Sun 10th the Live Nativity will take place through the town. This is working with various organisations to put these events on.

Sat 16th is the Santa Fun Run and this will also be free parking in all Cornwall Council car parks from 9am on the day.

Sat 23rd is the Harmony Choir. Please note it is the Saturday this year and not Christmas Eve. The Harmony Choir do not hold the event on a Sunday.

Sunday 31st New Year's Eve. The Town Fireworks display from the castle.

Golden Globe/ Suhaili 50 Parade of Sail

We are busy working on the planning for the Parade of Sail that will take place on Thursday 14th June in the morning. In the week leading up to this date there will be an opportunity for the public to visit the Falmouth Haven Marina to view the historic craft. We have a series of other activities planned both on and off the water. The actual Golden Globe race will be taking place in France and starts in July.

The Falmouth International Sea Shanty Festival and the Falmouth Classics are a week later this year to allow for everything to go ahead.



The University of Exeter has 6 Core Values and these are central to everything we do. Using these as useful headings below we highlight a few of the University's activities stemming from our Penryn Campus and working with our local communities.

AMBITION

It is our ambition to:

- be a top **10** university in the UK
- rank within the top **100** universities in the world
- submit research from **1000** academic staff into the next Research Excellence Framework in 2021.

Our recent achievements include:

- **TEF Gold award for teaching excellence** - Consistently delivering outstanding teaching, learning and outcomes for our students
- **Research excellence** - 98% of our research rated as world leading or internationally recognised
- **We ranked 48th** in the latest Times Higher Education league table of the global 200 most international universities
- **Graduate employability** - 95% of graduates in employment or further study six months after graduation (DHLE Survey 2015/16)
- **Member of the prestigious Russell Group** of research intensive universities
- **International reputation** - rated 1st for International Student Choice (What Uni Student Choice Awards 2017)

CHALLENGE

Rates of student volunteering at our Penryn Campus are amongst the highest nationally, with participation in activities such as beach cleans and fundraising for local charities. Our students are also significantly involved in local activities, the memory cafés in Penryn and Falmouth being two very notable examples.

Exeter University students, in Exeter and Penryn in Cornwall, clocked up around 34,000 volunteering hours in 2017, ranging from organising activities for the elderly in care homes, to putting together food packages for the homeless.

And in Falmouth and Penryn, volunteering is on the increase. FXU (Falmouth and Exeter Students' Union) say that last academic year a total of 185 students logged 10,543 and a half hours. Halfway through the current academic year (20/2/18) and 216 students have already racked up a whopping 14,973.5 hours, with three students having logged over 500 hours each!

Last year FXU set themselves the challenge of matching their fundraising total of £75,000, which they achieved in 2015/2016. Typical challenges to raise money for charity include:

- Presidents BIG Quiz
- Movember
- LOST
- Rally4ShelterBox
- Challenges Abroad

FXU's GeogSoc are preparing for Rally4ShelterBox, which runs every year and is always an enormous charity event. Rally4ShelterBox is a non-stop 280-mile relay circuit around Cornwall in aid of ShelterBox, a local charity who provide disaster relief around the globe. The event is split into legs, which participants either run, jog, walk, row, kayak, cycle or swim. The event will run continuously from Friday 8th to Sunday 10th June 2018.



Raise and Donate (RAD), FXU's main fundraising group have announced that Alzheimer's Society will be their chosen charity of the year. With a series of fundraising events planned throughout the academic year, the students involved are keen to do all they can for a charity that's close to many of their hearts. The group are hoping to organise a series of events which aim to raise £5,000 for the charity.

COLLABORATION

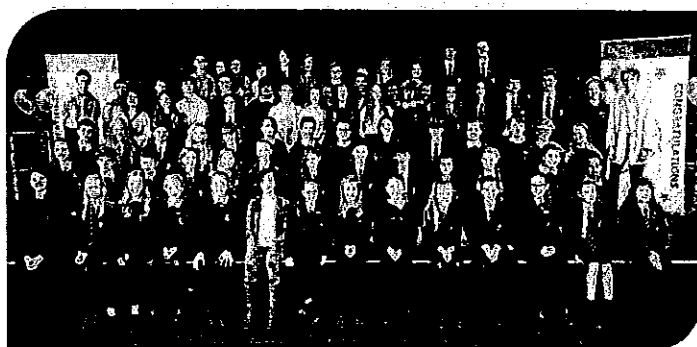
We carry out a wide range of outreach activities to raise aspirations, widen participation and increase access to HE across schools in Cornwall. This academic year will see an increase from 140 to 170 visits, workshops and other engagements delivered to 35 different local schools and colleges. We have also seen the scope of schools we work with widen. We have an additional four Exeter Links partner schools and are now also working with an additional 12 target 11-16 schools. In the last academic year the team at the Penryn Campus engaged with around 8000 students, parents and school staff.

We also work with around 80 Year 12 Widening Participation students from schools around Cornwall & Devon on the Exeter Progression programme. We host an Exeter Progression residential programme each summer with around 40 Yr12 BAME (black, Asian and minority ethnic) students from Birmingham and London.

In addition to this, we run educational events in the community, such as the Royal Cornwall Show, Science in the Square, Science of the Sea, and The Science of Christmas. We also encourage scholarship and engagement by hosting two major events every year:

Annual Excellence Awards

These celebrate the achievements of over 80 students from within the South West Peninsula. Working with the schools of the South Shore Partnership the event aims to both help raise students aspirations and introduce many parents to the university environment for the first time. We have seen 23% of students receiving an award at one of these



events go on to apply for the University of Exeter. The scheme involves: Falmouth School, Helston Community School, Mullion School and Penryn College.

Children's University



Now run by Plymouth University, this is a national programme encouraging school children to engage in extra-curricular activities. We host a number of 'graduation' ceremonies for young people aged 5-14 years of age. In the region of 400 young people and parents from a wide range of schools, clubs and groups visit campus each year and the events help raise awareness of Higher Education and help dispel preconceived ideas about University.

Next Steps South West

The University is working intensively in raising confidence and aspirations in students who are part of the Next Steps South West project, through programmes such as 'Why Would You' a theatre production about the barriers to education and 'Articulacy' a week long intensive programme that ends with an English Speaking Board qualification alongside E-Mentoring, CareerPilot and Routes into Level 3 options. Currently, this academic year the project is working with 5,000 students across the South West. The University of Exeter on behalf of NSSW is running a number of projects in Cornwall such as the Resource Box project where curriculum led lessons have been developed with a focus on Higher Education to be delivered in school or on campus. There is now a range of sessions from all partners in

Cornwall. Also, the NSSW University Experience Residential for 40 year 10 students is jointly run with Falmouth University based at Penryn Campus; and the Cornish Pop Up, a travelling VW camper van will be visiting 10 schools and colleges in April along with a team of staff and ambassadors to explore options into Higher Education in Cornwall. Penryn Campus will be hosting an awards evening for students who have taken part in Articulatory to receive their qualification.

IMPACT

One of our strategic aims is to create impact globally, nationally and locally. Our research tackles many of the key global challenges including improving health, securing our food and water supplies, and addressing environmental changes.

The University of Exeter is currently working with a range of mostly Cornish partners to deliver a set of new projects as part of the ongoing programme of EU Structural and Investment Funds. These projects will support 800 businesses and create 140 new skilled jobs. This is just a sub-set of around £40m of live research grants currently being delivered by Exeter academics in Cornwall. Here are examples of how our research is having a local, national or global impact:

Managing Bovine Tuberculosis

Research by Professor Robbie McDonald and team has primarily focused on the ecology and epidemiology for control of bovine tuberculosis (bTB), including host population characteristics, social structure and transmission of infection and impacts of control measures. They have been doing research into the development of badger vaccines and of farm biosecurity measures in order to provide a workable solution. The work has led to the licensing of a badger vaccine and the uptake of badger vaccination as key elements to bTB control policy in England. The work has also led to the development of farm biosecurity measures and advice, developed in conjunction with Defra and the Welsh government.

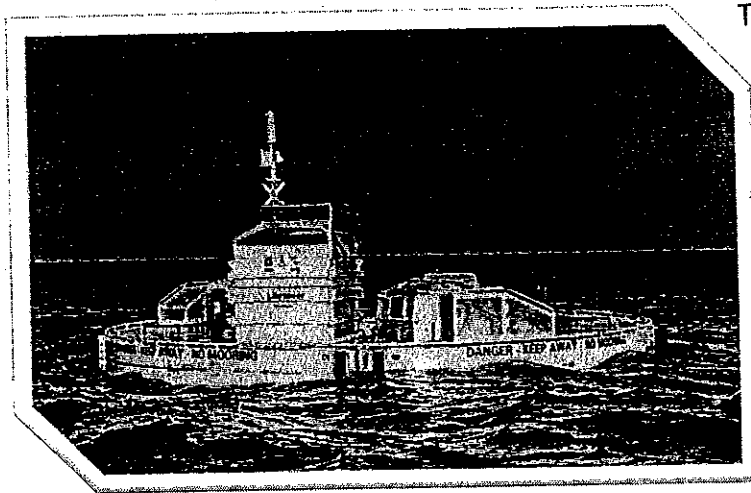
Research by Prof Clare Saunders has looked for a less conflictual way of developing TB policy. The work has sought to bring people together from opposite sides of the bTB debate in order to work together towards a workable solution. By working together, they are encompassing both the social and biological dimensions of the bTB issue, leading to a greater possibility for a workable solution.



This research was supported by several grants, including from the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC) and from the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC).

Offshore Renewable energy

The award-winning FaBTest marine energy testing site is the only wave energy testing device of its kind in England, it's a 2km² area in Falmouth Bay situated 7.5km from the Docks' entrance.



The FAB Test site allows the marine renewable energy industry to test and improve Marine Energy Converters, or MECs, safely and at low cost, in order to make the technology commercially viable. This technology could have a significant impact on the local and national economy, but it will also contribute towards a greener future for the planet, by helping the UK achieve its emissions reduction targets and by improving the nation's

energy security. The test site is regulated at a relatively low cost to the renewable energy industry, and has little or no effect on marine traffic, natural conservation areas and local fishing spots. This places Falmouth as a leader in the Marine Renewable Energy sector

The lease and consent is managed by Falmouth Harbour Commissioners and the operational support of the site, as well as on-going monitoring and world leading research, is provided by the Renewable Energy Group from the University of Exeter (based at the Penryn Campus) led by Professor of Ocean Technology, Lars Johanning. This project is made possible in part thanks to an investment from the CIOS LEP, supported by the Government's Regional Growth Fund.

Biomining mine wastes

Dr Chris Bryan's research focuses on how microbial populations (such as bacteria) can be used to recover polluting, but often valuable, metals from ores and mining wastes.

This project has a strong local focus: Cornwall not only has a rich and varied mining history but, at the time most mining wastes were deposited (predominantly the 18th and 19th centuries), mineral processing methods were very different.

The bacteria which naturally occur in mine wastes cause metals – arsenic, cadmium and lead, for example – to leach out, creating significant pollution. Chris has examined this phenomenon within a few miles of the ESI, in what used to be Cornwall's mining heartland. His aim is twofold: to find out what concentrations of valuable metals these wastes contain; and to see if it's possible to collect the wastes and use bacteria to leach out the metals in a controlled way, so the metals can be recovered and sold.



This twofold aim leads, if successful, to a similarly twofold outcome: creating value from the recovered metals, and protecting the environment by reducing pollution.

Working with Businesses

With a dedicated business support team at the Penryn Campus, the University can provide unique access to collaborative research and development, innovation, facilities and expertise that can make a real difference to your business. Over 520 businesses across Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly have received support, through a number of ERDF projects

COMMUNITY

We strive to be a good neighbour and an integral part of our local community.

We are delighted to be sponsoring the Falmouth Spring Festival again this year. It gives us the opportunity to celebrate the start of spring with the rest of the community, and for our students and staff to participate in the town's activities, especially the spring clean, which always generates a crowd of willing volunteers.

The Falmouth Spring Festival offers a wonderful opportunity for us to continue giving back to the community that has been so supportive of us over the years.



It's important for us that the community knows about what we do on campus, what we teach and research and the impact this has locally and globally. To this end, during the Festival our bioscientists run fascinating rockpooling sessions and this year we have a group of scientists and researchers talking about their work in the "Science in the Pub" series of talks and demos.

Community Conversations



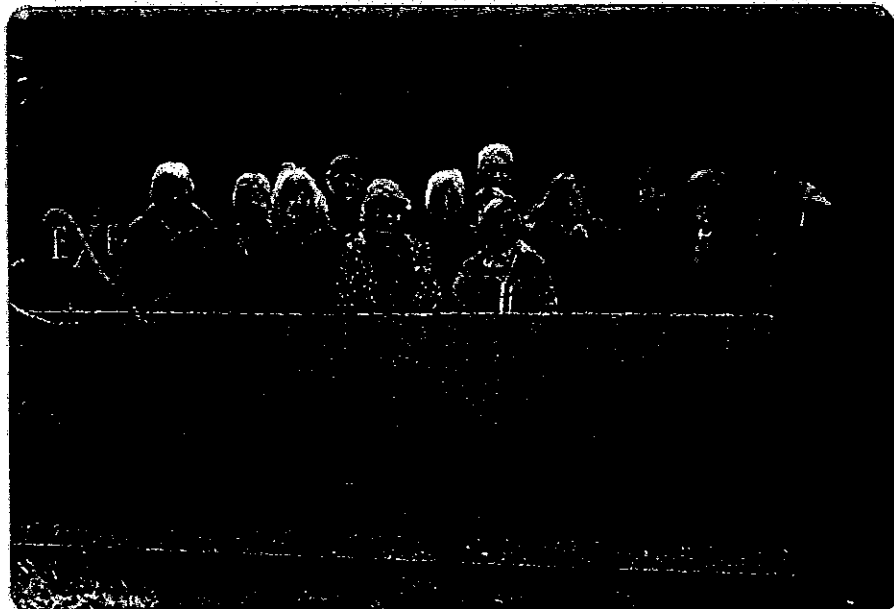
With our partners at Falmouth University, we have re-introduced our CommUnity newsletter, sharing news and providing information from the universities to local residents. These have been delivered termly into homes in Falmouth, Penryn and Mabe and have been generally well received. The next one is due in May.

It is important to us that there is also the opportunity for face to face dialogue, which is why we have continued to attend town council surgeries. In addition to this, the University of Exeter initiated a series of routine community drop-in sessions called 'Community Conversations' in Penryn, Mabe and Falmouth to give local residents the opportunity to meet and discuss anything related to the University. This could be from understanding more about the teaching and research that is carried out on the Penryn Campus, to finding out about the facilities we offer and how we get involved in the community. There was also the opportunity to talk through any concerns they may have.

9 sessions were held in total, in March, May and October. Many interesting conversations were had and lead to campus visits or invitations to attend residents meetings and other key community initiatives. Attendance at the Community Conversations events themselves therefore dwindled, so no further sessions are planned. Should there be a demand, we are more than happy to restart, or indeed attend other existing community meetings.

Campus Visits

We were delighted to host various community groups for a tour of campus and discussions about our research and future projects. These included a group of Falmouth Town Councillors, Penryn Town Councillors, Falmouth Rotary Club, Falmouth and Penzance civic societies, Save our Falmouth, Churches Together and Mabe WI and former Bishop of Truro, Tim Thornton.



Access to Campus Facilities

Many of our facilities can be used by local residents, including:

- Our beautiful and horticulturally rich campus grounds and gardens. We have a 'Bioblitz and Penryn Gardens Fete on 5 May 2018 that is open to all.
- Sports Centre containing a four-court sports hall, studios, and spacious gym
- Little Wonders Day Nursery
- Library, printing and reprographics
- Events, meeting spaces and food & drink outlets
- Summer accommodation

Robert Hunt Plaque and talk at the Poly, Falmouth

On Saturday 21 October 2017, The University of Exeter were proud to sponsor and attend the unveiling of a plaque, organised by Falmouth Civic Society, at the former home of Robert Hunt. The unveiling of this plaque at 4 Kimberley Park Road marks the distinctive contribution to chemistry, science writing and early photography made by Robert Hunt, Falmouth resident and long-term promoter of Cornish society, science and culture in the nineteenth century. Following refreshments in the Poly, University of Exeter Associate Professor James Ryan gave a fascinating talk about the significant but frequently overlooked contributions made to early photography by this multi-talented man.



We are committed to supporting sport in our local community. Here are some of activities we initiated this year:

Cornwall School Games

We are delighted to be sponsoring the Cornwall School Games for three years so that more young people in Cornwall can be inspired by PE and school sport. A new collaboration with Cornwall Sports Partnership (CSP) aims to engage young people of all ages and abilities in regular physical activity. The Games also have a strong inclusive element resulting in more meaningful opportunities being available for young disabled or disengaged people.



During the last academic year 32,000 young people took part in an inter-school competition as part of the Games, and 6,252 took part in a county final.

We're really pleased to be co-hosting the 2018 Cornwall School Games with Penryn College on Friday 29th June 2018. Around 3000 primary and secondary school children from across Cornwall will compete in a wide range of sports and be inspired by sporting champions.

Local sports teams

As well as sponsoring the Cornwall School Games, we support our local community by sponsoring the Penryn U15 RFC rugby team, and the junior divisions of Penryn netball club and Falmouth United football club. Our support enables the teams to buy new kit and equipment, and more importantly, helps raise aspirations by close association with the University. At Penryn netball club our sponsorship is funding a Trainee Coaching and Officiating Programme for their 14-18 year olds. We enjoy following the progress of the teams and attending matches and end of season presentations.

RIGOUR

We strive to achieve the highest standards of scholarship and service. This means that we want everything we do to be world class. World-class teaching, world-class research, a world-class service for our students and staff.

Investing in our facilities at the Penryn Campus is part of this.

We were delighted to welcome the Lord Lieutenant of Cornwall, four local mayors, councillors and dignitaries to the opening of our £1.2m Masters Suite in March 2017. This provides bespoke and flexible study space and specialist facilities for over 250 postgraduate students.

We are currently building an extension to our Science and Engineering Research Support Facility (SERSF). This phased extension will allow further growth in Exeter Business School, the College of Engineering, Mathematics and Physical Sciences and the College of Life and Environmental Sciences. Construction will continue throughout the year with project completion scheduled for October 2018.

Work will also soon be completed on REEF, a 250 sqm specialist facility for our Renewable Energy team.

We also strive to be the best of neighbours. We work closely with Falmouth Town Council, Penryn Town Council and Mabe Parish Council – attending meetings, councillor surgeries, addressing queries and funding initiatives. This year we have held two “information sharing” sessions involving these groups and representatives of both universities. We work together with the Council’s Public Protection and Anti-Social Behaviour teams, Devon and Cornwall Police and local landlords to ensure everyone in our community feels safe and supported.

It is our intention to continue to be good neighbours and to continue investing in our local communities.

To find out more about the University of Exeter in Cornwall, please visit www.exeter.ac.uk/cornwall

Falmouth Town Fairtrade Steering Group

Annual Report 2017 – 2018

Introduction

In 2005 Falmouth was awarded Fairtrade Status and was the first Fairtrade town in Cornwall. This is renewable every two years and is due 26 April 2018. Falmouth Fairtrade Steering Group works in partnership with Falmouth Town Council and has responsibility for raising awareness of Fairtrade locally. Two of our Town Councillors, Jude Robinson and Brod Ross, are Fairtrade representatives and attend Steering Group meetings whenever possible.

We are very grateful to Mark Williams (Town Clerk), Grenville Chappel (Town Mayor), Brod Ross, Jude Robinson, and the Town Council for the support we have received throughout the past year.

Summary of work done February 2017 – March 2018

- Meetings have been held two monthly, to plan, review and evaluate our work of promoting Fairtrade in our town. Presentations and visits have been made to highlight the importance and relevance of Fairtrade initiatives in providing farmers and workers with a fair wage plus the Fairtrade premium, an extra sum of money raised from the sales of Fairtrade products.
- Town Council meetings have been attended quarterly, and written reports submitted.
- An update of Fairtrade news was sent for inclusion in Town Activity and Events Guide.
- With the help of Falmouth Town Council we have commissioned a portable pavement sign that celebrates Falmouth as a Fairtrade town.
- Launched Falmouth Fairtrade Steering Group Facebook and Instagram page.
- Explored possible PowerPoint presentations.
- Provided Fairtrade stall at Falmouth & Penryn Churches Together Study Day.
- Presentation to Falmouth Civic Society. Date was arranged at their request close to Fairtrade Fortnight.
- Footsteps Community Café promotes Fairtrade tea, coffee, sugar on their menu cards.
- Regular reports of Fairtrade initiatives and activities have been highlighted and reported in local publications, local press, Falmouth and Penryn Churches Together Forum and a local Justice & Peace group.

- Fairtrade Fortnight was celebrated in a variety of ways: -
 - a) Fairtrade coffee morning at Falmouth Town Council Chambers. A joint event was held with Falmouth Town Council. 100 plus local people and visitors to our town attended. The event also provided an opportunity to sign a petition to keep trade fair, to International Trade Secretary, Liam Fox.
 - b) Fairtrade coffee morning was organised by Membly Hall Hotel. Another enjoyable experience and an opportunity to promote the importance of Fairtrade and the loyal support for Fairtrade by Membly Hall Hotel.
 - c) Fairtrade display in Library foyer.
 - d) Fairtrade event at Footsteps Community Café.
 - e) Many cafés and a local shop promoted Fairtrade Fortnight.
 - f) Fairtrade Fortnight was promoted locally in the press, radio and social media
- Fairtrade Fortnight was also celebrated at a local school where a special Fairtrade event was held.

Overall, Falmouth has seen an increase in Fairtrade initiatives and much is planned for the next twelve months. Of prime importance is an increased involvement of local organisations and businesses in our task.

Plans for 2018 – 2019

- Continue to explore ways of expanding the steering group
- Create a local Fal/Fair trade sticker for local shop windows
- Organise Fairtrade Fortnight events and publicise
- Programme of visits to retail outlets, coffee shops, hotels and local organisations
- Continue to update database of retail outlets, coffee shops, hotels, supporting/promoting Fairtrade
- Explore opportunities to give Fairtrade presentations locally.
- Continue to explore ways of linking with local schools and Falmouth University

Community Groups reports 2017/18

Transition Falmouth

Transition Falmouth has continued to meet monthly focusing on climate change issues, the need to conserve natural resources, and by working towards a resilient low carbon and circular economy for Falmouth and the surrounding area. With this in mind our Core Group has :-

- *produced a Briefing designed to inform the sustainability element of emerging local Neighbourhood Plans.

- *continued to expand and update a Local Food Guide.

- *given on-going support to the new and developing not-for-profit Co-Cars Car Club for Falmouth and Penryn

- *actively supported community-led housing initiatives for the Falmouth area (now embedded in the Plan for Falmouth). AMBOS.

- *continued to respond to national and local consultations on waste and recycling including the proposed Resources & Waste (Materials) Strategy for Cornwall, and addressing the key issue of marine plastic litter, by supporting the work of Plastic Free Falmouth.

- *still active in implementing local renewable community energy production through Fal Energy Partnership.

Transition Falmouth continues to work with its partners to achieve its aims, by supporting practical projects, sharing information, and encouraging discussion via its website <http://www.transitionfalmouth.org.uk>, an email discussion group, and social media (twitter and facebook)

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Falmouth's LETS:

Falmouth's LETS (Local Exchange Trading Scheme) group will celebrate its 25th year of trading in 2019, welcomes new members, and continues to provide an online platform for its members to skill share and exchange goods and services without the need for money at <http://falmouthlets.org.uk>

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Fal Energy Partnership:

Fal Energy Partnership (FEP) received a grant from the Rural Community Energy Fund at beginning of last year which funded a comprehensive feasibility study into the potential for locally-owned solar electricity generation on local roofs in Falmouth and Penryn. Unfortunately the current policy regarding Feed-In tariffs makes the financial model for communities very precarious and only one of the potential projects was viable.

So currently FEP is working with a local community centre to raise funds to purchase solar panels for their roof. The panels will be owned by the community, through FEP, and the electricity sold back to the community centre at a discount, thereby saving them money on their electricity bills. In May FEP will make an application to the M&S Energysshare Fund for a grant towards the purchase which, if successful, will ensure the project is viable.

Success will depend on us gathering a lot of local support in the form of votes, so we will be out and about explaining how the project will work and how it can help our community in due course.

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