Report to Saltash Town Council September 2025

Cllr. Paul Cador Cllr. Hilary Frank Cllr. Keith Johnson



Report from Paul Cador: Saltash Trematon and Landrake

A38 through Landrake is now 30mph. Static Cameras are now in use.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY: Grants of £3-5,000 available for UK schools, PTAs and not-for-profit organisations, for projects that promote a better understanding of the environment.

Eligible projects include:

- environmental education schemes such as forest schools, farm visits, and nature trails;
- conservation and biodiversity initiatives;
- school farms and tree planting programmes;
- and activities that improve access to the countryside for young people and disadvantaged groups. Community-led projects, including sensory gardens, eco-classrooms, and heritage-focused schemes, are also considered.

Applications can be submitted at any time and are reviewed quarterly by the Trustees. Find out more and apply: https://ninevehtrust.org.uk/

Have your say on the future of our seas

Residents, businesses and other organisations are being invited to have their say on an ambitious new blueprint to protect the region's marine environment. Cornwall Council has drafted the proposals in partnership with the <u>Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Marine and Coastal Partnership</u>, following engagement through surveys, workshops and webinars over the past year. A public consultation on the draft <u>Marine Nature Recovery Framework</u> is launched today, August 28, and runs until midnight on October 10.

<u>Find out about 10 marine species we need to protect in Cornwall.</u> The plan sets out a shared vision for how to recover the region's marine biodiversity, tackle the climate and ecological emergency, and ensure our seas are healthy, resilient and thriving for generations to come. It complements the published statutory <u>Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Nature Recovery Strategy</u> which extends to the low water mark and supports national goals such as the target to have 30% of land, rivers and seas well managed for nature by 2030.

Cllr Loic Rich, Cornwall's cabinet member for environment and climate change, said: "Our new Marine Nature Recovery Framework is a call to action for everyone from us a local authority to marine industries to volunteers and residents. We want to hear from everyone - you could be a fisher, a marine business, swimmer, surfer, coastal resident or someone who is interested in our coast and marine nature. Your insights will help shape a future for Cornwall where nature and people thrive together." Covering marine and coastal waters from the high-water mark out to 12 nautical miles, the draft Marine Nature Recovery Framework identifies priority habitats and species needing protection, maps restoration opportunities, and outlines actions to support sustainable marine management. Feedback will be used to refine the Framework before its final publication later this year.

Take part in the consultation: https://letstalk.cornwall.gov.uk/cornwall-and-the-isles-of-scilly-marine-nature-recovery-framework

There is also a free online webinar on the Marine Nature Recovery Framework on Sept. 24 at 7pm.

Report from Cllr Keith Johnson: Saltash Tamar

What Happened: Cornwall Council's Fifth Nation Motion

On 22 July 2025, Cornwall Council passed a motion calling on the UK Government to formally recognise Cornwall as the fifth nation of the United Kingdom, alongside England, Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland. The motion was introduced by Councillor Dick Cole and supported during a Full Council meeting following a speech by Council Leader Leigh Frost

As a Member of Cornwall Council, I wish to express concern regarding the recent motion passed by Full Council proposing that Cornwall be recognised as the fifth nation of the United Kingdom.

While I acknowledge the cultural and historical significance of Cornwall's identity, and the passion with which this motion was supported across party lines, I believe such a major constitutional proposal should not proceed without first engaging with the people of Cornwall.

This motion represents a fundamental shift in how Cornwall relates to the rest of the UK. It is not merely symbolic—it carries implications for governance, representation, and our place within the Union. As such, it is imperative that our residents are given the opportunity to express their views through a formal consultation process.



I therefore call on Cornwall Council to:

- Launch a comprehensive public consultation to gauge resident sentiment on this proposal.
- Ensure that any future steps taken in pursuit of national recognition are informed by the will of the people.
- Provide clear, accessible information about what recognition as a fifth nation would mean in practical terms.

We must ensure that our actions reflect not only political ambition but democratic legitimacy. Let us move forward with transparency, unity, and respect for the voices of those we serve.

This motion received support from across the political spectrum at County Hall —including the Liberal Democrats, most Independent members, the Greens, Mebyon Kernow, Labour, and the Conservative and Unionist Party.

The Reform Party voted against the motion due to the absence of public engagement and the division it may cause within Cornwall.

The following remedial works have been reported

Longstone Park, Saltash

1 Upon inspection the gates and railings were so rusty it is debatable whether they could be repainted or they have fallen into a state of disrepair, there are dangerous shards of steel/rust.

2 weeds are considerably high that in places the grass and weeds that sit along the boundary fence .adjacent to the children's play area and fence is represents a fire hazard which I believe is a potential safeguarding issue.

3 I've been informed that many of the lights inside the park do not work this again is a potential safeguarding Issue.

4 There is graffiti in various places including the outside of the public toilets.

5 The children's play equipment and signage is covered in mould.

6 Tennis courts have no netting or net posts, they have been removed, can they be reinstated or can the area be repurposed?



Anti-social behaviour has been particularly bad this year with reports of loud music, taking up numerous parking spaces .There has been an assault; the police have been actively involved.

Clearly their needs to be a discussion on robust parking enforcement at this car park

I A PCN camera which records entry and exit times, it can enforce bans, such as overnight sleeping may be worth considering?

A report has been reported asking for robust enforcement



Report from Hilary Frank: Saltash Essa

Monterey Pine in Victoria Gardens

I've asked for a full survey of the tree to establish its safety, and will forward it on as soon as I've received it.

Cornwall and West Devon Mining Landscape UNESCO World Heritage Site

At the beginning of September, I was elected as the Vice Chair of the Cornwall and West Devon Mining Landscape World Heritage site Partnership Board: Cornish Mining World Heritage Site





Inscribed in 2006, it is the UK's largest industrial UNESCO World Heritage Site and encompasses 10 unique Areas stretching from the Tamar Valley Mining District in the east to St Just in the west.



Fifth Nation Motion

It has been suggested that the Fifth Nation motion risks running ahead of public opinion. I respectfully disagree. Far from being a closed conversation, the motion has opened up one of the most important debates of our time: what it means for Cornwall to have its rightful place in the Union.

Earlier this week in the House of Commons, Perran Moon MP spoke with clarity and pride during the second reading of the Devolution Bill. Declaring himself "Cornish, not English," the MP for Camborne and Redruth urged people in Cornwall to be "loud and proud" of their identity, and pressed the government to ensure that its devolution plans properly respect Cornwall's status. Ben Maguire MP also stood up in Parliament to make the case for a Cornwall-only devolution deal, saying "Decisions should be made for Cornwall, and in Cornwall." Their words show that this is not a fringe issue or a flight of local fancy. It is a live debate at the heart of national politics, one that has already reached Westminster.

This is not about separation or independence. It is about recognition, voice, and respect. Cornwall is a Celtic nation already legally recognised as a national minority under the Council of Europe's Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. The Fifth Nation motion simply asks for Cornwall to be seen for what it is: a nation of people with a shared history, language, culture and identity, deserving of a clear voice as devolution reshapes governance across Britain.

Crucially, this vision of devolution is rooted in a Cornwall-only footprint, avoiding being subsumed into a cross-border 'Devonwall' authority. Cornwall has a distinct identity, and it deserves a distinct settlement.

And this identity is not only for people born here. Cornwall's nationhood belongs equally to everyone who has chosen to make Cornwall their home and who shares a commitment to its future. It is about inclusivity, not division.

The motion comes at a pivotal time. The Devolution and Community Empowerment Bill currently before Parliament promises the biggest overhaul of local government in half a century. With neighbouring local authorities likely to grow bigger under their own devolution deals, we need to ensure Cornwall's voice is not drowned out but heard clearly and distinctly.

It is also important to note that the motion was passed by a clear cross-party majority at County Hall, following open debate among elected members. Should government respond with proposals for a settlement, that will be the stage when full public engagement becomes essential. At present, no such settlement exists, and we have no detail of what devolution might look like.

As Council Leader Leigh Frost put it: "A nation isn't just a border or a flag. It's a people. It's a voice. It's shared history and a shared purpose. Cornwall has all of that and more." The motion is the first step in ensuring that Cornwall's voice is heard and respected in the constitutional future of the United Kingdom.

A petition has been set up calling on the government to formally recognise Cornwall as a nation. Here is the link for anyone who would like to sign it: <u>Grant Cornwall nation status - Petitions</u>