

STC Report – 15th January

Tamar Tolls

The joint Tamar bridge crossings committee voted to raise tag administration charges by 150%. due to the public backlash and anger amongst politicians to these rises it was decided that an extraordinary meeting would be held to enable further scrutiny to these proposals

At the extraordinary meeting held at Plymouth Council House, on the 12th January I was unexpectedly struck by the feeling of unity and a genuine common goal amongst members to get the tolls scrapped or reduced, and the two chairs whilst under considerable public pressure and they were a credit to their position and their respective councils..

My main question to the committee centred around fairness of the toll charge towards the local residents who had to use hospitals, education services and to access their place of work, having no other alternative also I raised concerns that for every penny spent on bridge tolls is a penny not spent in our economy.

I asked for an economic impact report to be commissioned of which they agreed was a good idea , I will look forward receiving the report with interest.

Recommendations

For Cornwall Councillors and Town Councillors To draft a joint signed letter in solidarity and unity about our shared concerns of the continual toll rises and the subsequent impact it has on our economy and hard working families and businesses

To address to the following

- Leader of Cornwall Council
- Member of Parliament (South East Cornwall)
- Joint Chairs of the Tamar Joint Committee
- Media release

Burraton Park

I have arranged a meeting with various consultants of the proposed development in Burraton park, on the 22nd January 2026 They will be shortly launching a public consultation on the plans, with an in-person exhibition planned to take place later this month, alongside a project website. They will be sending me a copy of the consultation newsletter before it is delivered to local residents.

I will be meeting with the project team virtually, so we can discuss the upcoming consultation and address any initial queries or questions that I may have about the proposals.

I would just like to remind residents that I understand that there are concerns about this development but there are legal, democratic and planning processes to follow.

Councillors also have to follow predetermination rules for all planning applications therefore at this stage nothing has been approved or disapproved by any councillors, We are in the process of consultation All the facts need to be established before any decisions mitigations or recommendations are made.

Cllr Keith Johnson Saltash Tamar