

To receive a report on St Piran's Day and consider any actions and associated expenditure

Gool Peran Lowen

Saltash Town Council – Celebrating St Piran's Day in Saltash 2026

Further to previous Town Council meetings and bearing in mind what appears to be a wider sentiment to celebrate this day in Saltash, we would like to propose that the Town Council take a more significant role than in the past. We have been mindful to keep potential events both affordable and light on resource requirement. Improvements to the proposal are welcome, but should probably continue the theme of 'keeping it simple'. We can look to future years to make appropriate changes based on feedback and available resources.

STC Communications Officer and Members should work to help promote any other St Piran's Day events planned throughout Saltash whether they be community led or business led. In particular we would encourage the Chamber of Commerce to organise a St Piran's Treasure Trail or similar.

Suggested Plan:

In the run up to March 5th STC should ensure St Piran's flags are in good condition and are being widely flown where we have flag poles. The Saltash Library Hub may be able to host some St Piran's or Cornish Language themed events.

Our Communications Officer could be asked to publicise our plan and keep a watch out for other St Piran's Day related events and bring together a timetable for the day which could be shared through media channels and notice boards. There might also be an opportunity to raise our 'Cornishness' in general through pictures or video, including some use of the Cornish language.

The Town Clerk has advised that a comprehensive Risk Assessment must be carried out once the event plans are finalised to ensure the Town Council Event is delivered safely and in compliance with all relevant regulations, for all to adhere to on the day.

In addition, the Town Clerk has recommended that if the event grows in scale or complexity, it should be outsourced to an external Event Management Agency to maintain high safety standards and effective management.

The Town Clerk has confirmed that the Development and Engagement Manager will be responsible for completing the Risk Assessment once the final details of the Event have been provided. However, the Development and Engagement Manager will not be involved in organising the event, as this must remain Member-led.

Please note; the Town Clerk has also advised that amendments to the event may be required should it not meet the requirements of the Risk Assessment.

On Thursday 5th March:

11.00am

- Mayor and Consort, Deputy Mayor and Consort, Town Clerk, Town Crier, Councillors and a few invited guests form in the Town Square (Superdrug area).
- Short proclamation by Town Crier and 3 Cornish songs.

11.30am

- Everyone invited to walk to England.. and back.
- Independently, all who wish to walk through the town to Lower Fore Street and walk across the Tamar Road Bridge.
- Mayor and Consort, Deputy Mayor and Consort, and Town Clerk, pause at the border with England to remove any chains which are safely held by the Proper Officer of the Town Council.
- At a designated point by the Visitors Centre the Town Crier to make short speech on the original border being on the English side of the river.
- All process back to Cornwall, pausing at the border to put any chains back on and continue.

12.00 ish:

Dry weather plan

- Proceed to the Cornish Cross for further flag waving, potential speech and more singing.

Wet weather plan

- Proceed to Guildhall for further flag waving, potential speech and more singing.
- Potential to add pasties and tea/coffee subject to costs and resource availability.

Throughout the day:

Approach the Chamber of Commerce to ask if they would be willing to take responsibility for delivering a St Piran's-themed treasure hunt in collaboration with local traders. The activity would include prizes for participants, supported by a grant from the Town Council of £100 to cover the cost of prizes only.

12.45 Finish.

At Full Town Council that evening we could start the meeting with a rendition of 'Trelawney' and find somewhere to join in with the 'Trelawney Shout' which usually takes place at 9pm in a local pub.

Potential requirements:

- Approval for this event of celebration to proceed to planning
- Approval to employ the Town Crier at a cost of £25
- Purchase of some hand held St Piran's flags (large and small, large ones to be retained by STC). Some items have recently been ordered, so it is likely that only a few additional ones will be needed
- Request Service Delivery to retain the old flags to see if there is use for them in some other way
- Approval to use the Cornish Cross site and/or Guildhall
- Approval for some Service Delivery staff that are scheduled to work that day to provide on-site support for the event, specifically to ensure safety and compliance with risk management requirements (subject to the outcome of the Risk Assessment)
- The library to arrange activities to celebrate St Piran's Day
- Administration to provide support with setting up refreshment rooms, if required, within a Town Council building.
- Approval to promote the event via our Communications Officer including video's and images.

Budget:

Budget Code: 6202 Civic Occasions

Budget Availability: £6,074

Budget Requirement: Up to £500 to be allocated as needed for the event, including £100 earmarked for the Chamber of Commerce to fund prize giving.

Next Steps:

Full Council to approve or decline the proposed outline of the event as detailed in this report.

Subject to Full Council approval, responsibility for delivering the Event to be delegated to Councillors Bullock and Bickford, with support from the Town Clerk only if required.

Councillors Bullock and Bickford will provide Members with the detailed arrangements by email, given the tight timeframe, once the Town Clerk has approved the event and all required documentation, including Risk Assessments, has been completed.

End of Report

Councillor Richard Bickford and Councillor Rachel Bullock