

## **Cllr Keith Johnson - Saltash Tamar**

### **Report 5-02-26**

#### **Tamar Crossings**

The Tamar Bridge & Torpoint Ferry joint committee voted to raise the Tamar tag administration fee by 150%, This was completely unacceptable to my constituents of Saltash Tamar division and the residents of south east Cornwall, I considered this to be a direct attack on frequent users of the bridge and ferry which would subsequently lead to a negative effect on our economy and create further hardships for our communities and businesses, therefore I expressed my outrage and concerns within our news media outlets which included Cornwall live, Cornish Times and the Voice,

I attended a cap meeting where my concerns about the administration 150% increase were raised, along with other south east Cornwall councillors.

Due to the combined public pressure. The Joint committee decided to further scrutinise their initial decision, and an extraordinary meeting of the joint committee was timetabled for the 12<sup>th</sup> January, at that meeting I tabled a question asking if an economic impact study had been made, it was noted that this was a good question and a report of this type will be made available in due course I look forward to receiving.

members voted to suspend the increase in admin charges subject to a public consultation.

I also tabled a question at full council, for the Leader Cllr Leigh Frost & cabinet member for transport Dan Rogerson, with the context being about the unfairness of tolls for my division and south east Cornwall as all services were in Plymouth and therefore we had no alternative than to cross into Plymouth, Devon whilst paying punitive tolls which brought into question whether true devolution is at all possible and a realistic objective

#### **Burraton field & Proposed Aldi development**

I attended a meeting with the consultants of Aldi, the purpose of this meeting was to represent the views of my division, I can inform residents that my inbox was full and to my best ability I feel that I represented their views in a comprehensive and forthright manner.

I also attended a public consultation by Aldi at the Rugby club to support the residents of my division, I am mindful that the decision to sell off a section of Burraton Park was made in 2024 approximately a year before I was elected nevertheless I can confirm that as your elected Cornwall councillor I will fight in

support of residents views, I share your concerns and I am doing what I can , to make your views heard.

I can also confirm that I have written to Leader Leigh Frost and CEO Kate Kennally expressing my concern appealing for the council to reconsider disposing of much needed green space, to revisit further consultation and scrutiny. As of yet I have had no reply.

### **Recommendations**

*On the 4-12 2025 I recommended To the town council that a committee or subcommittee be formed and all stake holders invited to offer their views and consideration so that we may work collaboratively, It would be useful to formulate a comprehensive report That includes stakeholders views on the matter, facts should be sought regarding the capacity and future capacity projections of our green spaces.*

### **Memory Box and Memory Cafe**

as your elected Cornwall Councillor for Saltash Tamar I will always stand up for our most vulnerable in our community, it was real pleasure to be invited to present a cheque for £1000 from the property developers Perssimon Homes to the memory café.

Furthermore I have donated £200 from my community chest fund to the memory café and £200 for the memory box

I want to pay tribute to both of these organisations for the wonderful and essential work they do.

I would also like to thank the carers, the volunteers and families who are so kind, hardworking and compassionate, who are the heart.

Cllr Keith Johnson