

Report to Saltash Town Council September 2026

Cllr. Hilary Frank

Representing Saltash Essa, *Konseler Kernow Essa*



CASHLESS PARKING

Since 1st August, most Cornwall Council car parks have stopped accepting cash. Collecting, transporting and processing coins costs around £100,000 each year, and this change is expected to save about £80,000 annually.

For many drivers, cashless parking will not represent much of a change as almost nine in ten parking transactions in Cornwall are already made by card, through an app or online. Even so, about 12% are still paid for in cash. A flat battery or poor signal can also catch out people who usually pay digitally.

Cash payments therefore remain available at 50 Cornwall Council car parks, including Culver Road in Saltash. A full list is available here: [car-parks-accepting-cash-payments.pdf](#)

There are also some practical advantages to paying digitally. Anyone using the JustPark app can extend their stay without returning to the car park. The JustPark Wallet also offers discounts of up to 75% at many long-stay car parks. In Saltash, the all-day rate is £2.31 at Alexandra Square and Belle Vue East, although users must preload at least £35. Full details for all-day rates at car parks across Cornwall are available here: [justpark-wallet-tcs.pdf](#)

ARB PROVISION AT SALTASH COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Demand for specialist education in Cornwall has risen sharply, placing significant pressure on schools. Cornwall Council is therefore investing in additional capacity within Cornwall's mainstream schools.

One local example is planning application PA26/04516, which Saltash Town Council recently recommended for approval. It is for a new, self-contained building at Saltash Community School containing two general teaching classrooms, storage, toilets and other facilities.

Saltash Community School is already a hub for inclusive education, with an Area Resource Base (ARB) supporting pupils with more complex Education, Health and Care Plans. Moving two mainstream classes into the new building would release two rooms beside the ARB, allowing specialist provision at the school to expand.

This forms part of a wider Cornwall Council programme to build more specialist capacity locally, so that children can receive the right support closer to home. It links directly to the aims of Cornwall's SEND Reform Plan.

SALTASH LEISURE CENTRE

Cornwall Council is investing just over £1.8 million in the refurbishment and transformation of Saltash Leisure Centre. The project includes refurbished changing rooms and improvements to the reception and café areas, as well as new accommodation for the Registration Service and the Safe and Wellbeing Hub. Construction is due to be completed by the end of September. Furniture and IT equipment will then be installed, with the new facilities expected to be up and running by the end of October.

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE #2



Will Glassup, Highways Manager, joined us for our recent audit of Fore Street to identify maintenance issues and discuss possible improvements. In my last report to Town Council, I highlighted how quickly Will had arranged for the redundant Cornwall College sign by the entrance to Victoria Gardens to be removed. At the audit, we also pointed out the faded No Entry signs at the junction with Wesley Lane, which were beginning to look rather more 'Maybe' than 'No'. As the photographs show, they have now been replaced.

DENTISTRY SUMMIT

I attended the Dentistry Summit on 17th July, and its final report has now been published. Improving children's oral health was identified as one of the highest priorities. The full report is available here: [Cornwall Dentistry Summit | Let's Talk Cornwall](#).

Agreed actions include a practical access programme co-produced with Cornwall Youth Council and expanded oral health promotion in schools, including Smarter Smiles and support for older pupils where feasible. There is also an ambition to extend supervised toothbrushing to all primary-aged children and to involve young people in promoting dentistry and dental therapy as possible careers.

As Cabinet Member for Children, Families and Schools, I am committed to taking these actions forward through Together for Families, working with Public Health, the NHS and Cornwall Youth Council. I will keep progress under review and make sure that children and young people's experiences remain at the centre of the work.

Alongside this longer-term work, the Summit was also a useful reminder of the help currently available to people who need urgent dental care but do not have a dentist:

- Call the Dental Helpline on **0333 405 0290** between 8:30am and 5.00pm.
Outside of these hours call NHS 111 for advice and support
- Saltash residents and other people living near the Devon/Cornwall border can also use the Devon Urgent Dental Care service (call NHS 111 and select option 4)

HIGHWAYS IMPROVEMENT ON ALBERT ROAD AND STATION ROAD

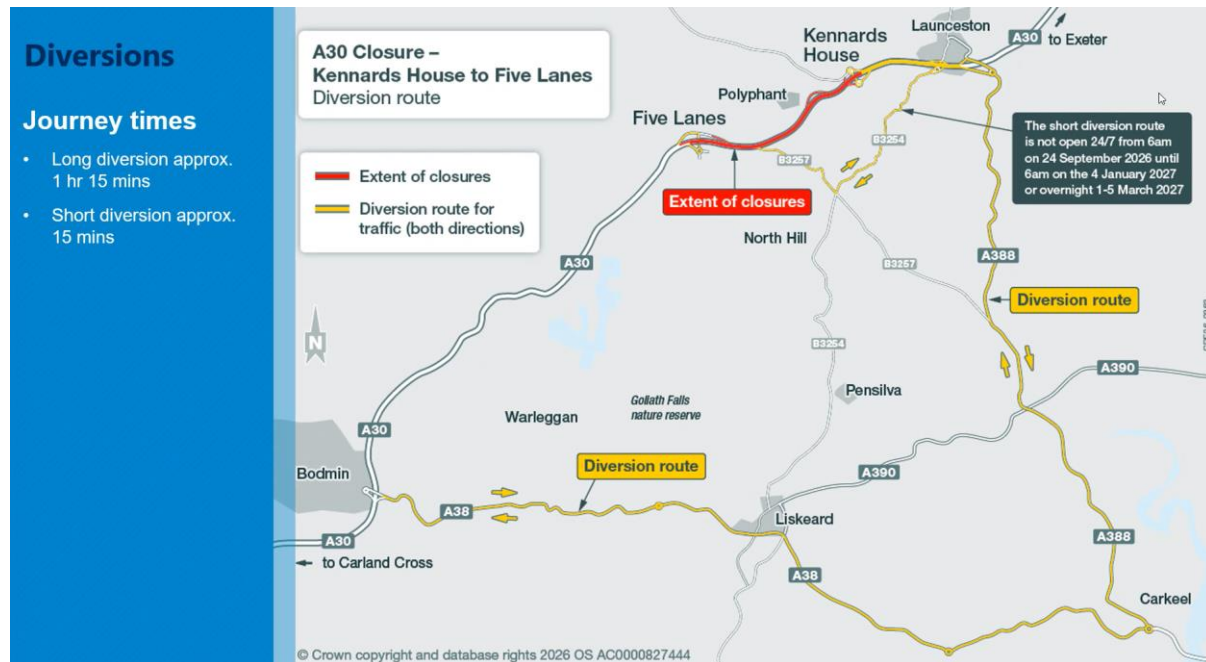
Cornwall councillors met on 13th August to review the highways improvement proposals submitted across the South East Cornwall Community Area Partnership. I am pleased to report that the scheme to improve access between Saltash station and the town centre and Alexandra Square car park was approved. The scheme will involve adjusting the kerbs on Albert Road and Station Road, and is being programmed into the second tranche of works. I will report back once a start date has been confirmed.

A30 SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS BETWEEN KENNARDS HOUSE AND FIVE LANES

National Highways is due to begin work to improve safety on the A30 on 5th September, with the programme continuing until March next year.

There will be lane restrictions and overnight closures, with some of the signed diversions bringing traffic via Carkeel Roundabout. National Highways is also working with Cornwall Council on improvements to local roads in the area, particularly on diversion routes.

The latest information is here: [A30 Kennards House to Five Lanes road safety improvements - National Highways](#)



CASE FOR CORNWALL

On 29th July, Cabinet formally accepted the Government’s intention to make Cornwall Council a single Foundation Strategic Authority, which would recognise Cornwall as its own area for devolved decision-making without requiring a mayor or changing the way the Council is governed.

Soon afterwards, Prime Minister Andy Burnham wrote to Council Leader Leigh Frost saying he was looking forward to being “on a *treth* with a pasty in the near future.” Just a few days later, the Prime Minister visited Cornwall and met Leigh, who presented him with some pasties. The visit gave Cornwall an early opportunity to make its case directly to the new Prime Minister. He said he was open to a Cornish Devolution Deal and invited Leigh and Cornwall’s six MPs to No. 10 North to continue the discussions.

The next step will be to build on those discussions and seek a practical deal that gives Cornwall more say over areas such as housing, transport and economic growth, while recognising our particular rural and coastal needs. Further detail is expected in the Government’s Devolution White Paper and Budget this autumn.