

Saltash Chamber of Commerce

Report to STC - July 2021

Tamar bridge resurfacing project

It's fair to say that the start of the resurfacing project on the Tamar Bridge has had a massive impact on the town and its businesses. The first two weeks of the project starting in June (delayed from April due to visa issues) caused massive disruption.

Chamber has initiated contact with the General Manager of the bridge and has been regularly posting updates re. status of the project on its Facebook page. We attended the latest Joint Bridge Authority meeting on Friday 11th June asking for a public meeting to be held to allay residents and retailers concerns re. the works.

A meeting of key stakeholders is due to be held on 8 July to which the Chair of Chamber has been invited to participate.

Totally Locally 'Fiver Fest'

Chamber worked alongside retailers and volunteers to deliver a Totally Locally 'Fiver Fest' in Saltash from 12-26th June. Totally Locally is a nationwide grassroots initiative to celebrate independent retailers and try to boost footfall on high streets across the country. Nationally, 108 places took part in Totally Locally's Fiver Fest initiative. Locally, over 35 retailers got on board making special £5 offers during the two weeks. The initiative, and the Totally Locally window on Fore Street with photos of retailers, has created a real buzz, and has helped drive home the message that if every adult in Saltash spent £5 a week in a local independent instead of online or at a large supermarket, it would deliver an extra £3.2million to boost our local economy. We will continue to explore further shop local campaigns under the 'Totally Locally' national banner to build on the success of the Fiver Fest.

SaltashCard

The management of the SaltashCard is moving from Community Enterprises PL12 over to Chamber. The card gives shoppers a certain amount of discount in participating shops. All current cards will still be valid but all new cards and data will be held by the Chamber of Commerce. We will be issuing new cards in due course as part of the launch of the revised scheme

SaltFest, 31st July 2021

The Chamber of Commerce volunteers who run the annual May Fair have been progressing with planning for Saltfest, monitoring announcements about Covid measures. Our other great challenge is fundraising for the event. STC kindly allocated funding for SaltFest, and we are hoping to sell large numbers of Raffle tickets (with cash prizes kindly donated by Chamber members). We are seeking S106 funding, and approaching businesses in the town who would like to sponsor the event in any way, big or small.

Chamber Meetings

Chamber meets at 5:30 on the first Monday of every month. Over recent months, these meetings have been held online, but we are hopeful that we will soon go back to meeting in person at the China Fleet Club. All are welcome.

Sarah Martin
Chair of Saltash Chamber of Commerce