

STC Chamber of Commerce Update - January 2022

Bridge Consultation

Due to Covid-19 and the loss of earnings during the first lockdown, and the fact that traffic volumes across the bridge haven't returned to pre-Covid levels, the Joint Bridge and Ferry Committee is proposing to increase tolls for all users by 30% as soon as there is authorisation to do so. The joint councils Cornwall and Plymouth City Council are able to modify discount tolls without government authorisation, and the Tamar Tag tolls are set to rise prior to the cash tolls to avoid a deficit.

As Chair of Chamber it always baffles me that local residents using the bridge day in, day out, have to pick up the tab to have a bridge which creates such a vital link between the two counties. The previous joint committee were looking for alternative funding opportunities and that work continues now as well as looking to National Highways to pay to have a road run across it. Relying on the locals like our commuters and local businesses to fund it just because they don't have any choice but to use it daily is an argument that is wearing very thin. The bridge provides a vital road link that is part of the Strategic Road Network, and that needs to be acknowledged on a national level starting with our MP.

Treledan Housing Development

The new homes at Carkeel at the Treledan development are now being marketed in Fore Street and online on Rightmove. The prices however of the new development leave a lot to be desired although anecdotally there seems to have a lot of interest already.

In a time of little movement on the housing market in Saltash and across Cornwall, which has already led to a casualty from a Saltash estate agency, local families are crying out for homes. It seems that at a time of real shortage prices are being pushed out of reach. Affordable houses will be available as part of this first phase but whether they will quench the local need for homes remains to be seen.

Join Chamber for 2022

We are a growing group of business members who pride ourselves on listening to local businesses and supporting the Saltash community with community events such as May Fair and initiatives like the Fiver Fest to encourage us all to shop local. We are a non-profit organisation, we meet once a month on the first Monday at 6pm (August being the exception) either at the China Fleet Club or a Fore Street venue, and we discuss pressing matters as well as using the meetings as networking opportunities. The meeting is also held on the Zoom platform offering a hybrid option for those who cannot attend in person. The membership fee to join Chamber is just £25 for the year, and you can register easily online. Contact chair@SaltashChamber.co.uk for more info.