

Council Update

Welcome to Sennen Parish Council's 2024 Newsletter. This has been a busy year for the Council as well as many other groups in the Parish and we hope to bring you a flavour of the work being done locally in this leaflet.

Over the year, the Parish Council has continued developing policy and procedures, responding to consultation requests on planning applications and proposed developments and representing to Cornwall Council and others the interests of our community at County and regional level. The Council has also been pursuing several standalone projects which should make a difference to the Parish, including fighting for bus shelters for our young people and public transport users,

securing traffic calming measures and bidding for funds to plan the provision of improved public toilets in the beach carpark. We have also put together a grant application to fund improvements to our shared spaces, including making the A30 Cornish hedge into a more attractive and biodiverse feature for the village, establishing some wildflower areas, improving pedestrian access to the Cove and providing information and noticeboards for the village. We hope that our funding bid will be successful and that work can begin this year.

Along with many other areas, the Parish suffers from a lack of available affordable housing and as the cost of living rises the impact on our community of housing pressure will only grow.

The Parish Council is always looking for ways to engage and work with our local community. Our monthly meetings are held in public at Churchtown Hall and are open to all. We are fortunate to have our County representative Cllr Brian Clemens in attendance most months and so are able to feed up the County chain our community views and issues. We also have several working groups in which we aim to involve as many local people as possible. If you would like to attend a meeting, join a working group or become a member of the Parish Council please get in touch. We invite

you in particular to attend the Annual Parish Meeting of electors on the 8th May 2024 at Sennen Churchtown Hall, where community groups will come together to share news. Thank you to all those Councillors who have given up their time to be part of the Parish Council over the last year. Sennen is fortunate to have a wealth of committed and caring people who volunteer in many ways to make this a special place to live and the Parish Council is once again really pleased to recognise some of these people in our Citizen of the Year Awards.

Your Parish Council

Sennen Parish Council (SPC) is made up of ten Councillors and a Parish Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer (RFO). Councillors are either elected or co-opted onto the Council between elections. You can see the team in the centre of the newsletter and on the Council website at www.sennen-pc.gov.uk. The Council meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 7pm in Sennen Churchtown Hall. Members of the public and press are welcome to attend. The Council represents the residents of the Parish and acts in their interest. We are a consultee for planning applications submitted to Cornwall Council.

Residents are welcome to join our Groups listed here. Please contact the Parish Clerk if you are interested in joining one of our working groups: 07719 399685 or via email at clerk@sennen-pc.gov.uk

Finance Working Group

Amenities Working Group

Cemeteries Working Group

Affordable Housing Working Group

Sennen Citizen of the Year Awards 2023

Sennen Parish Council recieved many more nominations for Sennen Citizen of the Year Award, and Sennen Young Citizen of the Year Award this year. These awards recognise the hard work our Parish residents do to help one another. The Awards will be presented by Cornwall Councillor Brian Clemens at our Annual Parish Meeting at 6pm on 8th May 2024 at Sennen Churchtown Hall. Tea & biscuits provided by Sennen Parish Council.



You can see details of all our nominees at

www.sennen-pc.gov.uk/sennen-citizen-of-the-year-awards-2023/

The winners of the Sennen Citizen of the Year Award 2023 are Lisa and Kevin Hannigan who received joint nominations from seven people for their work for 'Souper Wednesdays' hosted at Sennen Churchtown Hall, and their other varied works to support the local community.

The winner of the Sennen Young Citizen of the Year Award 2023 is Finn Edwards for his dedication and work at Sennen Karate Club. Runner up is Jonah Wilson for his work litter picking in the Parish.

Sennen Parish Council, c/o The Art House, 36 Fore Street,
Prazze-an-Beeble, Cornwall, TR14 0JX

Communications Working Group
Sennen Nature Action Group (SNAG)
Highways & PRow Working
Neighbourhood Development Plan Steering Group

Sennen Parish Council Supporting Our Community

This year Sennen Parish Council was please to fund a workshop at Sennen School to mark of the Coronation of King Charles III. The children collected plastic to recycle into caribinas with wooden fobs. Thank you to One Blue Eye for running such a fun event for the children.

We have also been able to support Citizens Advice who evidenced local use of their service; SK8PZ to provide subsidised roller-skating at the Community Centre; added to the Christmas lights and provided the Parish Christmas Tree; made a donation to the Royal British Legion and purchased wreaths and crosses for Remembrance Sunday; and we have recently provided a substantial grant comprising of Community Infrastructure Levy monies and grant monies to Sennen & Lands End Pre-School to help them complete works on their much needed refurbished building. Sennen Parish Council has several funding pots it can access to award to local organisations and groups who bring benefit to the community in our Parish. The information about how we can award monies is on our website at www.sennen-pc.gov.uk/grants-and-cil/.



Sennen Harbour Commissioners

The refurbished toilets were opened at Easter 2024. There are hopes that the facilities will be respected and kept in the fantastic condition that they are now in, as they have suffered some misuse prior to the refurbishment. A new CCTV camera system will be installed in the near future to monitor the entrances and all Harbour premises. The repairs to the car park retaining wall will be completed as soon as weather, tides and contractors allow.



Highways & PRow

The Council has been working hard to address problems with speeding vehicles through and in the Parish. Funds secured from Cornwall Council have been used to introduce a number of traffic calming measures that are now in place. These include 20mph speed limits, an extension of the 30mph zone on the A30, new gateway signs at each end of the village entrance on the A30, new road markings and 20mph speed signs that light up to enforce slower speed limits around school opening and closing times. The village will have four Vehicle Activated Signs in place by Summer 2024 to further encourage safer driving speeds.

The Council has secured funding for three bus shelters to be installed this year in locations that take particular regard to children waiting for school buses; eastbound opposite Sennen School, opposite the SPAR shop, and westbound on the green at Mayon.

We have a hard-working Highways & Public Rights of Way Working Group who are happy to welcome volunteers to help improve the Parish network. We run regular litter picks in the Parish, groups form working parties to address issues identified by residents, and are working with outside organisations to find ways to address dog fouling in the area. The next SNAG working day will tackle the rest of the hedge which borders Cove Road. We will publicise a date in May as soon as we can confirm a booking for the tool trailer. If you notice problems with obstructions on the Highway or Public Rights of Way in Sennen, or there is a problem with the surface or flooding, you can report it at:



www.cornwall.gov.uk/report-something/

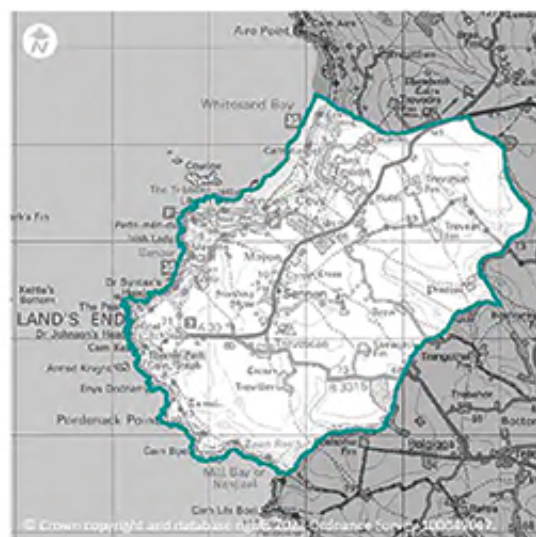
The Parish Council maintains grass areas, cemeteries, and also cuts the most heavily used footpaths in the Parish under a partnership agreement with Cornwall Council (LMP). This year we have added a couple of extra footpath lengths to our agreement and we will also be cutting a few extra grass areas in the Parish. Given the very wet warm Spring we are expecting exceptionally lush growth and will be monitoring the situation accordingly, however please note that some cutting can only start at the end of the bird nesting season.

Sennen Neighbourhood Development Plan

Sennen Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) Steering Group was set up to protect the Parish from unwanted development, address the need for affordable housing in Sennen, and develop a sustainable plan for the future of Sennen Parish. Members of the Steering Group have been working through the process of identifying the needs within the Parish, consulting with residents, drawing up a cohesive plan and seeking approval for the plan from Cornwall Council.

Thank you to all residents and people with links to the village that took the time to complete the Housing Needs Survey undertaken in conjunction with the Cornwall Council Affordable Housing team. The full report can be found on our website. The content of the report is very useful and will assist the Parish Council and NDP Steering Group when looking to meet housing need in Sennen.

The Steering Group is currently working on a draft NDP which will progress through appropriate stages of review within the NDP Steering Group, Neighbourhood Planning Team and Parish Council who will publicise it when it is ready for its first stage of public consultation.



The Council continues to support work on a Neighbourhood Development Plan for the Parish. The document will set out a plan for sustainable development of the Parish, addressing the need for affordable housing and identifying suitable opportunities for economic and residential development whilst protecting our environment and community. Local input for these documents is very crucial and if you would like to have a role in shaping the future of our Parish please do get involved.

To join the team of residents and Parish Councillors on the Sennen NDP Steering Group or on the newly established Affordable Housing Working Group, please contact the Parish Clerk for details: clerk@sennen-pc.gov.uk.

www.sennen-pc.gov.uk/sennen-parish-neighbourhood-development-plan/

Amenities

The Parish Council has been campaigning for improved bin provision in the Cove and this year has seen the replacement of bins at the beach slipway. The set of new bins also now include a recycling bin and collection will remain at least daily during the high season. Please help us to keep recycling and general waste bins in the Parish by using them as instructed. If you notice a bin overflowing, please report it to Cornwall Council via their website. Whenever possible please take your litter home.

Provision of public toilets in Sennen continues to be a major item of work for the Council. Cornwall Council withdrew from providing public toilets in 2016 and since that time the Parish Council has been forced to step in to run the beach carpark facilities at the cost of local residents. In recent years the Parish Council has been working to take over the freehold of the toilet blocks which would enable us to improve these run down facilities which are no longer fit for purpose and struggle to cope with demand. An attempt to move things along resulted in the Parish Council withdrawing from the management of the facilities late last year, however following recent productive meetings with Cornwall Council, the Parish Council has now agreed to enter into a short term tenancy to ensure that toilets are provided in the carpark this season.

We are pleased to have recently been granted funds to undertake a feasibility study to research sustainable redevelopment of the current facilities. The study will consider how best to make the facilities accessible and weather proof, and able to withstand exceptionally heavy use during the summer period. We will also be looking at how the running costs of facilities can be minimised, as we are aware of the financial burden they are to local residents – this may include charging for use during high season. We will be asking partners to come on board to facilitate the development work and hope that the study will come up with some proposals that will make clean, well maintained facilities viable in the carpark. Any proposals will be subject to securing planning permission and capital funding.

The Harbour Commissioners are greatly commended for utilising their car parking fees to completely refurbish their toilets situated in the Harbour Carpark. We hope that similar improvements will in time be possible in future at the beach carpark.

Sennen Parish

Acting Chair

Cllr Kate Hann

khann@sennen-pc.gov.uk

chair@sennen-pc.gov.uk



Cllr Graeme Paterson-Beedle

gpateron-beedle@sennen-pc.gov.uk



Cllr Rachel Puddiphatt

rpuddiphatt@sennen-pc.gov.uk



Clerk & RFO

Victoria Burton-Davey

clerk@sennen-pc.gov.uk

07719 399685

Your Councillors...

Your Councillors can be contacted by email and will be happy to talk with you about issues and projects for the Parish. If you would like to become a Parish Councillor, please take a look at the information on our website at www.sennen-pc.gov.uk, and if you are considering joining Sennen Parish Council, you can express an interest by sending an email or telephoning our Parish Clerk.

Council Members



Cllr Sara Bevan
sbevan@sennen-pc.gov.uk



Cllr Alice Burt
aburt@sennen-pc.gov.uk



Councillor Vacancies
clerk@sennen-pc.gov.uk



Cllr Katherine Shannon
kshannon@sennen-pc.gov.uk

Councillor Vacancies

We currently have 4 Councillor vacancies to fill. Councillors are elected or co-opted persons who serve as Members of the Parish Council for four years, or until the next General Election date, where they can stand for election or re-election. They discuss and vote on the business of the Council. They are drawn from the local electorate and are the holder of a public office.

Being a Parish Councillor is a rewarding way to make a positive difference to your local community. The monthly meetings are held in the evening to allow for Councillors who have work and family commitments during the day.

Sennen Nature Action Group

Sennen Parish Council's Environment Group (now called Sennen Nature Action Group or SNAG) hopes to help meet the challenges our Parish's nature is put under by modern living and future development. We continue to encourage more volunteers to join and bring ideas for initiatives within the Parish, and working with neighbouring Parishes where we can.

If you have ideas to help nature recovery or meet local energy needs etc. please join SNAG. More information about what we are doing is on our website at

<https://www.sennen-pc.gov.uk/environment/SNAG/>

This year we have begun work to restore the Cornish hedge alongside the cycle path by the A30 which will also be planted with wildflower plugs.

Thank you to the 25 volunteers who joined SNAG for 3 hours and a huge amount of work, weeding, cutting, digging and shovelling. We broke the back of the hedge work opposite school and think it looks pretty fine! To support traditional local skills SPC have agreed to fund 2 volunteers to undertake Cornish hedging training - get in touch with the Clerk for details. We rely on the continued involvement of residents to make these events a success.

Defibrillators in our Parish – Do you know where they are?



We are lucky to have a few new defibrillator machines installed in our Parish this year. Please take a look at the map below to see where they are located and make sure your family and friends know about them too. Each device is externally sited and available for use by

anyone in need. There is also a device sited inside Sennen Community Centre.

Sennen Cemetery

Sennen Cemetery is managed by Sennen Parish Council. You can find information about the Cemetery on our website at www.sennen-pc.go.uk/sennen-cemetery/. Sennen Cemetery is also a Commonwealth War Graves site. More information is available at www.cwgc.org. We also cut the grass at Sennen Cemetery, Sennen Churchyard (now closed for burials), and Escalls Chapel Cemetery.

We have this year been able to facilitate a new memorial bench which is sited in Sennen Cemetery. We were also pleased to make some improvements to the War Memorial: with weeds dug out, edges tidied, and chippings added to the wreath and cross area.



The concrete and wooden bench which sits behind the memorial is set for a loving restoration and should once again provide a space for quiet reflection.



The Council plans to create a dedicated wildflower area on the north east side of Sennen Cemetery, which will be carefully tended to allow nature to bloom in harmony with the well-kept respectful spaces given to loved ones.

You may have noticed new signs at the Cemetery marking the area as a Commonwealth Graves site. Thanks are given to Andrew Lugg and the other volunteers who tend the Commonwealth War Graves within the Cemetery.

You will notice that dogs on leads are permitted along the footpath at the rear of the cemetery and within the cemetery itself. Please respect the quiet nature of the site and remember to pick up any litter or dog waste when visiting.

News from Sennen Community

RNLI

Sennen Cove Lifeboat has had another busy and eventful year both at sea and ashore. Both Lifeboats (inshore and all weather) launched to a multitude of incidents ranging from broken down fishing boats to people cut off by the tide – and everything in between. Perhaps the most notable ‘shout’ was that which occurred on 10th July 2023 involving the 31000 tonne merchant vessel ‘Mazarine’ which suffered engine failure and rather unluckily ended up going aground on Wolf Rock lighthouse. The all weather lifeboat, City of London III, launched immediately to assist. Fortunately the vessel was able to float free and eventually a tug took it under tow. This shout is due to feature on the TV series ‘Saving Lives at Sea’ in the coming weeks.

Training, as always, is a central part of our activities and this year has been no exception. We endeavour to launch every Thursday on exercise (weather permitting) and we carry out several joint exercises with our search and rescue colleagues from other agencies, such as HM Coastguard, National Coastwatch and Bristow Helicopters.

During the busy Summer period, we held our annual Lifeboat Day which was well attended and, for the second year running, featured the ‘Dunk Tank’ which saw some of our crew getting dunked into a tank of water, to the delight of those watching.

Later in the year we were treated to our annual ‘Carols in the Cove’ concert which got everyone into the festive spirit, overlooked by a wonderful Christmas light display in the boathouse.

We ended the year with our Christmas party, during which several of our long serving members were deservedly awarded with RNLI Long Service Medals, ranging from 20 years to 40 years, we had a good mix of experience being recognised.

As we head into Spring and Summer, we will inevitably find ourselves busied with (hopefully) improved weather and the increase in water users. We look forward to seeing you all through the year at one of our events and would like to pass on our sincere thanks for all of the support both from our wonderful community and from wider afield.

Community Centre

Sennen Community Centre is a multi-use sports facility with various ball courts, a squash court, a fully equipped kitchen and various meeting rooms available for hire located behind Sennen Primary School. To book please use the new online booking system www.sennencommunitycentre.co.uk. Please ring 07934420457 if you have any difficulties with the online booking system or if you would like any further details.

2023 has been another busy year for the hall with a recently newly laid floor in the main hall now looking fresh and clean. Also the walls in the Squash Court have been repaired and the walls freshly painted. Throughout 2023 the Centre held successful and busy open days promoting their available activities such as:- Squash in the recently refurbished Squash Court, Pickle Ball (the fastest growing game in the UK) a combination of tennis, badminton and table tennis!



Other sports/ activities in the hall are racket ball, badminton, roller skating, birthday parties, martial arts and keep fit classes. The hall has regular clubs which welcome

new members ie Keep fit classes, table tennis, Karate roller skating, bowling and sewing and crafts. The hall continues to host the Farmer's Market every Tuesday morning.

Sennen School

This term has been a busy one for children at Sennen School. They have been learning about a variety of topics, from evolution & the human body to minibeasts and heroes. The children loved sharing their learning at the end of term assembly, some of them were even brave enough to show off their French! On a more practical level, work has been going on behind the scenes to help protect the future of the building, with quotes being obtained for new windows which will hopefully be installed over the next few months.

Sennen Cove Recreation Centre

2023 marked the 100 year anniversary of the SCRC as a community building, after it was donated to the people of Sennen in 1923!

This year has marked lots of progress for the centre, with the team successfully registering as a charity which now also holds the ownership of the building. This opens up access to new funding opportunities to renovate the



centre, which will enable us to open it up to more of our community to use. Renovations are desperately needed as there is widespread damp and mould throughout the building rendering it mostly unusable.

Last year we were successful in securing £21,000 of funding from the Cornwall Community Capacity Fund (CCF) to carry out vital feasibility studies on the centre, including structural assessment, that determined that it is beyond renovation and requires rebuilding. The community consultation events, community group involvement and local surveys held since have helped to shape this rebuild project, with plans to create a warm, safe, comfortable space, with toilets, changing facilities, secure storage, a community gym, small kitchen and multi-purpose training areas suitable for a wide range of activities.

We are actively fundraising to make this project a reality - with a major bid in for the Community Ownership Fund that helps to rescue community buildings that are at risk. If you are able to help in any way with fundraising or donations please do get in touch.

As the only waterside community building in the parish we are in a unique position to support a wide range of ocean and beach based activities. We would love to hear from any local groups who would be interested in making use of the centre in the future.

Local Links

Sennen Churchtown Hall	bookings	ckb2@btinternet.com
Sennen Community Primary Academy Trust		01736 871392
Sennen & Lands End Pre-School		07971 378832
Harbour Commissioners		cps@sennen-cove.com
Sennen RNLI		01736 871222
St Sennen Church		07910 432078
Escalls Chapel	escallschapelsennen@gmail.com	
Wednesday Souper	jmatkinson@btinternet.com	
Sennen Karate Club	Luke Jackson	07504 279716
Sennen Cove Recreation Centre	(local rate)	0300 122 8560
Sennen Surf Club	Sadie	07538 266286
Cape Cornwall Gig Club	capecornwallsecretary@gmail.com	
Sennen Community Centre		07934 420457
Indoor Bowling	Chris Andrew	01736 871484
Penzance Table Tennis Club	Nigel	01736 361023
Sew and So	sewing and knitting club	Jo 01736 871185
Keep Fit	Wynne	01736 871246
Sennen Market	sennenmarket@gmail.com	
AGE UK	transport bookings	01872 223388
First & Last Stores		01736 871917

First & Last Stores (SPAR) provide lots of services that make a difference to our community: they can offer prescriptions collection; are a key holder for bookings of the Churchtown Hall and Community Centre; are the Food Bank drop off point; and the Post Office processes most items during shop opening hours.