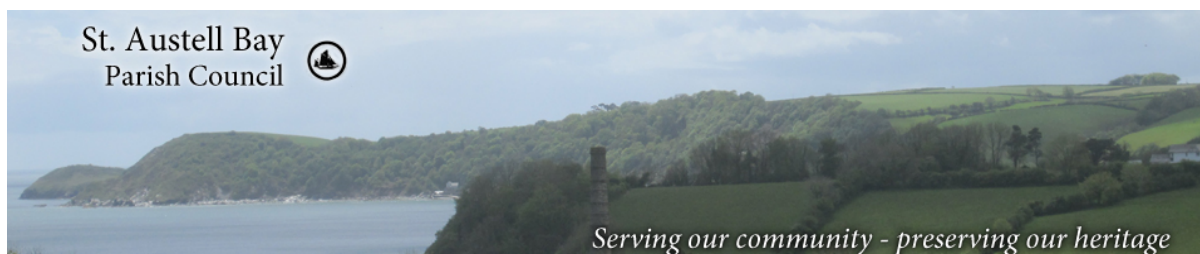


# ST AUSTELL BAY PARISH COUNCIL

## NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN



**St Austell Bay ..... have your say**  
Baya Sen Austel ..... gwrewgh leva

### APRIL UPDATE

#### ***Government Guidance on Neighbourhood Plans and Coronavirus***

The latest advice, published this month, is that nearly all aspects of Neighbourhood Planning can go ahead as long as they meet the statutory guidance on staying at home, social distancing and protecting vulnerable people. The main exception is the referendum, but we are some months away from that anyway. This means that, as we are well on with the process, the SG can continue to work towards the statutory 6-week consultation period with few alterations, except that for the time being we will not be holding our monthly meetings. Updates on key matters will be posted on our website (address below.)

#### ***Draft Neighbourhood Plan***

This is available to view on the website at [www.staustellbayndp.org.uk](http://www.staustellbayndp.org.uk).

### ***Strategic Environmental Assessment***

The Draft Plan was screened by Cornwall Council to decide whether we needed a Strategic Environmental Assessment or a Habitats Regulations Assessment. The decision was that neither was needed. This was pleasing because the SEA takes a couple of months to complete, which would obviously have delayed the progress of the Plan.

While this process was being undertaken, the draft Plan was also sent to key officers at Cornwall Council who gave informal feedback. We now have their comments in. They were helpful and supportive, and contained suggestions about extra specialist references, some possible changes to wording to strengthen the case being made, as well as some ideas about improvements to maps and layout.

The SG is currently deciding what adjustments we need to make in light of this feedback. We will then prepare the next draft ready for the period of consultation with you, the public. This takes place over a six-week period.

Obviously, in the current climate we cannot hold consultation events as originally planned – however, we anticipated the lockdown and last month organised a consultation method which Cornwall Council advisers have approved as meeting all the statutory requirements under Legal Compliance for an inclusive consultation. All residents will receive a copy of the draft plan by post, with a reply-paid envelope. There will be full details about how to ask questions and make comments. We will let you know via the website when to expect this to arrive.

Any questions? Please contact our secretary, Sue Osbrink, on [s.osbrink@staustellbay-pc.gov.uk](mailto:s.osbrink@staustellbay-pc.gov.uk)