

Councillor Report – November 2025



Cllr Rowland O'Connor

Cornwall Council

Division: St. Columb Major, St. Mawgan-in-Pydar & St. Wenn

Introduction

Welcome to the November 2025 update for St. Columb Major, St. Mawgan & St. Wenn. This report reflects council and community matters up to **20 November 2025** and provides a concise summary of key updates and upcoming events.

Local Council Updates

Highways & Transport

- Cornwall Highways is progressing winter-preparation checks across the area, including drain clearance, gully maintenance, and gritting-route verification ahead of expected cold spells (Cornwall Council, Nov 2025).
- Reports of **surface-water pooling** following heavy rain continue, particularly on rural lanes around St. Mawgan and the A39 approaches. Inspection requests have been logged with Highways.

Planning

- Several household applications across the division remain in the determination phase.
- A number of residents have raised enquiries about site access, road safety, and consultation procedures relating to ongoing applications. Updated national planning guidance remains in effect as referenced by Cornwall Council this month.

Cornwall-Wide Council Activity

- Public engagement on the “**Vision for Cornwall**” strategy continues, with drop-ins now moving to the analysis stage following the 12 November Newquay session.
- The Council’s **2026/27 budget consultation** is ongoing, with pressures in children’s services, SEND transport, and adult social care continuing to dominate feedback.

Community News

Schools & Education

- Local schools are entering the winter term period with nativity preparations, Christmas fairs, and PTA fundraising events advertised across social channels (local school updates, Nov 2025).
- Some schools have issued reminders about seasonal illness protocols amid higher-than-normal absence rates typical for late November.

Community Groups

- Residents and volunteer groups continue litter-pick and environmental activity—particularly in Mawgan Porth and around the St. Columb Major river paths.
- Remembrance commemorations were successfully held on **9 November** across the division, with good attendance reported at all parish events.

Local Services

- NHS Cornwall has issued seasonal advice on respiratory illness and winter pressures, noting sustained demand on GP practices and emergency departments (NHS Cornwall, Nov 2025).

Events & Activities (Next 28 Days)

(Events between **20 November – 18 December 2025**)

St. Columb Major Christmas Lights Switch-On

Late November (Town Council schedule). Public attendance is usually high; road-safety marshals will be on site.

St. Mawgan Christmas Events

Early December. Includes school events, parish gatherings, and village hall activities.

Parish Council Meetings

- **St. Columb Major Town Council** – expected early December (standard monthly cycle).
- **St. Mawgan-in-Pydar Parish Council** – December meeting expected within regular pattern.
- **St. Wenn Parish Council** – usual monthly meeting cycle continues.

School Christmas Fairs and Nativities

Late November through mid-December across all primary schools in the division.

Cornwall Council Budget Consultation Events

Online and in-person opportunities remain open across the county through early December.

Casework & Resident Issues

Common themes this month:

- **Street lighting concerns** — including impact on personal safety, emergency services access, and visibility during darker winter evenings.
- **Highways issues** — potholes, drainage blockages, and hedgerow overgrowth remain frequently reported.
- **Planning process clarity** — including queries around consultation, neighbour notification, and highway-safety implications of live applications.

Future Priorities (As at 20 November 2025)

- Working with Cornwall Council officers on **street lighting review** issues raised locally.
- Feeding division-specific concerns into the **Vision for Cornwall** analysis phase.
- Continuing to monitor **winter highways risks**, especially flooding and surface water.
- Supporting preparations for **Christmas community events** across the parishes.

Message to Residents

Thank you to everyone who has contacted me this month about local issues. Your feedback helps ensure Cornwall Council remains accountable and responsive to rural communities like ours. Please do continue to share any concerns or ideas — particularly as we look ahead to the festive season and beyond to 2026.

Useful Links

- [Cornwall Council Planning Portal](#)
- [Roads and Transport Information](#)
- [Waste and Recycling Services](#)

Contact Details

If you'd like to get in touch, please contact me at cllr.rowland.oconnor@cornwall.gov.uk or by phone on **01872 322222 (say my name)**.

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