



Redruth Civic Centre, Alma Place, Redruth, Cornwall TR15 2AT

Tel No: 01209-210038 e-mail: admin@redruth-tc.gov.uk

Town Mayor: Cllr R S Barnes

Town Clerk: C Caldwell

Our Reference:

RTC/400/2/Mtg

Date:

29th January 2025

See Distribution

Dear Councillor

Meeting of the Engagement Committee – 3rd February 2025

You are summoned to attend a Meeting of the Redruth Town Council Engagement Committee which will be held in the Langman Room, Redruth Civic Centre, Alma Place, on Monday 3rd February 2025, commencing at 7:00pm.

The Agenda and associated documentation are attached for your information.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Caldwell', followed by a long horizontal line.

Charlotte Caldwell
Town Clerk

Enclosures:

Agenda and associated documentation.

Distribution:

Action:

Cllr S Barnes	Cllr C Garrick
Cllr H Biscoe	Cllr D Reeve
Cllr A Biscoe	Cllr I Thomas
Cllr P Broad	Cllr B Craze
Cllr B Ellenbroek	Cllr K Grasso
Cllr C Skinner	
Cllr R Major	

Information:

All other Town Councillors
Cornwall Council Members
Redruth & District Chamber of Commerce
Press & Public

Redruth Town Council
Engagement Committee Meeting – 3rd February 2025
AGENDA

PART I – PUBLIC SESSION

1. To receive apologies for absence.
2. Members to declare any disclosable pecuniary interests or non-registerable interests (including details thereof) in respect of any item(s) on this Agenda.
3. Public participation session – to enable the public to put questions to the Committee relating to any items on this agenda.
4. To confirm the minutes of the meeting of:
 - 6.1 the Engagement Committee held on 21st October 2024. [Minutes attached]
5. To receive correspondence. [None at time of publication]
6. Verbal report from President of Redruth & District Chamber of Commerce on the work of the Chamber.
7. To receive a report from the Chair of the Redruth: Real Del Monte Twinning Association.
8. To receive a verbal update on behalf of the Secretary of the Redruth: Mineral Point Twinning Association.
9. To receive a verbal update on behalf of the Chair of the Redruth: Plumergat et Meriadec Twinning Association.
10. Reports from Members/Officers:
 - 10.1 Report from the Engagement Officer. [See report attached]
 - 10.2 Report from the Events & Marketing Manager. [See report attached]
 - 10.3 Report from the Acting Library Manager. [See report attached]



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Town Mayor: Cllr R S Barnes

Town Clerk: Ms C Caldwell

Minutes of the Redruth Town Council Engagement Committee held at Redruth Civic Centre, Alma Place, Redruth on Monday 21st October 2024

Present: Cllr C Garrick
Cllr H Biscoe
Cllr A Biscoe
Cllr S Barnes
Cllr B Craze
Cllr K Grasso
Cllr D Reeve
Cllr C Skinner
Cllr I Thomas

Chair
Vice Chair

In attendance: Mrs C Caldwell
Ms S White
Mrs H Bardle
Ms A Lamming
Mrs S Bolton
Miss K O'Dell
Cllr M Brown
Mr D Westly
Mrs Westly
Ms C Upham
Another local resident was in attendance

Town Clerk
Engagement Officer
Responsible Finance Officer
Events and Marketing Manager
Acting Library Manager
Administration Assistant

Artist & Sculptor

Salvation Army

PART I – PUBLIC SESSION

1596.1 To receive apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from Cllrs Ellenbroek, Major and Broad. Mr Hernandez and Mr Jewell also sent their apologies.

1596.2 Members to declare any disclosable pecuniary interests or non-registerable interests (including details thereof) in respect of any item(s) on this Agenda.

None declared.

1596.3 Public participation session – to enable the public to put questions to the Committee relating to any items on this agenda.

No members of the public wished to speak.

1596.4 Presentation by David Westby – the Bal Maiden sculpture

Mr Westby introduced himself and described his background as an artist and sculptor. He started researching the history of Bal Maiden's several years ago and was surprised at how

little original physical and visual evidence of their contribution exists. This prompted him to create 'Ruth the Bal Maiden' a life-sized figure coated in a mix of copper and tin pigment, which was most recently on display in the Langman Room as part of the International Mining and Pasty Festival celebrations and received a lot of interest and positive comments. Mr Westly said he has had many conversations with people in and around Redruth and it seems that a permanent artwork celebrating the contribution women and children made to the copper and tin mining industry is long overdue. He showed the Councillors some of his sketches of possible sculptures.

Cllr Reeve arrived at the meeting at this point.

Mr Westby proposed for Redruth Town Council to help him get together a group of local representatives of the community to create a working party to facilitate the creation of a permanent public artwork celebrating the women and children who worked in the mining industry of Cornwall. He added that the momentum was there, and three sites had been identified as possible locations for the sculpture: Redruth Railway Station, Station Hill or Fairmeadow.

Cllr Thomas thanked Mr Westby for his presentation and said he particularly liked a sketch entitled 'Farewell'. He added that 'Ruth the Bal Maiden' is an iconic statue in its own right and asked what would be happening with her. Mr Westby replied that she is currently being exhibited at Tremenhoe Sculpture Gardens Gallery in Penzance and that she would be out and about visiting various community spaces across Cornwall, and he has planned to speak with Redruth School and King Edward Mine regarding her to be on display there. Cllr Thomas suggested that Kresen Kernow would be an excellent home for her. Cllr Barnes also admired 'Ruth' and then asked Mrs Westby for her input. Mrs Westby explained that Mr Westby was more than capable to design and lead the project, but he would need someone technically minded helping with organising publicity and with raising money. Mr Westby agreed and said he was now towards the end of his career but would love to get this project up and running.

Cllr Garrick thanked Mr and Mrs Westby and promised that he would investigate any ways of helping with setting a group up and would get back to him.

1596.5 Presentation by RJ Working on their work on climate action and engagement with young people

Due to unforeseen circumstances RJ Working were unable to attend the meeting.

1596.6 To confirm the minutes of:

1596.6.1 Meeting of the Engagement Committee held on the 5th August 2024

RESOLVED by Majority that the minutes of the Engagement Committee Meeting held on the 5th August 2024 are received, and the recommendations and resolutions are accepted and approved [Proposed Cllr Barnes; Seconded Cllr A Biscoe] Cllr Craze abstained as he had not been present at the meeting.

1596.7 To receive correspondence

None received.

1596.8 Verbal report from the President of the Redruth & District Chamber of Commerce on the work of the Chamber

Mr Hernandez was unable to attend the meeting. Cllr Reeve gave a verbal update on his behalf. Since their last meeting a lot of concern has been expressed regarding the ongoing gas works in the town and have requested that Redruth Town Council help to arrange a meeting with the relevant portfolio holders at Cornwall Council and the local MP. The Town Clerk told Cllrs that the Wales and West Utilities Team have agreed to attend the next two

Full Council meetings on the 28th October and the 25th November so concerns can be addressed. Cllr Reeve added that several business owners have found the compensation scheme to be difficult to navigate.

- 1596.8.1 Unanimously RESOLVED to write to the portfolio holders and the local MP to request a meeting with the Redruth Chamber of Commerce and local business owners [Proposed Cllr Reeve; Seconded Cllr H Biscoe]

- 1596.9 **To receive a presentation from Cara Upham from the Salvation Army about the Salvation Army Employment Plus scheme.**

Ms Upham introduced herself and explained the history of the scheme which started in Australia and has now been in Cornwall for four months. It is a free programme for anyone under 18. A lot of their referrals come from the Jobcentre, but anyone can be referred or self-refer. They help with all things employment with lots of free online training and they offer continued support and wellbeing even when someone has been successful in gaining employment. It is all done on a voluntary basis and tailored to fit individual needs. Cllr Barnes asked where Ms Upham is based, and she replied that her current base was the Salvation Army hub in town. She has looked into spending time at the Jobcentre but happy to be anywhere as long as it is a public space due to their lone working policy. The Town Clerk introduced Ms Upham to the Acting Library Manager and suggested that she could work out of the library on a regular basis. In response to a question from a member of the public Ms Upham said she worked in a different town on each day of the week but would be in Redruth every week. Cllr Garrick asked would they help someone with special needs and Ms Upham replied that the scheme is set up to help anyone, the only criteria is that they have to be over 18. Cllr Thomas suggested RTC could help with publicity and mentioned the Redruth Record. Cllr Barnes asked if there were any hidden costs that were passed on to participants. Ms Upham replied that the scheme was entirely free and that there was money available to help with things like getting identification, setting up bank accounts and even purchasing interview clothes.

Cllr Garrick thanked Ms Upham for her time.

- 1596.10 **To receive a report from the Chair of the Redruth: Real Del Monte Twinning Association**

As Mr Hernandez was unable to attend, Cllr Reeve gave a verbal update. 8 members have just returned from Mexico which was very successful. The Town Crier was very well received, he made several appearances and spoke in fluent Spanish. He even appeared on state television. Cllr Reeve has taken lots of videos to share. They took a flag with them which would be kept and displayed in their Paste Museum and be used in ceremonies. They visited a cemetery where Cornish miners were buried, they sang 'The White Rose' and each laid a single white rose on a grave. It was a very moving and poignant moment. They attended a talk by a Dr Schwarz who had been giving talks all across Mexico about the Cornish mining movement. There were lots of Cornish Mexicans and it was very clear how dear the connection to Cornwall was to them. They have recently opened a new mining attraction, at the entrance to which is a statue of a Cornish miner with a plaque of all the names of those who had first travelled there. There were a lot of familiar surnames. Our group came away with lots of ideas to share with the Engagement team. The Mexicans would also like a big celebration in 2026 as although the 200th anniversary was 2024, the mining equipment arrived two years after so only then did the actual mining start. The Mexicans expressed that they were very keen for staff members to visit. Cllr Reeve added she would feedback to the Engagement team how the Mexicans festivals worked. Cllr Thomas asked after the 'Storycoat'. Cllr Reeve replied that it had been kept safe with a tracker and she had taken it on the plane as a cabin bag. The Town Crier wore it out there and the Mexicans loved it. The coat has now been returned to us safely.

1596.11 To receive a report from the Secretary of Redruth: Mineral Point Twinning Association.

Mr Jewell was unable to attend the meeting so no report.

1596.12 To receive a report from the Chair of the Redruth: Plumergat et Meriadec Twinning Association.

The Engagement Officer gave a verbal report on Mr Jewell's behalf. The AGM would be held next month where a new board is to be appointed. They would like support from RTC as they would like to raise funds so that the French group could visit next year. Cllr Garrick asked the Engagement Officer to circulate the details.

1596.13 Reports from Members/Officers:

1596.13.1 Report from the Engagement Officer

The report had been circulated prior to the meeting. The Engagement Officer said since the report went out she had a visit from Link regarding the Banking Hub and she would update Cllrs on their findings. Cllr Thomas asked if the Link representative had noticed the Post Office closed and boarded up. The Engagement Officer confirmed they did and added that we are not the only ones struggling to find a new postmaster but that does strengthen our case for a banking hub.

The Engagement Officer said there had been a lot of work on the CCTV provision and that the options would be presented at the next Full Council meeting.

Cllr Garrick said he thought the idea for a Teen Market was an excellent one.

The report was noted.

Mr and Mrs Westby left the meeting at this point.

1596.13.2 Report from the Events and Marketing Manager

A report had been circulated prior to the meeting. The Events and Marketing Manager said it was great to have the Mexicans visiting for the International Mining and Pasty Festival. The Smoking of the Stacks on the Friday evening had received an excellent turnout and it would be good to grow this in the future. Cllr Barnes said he thought it went extremely well and had gone from strength to strength. The Events and Marketing Manager said that the team had taken learnings from the events on the Saturday, had held internal feedback meetings and would be taking a NALC course in Mastering Emergency Planning.

Cllr Garrick was interested in the idea of combining two festivals into one weekend. Councillors pointed out the pros and cons, including consideration of school term dates. Cllr Reeve said she agreed with making the festivals bigger and better but not combining them and would prefer to keep all four. Cllr Thomas agreed and felt it would be a huge mistake. He suggested Redruth should be increasing the number we hold instead of reducing them. Cllr Reeve also suggested switching the Pasty Festival and Murdoch Day around. The Engagement Officer pointed out the need to properly consult with the public before implementing such big changes. She added that the team had been looking at many things for a three-year plan including the Pasty Championships and a food festival. Cllr Grasso liked the idea of a food festival and suggested the Buttermarket could be a focus of that with shanty bands providing entertainment as that would draw the crowds. The Town Clerk set out her aspiration that the Town Council are preparing twelve months in advance. The plan was to change the way stall holders are booked and invoiced as the system used previously was time and labour intensive. The Town Clerk said she was keen to see how we could increase the content and highlighted a recent trip to St Just with the Operations Team. The team had been invited to visit the Mining and Mineral Museum, which was fantastic. The

team at the museum were keen to collaborate for the Mining & Pasty Festival next year. Councillors were told they would be hearing a lot more about this over the next few weeks.

Councillors considered the request by the Events and Marketing Manager to move Murdoch Day back by one week. They agreed that it would be good to not clash with Falmouth Sea Shanty Festival and that Redruth Town Band would also be available as it would avoid their competition weekend.

1596.13.2.1 RESOLVED by Majority to move Murdoch Day from the 14th June 2025 to the 21st June 2025 [Proposed Cllr Thomas; Seconded Cllr Garrick] Cllr H Biscoe abstained.

The remainder of the report was noted.

1596.13.3 Report from the Acting Library Manager

A report had been circulated prior to the meeting. The Acting Library Manager said it had been an incredibly busy summer and it was great to have another member of staff join the team. Truro Museum had made contact, and the Library would be hosting some workshops for them in January and February. Cllr Barnes asked about the pizza evening. The Acting Library Manager replied that it would be on the 12th November from 5pm to 6.30pm and it would be a thank you for the volunteers who worked so hard in the library over the summer. The Town Clerk said it would be good for the Cllrs to be invited to thank the volunteers. The report was noted.

The local resident left the meeting at this point.

PART II – PRIVATE SESSION – Exclusion of the press and public.

The Council is invited to pass the following resolution: - That pursuant to the provisions of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, the press and public be excluded from the Meeting for the following item of business, by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted. [Proposed Cllr Garrick; Seconded Cllr Thomas]

Cllr Barnes left the meeting at this point.

1596.14 Verbal report on the provision of a Fun Fair at Murdoch Day 2025

The Town Clerk gave a verbal report to Councillors.

1596.14.1 RESOLVED by Majority that there would not be a Fun Fair at Murdoch Day 2025 [Proposed Cllr Reeve; Seconded Cllr A Biscoe] Cllr H Biscoe abstained.

Chairman

SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

a.	Policy	-	No
b.	Financial	-	No
c.	Legal	-	No

1.0 TERMS OF REFERENCE

- 1.1 To provide the committee with information on the work carried out by the Engagement Officer & her team since the last meeting.

2.0 REPORT

2.1 Organisation of community events

Dates for 2025

- St Piran's Festival – 1st March
- Redruth Specsavers Local Hero Awards – 17th April
- VE Day 80th Anniversary – 8th May
- Murdoch Day – 7th June
- Fun Day – 30th August
- International Mining & Pasty Festival – 19th & 20th September
- Remembrance Sunday – 9th November
- Redruth in Lights – 29th November
- Festive Saturdays – 6th and 13th December

2.2 Festivals & Events

2024 ended with a successful Redruth in Lights festival with a large attendance in town for the event. Changes made to the parade route and timings were successful in helping with crowd control and we were lucky with the weather. We are grateful to all those who took part in the parade especially the RAOST cast of 'Elf' and the schools. We also report a successful Christmas grotto which was held across three Saturdays and we would like to thank all the volunteers who were involved including some staff and Members.

The Events & Marketing Manager's report will go into more detail on plans for this year's festivals.

2.3 Banking Hub/Post Office

I was very pleased to receive confirmation from Link UK in December that we had been recommended for a full Banking Hub. We have since been working with Cash Access UK on plans for an Interim Banking Hub which will be in operation while they secure and fit out the permanent solution.

The Banking Hub will be open by the end of February or early March. I do not have a further update on a stand alone Post Office except to receive confirmation that an existing postmaster is interested in opening a branch and they are liaising directly with their Post Office business manager to explore the options.

2.4 **Lemin's Court**

The consultation process has now concluded without any comments being received and Cormac will now start on the works before the end of the financial year. I have informed The Regal and they are pleased that their loading issues will be resolved and are grateful to the Town Council for the support they have received.

2.5 **CCTV**

Members will know that progress has been made on the options for our future CCTV coverage.

2.6 **Community Centre refurbishment funding**

Members will recall that we were planning to submit a bid to the Community Ownership Fund for refurbishments to the Community Centre but the fund was put on hold just before the General Election. We have recently had notification that it will not reopen and so that route for funding is closed to us now.

Subsequently, we have received notification that the Community Levelling Up Fund will open for applications during w/c 3rd February so we are working towards submitting a bid to that fund instead. Members will also note that we have also installed new signage at the centre which is a positive step.

2.7 **Discover Redruth centre**

Five students from the University were recruited to take part in the project. They have been working on ideas and have undertaken some market research. In the meantime, one of our Facilities team has been working on a design for the space and options for sourcing furniture and fixings etc. A further verbal update will be given at the meeting.

2.8 **Police Liaison**

We have met with our new Neighbourhood Beat officer Sgt Alice Mackinnon and we had very extensive and welcome support from the Neighbourhood team for the Redruth in Lights festival. The next Police Liaison Meeting is coming up this month where I hope to get an update on PCSO recruitment.

2.9 **Redruth Local Hero Awards**

Keira is once again doing an excellent job of preparing to launch the Awards programme for this year. Work is ongoing to secure sponsors with most categories covered and nominations will open soon. The ceremony will take place on Thursday 17th April (Maundy Thursday) at the Penventon Hotel and member invites will be following soon. As this is taking place in the Pre-Election period, there will be no photo calls or speeches by any Councillor.

2.10 **Engagement with town centre businesses & Totally Locally**

I attended both Totally Locally and Redruth & District Chamber of Commerce meetings at the end of 2024. Totally Locally have launched their new What's On website which is a good resource for the town and I interviewed Sarah Sullivan for the podcast.

3.0 **RECOMMENDATION**

3.1 It is recommended that this reported is noted.

Sam White – Engagement Officer

SUBJECT OF REPORT: To update the committee on the work of the Events and Marketing Manager

SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

- | | | | |
|----|-----------|---|----|
| a. | Policy | - | No |
| b. | Financial | - | No |
| c. | Legal | - | No |

1.0 TERMS OF REFERENCE

- 1.1 To provide the committee with information of the work carried out by the Events and Marketing Manager and her team since the last meeting.

2.0 REPORT

2.1 Organisation of community events

Key dates are included in the Engagement Officer's report.

2.2 Festivals & Events

Spooky Redruth Activities

- Clapping Frog Puppets with Sam Bradbury – Saturday 26th October
Throughout this session we had 21 children and 19 adults attend.
- Flapping Bats with Sam Bradbury – Monday 28th October
Throughout this session we had 44 children and 31 adults attend.
- Spooky Silent Disco – Wednesday 30th October
Throughout this session we only had 4 children and 4 adults attend despite the event having lots more bookings.
- Pumpkin Carving (three sessions of 15) – Thursday 26th October.

Across the three sessions, we had 38 children and 24 adults who attended with 40 out of the 45 pumpkins carved.

Competitions

For Halloween, we ran two competitions. The first was a guessing game where visitors could take a guess at how many sweets were in the Halloween jar that we filled. This proved very popular with 113 people submitting guesses.

The second competition involved collecting stamps on a competition card at each of our activities. By collecting two or more stamps, participants could enter the prize draw. For the prizes, we reached out to Merlin Cinema who own the Regal, and they kindly donated three pairs of tickets to give away. 42 people submitted their cards to the prize draw.

Redruth in Lights

The 'Redruth in Lights' Christmas lights festival was a great success; with the weather on our side we were able to proceed with the Children's lantern parade and host an inclusive community festival. There were around 125 people in the parade with a mix of Redruth schools and community groups. We ended the parade in Flowerpot car park allowing time for the crowds to make their way to the Miner Statue for the light switch on, this worked well and is

something we will look to do again in future events to help with crowd control. There was a festive market, music, entertainment and the Redruth Wassail bringing many visitors to the Buttermarket.

Christmas in Redruth – Saturday 7th and 14th December 2024

The Redruth Christmas grotto was held over three dates (November 30th, December 7th and 14th), during these dates 418 children visited the grotto held at Redruth Community Centre. We also organised festive activities in the town for the community to enjoy, this included music in the town centre on both December dates, a Christmas market, crafting workshops in the library and a silent disco.

This year, we hosted a festive silent disco on one of our festive Saturdays for families to enjoy, utilising the silent disco equipment we purchased with the funding received for Murdoch Day earlier in the year. We organised three sessions throughout the day, which were attended by a total of 91 people. After we had a low turnout for our Halloween-themed silent disco, we decided to change the format for the Christmas disco to a drop-in event. This worked really well, as many people who were visiting the library for other purposes also joined in the fun.

St Piran's Festival

Planning is underway for the next town festival – St Piran's Festival on Saturday 1st March 2025. We are planning a smaller mainly indoor (to build weather resilience) Celtic curated market, focusing on local traders and produce. Thanks to the support of many local partners, there will be more activities for the community to be involved in such as seed planting workshops, Cornish pebble painting sessions and learning the Trelawney shout before the parade. We are working with a group in Berlin who want to bring a travelling exhibition to Redruth Library for the festival. It will work closely with members of the Cornish community to offer support for further Kernewek language revitalisation efforts. The exhibition will show artwork by a Cornish artist and 4 other artists from other minoritised language communities.

St Piran's Festival will also see the unveiling of the Ark of Extinction squirrel mural, a project that our Communications Co-ordinator has been developing with artist Marc Craig. Ten local artists are curating artworks in town locations to form a town trail highlighting the endangered red squirrel. The trail will be found in the Redruth Festival guide and later digitalised. Part of this project has been sponsored by Brandon Tool Hire who are providing a scissor lift for Marc to create the mural in the run up to St Piran's Festival.

We are delighted to confirm that the Banking Hub will be officially launched that day too.

We chaired a meeting of the Cultural Consortium on 24th January so other local organisations could also share their plans for St Piran's Festival to improve co-ordination across the town and to spark new ideas.

Redruth Twinning Association visit

We have been working with the Redruth:Plumergat et Meriadec Twinning Association to host a civic reception for the visitors from Brittany who are coming to Redruth this year for a visit. There will be approx. 60 visitors on Friday 30th May in Redruth for the reception which we hope will be at the Redruth Community Centre.

2.3

Climate Action

The last two Redruth climate action group meetings have seen numbers dwindle, we have discussed this in the group and are going to host the next meeting in The Buttermarket and publicly invite more people to join in. We would like some direction and input from Councillors as to where they see the direction of the group going.

In the town council offices, there has been the introduction of new climate friendly cleaning products which are non-toxic and non-hazardous. We have more sustainable toilet roll dispensers and soap dispensers in place.

In the Engagement team, we have been working with RJ Working. Councillors and members of the public were invited to attend a conversation about climate change issues with RJ

Working on January 13th, the room was full of attendees and there were a lot of great discussions around climate change and the impact it has had and is having in Redruth.

On Friday 17th January, the Facilities team, Engagement Team, some of Redruth Library's Rhyme Time and the Town Clerk were invited to plant a knowledge tree at East End Park. The ceremony allowed children from the Rhymetime group to have a go at tree planting whilst learning about eco-systems at the same time. The sapling, a native whitebeam, was gifted to Redruth Library by Forest for Cornwall. There will be a public tree giveaway in conjunction with Forest for Cornwall, Redruth Library and other educational partners on Saturday 15th February in Market Hall, Redruth.

2.4 **Other Activities**

Publications

The winter Redruth Record was published on December 13th, this was a digital version of the Record with a printed and updated version printed on January 14th, 2025. The St Piran's Festival Guide will be released February 18th 2025.

Social Media

Our social media presence has been steadily growing since July 2021, which the team are very proud of.

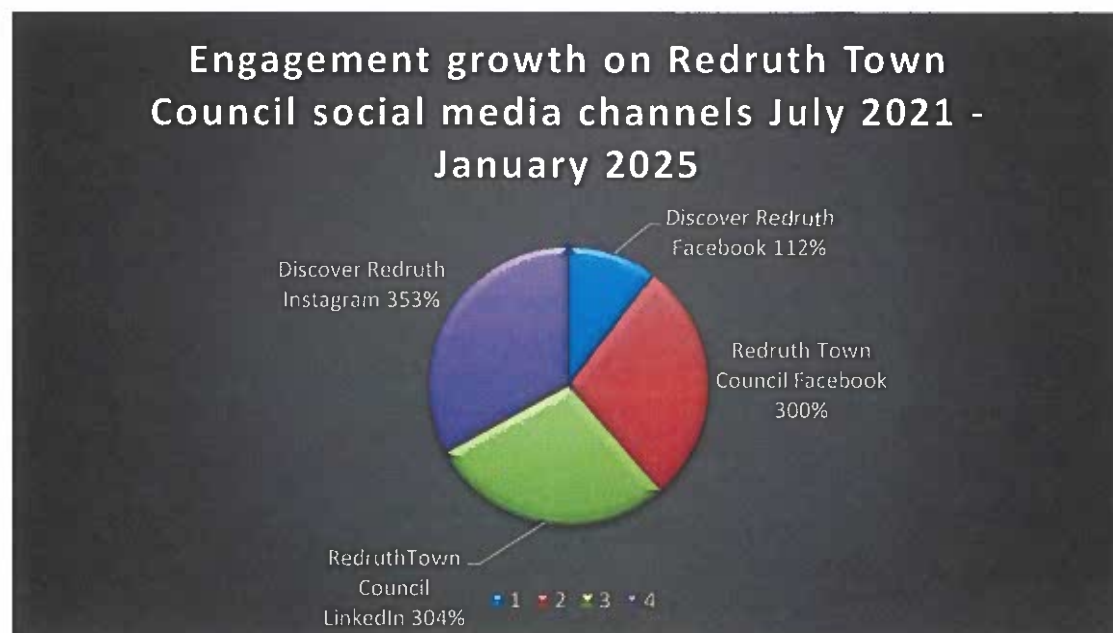
Discover Redruth Facebook – 1,972 new followers (Total 6,685)

Redruth Town Council Facebook – 858 new followers (Total 1,410)

Discover Redruth Instagram – 674 new followers (Total 2,360)

LinkedIn – 254 new followers (Total 267)

Below is a graph highlighting the digital engagement growth over the last 3.5 years:



Discover Redruth website

The Discover Redruth website is growing in page visits and new users, year on year and especially around festival times. We have been busy updating and adding to the Discover Redruth website pages, building on the Community and What's On pages.

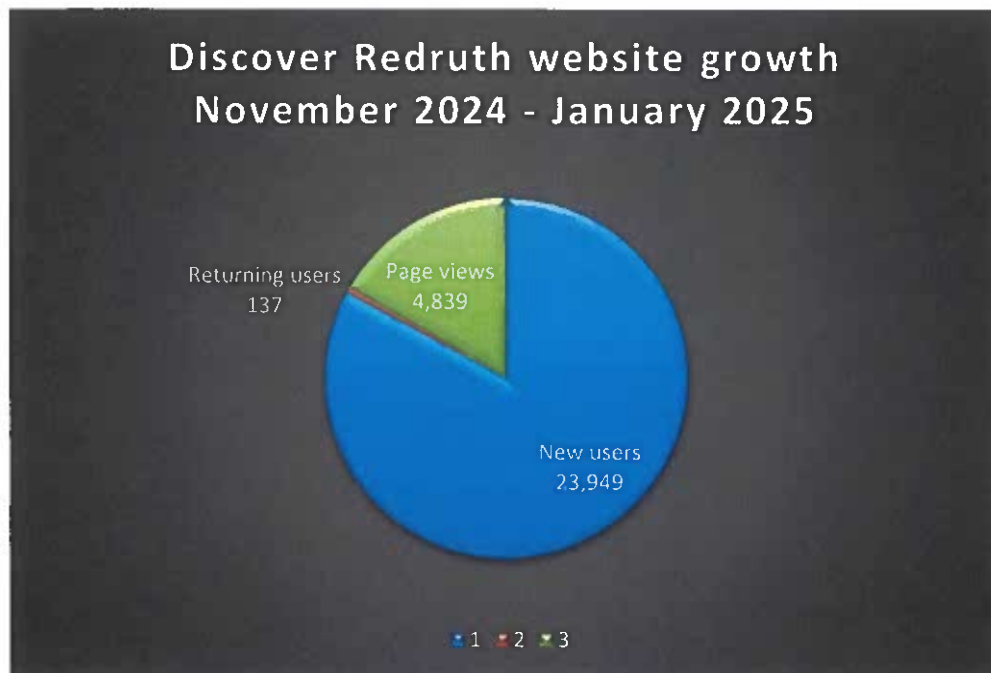
Over the last two months, the website has had the following growth:

New users – 5,041

Returning users – 412

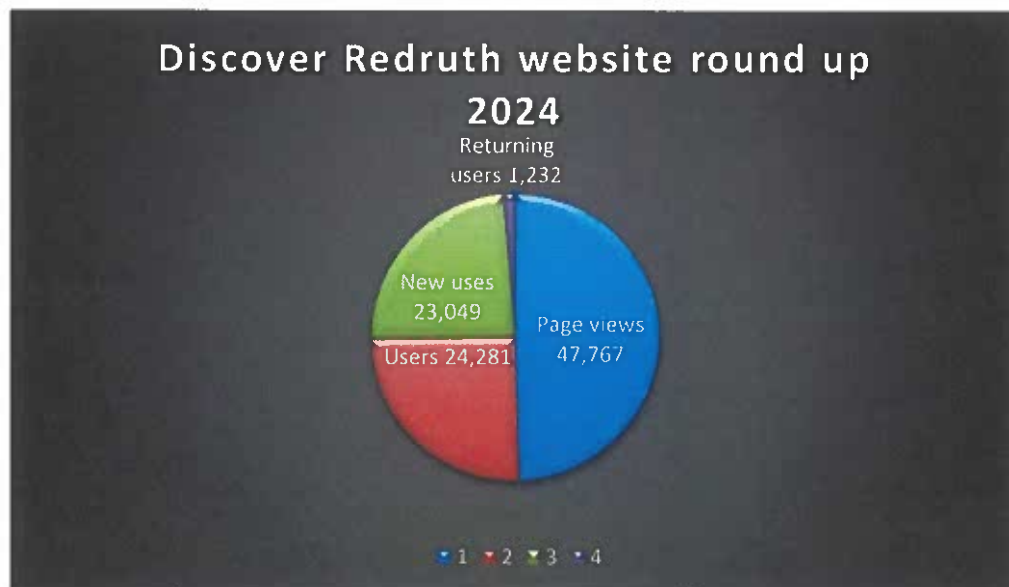
Page views – 11,073

Below is a graph highlighting the growth from November 2024 – January 2025.



The pages with 3,000 hits were the What's on and Redruth in Lights pages over Christmas including the Buttermarket and free parking page.

Over the year the website has seen the following growth:



3.0 **RECOMMENDATION**

3.1 It is recommended that this reported is noted.

Alice Lamming – Events and Marketing Manager

REPORT FOR: Meeting of Engagement Committee on Monday 3rd February

1.0 **SUBJECT OF REPORT:** To update the committee on the work of the Redruth Library and Information Service

2.0 **SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS**

- | | | | |
|----|-----------|---|----|
| a. | Policy | - | No |
| b. | Financial | - | No |
| c. | Legal | - | No |

3.0 **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

- 3.1 To provide the committee with information of the work carried out by the Redruth Library and Information Service since the last report.

4.0 **REPORT**

The library continued to be busy as we approached the Christmas period.

Within the month of October, we started with our Speak Easy Poetry Slam, which was part of the Fun Palaces weekend. On Friday, 4th October, we hosted 21 people, all happy to listen to Patrick McCarthy who is a regular library customer and avid poetry writer. The Writers Block hosted the event in the library, and they had the opportunity to share poems that they had written.



That same morning, we had 48 children visit from Pennoweth School to create poetry postcards. We also followed up this activity with a Saturday drop-in.



On the 10th October, we took up the Take 10 to Read challenge with the National Literacy Trust – a rare time for the team as well as the Town Council (thanks Charlotte!) to sit quietly and read a book.

The arrival of the (massive!) small electrical recycling box on 12th of October was welcomed and proved a success as many Redruth locals brought in their old electrical devices for recycling (this was an initiative of Cornwall Council). At the time of writing, we are still waiting for it to be collected from the foyer!

Half term was a hive of activities in the library, supporting the Engagement Team with two Sam Bradbury workshops, pumpkin carving, a silent disco and bug hotel making. On the Wednesday of half term, we were lucky to have the Hall for Cornwall Jack and the Beanstalk workshop, attended by 25 children.

We hosted a pizza evening on the 12th November to thank the volunteers of the Summer Reading Challenge. The Mayor and Town Clerk were in attendance to show their appreciation for all the volunteers' hard work over the summer.



Charlotte sponsored the Volunteers early Christmas party on the 19th November with nibbles and Nosecco, to thank both volunteers of the Library and the Home Library Service for the work they continue to do for the customers and housebound members of Redruth community.





On the 27th November, Sarah attended the Aspiration Fair together with members of RTC at Redruth School. It was a great morning engaging with the youth of Redruth.

The Redruth in Lights Festival saw the library once again become the venue for the traditional handover of the Redruth Wassail Bowl on 30th November – always a lovely morning of festive tradition and songs.

We continued the Saturdays in December with an art workshop from Sam Bradbury; a silent disco alongside the Engagement Team; and bird box making in conjunction with Resilient Orchards.

Miners Court again welcomed a Rhyme Time session on the 10th of December, with surprise visit for them by Father Christmas.

Nadelik Lowen performance saw 32 children (including children from Natural Learning nursery) visit the library to watch and interact with the performers from O-region theatre.

We happily received a tablet from Cornwall Council which will augment the need for an extra space for people to log on and for staff to help the public apply for bus passes, join Homechoice, and other online services. It will also be an added tool for staff to streamline their working day. We are also due to be receiving three new laptops and monitors for staff use. This came as a result of the Cornwall Council Scrutiny Committee visit at Redruth Library on the 11th December.

Two trees were planted at East End Park as part of the Forest for Cornwall's give-away to libraries on 17th January. A couple of young library borrowers with their parents assisted in the tree planting lead by the Facilities Team. Charlotte attended together with Willow and Rebecca from the Engagement Team.

Up-and-coming projects

January will see three classes from Trewirgie School coming to use the Langman Room where workshops will be held by Hall for Cornwall.

Police Surgeries will be hosted on the last Tuesday of the month between 10 – 11am, within our Warm Space area, and will run for 6 months. Councillors are welcome to join the police team at the surgeries.

National Literacy Trust will be stepping into the library with some stories about trains before their big train adventure from Redruth to Penzance – this will be on the 29th January.

On some Tuesdays we will also be hosting Healthy Cornwall to promote health and well-being initiatives. On the 5th they will promote Healthy Heart and give demonstrations on how to use blood pressure monitors. They will have a separate session on Weaning on the 25th February. They will also be on site for the next 6 months.

The Waste Service Team of Cornwall Council will be holding a drop-in session on the 14th February to speak to locals about the new recycling containers, etc.

On the 15th February, we will have Spring Awakening in collaboration with Back Garden Forest and RTC Events Team. It will be held in Market Way from 10:30 – 12:30 where members of the public will be able to come and collect a tree to plant in their own open space/field. There will be storytelling, and Healthy Cornwall will be present too. We are waiting to hear from Resilient Orchards if they can attend and make bird boxes, as well as Bug Life.

March 6th will be celebrating big in the library with World Book Day. We are going to have a Pyjama Party from 6 – 7:15pm, with staff members running around dressed as dogs from the book Hairy MacLary! Sarah and Willow will be doing a school assembly at Treleigh School in the morning.

We will be supporting St Piran's Day with Cornish Lego and other activities.

We are awaiting confirmation from the National Literacy Trust and the Regal Theatre for when we are going ahead with an event to support an Aliens Love Underpants-themed activity.

Performance report

October 24	November 24	December 24
6266 books borrowed	5840 books borrowed	5274 books borrowed
103 new borrowers	94 new borrowers	71 new borrowers
393 accessing computers	393 accessing computers	349 accessing computers
		210 E-Audio books 133 eBooks 73 eMags (Out of 416, 104 members also used the library.)

4.2 Conclusion

As you can see, November and December are quieter months due to the holidays, people going away to visit family, and the weather. We are using this quieter time to do a large stock check to remove old and dilapidated books, as well as replenishing stock from CHQ.

We continue to provide a warm space for visitors, as well as offer assistance to those who need it.

4.3 Recommendation

It is recommended that this report be noted.

Sarah Bolton and Maria Moreno-Felstead

Acting Library Manager and Acting Deputy Library Manager