Parish Council Report

MENHENIOT COMMUNITY UPDATE

Cllr Sean Smith — Cornwall Councillor for St Cleer and Menheniot

19 October 2026

A38 SAFETY

I attended the National Highways consultation in Liskeard on 5 October.

There are huge concerns for farmers and local businesses about access, longer journeys and agricultural vehicles. The risk of traffic being diverted through villages and narrow rural lanes must also be addressed.

Historical figures available to me for 1978–2025 indicate 29 deaths, 160 serious injuries and 690 slight injuries. I have requested checks and clarification of the underlying records.

I continue to seek practical short-term safety measures alongside longer-term improvements.

BUSES AND COMMUNITY TRANSPORT

Following the bus conference on 30 September, I am pursuing better rural transport options.

The Chairman of St Cleer Parish Council has approached me about the possibility of working with Menheniot on a community bus.

This would be subject to discussion and agreement by both Parish Councils. No joint arrangement has yet been agreed.

Please send details of journeys you cannot make, including access to work, shops, colleges, and medical appointments. This will help establish demand.

COMMUNITY AREA PARTNERSHIP

The October CAP agenda included policing, Tamar crossings and the A38. I will follow up local actions when the meeting notes are published.

Written answers following the September South West Water meeting are also being pursued.

LOCAL PARISH MATTERS

Residents in the Factory area have requested additional signs. This has been passed to Cornwall Highways.

At Merrymeet, the faded 50 mph signs have now been replaced with new signs.

I continue to follow up school safety improvements, weed, and verge maintenance, and the promised local housing benefits at Tencreek.

CORNWALL COUNCIL — OPENNESS AND FINANCES

Following the announced departures of three senior officers, I am calling for an extraordinary Council meeting.

Residents and councillors need openness, honesty, and a clear account of the Council's budget, borrowing, reserves and the protection of essential services.

I also want clarity about leadership responsibilities and interim costs. I am not suggesting the departures are connected. A meeting has not yet been confirmed.

CONTACT

Please email local concerns with the location, a short description and the action you would like considered.

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