



St Ives Town Deal Newsletter February 2024

As we enter 2024, the St Ives Town Deal programme is now firmly moving into the delivery phase. This year will see many of our projects starting their construction work as well as the completion of our first project.

The team at St Ives Community Orchard and Wildlife Reserve is working on finalising the build for an opening expected later this year. The Leach Pottery and Guildhall Renewal projects will soon appoint their building contractors. St Ives Theatre building is being cleared in readiness for the start of its transformation next month, and the first local businesses and organisations awarded Enterprise Grants are receiving their funding.

Updates on these and all our other projects are available below.

UPGRADING AND PROVIDING NEW COMMUNITY SPACES

St Ives Community Orchard and Wildlife Reserve

Construction of this remarkable new building for St Ives is now largely complete with final finishing of decorating, electrical, plumbing and landscaping works currently ongoing.

December saw the installation of solar panels and a green roof ready for seeding, and the team are getting excited about planning for the opening of this new flexible and inspiring community space in the spring. [READ MORE](#)



St Ives Town Council Guildhall Renewal

Following the closure of the Guildhall at the end of September, the Town Council staff team have been busy emptying the hall, relocating items and recording assets prior the removal of asbestos. The asbestos removal was completed in December, to ensure the venue is ready for the development works due to start in the Spring.

In January the project reached a key milestone with planning approval being granted. You can view the plans online. [READ MORE](#)



St Ives Theatre Regeneration

Following the sell-out success of Frozen at Kidz R Us at the end of last year, the project team have been preparing the building ahead of the renovation starting.

Thanks to the hard work of the Trustees, the building will shortly be handed over to contractors, and everyone is busy clearing the theatre of everything from props and costumes to computers and office equipment. [READ MORE](#)



IMPROVING OUR TRANSPORT SYSTEM FOR A GREENER TOWN CENTRE

Low Carbon Transport

We had a phenomenal public engagement at the end of the year following the presentation of the Town Deal Low Carbon Transport proposals. Over 450 people completed the questionnaire, with hundreds more attending one of the face-to-face events organised by the project team and St Ives Town Council.

The project team are analysing the feedback and a revised draft strategy will be presented to the Town Deal Board at the end of the month. Results of the engagement will then be shared with the public in March.

In the meantime, you can read answers to a number of frequently asked questions raised during the engagement [here](#). [READ MORE](#)



SUPPORTING NEW SKILLS, JOBS AND BUSINESS

St Ives Enterprise Grant Scheme

The second round of funding for projects seeking grants between £2,500 and £50,000 closed at the beginning of November, with 52 applications received for projects worth over £1 million. Since then, the Fund team have been working through appraising these projects and decisions are in the process of being released to applicants.

Applications remain open for grants between £50,001 and £150,000. [READ MORE](#)

Leach Pottery and Digital Trail

With concept of the new design completed just before Christmas and the appointment of a contractor in January, the works are due to begin in February. The outcomes of the planning application for Phase 2 (the historic buildings) and a corresponding funding bid to the Arts Council are expected within the next few weeks.

A temporary kiln shed is being designed for the potters during the construction of new production and learning studios, and staff are working with environmental innovation specialists Planet A to test new, greener firing methods for the new kilns. [READ MORE](#)



BUILDING NEW AND TRANSFORMED HOUSING

Old Vicarage Flats Affordable Housing

An important milestone took place last week with the sign off the Grant Funding Agreement between St Ives Community Land Trust (CLT) and Cornwall Council, which enabled a first grant payment of £464,381 to the project.

Following the preparatory works which took place last year, the project team is now working with the building team appointed last year to schedule the renovation which is expected to start this spring. [READ MORE](#)



St Ives LiveWest Low Carbon Retrofit

In 2023 LiveWest started work on its St Ives retrofit programme, investing over £1.2m into the town (including unlocking over £600,000 central government funding) and undertaking works on the first 65 properties in Trewyn Flats, Treverbyn Road and Tregwarry Road.

Work last year focused on getting properties properly insulated, draft proofed (including lots of new windows and doors) and in some cases upgrading new heating and hot water systems. [READ MORE](#)



Rugby Club and Housing

Work on finalising the planning application is on-going and the team is aiming to submit it later this spring.

The repositioning of the clubhouse facilities will provide a modern clubhouse with two full size sports pitches for use by the club and local community at the same time as freeing up land for the potential delivery of extra care homes and affordable housing for local people.

[READ MORE](#)



Next steps

2024 will be full steam ahead for the Town Deal programme as many of our projects are entering their construction.

Delivering these exciting and ambitious projects will revitalise our town, improving life for residents and creating sustainable communities now and into the future.

We are looking forward to seeing all of them completed by the Government's Town Deal funding deadline of March 2026.

About the St Ives Town Deal

In June 2021, St Ives secured a Town Deal of up to £19.9 million from the UK Government as part of its Levelling Up plans. Nine regeneration projects have been approved to receive funding from the Town Deal following the successful submission of the [Town Investment Plan](#).

View our [Frequently Asked Questions page](#) to find out more about the Town Deal Fund in St Ives.

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