

St Just in Bloom



2010

Smililing

Together

Jolly

United

Southwest

Town

Idylllic

Natural

Blooming

Lovely

Original

Old

Mining Town

Introduction to St Just in Bloom

In 2003 Penwith District Council achieved seven awards for Britain in Bloom in towns and villages in Penwith and St Just was conspicuous in its absence. A St Just in Bloom committee was formed to push forward St Just's first ever entry into the competition. The committee was busy making plans to put England's most westerly town on the floral map.

The first St Just in Bloom meeting was held at Cape Cornwall School on 18 November 2003. Both St Just's Primary School and Secondary School joined the scheme and continue to play a key role in the town's involvement in the Britain in Bloom competition today as they grow and propagate plants and flowers.

The St Just in Bloom group work together throughout the year in order to make the town of St Just a beautiful place to live and visit. The group meet on a monthly basis, usually the first Wednesday of each month.



A Year in the life of St Just in Bloom

August 2009

A gardening competition takes place in St Just every year. All residents and businesses have the opportunity to enter. Last year the judging was carried out in August.

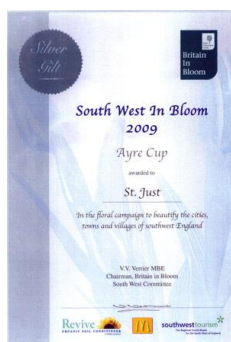
There were a number of categories in the competition:

Best Small Garden,
Best Medium Garden,
Best Sustainable Garden,
Best Patio/Container Garden,
Best Business, Best Kept Residential Area,
Best Outdoor Colourful Floral Display,
Best Contribution by a Primary School Pupil,
Best Contribution by a Secondary School Pupil,
Best Contribution by a Playgroup/Nursery School Child



September 2009

Some of the members of St Just in Bloom attended the South West in Bloom Awards at Yeovil where St Just were awarded a Silver Gilt Award.



The winners of the garden competition were invited to attend an awards evening at the Commercial Hotel, St Just. The St Just in Bloom group organised the evening and a good time was had by all.

In September the Brownies planted bulbs for their centenary. These bulbs will really help to brighten up the town.

October 2009

The month of October was spent doing general tidying and carrying out maintenance works.

November 2009

Members of St Just in Bloom took part in the St Just Feast Parade on Sunday 1 November and also attended the Remembrance Sunday Service and Parade in November, representing St Just in Bloom.



The start of the 2009 Feast Parade

December 2009

Just before Christmas some of the St Just in Bloom group along with local school children went around the town carol singing. Not only was this a social event but the group were also able to do some fundraising at the same time. To accompany the singing Mary and Roger King played their accordions and showed their great skill by playing under plastic bags which kept the instruments dry when we had a shower of rain. We must also mention The Royal British Legion for providing some very welcome refreshments, hot coffee and orange squash at the end of the evening. Their hospitality was greatly appreciated.

January 2010

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) took place in January. The following were elected:

Chris Goninan- Chairman
Nick Skerratt- Treasurer
Hannah McFadden- Secretary

Paul Woolcock the Landlord of the Commercial Hotel joined the committee. All other members were re-elected onto the committee.

We experienced some very cold weather which lead to snow and ice in January.



Photo taken by Dave Smith



Photo taken by James Bennetts

February 2010

February's Bloom meeting was spent planning works that were required to be carried out in the coming months. Members were given individual areas to focus on maintaining.

The constitution for St Just in Bloom was also adopted.

An application for funding was put in to West Cornwall Local Action Group for a total of £7,035.00 of which the group's contribution would be 10%

The Age Concern Day Centre in St Just decided they would like to support the St Just in Bloom effort and brought forward the idea of creating a roof garden which could be enjoyed by visitors to the Centre.

March 2010

Volunteers spent the majority of March getting the flower beds ready and doing general tidying.

At the March meeting plans were drawn up for the Age Concern roof garden. It was decided that wooden corner planters should be made and sited on the roof area. A local tradesman would be asked to make these. Discussions were held as to where to site the floral decorations throughout the town and it was agreed that further tubs and some seats should be purchased.

Some of the members represented the group at a twinning event at the Council Chamber.

Phil Howell and Chris Goninan both attended a day conference at County Hall, Truro based around Cornwall in Bloom. Both Phil and Chris were able to feedback some important and interesting information to the group about the Cornwall in Bloom programme.

April 2010

The Leader of the Brownies, Trudi Rogers attended the meeting; the group asked whether the Brownies would be interested in taking over the long wall around the sheltered bungalows on the southern side of Lafrowda Close. The Brownies will be happy to do this.

It was agreed at the May meeting that Robert Clackworthy a local carpenter should be asked to make the wooden planters for the Age Concern.

Later on in the month the Brownies weeded the hedge around the bungalows. This was a great help to the Bloom group, and a benefit to the residents of the bungalows.



May 2010

St Just in Bloom volunteers met early one morning and spent the day weeding the large granite hedge around the Car Park.

Another day was also spent treating the wooden tubs with preservative. These tubs are sited all around the town but with lots of helpers this job did not take too long.



A picnic table was purchased from a local carpenter James Jeffrey which was sited at Carn Glouce for the public to enjoy. It was agreed that a plaque should be purchased and fixed to the bench which informed people that the bench was donated by St Just in Bloom in May 2010.



An Environmental Day took place on Saturday 29 May; members of St Just in Bloom attended the event and manned their own stall. The stall displayed photographs of the work that the group carry out and information about St Just in Bloom which members of the public and other organisations could look at. The event was also attended by other organisations including Age Concern, Cornwall Council, the Police and Fire Brigade.



June 2010

June was spent planting, weeding and getting everything ready for judging in July.

Volunteers met with Phil Howell in the Square one morning and spent the whole day planting.



Sue Plummer a member of the St Just in Bloom group has been organising a painting competition with the schools and nurseries in St Just. The painting competition is run by South West in Bloom and the theme is "dig it, grow it, cook it and eat it". The best of the pictures will be entered into the competition and a display of some of the others will be shown at the Library.

The Brownies sowed the wildflower seeds in the Closed Churchyard.



July 2010

South West in Bloom judging takes place.

Lafrowda Day- 17 July 2010

This is an annual event in St Just which celebrates community arts. The Plen an Gwary (or playing place) is an open air amphitheatre, and plays an integral part in the festivities and celebrations during the Lafrowda Festival. Lafrowda is a festival to show off the artistic and creative talents run through workshops with artists and local school children. The results of this work are enjoyed not only by the locals, but by the many tourists who return year after year.



New projects for 2010

Top plot at Carn Bosavern

For the last five years it has been an aim of St Just in Bloom to clear a piece of land at Carn Bosavern (over the stile at the top of Fore Street) next to the Recreation Centre and to create a seating area/garden.

After talking to Christine Olds, the owner of the land, she very kindly agreed to allow St Just in Bloom to go ahead with their plans and further agreed we could maintain this land for 5 years.

From the "before" photo you will see this area was covered in weeds, rubbish and waist high brambles. These had been cut back a couple of times previously but soon grew back. However, this spring Russell Thomas, a friend of St Just in Bloom, who had previously repaired the bottom retaining wall of this plot set to work and turned over the ground by hand and cleared roots etc and dug a hollow for the patio/seating area.

Next a group of people from Community Payback- Probation Service laid railway sleepers to retain soil and laid a pathway and patio area with paving slabs. Cornwall Council spread grass seed and planted shrubs. Finally the two seats made by Tecmet Engineering arrived and were placed on the paved area.

This space can now be enjoyed by local residents who can have a rest on the way home with shopping and by visitors on their way to Carn Rocks, or by anyone just wanting to sit and enjoy the view over the town.



Works beginning on top plot



Photos of site after railway sleepers, pathway and patio had been laid, grass seed had been sown, shrubs had been planted and seats were sited

Closed Churchyard

This Cemetery is a hidden treasure just off Market Square. Walk down the path between the cottage next to The Kings Arms and the Parish Church, pass Church Square and a few metres on go through the gate on the left of the footpath.

There are some very old graves in this cemetery one as you enter on the left being that of Francis Oates who had Porthledden Hotel (at Cape Cornwall) built. The view as you walk down through this cemetery and look north over the wall is fantastic, looking over Tregeseal Valley and the moors to Carn Kenidjack. As you look back up the path you have a wonderful view of the Church.

St Just in Bloom decided it wanted to include this "open space" as one of our projects so this year the Brownies scattered wildflower seeds hoping that these will attract bees, butterflies etc. Two seats have been donated by an anonymous donor plus we have had an existing seat repaired and Cornwall Council have mown the grass.

This is such a peaceful space that we wanted to keep it as natural as possible.



New seats in the Churchyard



View from inside the Churchyard

The outside of the Church has also been enhanced with the introduction of a three tier planter this year.

Bed by Public Toilets

The existing sustainable planting in this bed has now been brightened up using annuals and perennials.



Bed before new planting



Bed as it looks now

Three tier planters

We now have five planters in Bank Square and this year we have additional three tier planters, one at the Church, one at the Methodist Chapel and one at the Free Church.



Semi-circular planters

Each year we have had planters around the lampposts in the town, this year we have extended these to Lafrowda Car Park and doubled the semi-circular planters up in the Square.

Two hayrick planters have also been provided for the Council Offices.



Hanging baskets

Paul Woolcock a member of St Just in Bloom has encouraged local businesses throughout the town to purchase hanging baskets, window boxes and hayricks from the company that provides his floral decorations each year. This has really helped to brighten up the town especially both Market and Bank Squares.

Seating

A new seat has been purchased for outside of the Secondary School which faces towards St Just.



Age Concern

The Charity has been working hard on their outside space in conjunction with St Just in Bloom to provide an added amenity for their customers. Not only have they instigated the roof garden, as previously mentioned, but they have also cleared the existing garden area and planted new flower beds. New turf is to be provided to replace the current poor quality grassy area. The new wooden planters provided for the roof garden are beautifully made, and are now planted up with structural plants, perennials and some annuals. Age Concern have bought compost, all the plants and turf with St Just in Bloom providing the planters.



Patio and garden at the Age Concern before work took place



Wooden planters made by Robert Clackworthy



Plants purchased by the Age Concern for the wooden planters

Trellises

This year we have had wooden containers made and trellises to add some colour to Fore Street as this is a very difficult area to plant due to the traffic and narrow pavements. Robert Clackworthy also made these containers and trellises.



Planters

We have purchased new containers for the Newsagents, the bottom of Nancherrow Hill and the entrance to the Turnpike at Tregeseal. The local residents will plant and maintain these containers.

New Seating and Hydrangeas

Two new seats have been purchased and sited at the entrance to St Just by the garage; hydrangeas have also been planted in this area.



Future Projects

To improve the entrance to the Town there are two grass verges in front of Carn Bosavern Garage, which we hope to make into two rock gardens using local granite.



St Just church

Improved floral displays at main entrance to church.

St Just playing field

Place seating in site for public use.

Hanging basket project

The committee are to work with the community to improve and increase the number of hanging basket leading to the town squares.

Painting Competition

Children from the Nursery and Playgroup, the Secondary School and the Primary School were given the opportunity to enter the South West in Bloom Painting Competition.

The theme for the competition this year was "Dig it, Grow it, Cook it and Eat it".



Children at St Just Playgroup painted pictures of their favourite vegetables; these pictures were then put on display.

St Just Playsite & Skate Park

The park has been developed to provide for families living nearby, it has good playground facilities meeting full European regulations.

The playsite possesses wetpour surfacing made from recycled lorry tyres, grassed areas with seats, a football pitch, a skatepark and a basketball and football practice wall.

St Just Playsite is used all year round by both local children and those on holiday in the surrounding area. The play area provides great choice and amusement for children of all ages.



Outdoor Exercise Equipment

There are three pieces of exercise equipment at St Just Playsite. Outdoor Exercise Equipment is very similar to equipment that would be found in a fitness gym. However, the pieces of equipment are made to withstand the great outdoors. All of the equipment meets European Safety Standards and can be enjoyed by the whole family from children to grandparents.



Public Planting

A range of planting throughout St Just



Above- Members of St Just in Bloom with one of the 3 tier units



St Just Schools in Bloom

Pupils at St Just Primary School have been growing their own vegetables and salad crops in the School grounds, these vegetables are then used in the School canteen. The pupils are encouraged to look after the plants themselves.



Cape Cornwall School students have been working with Alec Hogg and Richard Lawry to make St Just, the outside of the school and the school grounds more attractive.



Children at the Nurseries have also contributed towards St Just in Bloom by brightening up the areas outside their Nursery.

Bosorne Road Flower bed Scheme

This bed is next to the Primary School and started off as a rough piece of ground which has since been transformed into a well established, colourful floral feature.



The above photograph was taken just after this bed had been first planted



Above are pictures of the bed taken around the time of judging in 2009.

This year St Just in Bloom have entered this plot into the It's Your Neighbourhood competition.

Businesses in the town

Businesses are encouraged to decorate the outside of their premises in a floral way. The large majority of the businesses throughout the town make a real effort each year which really helps to brighten up the town.

Local businesses can also enter into the gardening competition which is run each year by St Just in Bloom. There is an award for the best business; this can be for a business garden or floral display. Each year there are several businesses in St Just which enter this competition.

Cornwall Council runs a hanging basket and window box scheme where residents and businesses can purchase baskets and window boxes. The hanging baskets use a water holding system- the containers have a reservoir in the base, which reduces the need for watering and also the use of sphagnum moss.



Sustainability

Sustainable Action within the Council covers the areas of managing and improving the Council's own environmental performance and integrating sustainable development aims into the Council's policies and activities.

Sustainable plants are used where possible; many easy care plants with a sub tropical theme thrive in Cornwall's climate. There are a variety of sustainable plants used throughout the town of St Just.



Recycling

In 2003 Penwith District Council introduced household recycling where glass, paper, cans and textiles were collected from the kerbside in a free recycled plastic 55 litre box with a lid.

Plastics, textiles, glass and paper can also be taken to the Recycling Centre situated in Lafrowda Car Park in St Just.

There are a combination of Recycling Banks throughout Cornwall, including mini recycling centres in predominantly rural areas, supermarket points and voluntary group collections alongside a multi-material kerbside recycling scheme and the green waste kerbside collection scheme. As well as this Cornwall Council also recycles beach waste.



Bulky Waste & Furniture Re-Use Projects

The Council operates a bulky waste collection service and for £15 will arrange to collect up to 3 items from the kerbside. For items that can be re-used for example, working electrical appliances (fridges, cookers), soft furnishings in good condition and less than 12 years old, hard items which are not too big and in good condition (wardrobes, chest of drawers) people can contact the GOFA project who will arrange to collect and donate to people on low incomes or benefits.

Green Waste

Over the past few years over 90% of Green Waste produced throughout the district has been recycled. Leaves collected from the roads during the Autumn are taken to the recycling farm, Downs Farm at Splattenridden.

Green waste recycling has been boosted by the work of a giant shredding machine that munches its way through garden and woodland cuttings to produce useful compost. Kerb-side collections of green waste are taken to Downs Farm, where the waste is loaded into the high capacity shredder. The compost that emerges is formed into open rows which are turned regularly as part of the process. This scheme is contributing to the Council achieving its recycling targets and also benefits the environment.



Essential Support

Underpinning the attractiveness of St Just's streets and open spaces is the support of Cornwall Council's dedicated team of workers.

Street Cleaning

Litter is an important issue for local people and also for the large number of tourists who visit St Just each year. Much co-operation is given by the residents who report problems to ensure good cleanliness standards are maintained. The Street Cleansing team follow a

programme of scheduled routes designed to keep the town and surrounding area free of litter and debris.



Fly Tipping

Although the Council runs a bulky waste collection service and provides a recycling centre in the town, fly tipping does sometimes occur. All cases of fly tipping are recorded and collated monthly to submit to the Environmental Agency who have set up a national database recording system know as 'Flycapture'. The Council aims to collect all fly tipping within one day of it being reported.

Dog & Litter Awareness

To raise awareness of the importance of a safe, clean, quality environment for all to enjoy, Cornwall Council has a dog awareness campaign. The scheme aims to promote responsible waste disposal among dog owners and the public through education and enforcement.

In line with the Council's commitment to a Zero Tolerance Policy towards repeat offenders, Police Community Support Officers are also authorised to issue fixed penalty notices where a failure to comply with legal notices has been observed.

There are a number of dog bins throughout St Just which are emptied on a regular basis. The frequency of emptying depends on how often the bins are used.



Japanese Knotweed

Japanese Knotweed is now the UK's most invasive plant and causes many problems to both surrounding plants and nearby habitats. Japanese Knotweed has developed the ability to grow in any soil no matter how poor and it can even grow through concrete; this means that it is extremely hard to control.

Tregeseal Knotweed Project

The eradication of Japanese Knotweed in Kenidjack and Tregeseal Valley began in 2006. Since the start of this project a number of groups and organisations have worked together in order to remove the plant from these areas. These organisations are the National Trust, Cornwall Council, Defra, English Nature, The Environment Agency, St Just Town Council and South West Water. These groups also work alongside local landowners so as to prevent the spread of Japanese Knotweed to neighbouring fields and farmland.



There are watercourses that spread throughout the valleys and this has had an effect on the treatment methods. There are a number of treatments that can be used on the plant.

An area at Cot Valley which is also in the St Just area has had problems with Japanese Knotweed. The National Trust used a stem filling technique for the removal of the plant in this area. This technique is carried out by cutting the plant stem and injecting Round Up into the stem. This method prevents surrounding vegetation and plants from being harmed as you can easily target the Knotweed that you are trying to eradicate. Spraying of the plant is also often used in areas away from watercourses or any other surrounding plants.

The main aim of the Tregeseal Knotweed Project is to protect the native species and the ecosystems within the Tregeseal and Kenidjack Areas.



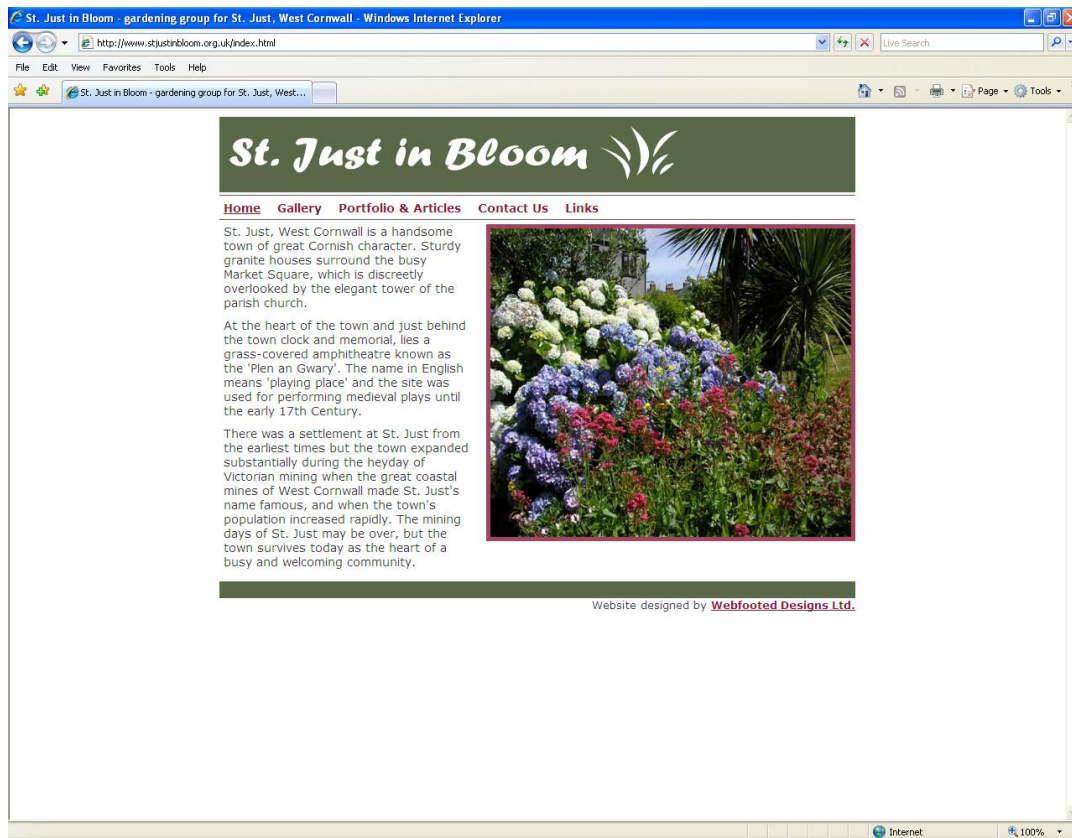
Area at Tregeseal valley
before treatment



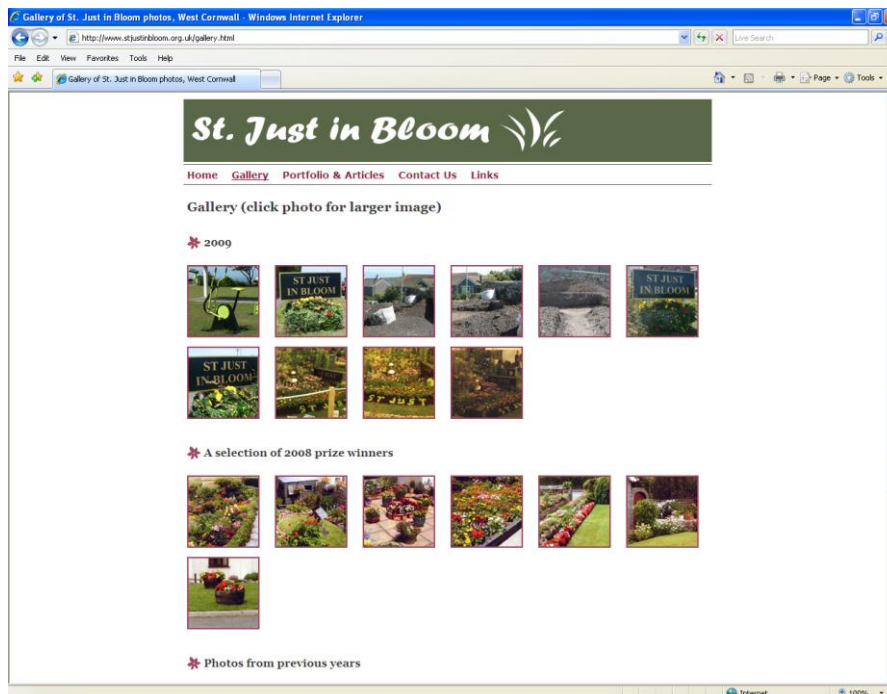
Same area after treatment

St Just in Bloom Website

St Just in Bloom has its own website, the address is www.stjustinbloom.org.uk



The website includes a gallery of photos, portfolios from previous years, information about the town of St Just and the St Just in Bloom Group and contact information.



Committee

Chris Goninan- Chairman

Nick Skerratt- Treasurer

Hannah McFadden- Secretary (Cornwall Council)

Phil Howell- Supervisor (Cornwall Council)

Tom Marks- Deputy Operations Manager (Cornwall Council)

Committee Members

Jeff Capel

Shirley Capel

Pat Charlton

Alison Clough

Barbara Fox

Alec Hogg

Richard Lawry

Robert Matthews

Sue Plummer

Jill Roan

Anita Rose

Margaret Sedgeman

Marlene Smith

Paul Woolcock

Sponsorship

There are a number of sponsors who help the St Just in Bloom group each year. Below is a list of some of the individuals and groups who have offered their support this year.

St Just Town Council

Cornwall Council

Shelley's Hair & Beauty

Leswidden Building Supplies

P A Wilkins & Co Estate Agents

Nick Smith

Star Inn, St Just

Christine Olds

Community Payback- Probation Service

Community Chest

West Cornwall Local Action Group (LAG)

St Just in Bloom would also like to thank all of the local businesses who have supported the group and those that have kindly displayed St Just in Bloom collection boxes.



St Just in Bloom 2010

Garden & Photographic Competition

Categories:

- Best Small Garden- approx size 100 square feet
 - Best Medium/Large Garden
- Best Sustainable Garden- planting to give all year interest
 - Best Patio/Container Garden
 - Best Business
- Best Kept Residential Area e.g. Street, Terrace, Close etc
 - Best Outdoor Colourful Floral Display
 - Best Contribution by a Primary School Pupil(s)
 - Best Contribution by a Comprehensive School Pupil(s)
- Best Contribution by a Playgroup/Nursery School Child(ren)
 - Best Community Garden e.g. Schools, Clubs etc
- Best Photograph based around the theme Dig it, Grow it, Cook it & Eat it

Entry forms are available from P A Wilkins & Co Estate Agents, St Just which provide full details of the competition.

The closing date for entries is Friday 16 July 2010.

Help make a difference to your community this year.

Call for more time to secure funds to save last starter farm

A ST JUST campaign group, which is trying to stop Cornwall Council from selling one of the last publicly-owned starter farms in the county, is asking the authority to allow them more time to explore funding options.

The council is looking to sell Bosavern Farm on the edge of the town to a private buyer after the last tenant moved out of the £400,000 site last year.

Pressure

But following pressure from St Just residents, who want to secure the farm's future as a centre for local food production and education, the council has agreed to consider granting

By **KATRI IIVONEN-GRAY**
kiivonen@c-dm.co.uk

them a 15-month lease to explore different funding options.

They have also been given until Christmas to compile a robust business plan detailing their plans for the land.

County land agent Jonny Alford said: "We had a meeting with them but no decisions have been made."

"They are asking for a 15-month lease so that they can buy time to get grant aid to bring their dreams to life."

"The council is considering their request at the moment." Farm campaigner Rob Pick-

ering says the bid has been well received in St Just.

He said: "Following an article in *The Cornishman*, there was an overwhelming show of public support for preventing the sale of the 36-acre holding."

"We had more than 350 people contact us, showing support for keeping Bosavern Farm for the community."

Community

The group would like to see food grown at the farm using a community supported agriculture scheme, and through allotments. They hope that the food would then be eaten locally.

A public consultation has



St Just campaigners want to prevent Cornwall Council from selling Bosavern Farm.

been organised for Saturday, November 21, from 10am until 5pm at Age Concern, Fore

Street, where anyone can drop in to meet members of the action group, put forward ideas and discuss proposals.

There will be a display of the outcomes and further opportunity to contribute ideas in St Just Library from Monday, November 23 to Saturday, November 28.

Consultation

Campaign group member Jo Kennedy added: "If anyone would like to help shape the future of Bosavern Farm, now is your chance. Please come to our consultation and talk to us about your ideas. If you have time or expertise to offer, please join our group."

Class goes feet first for the environment



STUDENTS and staff at Cape recently celebrated Green Britain Day by wearing green clothing and spending the day discussing environmental issues, including concerns about our future. Students also looked at their carbon footprints and set some personal green targets on green paper feet (which were later recycled). Examples were: 'I will compost my food waste', 'I am

going to stop putting cardboard into the bin', and 'I will eat more local food.'

In addition, the day provided an opportunity to support teaching assistant Mrs Knight, who was preparing to carry out a sponsored tandem-cycle ride from Cape Wrath in Scotland to Cape Cornwall, to raise money for the Air Ambulance. Students had to guess the number of miles covered during the trip

and Shelby Hanson (year 11), who with a guess of 869 miles was only four miles off the total, won herself a box of chocolates. Mrs Knight and her partner completed the 993-mile trip last month and have so far raised a fantastic £2,000 (still counting) - of which £338 was raised at Cape Miss Trevarthen would like to thank everyone for making this day a massive success.

Thursday May 27, 2010

The Cornishman COR-E01-S2 visit our website

St Just: Cape Cornwall School pupils learn about recycling and litter problems from the Cornwall Council team.

Picture by CioSP - Ref: 1005COSP09801GREEN