Well as I sit here today writing this article along with my box of tissues and a mug of honey and lemon, I think about all of you out there that have suffered with the horrible viruses this winter, please make sure you look after yourselves and keep warm.

It was such a shame the wonderful Christmas festival had to be cancelled because of storm Darragh. The volunteers who make this happen we're so disappointed, also it's usually one of the biggest trading days for our traders in Fore St. We have some amazing shops in Fore St, selling lots of beautiful gifts, not only for Christmas but birthdays and anniversaries.

The Town Council are so thrilled to receive £100,000 from the latest Community Infrastructure Levy fund, this will enable us to progress with a new children's play park on Jubilee green and a sensory garden. Plans will then progress to see what else we can do to enhance our jewel in the crown" The Waterside."

The two new play parks on Pillmere are amazing, and children from all over Saltash are enjoying them, this was also a successful funding project delivered by Saltash Town Council.

I'm also very excited about Saltash Town Team plans that are also progressing towards farmers markets, additional planting and improved wayfinding in Fore St, ready for March 2025, watch this space!

Even though I've been a little unwell and had to miss some events, I have enjoyed lovely Christmas lunches with Age Concern and Abby field assisted living, singing along with various choirs and of course loving the children's Christmas plays and Nativity's.

Saltash Town Council continues to be busy. Next Year we will be preparing for the elections in May. If you think you might be interested in becoming a Town Councillor, and feel you have the qualities, please talk to any one of your town councillors, better still, come along to any of the Full Town Council and or Committee meetings to experience some of the things we do. Further information will be available on the Town Council social media page.

Christmas for me is about family and friends, but for many this is not possible. A telephone call, a Christmas card or knock on the door to a neighbour who's alone, or someone you haven't heard from in a while can make the world of difference. Also, those families that are struggling financially. A little love goes a long way, it costs us nothing, and we all have plenty of that to share.

I wish you all and your families a very happy Christmas and a healthy and prosperous new year!

Warmest Regards to you all

**Councillor Julia Peggs** 

Mayor of Saltash 2024-25

Meet Your Councillor Councillor Lennox-Boyd, Essa Ward



I became a Town Councillor in October 2017 as I had already been elected as a Cornwall Councillor in May 2017. I stood for Saltash Town Council as I feel it's important to strengthen the links between Saltash Town Council and Cornwall Council.

I'm involved in several different committees and organisations in Saltash and I am passionate about our town.

One of the committees I sit on is Safer Saltash where we work closely with the police and other organisations to support a coordinated multi agency approach to community safety issues to improve feelings of safety and public reassurance. If you have any concerns please contact Community Safety Officer on 0300 1234 232.

Safer Saltash were involved with the 16 days of action against gender based violence from 25<sup>th</sup> November to 10<sup>th</sup> December 2024 which ended with a pop up event in Saltash and a solidarity walk across the Tamar Bridge.

I have recently met with Cornwall Council flood and coastal erosion risk asset manager regarding the proposed works on the Waterside at Jubilee Green.

There are concerns around these defence areas as they are starting to crumble into the river, so this work is imperative to continue to secure the carpark and footpath. They are already working closely with Saltash Town Council and Cornwall Council Maritime Department to mitigate that works consider the ferry movements pedestrians and boat users.

Information of these works will be put into public areas and slipway for residents and visitors.

Discussions are being had between various organisations and Highways England regarding the tunnel closure. From August 2025 for approximately five months, which is the switch off time, the tunnel and bridge will no longer operate on a tidal flow basis. Fixed lanes will be in operation with clear directions for each lane; there will be weekly updates on journey times which will be communicated as they will be working with 3 data sets which are Plymouth, Tamar Bridge and Tunnel this will mean the loss of the centre lane of the tunnel. During these works wide loads will not be able to use the Tamar Bridge.