








**PENZANCE COUNCIL – 10 MARCH 2025****REPORT FOR DECISION****REDISTRIBUTION OF CORNWALL COUNCIL COMMUNITY CHEST FUNDING**

Our Culture	Our Decision Making	Our Environment	Our Money	Our People	Our Places	Our Resilience & Wellbeing
						
	✓	✓	✓		✓	

**Recommendation:**

1. A Cornwall Council Community Chest Grant be received by Penzance Council on behalf of the Amazing Alleyways Project.
2. Subject to (1.) above, a payment of £853.54 be made from the General Fund to the organisation which will be undertaking the project, once established, subject to:-
  - i) The completion of its constitution; and
  - ii) The creation of a bank account in the organisation's name.

**Background:**

Cornwall Councillor Tim Dwelly has made available £853.54 of Cornwall Council Community Chest Grant funding to support a residents' group from 'The Battlefields' in Penzance to deliver a range of community improvements such as planting and seating. The voluntary group are not currently formally constituted but are receiving support from Penzance Councillor Tonner and others to become legally and formally established.

In order to ensure funding can be utilised from the current financial year Cornwall Council has approved that funding can be transferred to Penzance Council for it to hold and then redistribute once the group is formally constituted, to then deliver the targeted community benefit and improvements.








Approval is therefore sought to receive the grant funding on behalf of the Amazing Alleyways and for it to be redistributed on completion of the formal governance arrangements.

James Hardy  
Town Clerk

**PENZANCE COUNCIL – 10 MARCH 2025**

**REPORT FOR DECISION**

**DELETION OF ‘X’ ACCOUNTS**

Our Culture	Our Decision Making	Our Environment	Our Money	Our People	Our Places	Our Resilience & Wellbeing
						
	✓					✓

**Recommendation:**

1. The ‘X’ accounts of Penzance Council, and Penlee House Gallery and Museum, be deleted.
2. Subject to (1) above, new social media accounts be opened with an alternative provider which moderates its content, be that: Blue Sky, Threads, Mastodon or an alternative provider.

**Background:**

In 2022, Elon Musk bought twitter, a social media platform. “Within 12 hours of Musk taking over the platform ... the use of the n-word had increased nearly 500% ...” In the two weeks after Musk completed his takeover, antisemitic posts “increased by more than 61%.”

Social media platforms have a duty of care to their users to moderate the content displayed on their platforms. X has not only failed to moderate hate speech on the platform but has pro-actively got rid of its fact checkers and removed moderation protections.

Elon Musk has now moved on to attacking the governments of democratic countries, supporting right wing political parties and inciting violent responses from his followers that endanger politicians and anyone Musk dislikes. e.g. America “should liberate the people of Britain from their tyrannical government”.

In two months, 2.7 million active US users have left the platform whilst Blue Sky has gained 2.5 million. The toxicity of the brand has made accessing its content too unpleasant an experience for many of its users. Businesses have decided to close

down their accounts rather than be associated with X. UK politicians have left the platform. Celebrities have left the platform. Charities have left the platform. The Guardian has left the platform.

Devon County Council (DCC) "... No longer monitors its X account because the social media website has become a "very toxic place" with high levels of abuse and disinformation. Staff faced "daily abuse" on X and complained that the reporting system "is not fit for service".

DCC added: "Hundreds of previously banned accounts for spreading hate and disinformation were reinstated under the new owner, and a European Commission study suggested X has the biggest proportion of disinformation of the six big social networks."

Is X a brand that Penzance Council wishes to associate itself with?

Facebook's Mark Zuckerberg is unfortunately following Musk's lead, removing fact checkers and removing the equality protection rights of his workforce. Depending on how Facebook transforms over the next few months, it may become necessary to leave Facebook too.

Cllr. Joan Beveridge