

**Minutes of a the Tywardreath and Par Parish Council Annual Parish Assembly  
held on 5<sup>th</sup> May 2022 in Tywardreath Village Hall at 7pm**

**Present** Cllrs C Wildish, Hughes, Mount, M Phillips, Truscott and A Wildish

**In attendance** Parish Clerk, Sally Vincent  
Cornwall Councillor A Virr  
PC Steph Tann, PC Colin Shepherd

**21/179 Apologies** Cllr Hazeldean, Cllr L Phillips, Cllr Shroff, Cllr Taylor

**21/180 Minutes of the Annual Parish Assembly held on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021**

It was proposed by Cllr A Wildish, seconded Cllr Mount and RESOLVED that the minutes be approved and signed by the Chairman

**21/181 Matters Arising**

None

**21/182 To receive the Annual Report of the Parish Council**

Cllr Wildish gave her report on the work of the council over the previous year.

Another busy year starting to return to normal after the pandemic. I would like to thank the councillors and clerk for their support over the last year, thanks also go to Cllr Virr, now councillor for our whole area, for his efforts to support us at Truro. We had three vacancies after the last election and were pleased to welcome Cllr Louise Phillips, Cllr Craig Truscott and Cllr Deborah Hazeldean to our number in September.

Special thanks to Cllr Shroff for looking after the beach play area and to Cllr Mount for looking after the beach toilets.

Public Toilets. Par beach toilets have been subject to a high level of vandalism again this year leading to increased costs for the rate payers. We have managed to get a new company APS Construction to look after them on our behalf. As a company that can do maintenance as well as cleaning, we hope that any problems will be rectified promptly and the Toilets open for longer. Please email the Clerk if you are told of any issues

Hamleys Corner toilets. We now have planning permission to convert these into a Small House We are getting detailed plans done at the moment. This will tidy up a derelict building and make another small dwelling available in Par.

Polmear Orchard We are still on the list to get this under devolution the trees are doing well so its worth going up there later in the year if you would like some apples. PL24 are doing a spruce up morning on 24 June they would be grateful for everyone that supports them

Vine place Cornwall Council have offered us land behind Vine Place, Vine Place car park and land beside the Cemetery. This offer has been accepted but none of these transfers have made any progress over the last year. Hopefully our new network manager will get us some progress soon

Speeding In Tywardreath and Par 20mph has been out for consultation in Tywardreath and comments have gone in so expect progress on this soon. The

Par Scheme is part of the network plan but is going to take a bit longer. Tehidy Road speed sign is in and working but we are still waiting for permission to put one in Par Green. Par have started a speed watch: it's a good idea to make people more aware of speeding locally

HM The Queens Jubilee We are looking at establishing a circular path round the parish in honour of the Jubilee and are looking to have it in place by the end of the Year.

Local Maintenance Partnership We have signed to cut the Gold paths ourselves this year. We have had interest from some contractors willing to do this. It is a benefit as we can cut the paths when they need it not just when council are available.

### **21/183 To receive the Police Report**

PC Steph Tann & PC Colin Shepherd gave the Annual Police Report

### **21/184 To receive the Financial Report**

Cllr Phillips gave the annual financial report

You will see from the Accounts this year that, despite another increase of £3500 in the Precept and additional Cornwall Council grants of just shy of £4000, our income for the year was only £2500 better than last year. This was largely because of a fall of £2500 in Rents Received from the Par Beach site and no Footpath or Neighbourhood Plan Funding, which amounted to close to £2000 last year. Of course, the Neighbourhood Plan reached a most successful conclusion

On the debit side, expenditure rose by £10,000 of which £3000 was due to a rise in Staff costs and a £7000 increase in spending on the toilets. Of this, Par Beach running costs took £4000 but it is to be hoped that the new cleaning company will be able to ensure the sustainable operation of the units and the plumbing. The other £3000 went on achieving approval of the plans to develop the Hamley's Corner site, prompt fulfilment of which will bring useful financial benefits in the years to come. The remainder of the running costs stayed within bounds. However, the current cost of living increases, which we all face, will no doubt take a toll in 2022/2023.

Once again, our Clerk, Sally Vincent has proved her worth for which I and, I believe, my fellow councillors are forever grateful. I also value the continued support of my Committee.

### **21/185 To receive the Annual Report of the Environment Committee**

Cllr Taylor had submitted the following annual report

I currently have some health issues that reduce my mobility and ability to fulfil the role of Chair and ceded the Chairmanship to Cllr A Wildish for recent meetings.

In addition to the usual tasks, the Committee has been obtaining quotes for maintenance work in 2022/2023 and checking compliance with bird flu regulations. The suggestion by Cllr Virr of planting trees along Moorland Road was rejected due to proximity to the highway. The Committee has also agreed that the use of weedkillers must be banned.

Local Maintenance Partnership. The sad, sudden death of our contractor Ed Veerman has meant that we need to source a new contractor to cut the Gold

footpaths in the Parish in line with our Partnership agreement with Cornwall Council.

Climate Change. Cllr Hazeldean has produced a lengthy and comprehensive report which she has forwarded to all Cllr's and requested feedback.

Grass Cutting. The Committee is investigating the appointment of a suitably qualified Contractor to undertake some grass cutting in the Parish.

Risk Assessments. Thanks must go to our co-opted member, Kevin Rouse, would has produced excellent Risk Assessments for all the areas that are owned/controlled by the Parish Council and are managed by the Environment Committee. These were reviewed and signed off at a recent meeting.

Finally, I would like to thank all of my dedicated fellow Committee members for all of their hard work throughout the year, with a particular thank you again to Kevin Rouse for kindly taking the minutes of our meetings.

### **21/186 To receive the Annual Report of the Planning Committee**

Cllr Hughes gave his annual report

The Planning Committee has met 10 times in the past year. Although meetings have gone back to 'physical' rather than 'virtual', to minimise the number of meeting-days to comply with government guidelines, planning meetings have been taking place immediately before Full Council meetings. This has made for long evenings for Planning Committee members, especially on occasions when they have as many as seven applications to consider. I am grateful to members for their efforts to attend in these circumstances.

The committee has considered 59 planning applications over this period, 'Supporting' 4, registering 'No Objection' to 41 and 'Objecting' to 14. Of the objections, 2 were supported by county planning officers, 1 also sustained on appeal; 2 were revised by the applicant and subsequently agreed; on five occasions we 'agreed to disagree' as the 'planning grounds' were not considered strong enough to be sustained on appeal and our position was not supported by the Local Member, two remain undetermined.

It is a matter of great concern that Central Government finance cuts have substantially reduced the number of Planning Officers at a time when application levels are higher than they have ever been. The lack of financial and human resources means that officers are under huge pressure to approve as many applications as possible under delegated powers without even recourse to decision by County Planning Committees and to avoid appeals, even where the planning grounds are strong. This represents a serious undermining of the principle of local democracy, especially of Neighbourhood Planning and presents an 'open season' for speculative developers, large and small.

Without doubt, the biggest achievement of the year has been steering our Parish Neighbourhood Development Plan through the bureaucratic minefield to successful adoption as an integral part of the Cornwall Local Plan last year. In this it is important to recognise the huge efforts of the Steering Group and the active support received from Cornwall Council officers. It is good to report that these officers were sufficiently impressed with our efforts that they are citing our report as a model for those going through the process. It was also heartening that the External Examiner found no major items which required amendment (and few minor ones). She was complementary about several aspects, particularly our 'Blue-Green' policies. It was heartening that, on an

occasion when the referendum was the only item being balloted, the turnout in our parish was one of the highest in the county and the vote was overwhelmingly in favour of the Plan. As commented earlier, there is concern that pressures from Central Government may seriously undermine our achievement.

The Parish Council objected to developments at Snowlands, specifically over inadequacies in the flood evacuation plan for the site. As a result of this objection, this has been revised, hopefully improving flood safety for all residents on the site.

The Parish Council has raised concerns with Planning enforcement over the proliferation of unauthorised developments at Treemill Farm, well outside the development boundary on agricultural land in a non-sustainable location, in particular the siting of two large red double-decker buses. To date no satisfactory response has been received from Enforcement.

As Chairman, I would like to thank the members of the committee for their hard work over the past year, especially for their assiduous reading of the many planning documents involved in advance of the meeting.

#### **21/187 To receive the Annual Report of the Cornwall Councillor**

Cllr Virr reported

Highway Schemes The Tywardreath 20mph scheme has successfully completed the Public Consultation period and is due for installation this month. I have submitted proposals for a 20mph scheme for Par and a reduction of the speed entering Tywardreath Highway from 40mph to 30mph. These schemes have received wide local resident support and should deliver important safety improvements to the areas.

Covid The pandemic has once again significantly impacted on the lives of our residents. School has been disrupted, businesses have been stretched and tragically lives have been lost. Thankfully rates are now dropping, and life is returning back to normal.

Villages Flourishing There is much to celebrate in our areas with thriving shops, pubs, sports facilities and community groups. Much thanks should be given to the countless volunteers and community minded individuals who enrich the lives of our parishes.

Thanks to Councillors Thanks to the Parish Councillors who have worked tirelessly for your communities over the past year.

#### **21/188 To receive Annual Reports (if any) from Councillors with Individual Responsibilities**

Par Playpark. Cllr Shroff had submitted the following report

I am just waiting for Derek Haywood, the tree surgeon, to complete the work on the trees etc. in the park. The area will be sealed off for the duration of the work. Michelle Picket from Park Leisure has been very helpful and some extra trees, which are on their land but near the play park will be dealt with by Derek at the same time. I am waiting to hear if I can have a grant from certain organisations to put another item in the park for children to use as we do have space. Park Leisure has cut the grass and have done a very good job.

#### **21/189 Public Participation**

None

**Meeting Closed** 7.22pm