

**Minutes of a the Tywardreath and Par Parish Council Annual Parish Meeting
held on 4th May 2023 in Tywardreath Village Hall at 7pm**

Present Cllrs C Wildish, Hazeldean, Hughes, Nicholls, L Phillips,
M Phillips and A Wildish

In attendance Parish Clerk, Sally Vincent

22/169 Apologies Cllr Truscott
Cornwall Councillor A Virr

22/170 Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 5th May 2022

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

22/171 Matters Arising

None

22/172 To receive the Annual Report of the Parish Council

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

I would like to thank the Parish Clerk and Councillors for their efforts over the last year and our Cornwall Councillor Dr Andy Virr for representing us at county hall.

This year councillors Robert Mount, Sue Shroff and Brian Suffling have resigned. Thanks to Councillor Mount for looking after the toilets at Par beach, not an easy job. Thanks to Councillor Shroff for her work at the play area and getting the cemetery gates mended. We have co-opted Cllr Will Nicolls from Tywardreath Highway to the council. We have notices up about the other vacancy so will look to co-opt another councillor in the next few months if an election is not called. Please email the Parish Clerk if you would like to be considered for the position.

Working with PL24 Community Association we have had work parties at the Buttermarket and Polmear Orchard and taken part in litterpicks in both Tywardreath and Par. Mick from PL24 has painted most of the benches in the parish, saving them from being removed by Cornwall Council. PL24 have put in additional benches at Hamleys Corner and at Par Track. Thanks to them and the community for helping improve our area and making it more accessible for everybody.

The speed sign has at last gone in on Tehidy Road and the 20mph zones have been introduced in Tywardreath. We have been promised that Par will get also get 20mph zones, although we are at Cornwall Councils mercy as to when that will actually be.

We have had no progress with devolution of Polmear Orchard and land behind Vine Place. The new network manager has promised to work with us but it's a very slow system.

The development of the old toilets at Hamleys Corner into a dwelling is moving slowly ahead. We are going to look to rent this property to a local person once it's completed.

The shop at Par Beach toilets is now vacant; if you are interested in the lease

please ask the Parish Clerk for more details. We have a new company cleaning the beach toilets which is working well, although the pump will need to be replaced which will be more expensive, which the entry cost will only contribute to.

Members of the Environment Committee have been working on a climate action policy and looking at what we can do locally

22/173 To receive the Police Report

PCSO Jamie Ward had supplied the following report

A general overview of the current policing setup on Neighbourhood;

Neighbourhood Team Leader Sergeant Ian Chambers

Neighbourhood Beat Manager PC Jason Gosling

Neighbourhood Beat Manager PC Craig Boundy

PCSO Graham Wade

PCSO Jamie Ward

Current Force Priorities;

Reducing Crime and Bringing Offenders to Justice

Protecting People from Harm

Improving Satisfaction in Policing Services

Maintaining Visibility, Engagement and Problem Solving in Communities

Meeting Relevant National Policing Requirements

Apologies that we don't have more of an official report for the parishes but without a system to access the data and figures it hampers how much we can provide. I have been assured that new systems are soon to be implemented.

21/174 To receive the Financial Report

Cllr Phillips gave the annual financial report

This years accounts show that our total income of £49,568 was £6,000 less than the previous year. £4,000 of this was accounted for by our decision not to avail ourselves of the Local Maintenance Partnership grants system and, instead, we paid £1,000 for footpath clearance. In addition, we were also down £1,200 because we received no income from the Par Beach toilets store and there was a drop of just under £800 in the Council Tax Support Grant.

Expenditure wise, our costs rose by just under £3,600, £2,700 of which was attributable to an increase of close to £2,000 in running costs of Par Beach toilets and legal fees of £756 for the termination of the lease on the store.

However, this April the tenant paid an agreed amount of £1,500. Overall, the cost of living did not have a marked effect, but it will continue to be a feature going forward, although our finances are currently robust enough to cope.

The Hamleys Corner development, which has cost £4,220 so far, should get underway in the coming months. It is interesting and encouraging to note that the architect has halved his building cost estimate down from a figure commensurate to the refurbishment of No. 11 Downing Street!!!

My thanks as always to our Clerk, Sally Vincent, and my committee.

21/175 To receive the Annual Report of the Environment Committee

No report

21/176 To receive the Annual Report of the Planning Committee

Cllr Hughes gave his annual report

The Planning Committee has met 12 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 43 planning applications over this period, “Supporting” 1, registering “No Objection” to 34 and “Objecting” to 8. Of the objections, one was supported by county planning officers; we “agreed to disagree” on one, as the “planning grounds” were not considered strong enough to be sustained on appeal; one went to CC Planning Committee, where the application was supported by that committee; five remain undetermined. Planning is one of the few areas of government, local or national, where the public have, historically, been consulted in advance of decision-making and their views taken into account. 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.

In these circumstances it is even more important that our Local Member, as the elected representative of the community, should give the strongest support to the views of their constituents, whether expressed individually or through the carefully considered representations of the Parish Council’s Planning Committee. Failure to do so brings the planning system into disrepute with the electorate and undermines the enormous efforts, strongly publicly supported in a referendum, involved in producing a Neighbourhood Development Plan. It is a matter of great regret that our Local Member has demonstrated little interest in planning issues or support for this committee, supinely parroting arguments put to him by officers and demonstrating an unwillingness to challenge these views, even when strong “planning” grounds are presented for this challenge. The public deserve better than this.

It is heartening to note that, in spite of the comments above, applicants, agents and officers are making serious reference to our Neighbourhood Development Plan, as they should, since it is now a “material consideration”.

The Parish Council concerns with Planning enforcement over the proliferation of unauthorised developments at Treesmill 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, has still not received a satisfactory response from Enforcement in spite of repeated pressure. The same applies to their objection to the proliferation of unauthorised non-residential equipment and untidy site at Rosegoth Farm, which represents a very conspicuous blot on the rural landscape when viewed from several popular public viewpoints.

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 (averaging some 6 plans or documents for each of the 43 applications, some 260 in all).

21/177 To receive the Annual Report of the Cornwall Councillor

Cllr Virr had supplied the following report

Highway Schemes The Tywardreath 20mph scheme has successfully been installed throughout the village. The Par 20mph scheme has been out for public consultation as is awaiting installation this year. The Tywardreath Highway gateway change from 40mph to 30mph is also due for installation this year. These schemes have received wide local resident support and should deliver important safety improvements to the areas.

St Andrew's Road Over the last year the first two phases of the St Andrew's Road resurfacing works have been completed. The finished surface is to a high standard and I am looking forward to the completion of the works near the railway crossing later this year.

Polmear Road I am pleased to report that road narrowing signs have been installed either side of the narrow section of Polmear Road on the approach to Par Green from Par Beach direction.

Par Station I am pleased that Par Station will benefit from the rail improvements and upgrades to deliver the Mid Cornwall Metro scheme – directly linking Newquay with Falmouth. Plans are being drawn up to site a passenger lift bridge at Par Station – great news for disabled access, parents with buggies or passengers with heavy luggage.

Poldrea I was pleased to finally achieve the necessary repair of the damaged goal post at Poldrea. Because of the delay Cormac were instructed to instigate an official review and apologised for the inconvenience.

Community Groups Our parishes continue to be enriched by all the many and varied community groups. Thanks to all the hard work of the volunteers. I was particularly pleased to see that Par Prodigal had received Arts Council funding this year – I wish them every success in their community activities.

Councillors Many thanks to all the councillors for their tireless hard work for their communities as they serve on the parish council. Thank you!

21/178 To receive Annual Reports (if any) from Councillors with Individual Responsibilities

None

21/179 Public Participation

None

Meeting Closed 7.14pm