

MINUTES of the MEETING of the ST BLAISE TOWN COUNCIL
Held at the ALEXANDER HALL, St Blazey, on Thursday 27th January 2011

Present

Councillor J Anderson – Chairperson

Councillors:

M Gill, R Heyward, G Miller, & D Goddard

In attendance: Town Clerk

Cornwall Councillor Roy Taylor

1 member of the press

PC Toms

Sergeant David Vickery

Charles Richards

Louise Doran

1101/01 **TO ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies had been received from County Councillor Hughes, Councillors Allen, Putt, Scrafton & Seel.

1101/02 **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting of 25th November 2010 were confirmed as being correct and later signed by the Chairperson.

1101/03 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest on items on the Agenda or of gifts of a value greater than £25.

1101/04 **MATTERS ARISING**

1010/17 A reply has been received from the Environment Agency regarding our concerns that debris is left next to the stream in Piggy Alley after it is cleaned, they explain that any debris which is likely to cause blockages is removed from the watercourse and taken off site.

1010/18 A reply has been received from Steve Gilbert MP regarding our letter requesting that he reminds the government of their promises regarding the recent flooding. He has taken three issues to a government debate which are 1. The importance of improving warning systems. 2. Maintain pressure from central government on to insurance companies for their immediate action to respond to flooding, the current undertaking expires in 2013. 3. A solution to the issue caused by Cornwall Council not being as well recompensed by the Belwin Scheme as other councils due to them being a unitary authority. The scheme provides financial recompense whilst responding to flooding disasters.

1101/05 **POLICE CRIME FIGURES**

November 2010		December 2010	
Assault	2	Assault	1
Burglary Dwelling	4	Burglary Dwelling	0
Burglary Other	1	Burglary Other	1
Theft of M/V	0	Theft of M/V	0
Theft	5	Theft	5
Vehicle Crime	2	Vehicle Crime	1
Damage	1	Damage	0
Drugs	3	Drugs	0
Other	6	Other	3
=====		=====	
Total	24	Total	11

Sergeant Vickery introduced himself and said he would definitely be with us until May 2011 but was not yet sure of how police reorganisation would effect St Blazey. There are to be 700 police officers cut from the Devon & Cornwall police and it is not known where these cuts are to be made as yet. PCSO's are government funded and they are employed to keep communities safe and are protected for the next 18 months.

PC Toms is pleased with low crime figures in the St Blazey area and said that Devon & Cornwall is shown again as being the 3rd safest place in the UK to live. November suffered a number of burglary dwellings, part of a series from the St Austell area on one day which appears to be travelling criminals. On the build up to Christmas due to the drink drive campaign, several offenders have been dealt with. Imerys sites are still subject to the theft of scrap metal, especially the Par Docks site.

PCSO's are now available at the One Stop Shop every second Tuesday to discuss any issues of concern. The Council were assured that their would be a police presence at the Community Watch meeting to be held on the 17th February unless there is an emergency that will make this impossible.

1101/06 **A REPORT FROM LOUISE DORAN.**

Louise Doran is a planner with the Cornwall Council Strategic Development Team and gave the Council an overview of the current situation with Carlyon Bay and Par Docks.

Cornwall Council is expecting the application for the development at Carlyon Bay. The application is outline planning permission for 511 units and full application for a new sea wall. The original application was for all holiday units but the new application may include some permanent residential which will then incur some kind of planning gain or an off site contribution. It is expected that the build will take up to three years to complete. The Clerk asked that as this is such a large application that we receive this on paper, Louise Doran has already requested this.

Par Docks is currently on hold as the Baal & west Carclaze applications are taking precedence but we should be able to see the plans later in the year. It is expected that the build will take 10-15 years to complete.

1101/07 **A REPORT FROM CORNWALL COUNCILLOR ROY TAYLOR.**

Councillor Taylor asked Louise Doran if we could ask if either of the major developers could contribute to improved flood defences as he was concerned that the money available from Cornwall Council and central government would not be sufficient. Louise did not see any reason why this should not be requested but said these requests should be made as soon as possible.

Councillor Taylor believe that we need a really good flood defence system in place and he with the assistance of our Community Network Manager are putting pressure on South West Water to work with the other agencies involved.

Councillor Taylor is concerned about the budgetary issues affecting Cornwall Council and he supports the continuation of One Stop shops and Network Managers.

1101/08 **A REPORT FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF ST BLAZEY COMMUNITY PLAN**

Charles Richards said that he was concerned of the lack of flood warnings available and was looking at electronic ways of recording rainfall. He highlighted that we were in fact fortunate in November as the rainfall was recorded as 60mm where as other floods in Cornwall had been much greater and we may not be so “lucky” next time.

The flood defences in St Blazey did work in November but were at capacity and he is concerned that the plans currently being drawn up by the environment agency and the Highways department are not receiving as much funding as necessary. Money needs to be pumped in as well as water being pumped out.

Residents of St Blazey affected by the flooding are having difficulty getting re-insured and part of this is due to the environment agency not providing them with information about the proposed improvement works. Other people have been told by their insurers that they will not renew their policies or asking exorbitant premiums.

The Environment Agency are encouraging local communities to write local flood plans but Mr Richards is concerned they are not giving the level of support or examining the legal implications necessary. However 30 flood wardens have been recruited from the Par/St Blazey area and the two areas have merged to write a joint plan. The Wardens need to be covered by insurance for public liability and this is being investigated.

The community flood plan is near completion but Mr Richards wants to ensure that all legal and safety measures are in place before it is printed and distributed.

1101/09**ST AUSTELL AREA TOWN FRAMEWORK**

The Councillors had all read the draft St Austell, St Blazey and China Clay Area Regeneration Plan guidelines for transformational development projects and believe that improvements could be made but had no suggestions for this.

1101/10 **ROSPA**

Councillor Miller suggested this item be deferred to February, the Council all agreed.

1101/11 **FOOTPATH AT THE MOUNT.**

The Clerk suggested deferring this item due to the absence of Councillor Putt, the footpaths officer, the Council agreed.

1101/12 **THE PRINCES COUNTRYSIDE FUND FOR LOCALLY OWNED WIND TURBINES.**

Community Energy Plus contacted the Chairman & the Clerk on 26th November regarding a fund that had become available for a community owned wind turbine. They decided that an application would be submitted for the funding without the vote of the Council as it would be a shame to miss out due to the Council not having a meeting in December and there would still not be a commitment to go through with this project.

1101/13 **ST BLAZEY WALKABOUT.**

The Chairman suggested deferring this item due to the absence of two of the three Councillors who attended the walkabout on the 5th November 2011, the Council agreed.

1101/14 **2011 CAROL CONCERT**

The Carol Concert on the 12th December 2010 was again a great success; The Council all agreed that the format and performers should remain the same for 2011.

1101/15 **PROVISION OF GRIT BINS**

A resident from Manor View has written requesting that a Grit-bin be placed at Manor View; the Clerk has previously shown this letter to Councillor Seel. Councillor Seel proposed that the Clerk write back high-lighting the risks and insurance needs involved but offering the residents a grant towards the costs if they wanted to establish a neighbourhood group to look after the bins.

1101/16 **PAR COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**

Councillor Srafton wrote:-

I understand that the Par Community Association was established by a small group of Par Residents as a result of a concert (Flood Fest) held to raise funds to assist victims of the recent flooding. It developed further, into a group who wished to provide information and assistance to residents of the parish of Par and Tywardreath supplementary to those already on offer from existing bodies. It also wished to organise events that might help bring the community together. It had a particular focus on the nexus of issues relating to the ownership of Par Beach.

I was approached on a personal basis immediately before Christmas by an acquaintance who is a member of the Par Community Association (PCA) committee. I was told that the committee now wished to expand its remit to cover the area of St Blaise as well. When asked for my views, I responded in a positive manner. I attended a meeting on 13 January, to learn more about the group. I was told that a resident of St Blazey already joined the committee. I was asked to establish whether St Blaise Town Council would also be willing to send a representative (Par & Tywardreath Council already have a representative).

In my view, this is an encouraging development. It could fit very well with our own efforts to reinforce the sense of community in the area, and with efforts to ensure that the best possible use is made by local groups of the money being made available by the Big Local. Due to the history of its creation, it is not surprising that the focus of the group is at present rather more on Par than elsewhere: but representation from St Blaise could help to re-balance this. It would also help to ensure that the group's plans complement those arising from our Town Plan, rather than conflict with them.

I hope therefore that colleagues will agree that the Town Council should be represented on the PCA committee. I have no overwhelming ambition personally to be our representative, but would take the duty on if there were no other takers.

The Council agreed to defer this item due to the absence of five Councillors who may want to be the representative.

1101/17 **PROJECT LIST**

New Community Centre – The Clerk has completed as much work as possible on the business plan that is necessary for the grant application until we have received quotes for the building work. Peter Hume has supplied the following quotes for work, some of it essential before the work goes out to tender, which must be agreed for the project to proceed.

1. JNC Safety Services Ltd – HSE Co-ordinator - £700.

Councillor Goddard proposed that we accept this quote, Councillor Heyward seconded and all the Council agreed.

2. Structural Engineering Services (south West) Ltd - £1200

Councillor Miller proposed that we accept this quote, Councillor Goddard seconded and all the Council agreed.

3. JN Construction Solutions – Quantity Surveyor & Contract Supervisor- £6,250

Councillor Gill proposed that we accept this quote, Councillor Goddard seconded and all the Council agreed.

4. Waldons Electricals – Electrical & Heating Designer - £1500 for design plus £750 for investigation works.

Councillor Heyward proposed that we accept this quote, Councillor Gill seconded and all the Council agreed.

1101/18 TOWN CLERKS REPORT

Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 S.14: Temporary Prohibition of Traffic

Location: Footpath 13, Tregrehan in the parish of St Blaise
Timing: 30th December 2010 to 30th June 2011 (24 hours
 Weekends Included)
Reason: Cornwall Council - Repairs to the Footpath caused by Flood
 Damage

Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, S.16A

The above closure has been approved. Attached for your information are a map and a copy of the intended site notice.

Event: St Blaise Lantern Procession 2011
Date: 3rd February 2011
Location: Landreath Place, Middleway, Church Street, Fore Street
 and Station Road, St Blazey
Times: 17:30 to 18:45 hours

The Clerk read the Council a letter from Devon & Cornwall Police Authority regarding the Police reform And Social Responsibility Bill before Parliament. The Bill will fundamentally alter police governance and accountability in England and Wales by Abolishing Police Authorities and introducing directly-elected Police and Crime Commissioners in May 2012. They ask that we write opposing the Bill to the Bill Committee. The Council all agreed that this should be done.

Cornwall Council has written asking for our views on the Public Convenience situation in our area. St Blaise only has one facility which is next to St Blazey Football Club. The Council agreed that these conveniences could have reduced opening times to fit more closely with peak demand and have more effective water and electricity management. The Council does not agree that a charge for usage should be put in place or that they should close. Cornwall Council believes that the management of local public conveniences could be devolved to parish councils or other organisation; unfortunately St Blaise Town Council has a very low precept and could not afford to take on the management. The Clerk will reply with these observations.

The Clerk asked the Councillors if any of them wanted to accompany Councillor Scrafton and herself to the CALC AGM in Truro on the 19th February, The Council felt that two representatives would be sufficient.

1101/19 PLANNING MATTERS

There have been three applications received. It was RESOLVED to not object to either of them.

PA10/07544 Full Planning
 Re-surfacing of cliff top car park with parking spaces and cycle provision with landscaping and new surface water drainage system.
 Re-siting of visitors centre for up to 7 years.
 Carlyon Bay Car Park
 Carlyon Bay

PA10/07678 Full Planning
 Erection of Bungalow and garage on land adjacent to:-
 Kay Marie, St Austell Road.
 St Blazey

PA11/00047 Full Planning
 Proposed sunroom extension
 Trenovissick Farm. Trenovissick Farm Road.
 St Blazey

Planning Application results received.

PA10/04877 Full Planning – Conversion to residential use of barns.
 Bluegates Barn , St Austell Road.
 CONDITIONAL PERMISSION GRANTED

PA10/05508 Full Planning – Creation of new garage on driveway.
 25 Chyandor Close.
 CONDITIONAL PERMISSION GRANTED

PA10/05604 Full Planning – Retrospective app for conversion of garage to annexe.
 3 Nevada Villas.
 CONDITIONAL PERMISSION GRANTED

PA10/05787 Change of use – Sub post-office to Letting Agency.
 Biscovey Mini Market, St Austell Road
 CONDITIONAL PERMISSION GRANTED

PA10/06338 Full Planning – Use of car park for car boot sale Thursday mornings during the summer.
 East Car Park, Cornish Market World, Par Moor Road
 CONDITIONAL PERMISSION GRANTED

PA10/07179 Full Planning – Two storey Extension.
 7 Ash Grove, St Blazey Gate
 CONDITIONAL PERMISSION GRANTED

PA10/07274 Full Planning – Retrospective- Division of dwelling.
 Trenovissick Farm, St Blazey .
 CERTIFICATE OF LAWFULNESS GRANTED

PA10/07450 Full Planning – Extension of time re 07/01589 kitchen extension.
 144 Manor View
 CONDITIONAL PERMISSION GRANTED

1101/20 ALEXANDER HALL

Alexander Hall now has free to use wireless broadband.

1101/21 ACCOUNTS

December 10

Income		Expenditure	
Hall Bookings	619.00	Broadband	30.85
Interest	3.34	SWW	55.00
Interest	3.40 11/10	Electricity	45.00
		HMRC	267.70
		CC (pen)	327.41
		Cleaner	81.00
		Clerks Sal	974.03
		Councillors All	1171.00
		D&S builders	130.00
		Land Registry	80.00
		CIS	79.90
		Kittows	300.00
		Piggy Alley	30.55
		Refreshments for CC	142.25
		Alexander Hall	32.68
		Stationery	6.23
		Christmas Tree	6.24
		Flood Defence	111.68
	=====		=====
	625.74		3871.52

January 11

Income		Expenditure	
Hall Bookings	1179.50	Broadband	29.48
Interest	3.34	SWW	55.00
Interest	166.95	Electricity	45.00
		HMRC	267.70
		CC (pen)	327.41
		Cleaner	90.00
		Clerks Sal	974.03
		Dave Smith Elec	205.95
		Northcliffe Media	29.38
		De ja vue	100.00
		MCYB	250.00

	Icon Web Services	60.00
	Glow Sticks	44.95
=====		=====
1349.79		2478.90

The council RESOLVED to accept the accounts submitted.

1101/22 **TOWN BUSINESS**

Councillor Miller had visited the One Stop Shop at Alexander Hall last Tuesday and was impressed by the helpfulness of the staff and the amount of information available.

Councillor Heyward reported several large pot holes in Prideaux Road; The Clerk will report these to Highways.

1101/23 **DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be 24th February 2011 at 7.30pm.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 10.00pm.