

MINUTES of the ANNUAL PARISH MEETING of the St. BLAISE TOWN COUNCIL
Held at the **ALEXANDER HALL**, St. Blazey
on Monday, 23rd May 2016 at 7.00pm

PRESENT

Councillors:

J. Anderson	A Seel
G. Miller	J Taylor
Jenny Moore	R Taylor
A. G. Putt	S. Wheeler

In Attendance: Cornwall Councillor Scrafton
Cornwall Roy Taylor (Included as a Town Councillor)
Town Clerk
1 member of the public

APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from St Blazey Police, the Community Warden and Councillor R Blackie.

MINUTES

The Minutes of the Annual Assembly held on 28th May 2015, were taken as read, confirmed as being a true record of the meeting, proposed by Councillor Taylor and seconded by Councillor Seel, carried UNANIMOUSLY and later signed by the Chairman.

REPORT TO ST BLAISE TOWN COUNCIL BY CORNWALL COUNCILLOR ROY TAYLOR

A390 level crossing closure

I am not content to let this lie. There is still a significant program of works to be carried out on the local rail infrastructure. Accordingly, quarterly meetings have been arranged between CC Transportation staff and representatives of Network Rail to prevent a repeat of the disruption that was caused to the A390 happening here again or elsewhere in Cornwall. Centurion Site Services are no longer welcome in Cornwall.

Kilhallon landslip

Happened in November, gosh it does take time to fix some things. Work has started using pile driving for long term stability and the repair is expected to be completed in August.

The Roundhouse

The Roundhouse and turntable have been the subject of a feasibility survey and board members will be meeting with entrepreneurs in the near future to gauge the level of interest in taking our plans forward.

Motion re parking at Schools

Was referred from Council to the April Transportation PAC. Where it had, I think, a good airing. There is no single cure for the issues but a surprisingly large range of means are already available to parents and children including cycle schemes and walking bus. In addition a reappraisal of the criteria for safe routes to school is likely to lead to significantly more children being offered free transport to school and the DfT initiative re zig zag lines is awaiting implementation. The Transportation portfolio holder has set up a meeting with relevant parties to see what suggestions come forward. Enforcement will be the next hurdle and the committee sent a resolution to cabinet requesting that greater resources are put into this.

St Piran's Day public holiday motion.

I put this motion to Cornwall Council at the meeting held in April. It was carried with a substantial majority and achieved cross party support. This means that the administration will be negotiating for this in addition to the other items in the "deal for Cornwall".

Planning - Land off Mountside Road, Par

I have been pleased to be able to support Doug in his efforts to prevent this unwanted development. Doug will no doubt elaborate on this and I will continue to look after the interests of my electorate who live in the area prone to flooding downstream of Manor View and Porth Meadow.

I still hold the following roles:

Member of St Blaise TC
Member of Tywardreath and Par PC
Member of Cornwall Council representing St Blazey
Chair the Transportation PAC
Member of the Communities PAC
Member of the Economy and Culture PAC
Treasurer of Cornwall Community Flood Forum
Chair of Fourways Youth Charity
Chair of the Burrows Centre Ltd
Chair the Eden Project's Geothermal Project liaison group
Substantive chair of the Roundhouse Cornwall Board
Governor Biscovey Infants School
Board member Par Bay Community Trust
Member Par Bay Big Local

I also attend meetings of St Blazey Reclaimed, Hands Together and The Town Team when I am able.

REPORT TO ST BLAISE TOWN COUNCIL BY CORNWALL COUNCILLOR DOUG SCRAFTON

Planning has been a major preoccupation during the past year and I regret to say that so far there have been few triumphs. The proposal by Wain Homes to destroy a house in Mountlea Crescent, and build on the field behind, twice refused by the planning committee, was approved at appeal. Work has started.

And now, another, even more ill-judged, application has come forward to build 190 houses above the Porth Meadow and Manor View developments. I was pleased that the Strategic Planning Committee shared my view of the application, and voted unanimously against it. Sadly, of course, Wain Homes will not accept the verdict of local people, and have again gone to appeal.

It is my hope that the Local Plan, currently under examination by an Inspector, will come into force before long. This will enable the Planning Committee to refuse ill-conceived applications with greater confidence that their decisions will be upheld at appeal, but I am growing ever more convinced that this is one of those areas where we need to secure greater autonomy from central government. I hope to do some work on this during the coming year.

My motion to Council concerning traffic problems near schools received a thorough examination and discussion by the policy committee, and has now been adopted, with some helpful amendments, by the full Council. This is an initiative that will not of itself solve all of the problems. But I hope that it will help prompt people to work together to address some of the major issues.

Work on the Carlyon Bay development is beginning – albeit more slowly than some might wish. I believe that a number of 'pop-up' events are being arranged on the beach during the summer. I have told the developers that I regret their decision to introduce a fee for using the car park at the top of the hill: but I recognise their right to do so.

A major focus of my time has been on the running track at Par, which I know is used by many from St Blaise. With a group of local people, I have put together an initial proposal to take the track and the surrounding amenity areas into community ownership, and to ensure its continuation as a sports and recreation facility for local people. That proposal has now been submitted to Cornwall Council. We await word on whether we will be invited to produce a more detailed business and feasibility study. The signs so far are propitious.

I currently hold the following positions:

Member of Cornwall Council for Par & St Blazey Gate
 Member of Tywardreath and Par Parish Council
 Member of Cornwall Council's Reputation and Performance Committee
 Member of Cornwall Council's Localism Committee
 Director, Fourways Youth Charity
 Director, SABEF CIC
 Director, Cornwall Roundhouse Ltd
 Director, Roundhouse Cornwall Ltd
 Director Corserv Ltd
 Member, Par Sports and Leisure Park Working Group

I also attend meetings of Imerys' community liaison group, CEG's community liaison group and the Eden Project's Geothermal Project liaison group.

POLICE REPORT

St. Blaise Town Council Police Crime Figures May 2015 – April 2016

<u>Offence</u>	<u>Recorded Crime 2015/16</u>	<u>Recorded Crime 2014/15</u>	<u>Recorded Crime</u>
<u>Difference</u>			
Violence with Injury	33	35	-5.7%
Violence without Injury	48	28	71.4%
Rape	1	1	0%
Other sexual offences	6	4	50%
Robbery	0	1	-100%
Burglary Dwelling	12	6	-25%
Burglary non Dwelling	9	9	0%
Vehicle Offences	8	12	-33.3%
Shoplifting	9	13	-30.8%
Other Theft	29	41	-29.3%
Criminal Damage	54	57	-5.3%
Public Order Offences	9	15	-40%
Possession of Weapons	1	0	-
Trafficking of Drugs	1	1	0%
Possession of Drugs	8	7	14.3%
Other Offences	6	3	100%
<u>TOTAL:</u>	<u>234</u>	<u>233</u>	<u>0.4%</u>

<u>Incidents Recorded</u>	<u>2015/16</u>	<u>2014/15</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Anti-Social Behaviour	167	195	-14.4%
Crime not Recorded	7	6	16.7%
Crime Recorded	111	99	12.1%

Public Safety	451	421	7.1%
Transport	118	95	24.2%
TOTAL:	854	816	4.7%

Crime figures have stayed similar for 2015/2016 compared to 2014/2015, with only a 0.4% increase (1 crime). Incidents of violence without injury have increased although there have been decreases in most other crime categories, especially public order offences and thefts.

Logs/calls to Police for the area have increased by 4.7%. We urge members of the public to report all incidents and crimes on our 101 number.

The Police team covering St Blazey remains largely the same with Sgt Dowlen covering both St Austell and St Blazey. PC Andrew Barnicoat is Neighbourhood Beat Manager for Par and St Blazey as well as Fowey and Lostwithiel. Sadly PC Rob Toms has now retired after 30 years' service. PCSO Jamie Ward and PCSO Rebecca Harris still cover St Blazey, Biscovey, Par and Tywardreath between them. As most are now aware, with the Town Council is buying the Police Station, this is allowing the neighbourhood Police team to stay in St Blazey. We are very pleased to be remaining as it will greatly benefit the community to still have a Police presence in the town and we look forward to continuing to patrol St Blazey on a regular basis providing reassurance, engaging actively with residents and proactively dealing with local issues.

Local police are still very much involved in the Par and St Blazey Pub watch scheme which holds regular meetings throughout the year. We also work with PL24 Community Association and produce a report in the newsletter they distribute around Par and St Blazey. We still hold Community Watch or "Have your Say" meetings every 3 months in conjunction with other agencies and representatives from the Town Council. The three priorities remain speeding traffic, anti – social behaviour and parking/traffic issues at Lesnewth/Biscovey School. All of which St Blazey Neighbourhood Police Team are keen to help resolve.

CHAIRMANS REPORT

First, I would like to thank all the Town Councillors for their sterling work over the last 12 months. I would also like our two Cornwall Councillors, Doug Scrafton and Roy Taylor. The Town Council has a new Councillor Jenny Moore who joined us after the resignation of Councillor Doug Scrafton. I would like to thank Doug for all the work he has done over the years for the people of St. Blazey whilst on the Town Council and he continues to do as a Cornwall Councillor for Par and St Blazey Gate.

Our Community Warden, Dave Pearce, continues to carry out excellent work. St. Blazey is looking better and brighter each year. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the sponsors of the planters, namely St. Blazey Service Station, Walter Bailey, Holmbush Windows and The Bridal Sweet.

Due to the purchase of the Police Station for £27,400, the extension to the Burrows Centre has been put on hold. The Roundhouse and the turntable have been put on the English Heritage 'at risk' list. A dedicated group of people are now carrying out a feasibility study. The Neighbourhood Plan is progressing slower than at first anticipated. Solar lights in Piggy Alley have been repaired and are working well. Brooks Corner continues to experience flooding, but plans are in the pipe line to rectify this.

We await the devolution of King Edward Gardens. A joint committee between St Blaise and Tywardreath and Par has been formed to work on Emergency plans, to achieve this, the Flood Plan is being updated. Discussions about S106 monies for Carlyon Bay are still ongoing.

Wain Homes won their appeal for 44 homes adjacent to Mount Crescent, now they have put in a contentious application for 190 homes to the rear of Porth Meadow and Manor View. There is considerable opposition from both residents and the Town Council.

St. Blazey has joined the Waste Incentive Scheme, encouraging our residents to recycle more. The Community Watch Group meet with the Police every 3 months. A poppy wreath was laid on Remembrance Sunday on behalf of the people of St, Blazey. Due to poor attendance last year, the Carol Concert has been rescheduled to the afternoon of 4th December and at an earlier time of 4.00 pm.

Councillor Roy Taylor kindly offered the Council free Christmas trees and after adding the lights, they looked glorious. We support the Big Lunch, which this year will be held on 12th June and will also be celebrating the Queen's 90th birthday.

Last but not least, thanks must go to our Town Clerk, Gaynor, for all her excellent work over the year.

The meeting closed at 7.24pm.