

**MINUTES of the MEETING of the ST BLAISE TOWN COUNCIL
Held at ALEXANDER HALL, St Blazey, on Thursday 28th October 2021**

Present

Councillor J Moore – Mayor
Councillor A Pearce – Deputy Mayor

Councillors

J Anderson, T Nethercott, K Simms, R Taylor and F Wearne.

In attendance: Town Clerk
Cornwall Councillor P Giles
Zoe Bernard John
Mark Allott

2110/01 **TO ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Councillors T Chapman-Gunner, R Chamberlain and C Williams.

2110/02 **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting of 30th September 2021 were confirmed as being correct and later signed by the Chairperson.

2110/03 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

2110/04 **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MEETING HELD ON 29th JULY 2021**

2109/12 A Letter of thanks has been received from the Royal British Legion.

2109/13 Councillor Moore had met with Rev Jules and proposed that this years' service be combined with the normal Christmas church service because it falls in the middle of December, rather than earlier. It would mean a member of the congregation will also do a reading. The Church can do mulled wine and mince pies afterwards if the TC supply them.

Councillor Anderson said that it had always been the Town Council Carol Service and should remain so. The Clerk and her predecessor reminded the Councillors that it was the only event that the Town Council hold every year. The Clerk said that as we have to be impartial if the Carol Concert was shared all the other churches within our boundary would have to be offered refreshments for their Carol Services.

Councillor Pearce proposed a joint service and was seconded by Councillor Jenny Moore, none of the other Councillors agreed and so it was RESOLVED that the Carol Concert would remain St Blaise Town Council Carol Concert.

2110/05 **INTRODUCTION TO ZOE BERNARD JOHN**

Zoe introduced herself and explained that her main functions as Community Link officer was to support Cornwall Council Members and Town and Parish Councils. Zoe is currently working for the Bude CNP but would be starting with the St Blazey, Fowey and Lostwithiel CNP on November 15th.

Zoe believes that she can improve the way our area's work and would be grateful for input.

2110/06 **MARK ALLOTT TO GIVE AN UPDATE ON THE StARR PROJECT**

The 2011 floods damaged 55 properties and closed 8 roads within St Blazey and was caused by surface water, rivers, groundwater and tidal flooding which is the reason this area was selected for the 36 million pound investment. The money mainly came from Defra, ERDF & Cornwall Council. Local landowners have also been asked to invest by changing the way they use nature.

This urban infrastructure project currently has an under spend as some of the proposed works have not been included and so Mark is looking for ways to use this money.

Councillor Giles was concerned about the sink holes appearing at Pontois Mill and was assured that a waterproof route into the Par River has now been installed. Councillor Giles was glad to hear that the attenuation tank at Doubletrees would hold 7,000 bath tubs of water which is language we all understand rather than weights. Councillor Giles also asked if anything could be done around the Par Market site but sadly this area is not within the project boundary.

Councillor Simms asked about ongoing maintenance and was reassured that additional money had been spent to lengthen the life of the works.

Councillor Moore asked if a walk could be arranged for the Town Councillors to attend as they hadn't been invited to any that had already taken place. Mark said that this would be arranged.

Councillor Moore asked when the work on the rain gardens would begin and was told that there had been a delay due to Open Reach cabling being where the original gardens were planned to be.

Mark Allott said the end of the project would be year-end 2023 but the ERDF funding had to be spent by July 2022.

2110/07 **COMMUNITY WARDEN'S REPORT**

Trail Blazer Park has had the junior MPU repaired so the park is still now open. All grass cutting is up to date.

I have carried out the weekly play inspections on Deeble Drive the grass cutting and the surrounding grass are also up to date.

The grass cutting at Penarwyn and Polgover is up to date as is Piggy Alley and King Edward Gardens. Weekly play inspection at Penarwyn are ongoing.

The toilets are being cleaned daily.

I have trimmed the bushes, cleared all the weeds from around the Memorial ready for Remembrance Sunday.

2110/08 **REPORT FROM CORNWALL COUNCILLOR PAULINE GILES**

As Autumn sets in coughs and colds are prevalent and covid numbers are on the rise, we all must still be cautious, please remember this is not over, being double jabbed does not make us immune, just will help fight the virus, so that we do not become seriously ill.

I shall be spending the dark evenings at home making bunting, in readiness for the Queens Platinum Jubilee. Now is the time to prepare, so that we can all enjoy the long bank holiday weekend. Tomorrow, I will be out spreading the red, white and blue wildflower seed on many of the verges in St Blazey, and have everything crossed that they are in bloom for the Jubilee. If residents are considering planting, I am sure Eden have a supply of 'Jubilee seed' to purchase and for all those businesses out there, if you fill hanging baskets, planters etc., please bear in mind the jubilee theme, it would be great to have a wonderful display throughout St Blazey next June.

You may have seen brown stripes dug into the verges around the town, I have asked Cormac to do this ready for the red, white and blue seeds. I would like to paint the Town Council street furniture red, white and blue. Councillors gave permission.

I and many residents are concerned about the drug dealing which is evident in the Fore Street area and asks that if anybody sees anything suspicious it is reported to 101.

I am pleased to say, early in the New Year (subject to salmon spawning season) the new section of cycle way from the Brit to Cypress Avenue will be constructed. The existing footpath from the Brit corner to Cypress Avenue, will be widened to 3 metres and the triangle where the road signs are situated will become a pedestrian refuge. It is hopeful that in the future a further stretch will be completed, subject to finance. My grateful thanks to fellow Cornwall Councillor Jordan Rowse for the time he spent on this project, to see it to fruition.

Councillor Giles asked the Council whether they would like to see a multi-use trail from the Mount to Par Moor or Par Harbour to Spit beach as the next phase. The Council chose the latter.

I have been contacted by a resident of Helleur Close who reports that a resident is parking in the roads turning space. This is making life difficult for the neighbours and causing the rubbish lorry to reverse onto Roselyon Road.

The Clerk asked if yellow lines for this area could be added to the Old Roselyon Road scheme as this is obviously in an early stage as the Town Council have yet to see any proposals.

I have been contacted by the Barbers in Harbour Road regarding a persistent dog fouler, the Clerk said that she and Dave had been down many times and are yet to catch the offender.

I was delighted to go down to Par Moor Plant Centre and open their Narnia exhibit in the run up to their Christmas display, I was reminded today it is only 8 weeks until Christmas Day. St Blazey Recycle has its Christmas table fully stocked with some new gifts at reasonable prices for those on a limited budget, please go see the team.

I shall shortly be recommencing the family cookery classes, if anyone would like to join in, please follow/like St Blazey Recycle Reuse Resale on Facebook where information will be posted and where the cookery is done live for everyone to join in.

The Clerk asked if Councillor Giles had heard whether Cormac were prepared to widen the pavement in Middleway that although cleared of brambles and nettles, it is still not wide enough as parents and children have to walk in the road. Councillor Giles agreed to chase this further.

2110/09 **WARDENS PAY AWARD**

The Clerk asked the Council if the Warden's hourly rate should be increased to £9.50, the National Working Wage from the Living Wage Foundation increases from 1st November 2021. Councillor Nethercott proposed that the Warden's wage be increased in line with the National Working Wage with an additional 30p per hour. Councillor Taylor seconded the proposal, all the councillors agreed and so it was RESOLVED.

2110/10 **IMPLICATIONS OF CORNWALL COUNCIL CUTS AND LOCALISM**

Cornwall Council are arranging a Peoples Climate Festival for Mid Cornwall on November 27th and have asked that St Blaise Town Council give some funding. All the Councillors were against their request.

2110/11 **REVIEW OF INTERNAL CONTROLS**

The Clerk asked the Council to consider if adequate internal controls are in place and that they accept the responsibility of safeguarding public money. The Clerk asked if the Statement of Internal Control was adequate, and to consider that the Minute Book, Risk Assessment, Attendance Book and Declarations of Interest are being kept

properly, the accounts are being verified correctly, enough insurance is in place, banking arrangements are acceptable, approved the direct debits, variable and static.

Councillor Taylor asked that the first paragraph be amended removing the word items, the Clerk said that the name of the insurance company be amended to Military Mutual and Councillor Anderson said that Risk Identification should be amended adding the three additional play areas.

All agreed that with these changes the Internal Controls are acceptable.

2110/12 **LAYING OF REMEMBRANCE WREATH**

Mayor Jenny Moore volunteered to lay the remembrance wreath at St Blazey Church at the Service on Sunday 14th November at 9.30 am. All Councillors were reminded that their attendance was required.

2110/13 **QUEENS PLATINUM JUILEE CELEBRATIONS**

The Clerk has received a letter from the Pageant Master of the Queens Platinum Jubilee Beacons with regard to the lighting of Beacons on June 2nd 2022. The Clerk has contacted Eden who informed her that they would be undertaking this task.

2110/14 **DECORATING OF CHRISTMAS TREE**

The Clerk asked for permission to purchase a Christmas Trees which was granted. It is proposed that the Christmas Trees be decorated on December 1st and assistance would be required.

2110/15 **GOOD CITIZENS AWARD**

Two nominations for good citizen were given, after discussion it was agreed that Nigel Coombes would receive the 2021 St Blaise Town Council Community Award.

2110/16 **POLGREAN TO STATION ROAD FOOTPATH**

A resident has written that he was appalled at the state of the boundary between the path and the car park. He states that the garden which was planted a couple of years ago now seems to have been neglected and is concerned that it will get precious little light sandwiched between the Community Rooms and the Wardens container shed.

The council have not replanted this area as it was going to be part of the StARR rain garden installation that has been delayed.

The resident is also concerned that the area between the container and Julian Foye is rubbish strewn and weed ridden and wonders how we can expect youngsters to respect the environment when the Town Council's land is derelict.

This area is also being reserved for Rain Gardens however the Clerk was instructed to e-mail PL24 Community association to ask if they would be prepared to carry out a litter pick there.

2110/17 **PROJECT LIST**

Neighbourhood Planning –

Councillor Moore apologised for not having made further progress since last month's meeting.

Play Area Update

Deeble Drive – Play inspections up to date.

Penarwyn Green – Play inspections up to date.

Polgover Way – The Clerk is due to meet the installers next week for delivery and installation to begin 8th November.

Trail Blazer Park

The Clerk has received the following quote for the zip line-

To hire a MEWP and take down the existing zip wire to inspect the fixings within the 2 supports for corrosion will be £665.84 plus VAT.

If these are found to be in a good condition then the following will need to be replaced –

Zip wire
Trolley Cable guides
Trolley bearings
Trolley break rubber
Parts total £315.20 plus VAT

Labour and hire of MEWP to rehang new zip line £665.84

Councillor Nethercott proposed that the quote be accepted, Councillor Pearce seconded the proposal, all the Councillors agreed and so it was RESOLVED.

Town Vitality Fund/Place Shaping Partnership/ Welcome back fund

Councillor Moore will be meeting with the team tomorrow to further the Town Vitality Bid.

Councillor Moore will be contacting all those involved with the place shaping partnership to arrange a meeting shortly.

Councillor Moore will be meeting with the team next week to discuss how the Welcome Back fund could be used by St Blazey Feast and Fete.

2110/18 TOWN CLERKS REPORT

The Clerk read the Councillors an e-mail from a resident of Par Lane who is extremely concerned about the speeding in their area. The Clerk was asked to report this to the Net-work Highways Scheme and Cornwall Councillor Giles as speeding is a Highways issue and therefore the responsibility of Cornwall Council.

The Clerk has been trying to get a set of accounts from Fourways up to now so that they can prove they are spending money and give the full £2,500. Three sets of accounts from last year have been received that show we gave more than they spent and therefore increased their reserves.

Councillors agreed that if figures proving money has been spent only £1,000 would be donated.

The Clerk will take up contact details with the new Community Link Officer after November 15th regarding the Safety Camera Partnership and the Rosehill Cameras as no reply has been received from the current officer.

Rachael Tatlow from Highways has written that after a meeting with colleagues in the Council's Transportation and Integrated Transport Technology teams, the Council is able to consider improvements at this crossing. The traffic signals are due for renewal, and as there is an aspiration for crossing facilities to be provided, the additional works will be considered as part of the upgrade.

Initially, pedestrian counts are to be taken (this month) to specifically identify where pedestrians currently cross, and associated numbers at each point. This will help inform the design of the crossing facility.

2110/19 PLANNING MATTERS

There have been six planning applications received and it was RESOLVED to not object to five of them.

PA21/10032 Non-material Amendment in relation to decision PA19/04813 for proposed Residential Development to replace existing 66 residential and 6 commercial units with 60 residential and 2 commercial units. Dated 23.10.19.
Phase 1 Block D Polgrean Place
St Blazey

PA21/09437 Refurbishment and extension of an existing bungalow + new garage at rear of garden.
15 Doubletrees
St Blazey

Comment: Concerns about height of garage, no objection to bungalow.

PA21/07901 Outline application for development with some matters reserved for business units comprising a mixture of E/B2 usage, creation of new road and access along with associated works following demolition of existing structures.
Hensbarrow Dry
Porth Road
Par Moor Road
PAR

Comment: Concern regarding the access onto the busy Par Moor Road

PA21/09861 Felling of T1 Sycamore tree
Boundary between 31 Polgover Way and Polgover Play Area
St Blazey

PA21/07694 Extension to Existing Single garage building to form a Double Garage Building.
134 Manor View
St Blazey

OBJECT:

PA21/07191 Outline Planning Permission for all matters reserved for up to 5 residential properties.
Coppergrove
65A Rose Hill
St Blazey

Comment: There are four more houses in the lane that are not shown on map. Two are using the lane which is mostly a single file mud track which is not wide enough for emergency vehicles. To get to the five new proposed properties all traffic including heavy vehicles would have to go over the un adopted single track which is only partially concreted which and paid for by some local residents.

The proposed development is below the line of the current works on the STARR project to protect the area. In so developing here, whilst the line of the STARR project is beneficial to the new properties, the building of these properties would then increase the saturation and flood risk on the properties below - the very properties that the STARR project is supposed to be protecting. This would necessitate enormous, unpractical soakaways to protect the properties.

The land is approximately 1.8 metres above a neighbours land and any excavation of this land would seriously de-stabilise their back boundary.

With climate change already accelerating faster than originally expected this giving rise to intensifying the water cycle, changes in rainfall patterns and associated flooding, not only does this proposed development increase the flood risk to the properties on Rose Hill below, it also increases the risk to the A390 and Landreath Place.

A site meeting is essential.

Results Received

None

2110/20 **ALEXANDER HALL/ ST BLAZEY COMMUNITY ROOMS/ JUNE
ANDERSON HALL**

The entrance doors at Alexander Hall have been repaired as has guttering and the gas heating exhaust that have all been vandalised.

The Clerk asked if the Cleaner's hourly rate should be increased in line with the increase of the National Working Wage from the Living Wage Foundation from 1st November 2021. Councillors agreed that the Cleaner's wage be increased in line with the National Working Wage.

St Blaze Community Rooms still has no bookings.

June Anderson Hall – The Clerk has contacted the builder about the cracks that have appeared but been told it is just shrinkage cracks. Nobody has visited the building and therefore the Clerk was given permission to reply that we are very disappointed that nobody has visited.

2110/21 **ACCOUNTS**

Payments Received

| | |
|------------------|--------|
| Hall Hire | 440.00 |
| Interest | .53 |
| High Deposit Int | 18.35 |
| C/R Hire | |
| Burrows Electric | 209.13 |
| JA Room Hire | 670.00 |
| Burrows Electric | 202.70 |

Expenditure

| | |
|------------------|---------|
| Clerks Wage | 1596.57 |
| Wardens Wage | 663.93 |
| Broadband | 23.66 |
| UK Fuels | 24.79 |
| Insurance | 185.59 |
| HMRC | 642.03 |
| CC (Pen) | 582.19 |
| Burrows Elec | 39.58 |
| Burningshams grg | 10.00 |
| Viking | 68.38 |
| M Rowe | 784.39 |
| <u>AH</u> | |
| Chubb (parts) | 14.76 |
| Corona (Gas) | 39.51 |
| SWW | 76.00 |
| Cleaners Wage | 30.40 |
| Cleaning mats | 11.00 |
| Fire Alarm | 179.92 |
| Intruder Alarm | 108.00 |
| S Vicary | 145.00 |
| K Ridsdale | 1589.94 |

| | | |
|---------|------------------------|----------|
| | <u>PC</u> | |
| | Electric | 160.47 |
| | Locking | 40.00 |
| | <u>Community Rooms</u> | |
| | Electric | 39.80 |
| | Business Rates | 104.00 |
| | <u>JA Hall</u> | |
| | Electric | |
| | Cleaning Mats | 14.99 |
| | Cleaning | 259.83 |
| | Repair | 62.50 |
| ===== | | ===== |
| 1540.71 | | 7,497.13 |

All the Councillors RESOLVED to accept the accounts submitted.

2110/22 TOWN BUSINESS

Councillor Moore reported on the progress of Friends of St Blazey Triangle (Fountain) as she can't believe it is only a short time since her idea to form this group to try and make the Triangle more attractive.

Councillor Anderson and Councillor Moore met with Rebecca Hillson from Highways/Cormac and Zoe Bernard-John our Community Network Officer to discuss the Triangle. Rebecca was incredibly helpful and said that there may not have to be road closure for some works and doing this through Cormac volunteers means there could be a lot of benefits.

Councillor Anderson and Councillor Moore also met with Tom Fletcher who thinks the resurfacing can be done under StARR via Cormac, as they are currently in the area. He needs to put this to the project board, but hopefully it will be successful. It will involve resurfacing, rather than digging out and surfacing, but will address the issue of runoff, the two garden patches on the Triangle are at the bottom of a slope and should be redesigned as raingardens.

Councillor Moore has a very generous friend who lives up country but loves this area, and he has given her £1k to spend on this project. Tom Fletcher suggested that this could be put towards garden design, to achieve the right raingarden planting which Councillor Moore is happy to do. Tom Fletcher also mentioned low key surveying being carried out.

Councillor Moore met with Neil Taylor, a gardener who has offered to work on the Triangle and explained how she hoped this would progress and he is happy to start clearance work until it is known how this project is going to develop. He is aiming to start this in 3 weeks' time or so. Coincidentally he is currently completing Cormac volunteering forms and is already in contact with Rebecca Hillson.

Councillor Moore has a garden designer in mind and will contact her regarding the cost design. As and when she has a date from Neil/Rebecca for the clearance, I will advertise on Facebook and see if we get volunteers.

Councillor Moore as the Town Council Eden representative attended a meeting to discuss the Eden to Heligan cycle route. It was a lengthy presentation on e-bikes, regrettably the promoter had not even considered the necessity of having training programmes for those using e-bikes. There have been some really nasty accidents involving people who haven't cycled for years, and think they can jump on e-bikes.

Councillor Moore reported that the Garden centre who had sponsored the Brit Roundabout were disappointed that no signage advertising this had been installed.

2110/20 **DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be on 25th November 2021 at 7.30pm at Alexander Hall.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.47 pm.