

**MINUTES of the MEETING of the ST BLAISE TOWN COUNCIL
Held at St Blazey Community Rooms, St Blazey, on Thursday
28th September 2023**

Present

Deputy Mayor – J Anderson

Councillors

D Brock, K Simms, F Wearne and C Williams

In attendance: Town Clerk
Sgt Ian Chambers
PC Craig Boundy
PCSO Graham Wade
Mike Collings.

2309/01 **TO ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Councillors T Nethercott, R Taylor & C Parrock.

2309/02 **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting of 31st August 2023 were confirmed as being correct and later signed by the Chairperson.

2309/03 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

2309/04 **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MEETING HELD ON 31st AUGUST 2023**

2309/20 The Clerk now has the Tommy Statues and will ask the Church if we can put them on the edge of the wall of the church for a week before Armistice Sunday and a week after, they will then be moved to the war memorial.

2309/05 **REPORT FROM DEVON AND CORNWALL POLICE**

Sgt Ian Chambers, PC Craig Boundy and PCSO Graham Wade introduced themselves to the Council.

They reported that there had been 107 calls from St Blazey and Par since the 1st of September 2023 which covered a wide range of issues from stabbings down to kids misbehaving in parks.

There have been 5 issues of packages with 1kg of cannabis from overseas being delivered within the town by Royal Mail, Border Force have been involved. The culprits choose an address, wait for the package to be delivered and then go to the house and claim the parcel saying it was sent to the wrong address. Councillor Brock will put a warning to residents on Face book not to accept unknown packages.

Shoplifting has increased however the police triage these cases as they will not act if they think the crime prosecution service will not follow up.

Sgt Ian Chambers emphasized that all reports will be answered however their limited time is spent where needed.

2309/06 **COMMUNITY WARDEN'S REPORT**

All grass cutting is up to date, all footpath maintenance is up to date. Weed treatment continues as weather allows.

The wardens have said that there is a weed called oxalis in the planters at the front of the Town Car Park and the Packhorse which must be removed unfortunately this could mean no plants there next year. The Councillors said if needed this had to be done. They asked if daffodils could be planted ready for spring in the boats and planters. The Councillors said of course.

Whilst out working they spoke to the Cormac workers who said that they would no longer be doing this work and that it would be the responsibility of the Town Council. The TC have not been notified of this and await to hear from Cornwall Council. Mike advised the Council that traffic management would have to be in place which would cost approximately £1,000 per visit.

2309/07 **REPORT FROM CORNWALL COUNCILLOR PAULINE GILES**

Councillor Giles sent her apologies and the following report.

The closure of the junction adjacent to Richards Fruit and Veg is having a huge effect on the traffic travelling through the Fountain crossing and spilling out onto Station Road and Middleway. I have spoken to the EA and StARR who are carrying out the work and which is causing loss of trade to our local businesses and upset with people travelling to and from work and getting their children to school. The irony of this is they are not actually working on the road, but the riverbanks either side of the road! I am told the road needs to close to comply with health and safety rules.

My solution to this was, as very little is done until 10am and after 4pm, why, (as the road is not affected), not close the road at 9.30am after people have taken their children to school and people have gone to work, and reopen it at 4pm so that residents have access in the evenings? They had to have 'a meeting' to discuss this! I had a response; they regret they cannot open the road as they are using the road to store equipment. They have agreed to Saturday working which will shave a week off the closure, which is better than nothing.

To make things even worse, the B3269 is soon to be closed for resurfacing work, for those of you who do not know where that road is, it is from Fowey to the junction onto the A390 near the Lanlivery turning. Oh, what timing! The only other proper exit from Fowey is being closed at the same time as the Station Road junction, meaning there will be even more vehicles using Fountain junction to get out! I have spoken to Cormac, they state they are unable to postpone the works, but will monitor the traffic movement around St Blazey. Please do not hesitate to complain! This is ridiculous.

The Rundles walk (Bridge St end) scheme was postponed because unfortunately the team due to attend were reallocated to an emergency in the Carne Cross area, to deal with a collapsed culvert that resulted in a road closure. This is now scheduled for 23rd Oct. If for any reason, there is an opportunity to bring it forward they will endeavour to do so.

I was pleased to visit the Polgrean site and look at some of the homes which will be complete in the Spring, they have also built a lovely OAP block incorporating a lift and wider doors for wheelchair access. I am looking forward to seeing this development complete and full of local families and elderly residents.

You will be pleased to hear that St Blazey Recycle Reuse Resale CIC has been nominated for a Kings Award for Voluntary Service. Everyone travelled down to County Hall last week to receive a certificate from the Lord Lieutenant and await the announcement on 14 November. I'm sure you will all want to offer your congratulations, this facility has made such a huge difference to the residents of St Blazey and saved so much furniture from going to the incinerator.

2309/08 **REVIEW OF THE RETENTION OF RECORDS POLICY**

The clerk had distributed the Retention of Records Policy. Councillor C Williams proposed that the current document be accepted without change, Councillor Anderson seconded the proposal, all the Councillors agreed and so it was RESOLVED.

2309/09 **REVIEW OF THE PUBLICATION SCHEME**

The clerk had distributed the Publication Scheme. Councillor C Williams proposed that the current document be accepted without change, Councillor K Simms seconded the proposal, all the Councillors agreed and so it was RESOLVED.

2309/10 **IMPLICATIONS OF CORNWALL COUNCIL CUTS AND LOCALISM**

As we all know Cornwall Council are saying they will be cutting services and are having an on-line meeting on October 12th. The Clerk will be unable to attend however Councillors Nethercott and Wearne will. Depending on services to be devolved we will need to adjust our precept.

2309/11 **COUNCIL TO CONSIDER CYBER INSURANCE**

The Clerk has received various quotes for Cyber Insurance ranging from £997.95 down to £280.00. Councillor Anderson proposed that we take out the insurance with

Coalition at a cost of £280.00, this was seconded by Councillor Brock, all the Councillors agreed and so it was RESOLVED.

2309/12 **DONATION TO THE EARL HAIG POPPY APPEAL**

Councillor Williams proposed a donation of £250 to the 2023 Appeal, Councillor K Simms seconded the proposal, all the Councillors agreed and so it was RESOLVED.

2309/13 **CAROL CONCERT READERS**

The Councillors discussed this and decided that Councillor Nethercott should do a reading as Mayor, Councillor Parrock as a new Councillor and Councillor Williams volunteered for third reading.

2309/14 **TO ADOPT A NEW EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY POLICY**

The clerk had distributed a new Equality and Diversity Policy. Councillor C Williams proposed the document be accepted, Councillor K Simms seconded the proposal, all the Councillors agreed and so it was RESOLVED.

2309/15 **CONCLUSION OF AUDIT**

The Clerk has received the Annual Governance and Accountability Return from the External Auditor. They found that the AGAR is in accordance with Proper Practice and no matters need to be drawn to the attention of the authority.

2309/16 **PROJECT LIST**

Neighbourhood Planning

The Clerk is still working through the recommendations from Cornwall Council as there is a lot more work needed than first thought.

Community Event

Next year's Community Event will again be a Picnic in King Edward Gardens, the date and entertainment to be decided later.

Councillors Surgery.

Councillor Anderson hosted the Surgery on September 2nd. The Surgery on October 7th will be hosted by Councillors Wearne and Brock. It was agreed that the Surgery time would be reduced to 10 am to 11 am.

2309/17 **TOWN CLERKS REPORT**

The Speed camera in Station Road recorded that 65.73% of incoming vehicles, up from 67.01% are above the speed limit and 78.54% up from 75.08% of outgoing vehicles are above the speed limit.

The Cornwall Community Flood Forum Annual Conference will be held on Friday 3rd November at Royal Cornwall Showground. Councillor Williams and the Clerk will attend.

We have had a request for a litter bin to be put by the bus shelter opposite the Co-op. The Councillors agreed that due to the high cost of having a bin emptied, the fact that even bus shelters with bins, the bins are not used and we don't yet know how many more services will be devolved to us, we cannot undertake this cost at this time.

Par bay Community Garden have written and asked if we could make a joint purchase of tubers for their begonias next year, the Clerk will inform them that we don't use tubers we buy the plants.

Louise Pyle from Ocean Housing has asked if we would like a tour of the Polgrean development, all the Councillors would like to accept the invitation. The Clerk will forward the time and date when known.

The Clerk told the Councillors that the Cornwall association of Local Councils AGM will be at St Erme Community Centre on Tuesday 24th October 2023, unfortunately none of the Councillors will be available and therefore the Clerk will send apologies.

Our Community Area Partnership have invited the Councillors to attend an online Clean Air for Cornwall engagement workshop, Councillors Williams and Brock will attend on October 16th.

The Clerk is receiving a lot of nasty e-mails from a resident who doesn't understand the limits to the Town Councils responsibilities and is being very derogatory about her. The Councillors told her to block his E-mail address.

Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, S.16A

The below closure has been approved.

Event: Eden Marathon

Date: 15th October 2023

Times: 09:30 to 10:10 hours

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

The below Road(s) will be temporarily closed to allow works to be completed on the highway.

Location: A390 Bridge Street to Porcupine, Par

Timing: 10th January 2024 to 11th January 2024 (22:00 to 06:00 hours)

2309/18 PLANNING MATTERS

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

PA23/06913 Proposed single storey rear extension
10 William West Road
St Blazey

PA23/07537 Application for tree works in a Tree Preservation Order: Felling
of an Oak and crown prune an oak.
Lower Penarwyn House
Penarwyn Woods
St Blazey

PA23/07690 Application for a Lawful Development Certificate for an
existing use – the subdivision of a single dwelling into two
dwellings.
5A Doubletrees
St Blazey

Results Received

PA23/03701 Works to trees under a tree preservation order (TPO): A001
(various species): Thin the group through removing the lowest
value specimens, approximately by 15%. T001(not identified):
Fell. T003 (Pine): remove deadwood over 75mm in diameter.
T004 (Norway Maple): Remove deadwood over 50mm in
diameter, and hung-up branches. T005 (Sycamore): Fell
Land Northwest of 53 Chyandor Close
Chyandor Close
St Blazey
APPROVED

PA22/09809 Two storey extension to rear of property
295 Manor View
St Blazey
APPROVED

2309/19 REPORTS ON COUNCIL BUILDINGS

St Blazey Public Toilets -

Our new Public Convenience Warden started at the beginning of this month. A smart meter has now been fitted to the electric meter.

Alexander Hall

The drain outside the front doors had to be cleaned out as it was over-flowing.

There is to be a display of old photos of Par and St Blazey on October 21st, the organisers have asked that due to it being a Community Event could the price be discounted, The Councillors agreed that the charge be reduced to £25.

St Blazey Community Rooms

The water heater under the sink has had to be replaced as it was leaking.

June Anderson Hall

One of the windows has had to be repaired. Bookings are up.

2309/20 **PLAY AREA UPDATES**

Deeble Drive – Play inspections and ground maintenance is up to date.

Penarwyn Green – Play inspections and ground maintenance is up to date. We have been informed that the cost of Cornwall Council emptying the bin at Penarwyn is increasing from £165.81 to £364.25 in the financial year 2024/25

Polgover Way – The caps missing from the climbing frame have now been repaired by Sovereign however most of them have now been removed. Play inspections and ground maintenance is up to date. The vandalised basket swing has now been replaced.

The Roselyon Residents group will be disbanding but have thanked the Town Council for working with them.

Trail Blazer Park – Trailblazer Park improvement funding application is with Cornwall Council; the Clerk will be having a team's meeting with them next Wednesday. An important part of the application is that we work with residents' association. Councillor Wearne will work with the Clerk to enable this.

2309/21 **ACCOUNTS**

Payments Received

Hall Hire	800.00
Interest	56.97
High Deposit Int	117.30
JA Hire	340.00
Precept	57,750.00
Black Sacks	35.00

Expenditure

Clerks Sal	1710.55
Wardens Wage	769.07
Broadband	40.31
UK Fuels	112.74
HMRC	738.86
CC (Pen)	604.46
Warden Wage	893.80
Insurance	306.13
Fountain Elec	50.40
Wardens Equip	13.96
Biscuits	10.03
Walter Bailey	18.13
Fountain Water	47.30
Microsoft	59.99

	Audit	504.00
	St Aust GM	424.20
	Nomix	714.12
	Lawn & Power	97.87
	IntoPlay-TB	294.60
	IntoPlay-Pol	728.60
	RBL	350.00
	E Bay	4.95
	<u>AH</u>	
	Chubb (parts)	16.75
	Corona (Gas)	43.07
	Corona (Elec)	57.95
	SWW	45.50
	Cleaners Wage	21.85
	Kernow Dr	114.00
	<u>PC</u>	
	Electric	
	Locking	40.00
	Water	
	Westcare	106.26
	<u>Community Rooms</u>	
	Electric	
	Business Rates	109.00
	Water Heater	115.99
	Broadband	
	<u>JA Hall</u>	
	St Austell Glass	72.00
	Cleaning Mats	6.00
	Electric	- 18.69
	=====	=====
	58,981.97	9,223.75

All the Councillors RESOLVED to accept the accounts submitted.

2309/22 TOWN BUSINESS

Councillor Wearn attended the LVP meeting last night, the Clerk will forward the minutes when available.

2309/23 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be on 26th October at 7.30pm at St Blazey Community Rooms.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.24 pm.