

MINUTES of the ANNUAL TOWN MEETING of the St. BLAISE TOWN COUNCIL
Held at the St Blazey Community Rooms, ST BLAZEY
on
Thursday, 28th May 2026 at 7.00pm

PRESENT

Councillors: A Billings S Burt
 S Fitzpatrick T Nethercott
 K Simms R Taylor
 C Williams

In Attendance: Town Clerk
 Cornwall Councillor Pauline Giles

APOLOGIES

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors Parrock and Chapman-Gunner.

MINUTES

The Minutes of the Annual Assembly held on 15th May 2025, were taken as read, confirmed as being a true record of the meeting, agreed UNANIMOUSLY and later signed by the Chairperson.

REPORT TO ST BLAISE TOWN COUNCIL BY CORNWALL COUNCILLOR PAULINE GILES

It has been a year since the new stretch of pavement was installed at Middleway, I have received many positive comments from residents who think it has made a significant difference. It took a while, but we got there in the end, I am hopeful that the more able-bodied patients will park at the Co-Op and use the crossing to access the Doctors leaving the parking spaces for the elderly and those with a blue badge.

I attended Biscovey Junior School with Cormac for a firsthand consultation session with the children regarding what play equipment was favourite for Bull Engine Park. There were lots of great ideas but a small budget!

Lots of great ideas were put forward. However, when a public survey was undertaken, both by paper and online, there were several negative comments which skewed the options. The project has been very much watered down, meaning that there will now be a wildlife garden and traditional games like hopscotch painted on the empty tarmac surface left from the old equipment.

A further face-to-face consultation was held with pictures of the newly proposed scheme which two Cormac Officers and I attended. The meeting was scheduled to coincide with the end of the school day, so that both parents and children could look at the plans and give feedback. Sadly, no one attended, meaning the scheme is now adopted. Lack of engagement as far as the Council is concerned looks like a lack of interest, so the watered-down scheme will be implemented shortly.

The rain gardens on Par Lane were very much stripped back as they were unkempt and overgrown, causing a visual hazard. The one good thing that came out of it was responsibility, and the financing of subsequent remedial work was confirmed. I will keep an eye on the rain gardens and report to Cormac before they get out of hand in the future.

I attended the Mid Cornwall Metro stakeholder meeting and have recently attended another, it is great to know that the lift bridge will be installed in late 2027 giving our older residents, those in wheelchairs and families without transport an opportunity to get active more.
The Spit Beach bridge was repaired and reinforced just in time for the school summer holidays.

I had a tour of Chi St Austell, the new Council offices in Aylmer Square in September. This offers valuable services to our residents from Monday to Friday . Offering advice and support on many topics as well as children's services, you can even get married there!

I had an increase in complaints about dog mess along Rundles Walk and since reporting on it, have not received any further complaints which I hope is a good sign that owners are being more responsible. I regularly walk this path and have to say there has been an improvement.

I attended St Blazey Church on 11th November with Cllr Parrock and members of the public, to lay a wreath on Remembrance Day.

I helped plant fruit trees on a drizzly Saturday morning in January at Middleway Cemetery; they will hopefully provide some Spring colour and bear fruit for people to pick in future years. Sadly, even though hundreds of letters went out and the event was advertised online, no members of the public came to help.

Once more, the Council Tax was increased by the maximum amount. Unfortunately, public perception is we are paying more and getting less but with 78% of the Councils total budget being spent on Adults and Children's services it leaves very little for anything else.

POLICE REPORT

PS Martin Easter sent the following report.

At the end of the 2025 financial year the St Austell and St Blazey Neighbourhood Team currently comprises of 2 Police Sergeants (PS) known as Neighbourhood Team Leaders (NTL) 7 Police Officers known as Neighbourhood Beat Managers (NBM), 7 Police Community Support Officers (PCSO) and 2 Tri-Service Safety Officers (TSSO).

The Neighbourhood Inspector responsible for the St Austell and St Blazey policing area is Inspector Matt Trevivian

The NTL's are PS Martin Easter and PS Matt Dove.

The NBM's for the St Blazey policing area and the adjoining parishes are PC Lauren Ward and PC Jamie Martin. They are supported by PCSO Cameron Mallatratt and PCSO Graham Wade. TSSO Josh Harmon operates from Lostwithiel Fire Station.

The team also works closely with Cornwall Council Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) case worker Annabelle Lamy and the ASB and housing teams working for the various social housing associations with housing stock in the area to deal with ASB and low-level crime.

There have been several changes to the neighbourhood team over the past 12 months. 3 PCSO's, including PCSO Mallatratt, joined the team in April 2025 and were successful in achieving independent status following a period of tutorship. They have continued to develop their skills and knowledge in neighbourhood policing and establishing good working relationships with residents and community stakeholders.

PC Jamie Martin joined the team April 2026 as the NBM for St Blazey.

NHT activities

We continue to address and manage ASB and crime related to ASB in the community.

We recognise ongoing community concerns in regarding nuisance vehicles both on and off the road.

We have completed operations targeting nuisance riders and have seized several illegal motorcycles, electric pedal cycles and e scooters. We have also issued Section 59 warnings to drivers and riders who have been identified as driving or riding vehicles in an anti-social manner.

St Blazey crime information from April 2025 to March 2026

A total of crimes 422 were reported during this period broken down as below.

Type	Number
Assault offences	116
Stalking and harassment	88
Criminal damage	48
Theft offences	42
Public order offences	34
Sexual offences	22
Shoplifting offences	17
Drugs offences	16
Vehicle related offences	11
Miscellaneous crimes against the state	10
Burglary offences	9
Possession of weapons offences	6

MAYORS REPORT

I have enjoyed representing the people of St Blaise as Mayor for the third year and again I say it has been a great honour to represent you and have enjoyed my role, collaborating with residents and supporting the Community. I will be standing down at our Annual meeting on May 28th but will continue as a Councillor.

I have attended many events including the Town Council Carol Concert and the Community Event held in King Edward Gardens in August. I presented the good citizen award at St Blaise Town carol service. I laid the remembrance wreath in November.

We have as a Council achieved many goals this year. New seats have been installed in Trailblazer Park along with a swing for the disabled and 2 new air walkers. We have also installed CCTV. We have put new seats in Polgrean and had the footpath adjacent to Biscovey School relayed with hard core. Other jobs that many of you will not have seen include replacing the kissing gate on the footpath from Cornhill Farm to St Blazey Church and two others on Carvear Moor. The public toilets have also been painted and are much more welcoming.

St Blaise Town Council have taken on the telephone box at the end of Station Road which now has a defibrillator and a blood pack. There are now four defibrillators in St Blazey, our two Station Road and the Fourlords pub and one at the doctor's surgery and the football club for which we cannot take credit.

Now that we have responsibility for the War Memorial at St Blazey Church, we have repainted the granite memorial stone.

We welcomed Pete the new assistant Community Warden in April who has assisted Mike well especially during the storms we suffered in January. Unfortunately, King Edward Gardens came off badly during the storm Gorretti and we lost several trees but the various works have been conducted and the park is looking good again.

The whole of St Blazey has looked excellent over the past year and I would like to thank Mike and Pete for their work which includes town maintenance, planting of the planters, maintenance of the play areas among many other duties. They worked really hard after Storm Gorretti and Storm Chandra when they had to deal with flooding. They are a true asset to the Town.

We continue to hold a Councillors Surgeries however they are now bi-monthly on the first Saturday of January, March, May, July, September and November at St Blazey Community Rooms for one hour from 10 am followed by an hour at Alexander Hall.

Our next Community Event will be on August 23rd at King Edward Gardens to have St Blazey Fun Day where Jonny Inder will play and there will be a bouncy castle. We will be serving refreshments and if you would like to bring some additional entertainment like the brownies did last year making bracelets and face painting and Dog World did having a naming competition let the Clerk know.

Councillor Billings has updated the St Blazey and Par Emergency Plan and you can get a copy from the Clerk.

I would like to thank all the Town Councillor's for their commitment to making St. Blazey a better place in which to live.

Finally, I must thank Gaynor, our Town Clerk, for her sterling work and guidance over the last year.

The Council can be contacted on 01726 816595 or E-mail townclerk@stblaisetc.co.uk or write to: - Town Clerk, St Blaise Town Council, Alexander Hall, Middleway, St Blazey PL24 2JH. The office is open to the public Monday, Wednesday and Fridays between 9.00am and 1.00pm.

Meeting closed at 7.21 pm.