

**Notes from the ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF ELECTORS**  
**held on the 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2022, at St Mary's Church**



Present: Councillors Mr. I. Stewart, Mrs. S. Nash, Mrs. G. Tull and Mr. R. Symonds  
Cornwall Councillor Mrs. D. Crabtree  
PC Jason Rowe – Neighbourhood Beat Manager  
10 members of the public  
Lucy Jose - Clerk to the Council

**Welcome**

The Parish Council Chairman, Cllr. I Stewart welcome everyone to the meeting and explaining the emergency procedures for the evening.

**To receive apologies**

Apologies were noted from Cllr. Hitchen, Jose, J. Tull, S. Goodwin and 5 parishioners.

**To receive the Chairman's Annual Report on the Parish Council**

The Chairman addressed the meeting highlighting the work of the council during 21/22.

- **Planning:** Regular planning applications continue to come before the council as consultees each month and whilst councillors are not planning experts, they try to offer a reasonable point of view as would any other parishioner.
- **Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP):** The referendum for the NDP will be held on 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2022. Electors will receive their polling notifications they would for any elections. The NDP was developed over nearly three years from lots of surveys of people's views and were amended where necessary according to the representations that did come in. The plan has since been reviewed by Cornwall Council to ensure its legality and thereafter reviewed by an independent examiner. The Chairman encouraged electors to use their vote in the upcoming referendum.
- **Affordable Housing:** Identified during the NDP consultations it was recognised that there was a lack of affordable housing in the parish and hence the council have entered negotiations with a developer and Coastline Housing to build on the old WAAF site at Cambrose. The Chairman commented that whilst it is early days, with no definitive plan, all interested parties appear to be in support of the scheme.
- **Flood Alleviation Scheme:** We continue to engage with the Environment Agency and others to start work on the flood alleviation scheme for the Portreath stream. The last news from George Eustice is that works should commence before the end of this year.
- **Highway matters:** The council continues to look for ways to alleviate the parking issues in the village. During 20/21 Last year we paid for extra parking enforcement patrols and continues to strive to get action out of Cormac for some new scheme to address Tregea Hill. More recently there was the incident at the entrance to Forthvean where a car crashed into the bus stop and again, councillors are trying to get Cormac to find some scheme to mitigate the dangers there.
- **Platinum Jubilee:** The council has been liaising with the PIC to do what they can to contribute to the planning and expenditures for this.
- **Grants Award Scheme:** The Chairman reminded electors of the Council's small grants scheme and invited parish organisations to make applications to the fund. The Chairman confirmed that the criteria for these is available on the council's website.
- **Casual Vacancy:** The Chairman highlighted the casual vacancy as councillor. The Chairman outlined the democratic process for filling the vacancy and confirmed that by the end of the following week the council would know if there would be any election to fill the place of if the council could co-opt to fill the vacancy.

**Chairman's observations on the Council's finances.** There being no audited accounts at this time the Chairman will present observations on the Council's finances.

The Chairman summarised the council's finances highlighting:

- 21/22 year we ended up with £5304 more than budgeted. This was due mostly to some unexpected income from the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL), Portreath Association LTD (PAL) and VAT reclaim.

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- For the 22/23 budget Councillors felt the need to increase the precept by 12.45% to allow for a possible 10% inflation and other planned expenditure. Whilst the percentage figure seems high – in actual terms it was a rise of less than £1 a month to an average Band D property.
- The Council will start budget planning for next year towards the end of September. Councillors hope to put out a survey over the Summer to gauge opinion about which areas the parishioners would like the council to focus on.

**To receive the Report of Cornwall Councillor David Crabtree**

Cllr Crabtree reported that his first year as a Cornwall Councillor had provided plenty of challenges and had also been a learning curve because of the different committees he was a member of. He was on the following Committees:

- Pensions
- West Sub Area Planning
- Customer and Support Services Overview and Scrutiny
- Health and Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny
- Appeals which is for school transport
- Substitute for Central Sub Area Planning Committee
- Substitute for the Tamar Bridge and Torpoint Ferry Joint Committee
- Chair of the Cornwall and West Devon Mining World Heritage Site Partnership Board.

Surprisingly, most of their casework in their first year had come from Portreath, especially with the parking situation on Tregea Hill. CC Crabtree commented that they had managed to get more parking enforcement without the Parish Council having to pay for the extra hours. CC Crabtree highlighted their main concern, which would have had consequences for the local residents, was the proposed implementation of parking charges in the Tehidy Woods car parks. The consultation started without their prior knowledge; they immediately raised their concerns. CC Crabtree confirmed that they did receive confirmation that the proposal would be withdrawn almost two weeks before the consultation closed. The road improvement schemes that are currently under consideration were Tregea Hill to address speed and dangerous parking. Within seven days of getting elected, CC Crabtree had a very heated meeting over a cider farm and private gypsy site in Portreath and two days short of his first year there was another heated meeting over bollards, once again in Portreath.

**To receive the accounts and reports of the local registered charities and local organisations.**

Verbal reports were given by:

- Portreath Improvements Committee (PIC)
- Portreath Association Ltd (PAL)
- Stitch Club & Crafty Kids
- Patch
- Portreath Preschool
- St Mary's Church
- Portreath Jubilee Celebrations

The meeting took a 20-minute refreshment break and continued with the reports from:

- Portreath Harbour Association
- HM Coastguard, Portreath
- Portreath Surf Lifesaving Club
- Camborne and Redruth Refugee Support Group
- Portreath Emergency and Flood Group
- Love Portreath CAN
- PC Jason Rowe – Neighbourhood Beat Manager

The Chairman listed several other parish organisations that had been unable to attend.

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**To consider motions of which written notice has been received**

None

**To receive motions from the meeting**

None

**Close of Meeting**

Parish Council Chairman Cllr. Stewart thanked everyone for their attendance and participation, commenting on the wealth of variety of organisations there are within the Parish. The meeting closed at 8:40.