

**MINUTES of the MEETING of the ST BLAISE TOWN COUNCIL
Held at the ALEXANDER HALL, St Blazey, on Thursday 28th April 2011**

Present

Councillor J Anderson – Chairperson
Councillor A Seel – Vice Chairperson

Councillors:

G Allen, D Goddard, R Heyward, D Hooper, G Miller, A Putt & D Scrafton

In attendance: Town Clerk

Cornwall Councillor Roy Taylor

1 members of the press

Charles Richards

1104/01 **TO ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies had been received from Town Councillor Gill and Cornwall Councillor David Hughes.

1104/02 **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting of 31st March 2011 were confirmed as being correct and later signed by the Chairperson.

1104/03 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest on items on the Agenda or of gifts of a value greater than £25.

1104/04 **MATTERS ARISING**

1103/19 The Clerk had investigated the missing bin at Biscovey, Serco have not removed the bin, the Council agreed that the bin should be replaced.

1102/19 The Clerk has spoken with Community Energy Plus and can report that their bid for a community owned wind turbine in St Blazey had been unsuccessful. They are in talks with a land owner within the parish and a wind turbine could be installed in the future.

1104/05 **POLICE CRIME FIGURES**

February 2011

Assault	5
Burglary Dwelling	0
Burglary Other	2
Theft of M/V	0
Vehicle Crime	0
Theft	5

Damage	6
Drugs	0
Other	1
	=====
Total	19

These are good comparative figures with 2010 when the total was 45 crimes. The PCSO's join with the one stop shop every 2nd Tuesday at Alexander Hall and have a good attendance rate, they expect this to increase once the Police Station in St Blazey becomes closed to the public on 20th May 2011.

1104/06 **A TALK BY KIT WILLIAMS REGARDING THE POSSIBILITY OF HOLDING A PAR OLYMPICS IN 2012**

Kit Williams is keen to arrange an event in 2012 to celebrate the Olympics, Kit pointed out that within Par and St Blazey there are some excellent facilities such as the running track and the football club. Kit would like to see some real sports events and some less serious such as Cornish wrestling. The event would be not for profit.

Kit has spoken with Friends of Par Beach, the Churches and Schools who have all shown interest and will organise a meeting to be held at Alexander Hall in the near future.

1104/07 **A TALK BY STEVE WILLIAMSON REGARDING FOOD BANK.**

The St Austell food bank was launched in September 2010 with the aim of helping families and households in crisis. The food banks head quarters are housed in a coffee shop next to the St Austell Voice offices in the centre of town. There are in excess of 10 food banks across the country.

Frontline Agencies such as the CAB and health workers are given food vouchers which they can issue at their discretion, each voucher entitles the recipient to three days worth of food and each claimant can have up to 3 parcels. The food is collected by volunteers of the organisation asking shoppers to buy a couple of items from shopping list which once collected are stored at the food bank. Schools and churches are also collecting and the public can drop off items at the coffee shop.

Food banks generally concentrate on collecting at larger supermarkets but they are in talks with Co-op in St Blazey, Mr Williamson has asked the Council to spread the word and will provide the Council with some advertising literature.

1104/08 **A REPORT FROM CORNWALL COUNCILLOR ROY TAYLOR.**

Councillor Taylor reported that he is now the Chairman of the Par, St Blazey, Lostwithiel and Tregrehan Community Flood Recovery Group who had their first meeting on Friday 1st April, the next meeting is scheduled for 13th May.

Cornwall Council is having talks with the Friends of Par Beach and Tywardreath and Par parish council regarding leases and ownership of Par Beach. The Car Park is

leased from Rashleigh Estates, the area from high tide down is owned by HRH Prince Charles, from the top of the beach down is owned by Cornwall Council and the remainder of the land is leased from Cornwall Council to the caravan park making agreement very difficult.

1104/09 **FLOODING ISSUES IN ST BLAZEY**

Charles Richards gave the Council an update of the Par and St Blazey Community Flood Group since the last meeting.

Over the last week Mr Richards has been carrying out a door-to-door survey for the Flood Recovery Group and the Community Flood Group of the 55 households within St Blazey and Par that experienced flooding in November 2010. The purpose of the survey is to speak to each individual household and find out whether they need further support from the Recovery Group which includes Cornwall Council, the Environment Agency, South West Water and the local Town and Parish Councils. Mr Richards also used the opportunity to inform households of funds that can be applied for to purchase products which will help protect their homes and inform them of the Environment Agencies Insurance Related Report which they can request.

Reaction from residents has been good as they have appreciated the personnel touch, they also welcome being kept informed of flooding progress in the local area, the reports received are consistent and 4 additional flood wardens have been recruited.

Mr Richards has met with the Environment Agency at their Bodmin office to discuss flood warnings for St Blazey and Par. The group is looking to set up additional flood warnings which may be more specific to us than the general warnings issued through Flood Line. This will result in more false alarms, but allow the community to be better prepared. These additional warnings should become active for our Community Flood Group within the next 3 months.

The Environment Agency have been using this area as a case study and have been getting feedback from Mr Richards on obstacles to establishing community flood plans, he has suggested they provide centralised training for wardens, insurance assessment and risk assessments. Whilst they have not changed national policy to provide those services, they have agreed to raise awareness of the issues in their printed material.

The communities of Par and St Blazey have quite different priorities with regard to flooding, in St Blazey the concern is recovery following the events of November, Par want to plan ahead for the next event. Par Parish Council have been writing their plan for over a year, before St Blazey became involved and therefore, once the household survey is completed, it is aimed to finalise the community plan as swiftly as possible, complete with warden training and insurance.

Mr Richards has drawn up a proposed structure to formalise the Community Flood Group (a copy of which is available from the Clerk) and feels it is time to divide up some of the responsibilities to maximise progress. Mr Richards is finding it increasingly difficult to give the role the time it deserves. Once the plan is complete

he will hand over the role of Chairman and management of the flood wardens to somebody else.

1104/10 **NEW COMMUNITY WARDEN**

The Community Warden has been in post for one month and has patrolled daily, litter picked, visited the vulnerable, cut back overgrowth from the footpath from Station Road to Polgrean, emptied dog bins, cleaned the grids in the river in Piggy alley and maintained the area, cleaned the Eden Stones as well as maintained the land around them, liaised with the police and the Clerk.

Councillor Heyward arranged for his daughter, Anna, to supply and print T. Shirts, sweatshirts and safety wear with St Blaise Community Warden embossed on them. The Council wish to convey their gratitude to her.

1104/11 **END OF YEAR ACCOUNTS.**

The Town Clerk presented the accounts for 2010/11 to the council. Councillor Putt proposed that they be accepted, Councillor Seel seconded and it was RESOLVED.

The Council will carry £140,417 into the new financial year. The reserves will be apportioned as follows:-

Council running costs (in case of emergency) –	£	20,417
Community Centre (purchase) -	£	120,000

The Council all agreed and approved:-

The statement of accounts have been properly prepared and approved in accordance with the requirements of the Accounts and Audit Regulations and proper practices.

The Council have maintained adequate internal controls, including measures designed to prevent and detect fraud and corruption and reviewed its effectiveness for safeguarding the public money and resources in its charge.

The Council have taken all reasonable steps to assure ourselves that there are no matters of actual or potential non-compliance with laws, regulations and codes of practice which could have a significant financial effect on the ability of the council to conduct its business or on its finances.

The Council have provided proper opportunity during the year for the exercise of electors' rights in accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations given all persons interested the opportunity to inspect and question the accounts.

The Council have assessed all risks to public money and other risks facing the council and taken appropriate steps to manage these. Internal controls are in place and insurance has been taken out.

The Council have carried out throughout the year an adequate and effective system on internal audit of the councils accounting records and control systems. An internal auditor has been appointed.

We have taken appropriate action on all matters raised in reports from internal and external audit.

We have considered whether any litigation, liabilities or commitments, events or transactions, occurring either during or after the year end, have financial impact on the council and, where appropriate have included them in the accounting statements.

The Council RESOLVED to accept the accounts.

1104/12 **TOWN PLAN**

Councillor Scrafton told the Council that the third meeting of the Town Plan committee had been held and reasonable actions have been taken, copies of the minutes are available from the Clerk. Three projects have been prioritised being A Town Bus, Quality Status and Allotments.

Councillor Putt asked if he could relinquish his position on the Town Plan Committee, Councillor Allen agreed to take his place.

1104/13 **PROJECT LIST**

St Blazey Fountain – The Clerk has received confirmation that the grant of £500 from Councillor Taylors Community Grant Fund has been approved and will speak with Rob Toms regarding the contractor re-instating the workings.

Town Car Park – The Clerk asked if Kevin could fill with concrete the kerb stones at the beginning of the Town Car Park which were laid by Julian Foye, the Council agreed that this would be acceptable. Concern was raised about the pot holes at the rear of the Car Park, Cornwall Councillor Taylor will investigate how the land could be flattened and inform the Clerk

1104/14 **TOWN CLERKS REPORT**

Imerys have written to the Clerk inviting the Council an event at Wheal Martyn China Clay Park on 13th May 2011. Councillors Anderson, Seel, Putt and the Clerk will attend.

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

Location: Prideaux Road, St Blazey

Timing: 3rd to 6th May 2011 (0730 to 1800 hours)

Reason: Cornwall Council - Surfacing Works

Contact: Cornwall Council – Tel: 0300 1234 222

The Clerk has received a renewal quote from Aon, our current insurers, for £2,389.17 and therefore requested another quote from WPS who have quoted £1,909.10. The Council all agreed that the cheaper quote should be accepted.

1104/15 PLANNING MATTERS

There have been four applications received. It was RESOLVED to not object to three of them.

PA11/02056 Full Planning
Conversion of one retail unit into two.
Stadium Park, Great Mills Industrial Est.
Par Moor Road
St Blazey

PA11/02298 Full Planning
Erection of glazed, wall mounted canopy.
Biscovey Nursery & Infant School
Lamellyn Road, St Blazey

PA11/02853 Full Planning
Complete renovation of existing dwelling, demolition of 1970's
extension and construction of new pitched roof extension.
1 Bodelva, St Blazey

The Council RESOLVED to object to one of them.

PA11/01997 Full Planning
Provision of single detached property on plot of former garage at:-
38 Par Lane
Par

Planning Application results received.

PA11/00535 Full Planning – Siting of Chalet.
3 Par Lane.
PERMISSION GRANTED

PA11/01004 Conversion of garage into two storey extension.
7 Manor View.
PERMISSION GRANTED

PA11/01287 Full Planning – Erection of garage.
27 Chyandor Close.
PERMISSION GRANTED

1104/16 ACCOUNTS

There were no accounts presented as the auditor has our accounts. The figures for April are as follows:-

Income		Expenditure	
Hall Bookings	1101.50	Broadband	38.51
Interest	2.65 3/11	SWW	55.00
Precept	25725.00	Electricity	38.00
Interest	2.87	HMRC	283.90
Interest (h/d)	158.49	CC (pen)	327.41
		Clerks Sal	1020.69
		SLCC Membership	135.00
		Wardens Wage	721.73
		Van Insurance	531.80
		Van Road Tax	210.00
		Van MOT	54.00
	=====		=====
	26990.51		3416.04

The Clerk asked if the sweep facility with Lloyds TSB could be increased to £2,000 now that there are two salaries each month to be paid. The Council agreed.

1104/17 **TOWN BUSINESS**

Councillor Anderson has been approached regarding opening the right of way from Par Lane to the Mount; the Clerk had previously researched this and found that the land belongs to Wainhomes who are not prepared to maintain the area. The Clerk has written to Wainhomes to see if they are prepared to change their policy.

1104/18 **DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be 26th May 2011 at 7.00pm.

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