

MINUTES of the ANNUAL TOWN MEETING of the St. BLAISE TOWN COUNCIL
Held at the **ST BLAZEY COMMUNITY ROOMS, STATION ROAD, St. Blazey**
on Thursday, 31st **May** 2018 at 7.00pm

PRESENT

Councillors:

J. Anderson	R Chamberlain
J. Moore	T Nethercott
K Simms	J Taylor
R Taylor	

In Attendance: Cornwall Councillor Jordan Rowse
Community Link Officer Tasha Davis
Town Clerk
Dave Pearce

APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Cornwall Councillor Pauline Giles.

MINUTES

The Minutes of the Annual Assembly held on 18th May 2017, were taken as read, confirmed as being a true record of the meeting, proposed by Councillor R Taylor and seconded by Councillor T Nethercott, carried UNANIMOUSLY and later signed by the Chairman.

REPORT TO ST BLAISE TOWN COUNCIL BY CORNWALL COUNCILLOR PAULINE GILES

It has been a year of learning, but I have thoroughly enjoyed it. Being chosen to the Shadow Cabinet member for Children and Families has given me an insight to the demographic of St Blazey, and has lead me to where I am today.

There have been many things I have been proud to be involved in. Making Pom-Poms for the World Record attempt being probably the first!

I was delighted to be chosen as the Chair of the areas Community Network Panel, and like to think I bring a little light-heartedness to the proceedings.

I am glad to see that StaRR project is progressing in the right direction, and am hopeful that, by this time next year, work should be well underway, or indeed complete.

The Rave in Prideaux caused my phone and social media to go mad from 3am on a Saturday morning in September. I managed to successfully get it closed down, and made some important contacts in the process, who I have been able to contact further into the year, and will continue to do so when we have an issue I myself cannot address.

I went out on patrol with St Austell Police and gleaned a little insight into their work, however on foot in a full on Storm, looking for a child which had been reported missing, when he was actually back at his foster home It didn't allow me to see their work in its full potential and so another shift is proposed, hopefully before the winter!

Pit to Port was an interesting little trip with the Clerk and several of the St Blaise Town Councillors, there is so much planned to uplift the entire area, from the garden village to the rejuvenation of Par Harbour, there is a very real opportunity for this area to become a desirable destination, I am hopeful.

Christmas present wrapping for Chicks, with many of the local community, was a lovely chance to see more of the work that this valuable charity does, especially as it has given several retreat places to children in our division.

I have visited the Incinerator in St Dennis and the Material Recycling Centre in Bodmin. I do not think as a County, we are fully committed and desperately need to increase our recycling rates. To that end, within the Shadow cabinet reshuffle, I have been moved to Shadow Cabinet for waste and will sit on the Neighbourhoods committee. I am very passionate about this, and it marries up well with my new division project, which will see me use my skills with my old hat as Shadow Cabinet for Children and Families, put to good use with St Blazey Recycle Reuse & Resale opening its doors on Friday 15 June.

I am extremely proud to be helping families in crisis in St Blazey, to give them a better lifestyle, a hub in which to drop into, and a friend willing to help them to the best of my ability.

REPORT TO ST BLAISE TOWN COUNCIL BY CORNWALL COUNCILLOR JORDAN ROWSE

This month marks a year since I was elected as the Cornwall Councillor for the area I grew up in and have lived my whole life, Par, Biscovey and St Blazey Gate, in the Cornwall Council Elections last May. This past year has been the busiest and most exciting year of my life so far and I have thoroughly enjoyed every second of it.

From day one I have always tried to be as approachable as possible and have made it clear that I wanted to be a hands on councillor, rolling my sleeves up and making a difference here on the ground. From casework issues and concerns, to tidying up the area. I hope that I have stayed true to my word.

There have been a number of highlights since my election, so I just want to cover a few of them to give you an idea of what I have been doing.

One of my main focuses this past year and one of my election pledges, was to tidy up and start looking after our streets as well as green and open spaces. I have started to achieve this by setting up and now Chairing PL24 in Bloom. The group is made up of parish and Town councillors from both St Blazey and from Tywardreath and Par, along with members of local community organisations. Our aim is simply to bring the three villages together, tidy them up and give them some TLC. The target is to make the PL24 post code area a better place to live, work and grow up in. We have already held a number of action days and we are going from strength to strength.

Last year, after having concerns raised with me, I was delighted to work with Ocean Housing to get 13 new front and back doors for the elderly residents living in Poldark Gardens. The doors to the 13 bungalows were still the same doors that were installed when the bungalows were built in the 1980's and had started to become worse for wear. I was pleased that Ocean committed to renewing the doors on this estate.

Since my election I have also committed time to Par beach. As Chairman of the Par Beach Management Group I have worked closely with Cornwall Council Officers and local organisations to make our beach as user-friendly and accessible as possible. There have been two major headlines from the Group this past year, we are now one of the few beaches in Cornwall to have a beach wheelchair for our disabled beach users and we will also be seeing a return of the much-loved beach huts and have 22 on the way.

I have arranged and took part in beach cleans on both on Par and Spit beaches and have been so influenced by the fight against single-use plastic that I have worked closely with Gill Butler to form Plastic Free PL24. This group hopes to lead the fight and eliminate the use of single-use plastic in the St Blazey, Par and Tywardreath. We have seen a commitment from both St Blaise Town Council and

Tywardreath and Par Parish Council to go single-use plastic free and have also seen big businesses like Imerys and Eden committing themselves to it as have the smaller businesses in the area. I was pleased that Cornwall Council have also committed to going single-use plastic free.

At County Hall I have always made sure I stand up for our local area and am proud of my attendance record. As well as attending Full Council I sit on the Electoral Review Panel, the Cornish Minority Status Working Group and am one of Cornwall Council's representatives on the Institute of Cornish Studies. There have been a number of difficult votes this past year, but I have always ensured that I vote in the best interests of the area that I represent.

Through being a Cornwall Councillor I have become a Director of St Austell Bay Economic Forum (SABEF). SABEF focus is economic and we seek to grow the local economy by concentrating on the factors that encourage inward investment; connectivity, infrastructure, workspace, talent, services and overall quality of life in the St Austell Bay area, including Par and St Blazey.

There is much to look forward in the year ahead of us and I will continue to work on the ground to make Par, Biscovey and St Blazey Gate the best place it can be to live, work and grow up in. I will continue to press for progress with the big projects like Par Marina and the STARR Project, but will also prioritise the important local issues that matter most to tax-payers.

Lastly, I am currently working on two exciting projects which include a Community Orchard for the PL24 area, and securing the future of Par Library.

Thank you for the past year – and here's to the year ahead of us.

POLICE REPORT

St. Blaise Town Council Police Crime Figures May 2017 – April 2018

<u>Offence</u>	Recorded Crime 2017/18	Recorded Crime 2016/17	Recorded Crime Difference
Homicide	0	1	-100%
Violence with Injury	55	53	3.8%
Violence without Injury	71	54	31.5%
Rape	5	6	-16.7%
Other sexual offences	8	6	33.3%
Burglary Dwelling	7	6	16.7%
Burglary non Dwelling	29	17	70.6%
Vehicle Offences	40	14	185.7%
Shoplifting	10	25	-60%
Other Theft	37	26	42.3%
Criminal Damage	77	57	35.1%
Public Order Offences	24	18	33.3%
Possession of Weapons	1	2	-50%
Trafficking of Drugs	3	5	-40%
Possession of Drugs	10	7	42.9%
Other Offences	8	3	166.7%
<u>TOTAL:</u>	385	300	28.3%
Non Notifiable Offences	26	17	52.9%

Offences reported that the police do not have the powers to deal with, these are usually civil or highway issues.

Incidents Recorded	2017/18	2016/17	Difference
Anti-Social Behaviour	191	183	4.4%
Crime not Recorded	14	15	-6.7%
Crime Recorded	136	109	24.8%
Public Safety	432	529	-18.3%
Transport	133	110	20.9%
TOTAL:	906	946	-4.2%

We currently have two active priorities;

Vehicle Thefts and Damage – Throughout January, February and into March we saw a significant rise in vehicle crime in the area. Since mid-March we have seen this drop back again. When a trend was identified the local team increased patrols in specific areas in an effort to deter and catch offenders.

Update - On Thursday 5th April 2018, 27year old Mark Coon from St Blazey was sentenced to 42 weeks in prison. In February 2018 there were several thefts from vehicles committed in the St Blazey area. Coon pleaded guilty to 3x thefts from motor vehicles and 1x theft from dwelling, admitting to stealing around £600 worth of tools, football equipment and computer equipment. Coon also pleaded guilty to driving without a licence and without insurance. Coon was arrested by PC Barnicoat on Monday 19th February after he was seen driving a vehicle without a licence, several items of stolen property were later recovered thanks to this arrest.

Anti-Social Behaviour – Still of high priority to us and occurring throughout the area. The Burrows is the main area of concern although the number of logs do not back up what is being discussed on social media.

We work closely with our partner agencies such as Cornwall Council, the Anti-Social Behaviour team, Youth Offending Service and the housing association groups.

Prompt reporting of issues is still our most vital tool in stopping ASB becoming a major issue but we are totally reliant on the public for this to happen. Lately there has been a slight decrease in reports being made and we are doing what we can to encourage more people to call us promptly.

The Police designate response by priority in the order of Threat – Risk – Harm.

Update – We recently attended a meeting with the Directors of the Burrows Centre and some local residents to discuss ongoing issues. We are also aware of another more public meeting being organised but have yet to receive an invitation to this or any details about it.

St Blazey Police Office

Currently working from St Blazey Police Office are PC 4886 Andrew Barnicoat, PCSO 30449 Jamie Ward and PCSO 30528 Natalie Merrikin.

A new Sergeant has been appointed as the Neighbourhood Team Leader covering St Austell and surrounding areas. PS 11673 Matthew Trevivian has joined us from Bodmin where he worked as a Section Sergeant on response.

Sgt Trevivian has brought with him a new work directive for the Neighbourhood team, in short no single officer covers any particular patch/parish area. All Neighbourhood Beat Managers (NBM) and Police Community Support Officers (PCSO) will be dynamically deployed to cover where they are needed.

PCSO Merrikin has recently returned from her Maternity leave and reduced her hours to part time. PCSO Rebecca Harris is currently on her Maternity leave and whilst nothing is set in place at the moment she is hoping to return later this year.

PCSO Lloyd Paynter is currently off work and whilst not confirmed it is thought unlikely that he will return.

As the police will no longer be attending Council Meetings or giving reports, crime figures can be obtained from police.co.uk.

CHAIRMANS REPORT

First of all I would like to thank the Town Councillors for their sterling work over the last twelve months, including our two retiring councillors Amos Putt and Stuart Wheeler. Special thanks must go to our two Cornwall Councillors Pauline Giles and Jordan Rowse who have served our community so well. Kelvin Simms was co-opted onto the Council, taking up the vacant seat left by Amos Putt.

Even though Councillor Putt retired from the Council in July after 23 years serving as a Councillor, during November and December he worked with our Warden Dave Pearce replanting the flower beds and planters around the town. Amos also helped with the decorating of the Christmas Trees.

Amos Putt continues to work with our Warden with the planting of the flower beds and for this reason he was presented with the Councils Good Citizens Award.

I am taking this opportunity to thank our plant sponsors Outboard Services, Archie Taylor from the Bridal Sweet and Trevor Pogue, a resident from Station Road. I would also like to thank Archie Taylor for helping keep Fore Street presentable and John Gronwalt for keeping Church Street, Church Corner and Station Road clean and tidy.

Stuart Wheeler was a Councillor for almost 5 years and I appreciate the work he undertook on behalf of the people of the Town.

Our Community Warden Dave Pearce is a great asset to St Blazey, the town always looks clean and tidy due to his hard work.

The poppy wreath was laid at St Blazey Church on remembrance Sunday on behalf of the people of St Blazey. The Christmas trees at the two churches either end of the town which the Council provided looked great as ever however we would appreciate more help in the future.

We had the Annual Carol Concert at St Blazey Church on Sunday 3rd December at 4.00 pm followed by Mulled Wine & Mince Pies. I would like to thank the Church for allowing us to do this. It was well attended and everybody enjoyed the performances by Mount Charles Band and Biscovey Academy Boys Choir with a special and outstanding solo performance by George Underwood of Walking in the Air.

I enjoyed a trip to St Dennis Incinerator with other Councillors and know that some of them also enjoyed a Pit to Port tour arranged by Imerys.

The Neighbourhood Plan continues to make progress and so I would like to give special thanks to Councillor Jenny Moore for all the very hard work she has put in. I am looking forward to seeing improvements around the Town once the STaRR project begins.

St Blazey Flood Group are making progress under Councillor Roy Taylors Chairmanship and this will evolve into an Emergency plan which will safeguard the residents of the town if ever needed.

Plans remain in place to extend the Burrows Centre and work has already started on enlarging the car park.

I am looking forward to this year's Big Lunch which is to be held at Par Running Track on Sunday 3rd June and St Blazey Festival which is on Sunday 17th June at St Blazey Football Club.

Lastly my thanks must go to our Town Clerk, Gaynor for all her work over the year.

Meeting closed at 7.23 pm.