

MINUTES of the MEETING of the ST BLAISE TOWN COUNCIL
Held at the ALEXANDER HALL, St Blazey, on Thursday 25th August 2011
Present

Councillor J Anderson – Chairperson

Councillors:

G Allen, M Gill, R Heyward, D Hooper, G Miller, A Muskett-Geake, A Putt,
 & D Srafton

In attendance: Town Clerk
 Cornwall Councillor Roy Taylor
 PC Rob Toms
 Charles Richards
 Kevin Atkinson
 1 members of the press

At the start of the meeting, Chairman Councillor Anderson welcomed Councillor
 Alexia Muskett-Geake to the Council.

1108/01 **TO ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Councillor Seel & Cornwall Councillor Hughes.

1108/02 **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting of 28th July 2011 were confirmed as being correct and
 later signed by the Chairperson.

1108/03 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

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

1108/04 **MATTERS ARISING**

There were no matters arising.

1108/05 **POLICE CRIME FIGURES**

July 2011

Assault	2
Burglary Dwelling	1
Burglary Other	1
Theft of M/V	0
Vehicle Crime	5
Theft	5
Damage	2
Drugs	1

Other	8
	=====
Total	25

There were 36 crimes in July 2010. 100 Police Logs were responded to in the month of July for the St Blazey area.

1108/06 **A REPORT FROM THE COMMUNITY WARDEN.**

The Warden has regularly visited 11 vulnerable residents and has began the maintenance of the bus shelters.

1108/07 **A REPORT FROM CORNWALL COUNCILLOR ROY TAYLOR.**

Councillor Taylor welcomed Councillor Alexia Muskett-Geake. He reported that the environment agency had secured some funding for flood alleviation for the properties in Station Road and Fore Street that were not legible for the Defra funding being distributed by Cornwall Council. All the residential properties affected by the November floods are now covered.

Councillor Taylor has had some feed back on the road scheme improvements that he put to Cornwall Councils Highway Department but still does not know when they will come to fruition.

Councillor Taylor had attended the Green Energy Conference at Delabole and said that it was interesting.

1108/08 **THE QUEEN'S DIAMOND JUBILEE**

Councillor Putt has spoken with Hands Together, the Football Club and Ocean Housing who are all interested in joining with the Town Council in arranging a celebration. Councillor Putt has a vision that would start at lunchtime with hot dogs being provided on the Green at Penarwyn followed by a fancy dress walk to the football club where entertainment would be provided. He would like the Council to give the Children a commemorative coin.

It was agreed that a meeting should be held at Alexander Hall on Monday 12th September where all interested parties could attend and discuss the matter.

1108/09 **AN UPDATE ON THE COMMUNITY FLOOD PLAN**

Charles Richards told the Council that the community flood plan is nearly complete and significant progress has been made. He will aim to submit a draft copy at the next council meeting and discuss it in October.

Charles has been working closely with Mevagissey and Lostwithiel and exchanged ideas, he has produced a training document for wardens including risk assessments making up more than 30 pages, which he hopes to reduce.

As completion of the plan is nearing, Charles has started to arrange regular monthly meetings once again. Details of the meetings will be announced shortly. The group are formalising a new structure to ensure the work of the Community Flood Group and function of the Plan are sustained into the future. He invited two representatives from St Blaise Town Council and two from Par and Tywardreath Parish Council to sit on the new committee. (Cllr Dave Hooper and Cllr Richard Heyward agreed to their involvement at the Town Council meeting).

Mr Richards relayed his thanks to Brian Nathan of Par for kindly agreeing to take charge of the monitoring the upkeep of drains and culverts within Par and St Blazey. He has completed a survey of the area and we are working on procedures for reporting and recording blockages which is being incorporated into the plan.

To aid communications to the community a "Face Book" account for the Par and St Blazey Community Flood Group has been set up. Mevagissey and Lostwithiel have done the same and Charles has publicised the "Face Book" pages within the local papers.

A newsletter has been produced by the Cornwall Flood Recovery Group to keep the community informed of work that is being done following the November floods. The Par and St Blazey Community Flood Group has included an update. He has requested 400 copies for Par and St Blazey which will be distributed to households in the primary flood zones by community flood wardens.

Charles expressed his pleasure at the fantastic news this week that the Environment Agency has secured funding to provide households on Station Road and Fore Street with individual property protection. Approximately 15 properties will benefit from this as they did not qualify for the Defra fund managed by Cornwall Council. They will receive the same amount of money as through the Defra fund and surveys will be completed at the same time. Charles would like to thank Andrew Houghton and his team at the Environment Agency for listening to feedback from the community and for their persistence and determination in securing alternative funding.

Par and St Blazey has been selected to pilot a flood warning scheme by the Environment Agency which will be dedicated to our locality. The Community Flood Group will receive early warnings based upon radar, rainfall and river level data held by the Environment Agency. The intension is that, where possible, the Community Flood Group will disseminate the warnings. Receipt and forwarding of the warnings is being built into the community flood plan.

Charles is working with Martin Eddy of Cornwall Council to submit a bid for up to £10,000, Awards For All lottery funding. If successful, money will be shared with Lostwithiel and Mevagissey for equipment and training for flood wardens.

The flood group's involvement with the EA as a national case study is progressing. Charles' feedback requesting additional written guidance for communities when establishing flood plans and a national training programme has been discussed and national policy is being reviewed.

1108/10 **AN OVERVIEW OF THE PROGRESS OF THE TOWN PLAN**

Jan Phillips from groundwork attended the meeting earlier, they are planning a Green Space Audit of St Blazey but have had to postpone the project until the autumn. The audit will detail the open spaces within the town and show ownership and usage.

The Clerk will meet with groundwork as she has seen a piece of land owned by Imerys that she feels could be made into allotments as it does not seem to be part of the Eco Town development land.

Mrs Powell attended the Town Plan meeting, her family acquired the old Kemutec site 18 months ago and have renamed it Latham Park. It was explained that the site was purchased with a view of improving employment opportunities in the town, with special regard to the young. The proposal is to let light industrial units to local people to help aid local business, but they are experiencing obstacles.

The Clerk told the Council that to obtain Quality Status, all Councillors must undertake training in "The Power of Wellbeing". The date for this training was provisionally set for Tuesday 25th October 2011.

1108/11 **LAND TO THE REAR OF ALEXANDER HALL/ CO-OP**

Councillor Muskett-Geake is extremely concerned about the land behind Alexander Hall. It is very overgrown, the fences are totally destroyed and the leats are full of rubbish. Councillor Muskett-Geake would like the land to be made available to the people of St Blazey. The Council all agreed that the land should be cleared; the Clerk will contact the land owners "Freshwater Group of Companies" and see what can be done.

1108/12 **COUNCILLORS TO CONSIDER WHETHER TO HAVE A PRE APPLICATION PLANNING POLICY**

The Clerk presented the Council with a draft pre-application discussion procedure, a draft pre-application advice and a draft pre-application form. The council discussed the merits of having a policy and agreed that it would assist them when liaising with the Cornwall Council Planning dept. Councillor Scrafton proposed that we adopt the policy, Councillor Gill seconded, and all the Council agreed and so it was RESOLVED.

1108/13 **COUNCILLORS TO CONSIDER THE CODE OF CONDUCT FOR COUNCILS**

After discussion it was agreed that the Clerk would put the Councils views to CALC/NALC as follows;-

St Blaise Town Council believe that there should be a code of conduct/behaviour for parish and town councillors.

If a code existed, the parish or town council should not handle the complaint, it should be handled by an outside body.

Any sanctions should be as they are presently, i.e. suspension from Council but no legal proceedings.

1108/14 **PROJECT LIST**

St Blazey Fountain – When the Clerk checked whether the water and electricity connections at the fountain were live, SWW confirmed that the water connection was, unfortunately the electricity supply can no-longer be taken off the lamp-post adjacent to the fountain. The fountain will need to connect onto a distribution cable which is across the road and therefore a trench will need to be dug across the road first. The cost of the electricity connection to the fountain will be £906.53 and as yet the Clerk has not received a quote for the digging of the trench.

Town Car Park – The Clerk has received the quote from Cormac as arranged by Councillor Taylor, the quote is for £9,098.14 . Councillor Taylor believes we have received the wrong quote and will investigate further.

1108/15 **TOWN CLERKS REPORT**

The Council held an open meeting to discuss the implications of Localism and Cornwall Council cuts and the effects it could have on the Town council. Town Councillors Allen, Anderson, Heyward, Miller, Putt and Scrafton attended along with Cornwall Councillors Hughes and Taylor. Apologies were received from Councillors Seel, Muskett-Geake and Gill.

The Council decided that it would be preferential to keep the Town presentable rather than take on services that only affected a few residents and therefore tasks were put in a priority order if they should be forced upon them. The priorities being:-

1. Grass verge cutting / flower beds.
2. King Edward Gardens.
3. The playground in Lamellyn Road/ Green space.
4. Bus Shelters and Street furniture.
5. Public Conveniences.

Trailblazer Park was also discussed as Cornwall Council currently does the regular H&S checks, some of the maintenance and insures the park. It is a Town Council owned facility so the Council are preparing themselves for additional costs.

Councillor Taylor told the Council that Serco are currently looking after a piece of land owned by an individual as part of the Cornwall Council contract, the Clerk said that we could not carry this on under any condition as we do not have the legal power.

The Clerk has been contacted by several members of the town requesting that a pavement be put along Par Moor Road and this be written into a S106 agreement as part of the Par Docks development.

Jan Phillips from Groundwork has invited the Council to attend allotment training in Roche on 21st September, Councillor Heyward will attend.

The Clerk and Councillor Heyward attended planning policy training on August 11th. A presentation on neighbourhood plans was given which they both believe will be of great interest to the Town Council, it was agreed that Sarah Arden from Cornwall Council be invited to speak at Octobers Council meeting.

Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, S.16A

The above closure has been received.

Event: Eden Project Marathon and Half Marathon
Date: 9th October 2011
Location: St Blazey
Times: 1000 to 1030 hours

Roads to be Closed

Bodelva Road between the junctions of the Eastern entrance to the Eden Project and Prideaux Road

Eden Access Road between grid reference 204250:55861 and the roundabout junction

Road from junction with Eden Access road to Croft Farm Park between grid reference 204278:55853 and the Eden Access Road junction

Road from Trethurgy to Eden Access Road Junction between grid reference 204248:55837 and the Eden Access Road junction

The Clerk reminded the Council that there is still a vacancy for a representative on the Fourways committee. Councillor Scrafton agreed to take up the post.

1108/16 **PLANNING MATTERS**

There have been three application received. It was RESOLVED to not object to any of them.

PA11/05917 TPO

Sprayed trees for proposed work, overall crown reduction by 5 meters
 On approx 40 trees because of excessive shading and potential damage to property. Various trees.
 Higherwood, 2 St Blazey Road

PA11/05376 Full Planning

Permanent status for car parks which currently have temporary permission- Cherry, Melon, Lemon and Mango.
 Eden Project
 Bodelva

PA11/06152 Full Planning
 Attach solar panels to the roof, to generate electricity.
 St Blazey Football Club
 Station Road
 St Blazey

Planning Application results received.

PA11/01997 Full Planning
 Provision of single detached news-style property on plot of former
 garage serving:-
 38 Par Lane
 St Blazey
 WITHDRAWN

PA11/03672 Full Planning
 Conversion to 6 flats.
 Acorns Childcare Centre.
 Church Street
 St Blazey
 WITHDRAWN

PA11/05247 Full Planning
 Proposed bedroom and lounge extension.
 Greenacres, Cornhill Road
 St Blazey
 PERMISSION APPROVED

1108/17 ALEXANDER HALL

The electrician has put a timed light on the front of Alexander Hall and the Warden has made some repairs to the floor.

1108/18 ACCOUNTS

Income		Expenditure	
Hall Bookings	313.50 7/11	Broadband	29.62
Hall Bookings	675.00	SWW	55.00
Int	3.08 6/11	Electricity	38.00
		HMRC	339.10
		CC (pen)	339.03
		Clerks Sal	1020.49
		Purl Design	420.00
		Wardens Wage	721.03
		Cleaners Wage	38.40
		CIS	37.80
		Viking	183.63
		Icon Web-services	80.00

Petrol	91.12
Audit Commission	480.00
Cornwall Council	5.00
Cornwall Council	406.00
Insurance	158.25
CALC	39.00
Dave Smith	334.04
Information Comm	35.00
Trago Mills	92.76
BT	53.96
British Gas	0.00

=====
991.58

=====
4997.23

The Council RESOLVED to accept the accounts submitted.

The Clerk told the Council that the end of year return had been accepted and signed off by the Audit Commission.

The Clerk told the Council that both the cleaners wage and the wardens wage will increase on October 1st 2011 as the minimum wage increases to £6.08.

1108/19 **TOWN BUSINESS**

Councillor Miller told the Council that the “Biography of the War dead of St Blazey” is available from various outlets including the Council office and asked that the Councillors let as many people who may be interested know about it.

Councillor Allen reported that the small wall between the footpath and the stream in St Blazey Road was crumbling just opposite Roselyon School. The Clerk will report this to Highways.

1108/20 **DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be 29^h September 2011 at 7.00pm.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.02pm.