

**MINUTES of the MEETING of the ST BLAISE TOWN COUNCIL
Held at the ALEXANDER HALL, St Blazey, on Thursday 27th August 2015**

Present

Councillor J Anderson – Mayor
Councillor A Seel – Deputy Mayor

Councillors

G Allen, R Blackie, A Putt, R Taylor, J Taylor and S Wheeler.

In attendance: Town Clerk
Cornwall Cllr R Taylor (incl above)
One member of the public
Andrew White
2 x PCSO's

1508/01 **TO ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillor G Miller.

1508/02 **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting of 30th July 2015 were confirmed as being correct and later signed by the Chairperson.

1508/03 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

1508/04 **MATTERS ARISING**

1507/20 22 additional “Dog Fouling” notices have been put up at Biscovey and St Blazey Gate.

1508/05 **POLICE CRIME FIGURES**

July 2015

	Recorded 7/15	Recorded 7/14	Difference
Violence with Injury	3	2	50%
Violence without Injury	0	2	-100%
Burglar Dwelling	3	2	50%
Burglary Non Dwelling	1	1	0%
Shoplifting	1	0	
Other Theft	1	5	-80%
Criminal Damage	3	6	-50%

Public Order Offences	1	1	0%
Possession of Drugs	0	2	-100%
Other Offences	1	1	0%
TOTAL:	14	22	-36.4%

Incidents Recorded

	Recorded 7/15	Recorded 7/14	
Anti-Social Behaviour	13	12	8.3%
Crime not recorded	0	1	-100%
Crime Recorded	9	13	-30.8%
Public Safety	35	47	-25.5%
Transport	10	11	-9.1%
TOTAL:	67	84	-20.2%

1508/06 COMMUNITY WARDENS REPORT

The clearing of the footpath and boarding has been completed on the path that runs by Biscovey School. The Warden and Councillor Putt have said that puddling is still a problem and think that the solution would be to put down some hard core. The cost of 20 tons and hire of the tool will be approximately £360. The unpaid work unit are prepared to assist with the extra work.

The Clerk reminded the Council that approximately £1,000 has already been spent on this footpath which belongs to Cornwall Council. Councillor Putt proposed that the extra work be carried out, Councillor Seel seconded the proposal, all the Councillors agreed and so it was RESOLVED.

Councillor Taylor asked if the Warden would look after the square planter at the bottom of Tywardreath Highway if necessary. The Warden said that Archie Taylor had been planting it in the past and agreed to do this whilst required.

Dave explained that due to the wet weather he had been unable to continue with highways weed killing. Once areas have been sprayed, another 3 hours of dry weather is needed for the treatment to be productive.

Councillor Blackie said that Biscovey School are currently replacing the wire fencing along the foot path by the school with panel fencing. He is concerned that this may have a detrimental effect on the work that the Warden and unpaid work unit have carried out.

1508/07 A REPORT FROM CORNWALL COUNCILLOR ROY TAYLOR

There have been further recent spillages of sewage onto Par Lane brought on by heavy rainfall causing the system to become overloaded. Toilet paper and a tampon were visible on the road when the liquid had drained away. A storm drain cover was displaced on the A390 at the bottom of Cornhill Road and reinstated by John Page (of Par). Thank you John.

Having had two previous meeting dates cancelled by SWW, Doug, David and I now have a firm date for our next meeting with SWW, the EA and CC Highways, this will take place on Tuesday 8th September commencing at 2pm at Dowerglann. We expect to be informed of agreed tripartite plans to prevent issues of future (primarily sewage) flooding.

As previously advised I am a part of a group that includes Doug, David and Jenny Moore. This group has submitted a bid to First Great Western for funds for a feasibility study to assess what might be achieved at the Roundhouse. I attended a St Austell Bay Investment Plan Meeting. St Austell Bay Economic Forum are sponsoring another bid to DCLG to their Coastal Revival Fund with the same objective. If successful this funding would work well with the second income stream following the first. The Town Council have been asked to hold the funds for a short period of time as they do not hold a bank account. St Blaise Town Councillors agreed.

The grade 2 listed Roundhouse and attendant turntable will go on the English Heritage at risk list in October and that could well be a game changer. Watch this space.

I have been working on a housing case for a family living in Bridge Street who allege they have been physically threatened by their landlord.

I attended a meeting called by the Strategic Transport Team in St Austell where they presented options for intended improvements to the A391 link with the A30 and got away in time to attend the Community Watch meeting at the Burrows Centre.

I am pleased to note that the Neighbourhood Plan is making some progress and attended the usual set of local meetings.

1508/08 **A REPORT FROM CORNWALL COUNCILLOR DOUG SCRAFTON**

Councillor Scrafton sent his apologies but forwarded the following report:-

On 21 August I attended the Police and Crime Commissioner's Performance and Accountability Board meeting in Truro. This is the meeting at which he is supposed to hold the Chief Constable to account. Prior to the meeting, I submitted a question regarding consultations prior to decisions about the future of police offices. Unfortunately, the Commissioner chose not to ask it. I have therefore written to Commander Hogg. Please see relevant paragraph:-

My questions were on behalf of my fellow residents reflecting their concern about the peremptory decision to close St Blazey police office, and about the manner in which this became public. This is not a matter solely for the people of St Blazey (though they have a right to have their views heard). The office serves a number of communities – as far afield as Lostwithiel. At a meeting with your Chief Executive and a representative of Devon and Cornwall Police on 27 July, we were told that prior consultation with the community had been ruled out since the decision was made and nothing would influence it. You will understand why I view this sort of response as arrogance on a level matched only by your own decision not to question the Chief Constable about it.

What, pray, is the point of a Police and Crime Commissioner who signally fails to hold the police to account on behalf of the people?

There has been significant publicity about the future of Par running track. I believe that any decisions are a long way off, and further believe that it should be possible to secure the future of the track for the community. I am involved in meetings to explore how this might be done.

On 6 August, I was present at the Eden Project, when the Minister of State for Transport inaugurated one of the first rapid-charge charging points for electrically-powered vehicles in the country.

1508/09 **THE FUTURE OF ST BLAZEY POLICE STATION**

Andrew White (The Police Commissioners Executive) spoke to the Council regarding the possibility of St Blaise Town Council possibly purchasing St Blazey Police Station. He explained that 20 police stations across Devon and Cornwall are to close over the next 5 years, some moving into smaller premises and others working from different police offices.

It was explained that if the Town Council were to purchase the police station it would have to be primarily for the use of the Town Council and could not accommodate police personnel from other areas and that insurance would have to be looked at in more detail.

The buildings current business rates are £1968 per year and Mr White would produce an internal plan of the building with designation of the space they would need. The indicative purchase price is £30,000 to £35,000 which would include a covenant that would provide space for local police for the next 5-10 years. The price is negotiable while consideration takes place.

1508/10 **HISTORIC PICTURES OF ST BLAZEY**

The Clerk showed the Councillors the 3 pictures which have been framed and mounted. The Councillors will consider where best they should be displayed.

1508/11 **IMPLICATIONS OF LOCALISM AND CORNWALL COUNCIL CUTS**

The Clerk has followed up our original devolution request with Tasha Davis, The Community Link Officer for St Blazey, Fowey and Lostwithiel which quotes - My understanding at the present time is that the whole devolution list – some 80 projects – are being considered for prioritisation and action as clearly, 80 projects can't be managed at the same time.

Once they have been prioritised, we should have some clear messages for the Town Council.

1507/12 **TO CONSIDER A BUS SHELTER FOR MIDDLEWAY**

The Clerk has received a revised quote for the bus shelter on Middleway. The shelter itself remains at a cost of £2,360.44 for the shelter. The concrete base and spigots have been revised to £562.50. Councillor Putt proposed that we proceed with the installation, Councillor Seel seconded the proposal, all the Councillors agreed and so it was RESOLVED.

1507/13 **DONATION REQUESTS**

Cornwall Deaf Centre based in Cambourne have asked for a donation to install an automatic door in their centre. St Blazey Town Councillors said that there is a local deaf centre and residents from St Blazey would be unlikely to visit the centre in Cambourne and therefore decided against the donation.

Merlin MS Centre have asked for a donation towards their running costs, Councillor Blackie proposed a donation of £100, Councillor Wheeler seconded the proposal, Councillor Putt abstained, all the other Councillors were in favour and so it was RESOLVED.

Chicks have asked for a donation towards their running costs, Councillor Allen proposed a donation of £200, Councillor Blackie seconded the proposal, all the Councillors were in favour and so it was RESOLVED.

1508/14 **PROJECT LIST**

Neighbourhood Planning – Various members of NP committee met with Sam Healy from Cornish Market World who is keen to work with us. There was a small meeting of NP members and CRCC on Monday 3rd August, Gaynor was asked to arrange a meeting with both affordable housing and Highways however CRCC are not available before 10th September.

Piggy Alley – The Clerk after much searching was unable to find anybody prepared to repair the lighting in Piggy Alley. Councillor Putt has found a contractor to undertake the work, they have prepared a quote that guarantees the lighting for 5 years at a cost of £5690.47. Councillor Putt proposed that the work be carried out, Councillor Seel seconded the proposal, Councillor J Taylor voted in favour. Councillor Blackie voted against, Councillors Wheeler, R Taylor and Allen abstained.

The Clerk will re-agenda this item for February 2016.

1508/15 **TOWN CLERKS REPORT**

The Clay Trails Partnership have invited all the Councillors to join them on their cycle day out on Sunday 13th September.

Wheal Martyn have invited all the Councillors to join them at their Memory Day out on Sunday 13th September at Trethurgy Village Hall.

The Clerk informed the Council that the Co-option notice had now been displayed around the Town.

Charles Richards has written regarding the Cornwall Council “Community Emergency Plan Grant Scheme 2015/16” which is for use to promote community resilience within the county. He regards the launch of this scheme as an ideal opportunity to; a) secure additional funding for volunteers, and b) restructure the way in which we manage community resilience locally.

Cornwall Council has confirmed that as flooding is the greatest perceived risk we face, and we share the same river catchment as Par and Tywardreath PC, it makes sense to continue to support the two communities in working together. With this in mind they have agreed to pay £1,000 for a single joint plan covering both communities. They have also confirmed that as we already have a joint flood plan we can collect the funding based upon what we already have. However, Charles would like to make the following two suggestions:

Firstly, the flood plan should be updated and produce a new plan that covers wider emergencies and conforms to a simpler and more user-friendly format. Wider emergencies could include for example; snow, serious fire, pandemic flu, collision at a level crossing etc. We have the skills within our communities to produce an emergency plan between us.

Secondly, the Par and St Blazey Community Flood Group was established by Charles and almost every other community flood group I can think of has been driven by the Parish or Town Council. There is a need to restructure our approach to community resilience to install a more sustainable structure and increase working capacity. With this in mind can I suggest we take this opportunity to establish a joint “Flood and Emergency Planning Committee” between the two local councils?

The new committee would supersede and replace the Par and St Blazey Community Flood Group. On a practical level this would be a benefit as the Par and St Blazey Community Flood Group does not have a bank account and would be unable to accept Cornwall Council’s grant. I have a limited stock of high visibility jackets, safety whistles, hand sanitiser, first aid kits, road signs and sand bags which could be introduced.

The Council considered the two proposals and will await the response from Par and Tywardreath PC.

1508/16 PLANNING MATTERS

There has been one planning application received and it was RESOLVED to not object to it.

PA15/07432	Ground Floor Extension for elderly dependent relative. 29 Hillside Avenue St Blazey
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Results Received

PA15/06023	The development of a singular modular building comprising two classrooms and a toilet block. Biscovey Nursery and Infant School Lamellyn Road St Blazey APPROVED
PA15/05092	Application for removal of conditions numbers 2 and 3 (holiday occupancy restrictions) in respect of decision notice 04/00493 to allow use of 2 holiday cottages as a single residential dwelling. 11 Bodelva Road Bodelva WITHDRAWN
PA15/05268	Advert Consent: - 1 No internally illuminated with LED flex face sign and 14 No non illuminated slim frame flex faces. The Range Stadium Retail Park. Par Moor Road St Blazey APPROVED

1508/17 **ACCOUNTS**

August 15

Payments Received

Hall Bookings	432.00
Interest	3.25
High Deposit	142.49 7/15
High Deposit Int	131.27
Black Sacks	70.00

Expenditure

Broadband	28.41
UK Fuels	58.00
Insurance	216.83
HMRC	486.87
CC (pen)	466.14
Clerks Sal	1350.78
Wardens Wage	545.67
Eclipse	14.38
Walter Bailey	174.71
Purl Design	1824.00
Cornish Maid	29.25
BT	12.47
Icon Web-services	190.00
Information Comm	35.00
National Windscreens	60.00
<u>AH</u>	
SWW	73.00

EON	51.00
Cleaners Wage	39.00
Chubb (parts)	12.78
D & S	485.00
<u>PC</u>	
SWW	182.79
Bus Rates	53.00
Warden	31.00

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779.01

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6420.08

All the Councillors RESOLVED to accept the accounts submitted.

1508/18 **TOWN BUSINESS**

No Councillors brought any matters to the table.

1508/19 **DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be on 24th September 2015 at 7.30pm.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.12 pm.