

**MINUTES of the MEETING of the ST BLAISE TOWN COUNCIL
Held at the ALEXANDER HALL, St Blazey, on Thursday 28th June 2012**

Present

Councillor J Anderson - Chairperson
Councillor A Seel - Vice Chairperson

Councillors:

M Gill, R Heyward, G Miller, A Muskett-Geake, A Putt & D Scrafton

In attendance: Town Clerk
Cornwall Councillor David Hughes
Charles Richards

1206/01 TO ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor Allen, Kevin Atkinson and Cornwall Councillor Taylor.

1206/02 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of 31st May 2012 were confirmed as being correct and later signed by the Chairperson.

1106/03 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

1206/04 MATTERS ARISING

1205/11 Jan Phillips, previously of groundwork has confirmed that the Green space project will be continuing in St Blaise, with Jan continuing as Project Officer as of 18th June, after a month of suspension due to Groundwork South West going into administration.

A small number of Devon and Cornwall projects and staff are being taken over by Groundwork Thames Valley and that includes ours. A junior member of staff has been taken on and he has been given the project of collecting all the green space data from St Blazey.

1206/05 POLICE CRIME FIGURES

May 2012	Detected	
Assault	3	2
Burglary Dwelling	1	
Burglary Other	3	

Theft of M/V		
Criminal damage to M/V	1	
Theft (Including from M/V)	5	
Damage	2	
Drugs	1	1
Other	5	2
	=====	=====
Total	21	5
May 2011	23	6

1206/06 **A REPORT FROM THE COMMUNITY WARDEN**

Kevin was unavailable but the Clerk reported that at his appraisal the question of First Aid training was raised. The Clerk has spoken with other Councils who employ Wardens and they too have had training in First Aid. St Johns Ambulance HQ at Par provide this training and the Clerk will make arrangements.

1206/07 **A REPORT FROM CORNWALL COUNCILLOR DAVID HUGHES**

Councillor Hooper had previously asked Councillor Hughes if anything could be done by Cornwall Council regarding safety at the Porth Meadow Building site. Councillor Hughes re-iterated that with no evidence, no action can be taken. If anybody sees anything can they take photos or collect vehicle license numbers.

Councillor Hughes told the Council that the Code of Conduct would revert to the previous 2007 rules, when a declaration of interest is offered; the Councillor concerned must leave the room. From 1st July onwards if a complaint is made against you, you will be informed immediately.

Councillor Hughes told St Blaise Town Council that Par & Tywardreath Parish Council is in discussions with Fowey TC and Golant PC about developing a plan for those areas.

Councillor Hughes is continuing to receive complaints regarding the parking charges at Par Beach, Cornwall Council had agreed a special one hour early morning rate but this change has not yet happened. Councillor Hughes wants evidence to show Cornwall Council the level of discontent and asks that users write to him or get petitions together. The Seaside Town Project is due to start shortly which will see many improvements at the beach. Par and Tywardreath who would like to take over Par Beach are still having conversations with Cornwall Council.

The Skatepark project is progressing but Councillor Hughes did not have an update for the Council.

1206/08 **A REPORT FROM CHARLES RICHARDS – CHAIRMAN OF ST BLAZEY/PAR FLOOD GROUP**

Despite very heavy rainfall over the past couple of months and significant flood events throughout the country, thankfully no problems have been reported in Par and St Blazey.

South West Water has continued to monitor the performance of the drainage system at Brooks Corner and Harbour Road and so far it has coped with the volume of water. This forms part an ongoing investigation by South West Water using probes that continuously record the depth of water within the drains as well as a three-monthly cleansing programme.

Essential information and flood alerts are being relayed to us via the Environment Agency's local flood warning scheme which is being piloted jointly by St Blazey and Mevagissey. Through the pilot scheme we have received 15 flood alerts within the last two months. The pilot scheme is working well and a good working relationship has been established with the Environment Agency whereby we report back to them with local information when an alert is issued. Our flood group has recently submitted a report to the Environment Agency with feedback on the merits of the pilot scheme as well as suggestions for the way forwards.

Charles expressed his sincere thanks to all of the volunteer wardens and members of the community who have responded to alerts being issued through the pilot scheme and who have reported problems with blocked drains and streams. There is no doubt that having a network of wardens throughout the community to report problems and take action is making a difference locally.

The newly established Cornwall Community Flood Forum has submitted a bid for funding to Awards For All England. The bid was written jointly by Charles Richards of the Par and St Blazey Community Flood Group and Martin Eddy, Cornwall Council's Community Network Manager for this network area. If successful, the funding will be used to support community flood groups within mid-Cornwall, including our own Par and St Blazey Community Flood Group. Priority will be given to providing training and documentation for volunteer flood wardens, equipment and resources, community newsletters and a website.

There have been a number of reports within recent months of serious flash flooding throughout the country. Areas in Scotland, Sussex, West Wales and the Midlands have been hit by flooding. Only today it was announced that sadly a person was killed in Ludlow, Shropshire, when he was overcome by the force of flood waters. This serves as a reminder of how important it is that we are prepared as a community for future flooding and, importantly, take steps to protect the safety of volunteer flood wardens by providing training.

1206/09 **NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING**

St Blaise Town Council discussed their position with regard to neighbourhood plans. We have been accepted as a frontrunner by the Department of Communities and Local Government which in turn entitles us to assistance from Planning Aid and

Cornwall Council. We already have a Town Plan, Eco-bos have done a lot of research about the area, there has been a lot of work during the Big Local consultation, we have the St Austell and Clay Country Regeneration Plan and the Core Strategy. All of this work has already been done.

Councillor Scrafton proposed that St Blaise starts its Neighbourhood Plan as soon as reasonable, Councillor Seel seconded the proposal, all the Council agreed and so it was RESOLVED.

The Clerk will arrange a meeting where all interested parties will be invited to attend and will contact the press to release a statement informing the electorate of our plans and inviting their input.

1206/10 **THE CODE OF CONDUCT**

The current Code of Conduct expires on 30th June 2012 due to the Localism Act 2011. Cornwall Council in association with Cornwall Association of Local Councils have published an Interim Code for adoption.

Councillor Seel proposed that St Blaise adopts the interim Code of Conduct, Councillor Scrafton seconded the proposal, all the Council agreed and so it was RESOLVED

1206/11 **IMPLECATIONS OF CORNWALL COUNCILS CUTS**

Since the Clerk and Councillor Scrafton met with Paul Allen in May when we asked how old the toilets and plumbing are Cornwall Council are unable to answer. The decision to provide no future funding for the toilets at St Blazey was as a result of a countywide review and to focus the reduced funding on those toilets that were considered to be of higher strategic importance. The criteria taken into consideration were as shown on the assessment matrix which needs clarification.

Cornwall Council will be assessing the feedback from towns and parishes in September, the Clerk will write to Cornwall Council because we feel unable to decide on a course of action with the information currently available.

1206/12 **OVERVIEW OF THE DIAMOND JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS**

Everybody agreed that the Jubilee celebrations went well despite the weather and wanted to thank everybody involved.

1206/13 **PROJECT LIST**

New Community Centre – The Clerk has not yet heard from RDPE with regard to the funding bid for the extension.

St Blazey Fountain – Work has been completed on the Fountain, the Clerk is waiting to hear from May Gurney as to when their electrician will return to switch it on.

St Blazey Car Park – The quote for boulders has been received; Councillor Putt will obtain another quote to have them cemented in and the Clerk will arrange for new signs.

Piggy Alley – Councillor Putt is concerned that the Environment Agencies pump is making Piggy Alley look untidy, he will speak to them at the next Community Flood Forum.

1206/14 **TOWN CLERKS REPORT**

Mountlea Country Park, Porth Meadow Estate, the bottom of Old Roselyon Estate and the bottom of Par Lane have all been recommended to have their polling places changed from Gott Hall to the Burrows Centre.

The Clerk told the Council that we have been awarded Quality Status.

1206/15 **PLANNING MATTERS**

There has been one planning application received, it was RESOLVED to object to it.

PA12/04949 Full Planning
Re-positioning of existing conservatory and construction of new kitchen with balcony over.
46 Manor View.
St Blazey

The Town Council have objections to the balcony which will overlook neighbouring properties, no objection to conservatory or kitchen proposals.

Planning Applications decisions received.

PA12/03700 Full Planning
Permission for flood prevention measures.
The Old Market House, Fore Street, St Blazey
APPROVED

PA12/03701 Listed building consent
Permission for flood prevention measures.
The Old Market House, Fore Street, St Blazey
APPROVED

PA12/03726 Full Planning
Change of use from chapel to café with A3 and A5 use.
The Old Sunday School, Station Road, St Blazey
APPROVED

PA11/10133 Full Planning
For the retention of 12kw PV Panels on glass house.
Tregrehan House, St Blazey
APPROVED

PA11/10134 Listed building consent
 For the retention of 12kw PV Panels on glass house
 Tregrehan House, St Blazey
 APPROVED

1206/16 **ALEXANDER HALL**

Alexander Hall continues to be well used.

1206/17 **ACCOUNTS**

Payments

Hall Bookings	583.00
Interest	2.82 5/12
Hall Bookings	214.50 5/12
Interest	401.71
Community Chest	500.00 5/12
WPD	11.38
War Memorial book	53.00

=====
 1,766.41

Expenditure

Broadband	49.64
SWW	55.00
Insurance	158.32
HMRC	462.11
CC (pen)	423.47
Insurance 5/12	.10
Clerks Sal	1261.46
Wardens Wage	748.63
Cleaners Wage	58.36
UK Fuels	60.23
PJ's Disco	75.00
Jubilee Elec	10.00
Wardens Phone	20.00
St Johns Amb	80.78
WPS Insurance	10.00
Nalders	8.00
British Gas	83.85
Southern Elec	168.44
St Blazey FC	200.00
NALC	120.00
Jubilee food	176.00

=====
 4,229.39

The Council RESOLVED to accept the accounts submitted.

1206/18 **TOWN BUSINESS**

Councillor Miller informed the Council that both the Clerk and the Warden had had their appraisals and these were now in place for future years. Kevin was given advice on dealing with vulnerable people. The Clerk would like help with future issues of the Parish Newsletter and all the Councillors were asked to contribute in the future.

1206/19 **DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be 26th July 2012 at 7.30pm.
 There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.12pm.