

**MINUTES of the MEETING of the ST BLAISE TOWN COUNCIL  
Held at the ALEXANDER HALL, St Blazey, on Thursday 31st March 2011**

**Present**

Councillor J Anderson – Chairperson

Councillors:

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

**In attendance:** Town Clerk

Cornwall Councillor Roy Taylor

3 representatives from the Beach

2 members of the press

Charles Richards

Andrew Houghton

Ben Wood

1 member of the public

Before the Council meeting began, Jackie Swain and David Porter from CEG, the developers of Carlyon Bay Beach, gave a presentation on the application submitted to the County planning department.

350 permanent jobs will be created on site with another 80 in the surrounding area. The sea defence on Crinnis Beach will be backed by a 13 foot promenade and will not affect the ebb and flow of the sea on the beach. There will be a man made sand dune on Shorthorn Beach to protect the development behind.

CEG are offering as part of the 106 agreements, £5,000,000 towards affordable housing, £500,000 for education, works to Sandy River to assist with flood defence and an upgrade to Sea Road North.

Most of the construction traffic will be through Cyprus Avenue, all the properties are to be sold with a 999 year lease and 25% will be for all year road residency. The top car park which will have between 140 and 170 spaces will be for use by the public and some of the 840 spaces at sea level will be made available at certain times during the year.

In the section 98 agreement, South West Water have committed to providing the site and surrounding area with adequate sewerage provision.

**1103/01 TO ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies had been received from Town Councillors Gill, Hooper, Seel and Cornwall Councillor David Hughes.

**1103/02 MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting of 24<sup>th</sup> February 2011 were confirmed as being correct and later signed by the Chairperson.

### 1103/03 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

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

### 1103/04 **MATTERS ARISING**

1102/10 The Clerk investigated paying for driving courses for youths but we did not have the powers to invest in individuals.

1102/11 The Clerk has had the supporting wall of the footpath at the Mount repaired and was able to reduce the cost to £1,460.

1102/12 The Clerk has spoken to Ben Dickinson about repairs to the Town Car Park, his suggestion was that tarmac taken off repaired roads could be used to infill the pot holes. This is not a solution as only a permeable surface can be laid.

1102/16 Letters of thanks have been received from Cornwall Blind Association and Cornwall Air Ambulance for their donations.

1102/22 Councillor Putt told the Council that the first meeting of the new residents association “Hands Together” will be held at 2.00pm on 4<sup>th</sup> April 2011.

1102/22 The Clerk visited the Network Rail offices in Par and was told that the growth through the fencing in St Blazey Road was on land owned by DB Shenter formerly EWS, the Clerk then visited their offices at the end of St Blazey Road and was promised it would be seen to. It has been cut back.

1102/22 Councillor Taylor told the Council that the road improvement schemes previously discussed had been submitted to Highways in December.

### 1103/05 **POLICE CRIME FIGURES**

February 2011

Assault	3
Burglary Dwelling	0
Burglary Other	3
Theft of M/V	2
Vehicle Crime	3
Theft	1
Damage	1
Drugs	0
Other	4
	=====
Total	17

**1103/06 A PRESENTATION BY BEN WOOD FROM ECO BOS**

The Council was told that Eco-bos hope to submit an outline application in the summer but do not expect to start construction until 2016. It will be a phased development and will take between 2 to 5 years to build. There will be a localised provision for waste and recycling on site.

Imerys will have to clear the site before ownership of the land is passed to Eco-bos and this will only be after planning permission has been granted. Imerys are eager to clear the site due to health and safety issues and for this reason cannot give public access to the site.

Eco-bos will write a thorough travel plan and model which all interested parties will be invited to scrutinise and comment on.

**1103/07 A REPORT FROM CORNWALL COUNCILLOR ROY TAYLOR.**

Councillor Taylor reported that Cornwall Council is investigating out sourcing leisure services to a charitable trust.

Councillor Taylor has provided the Clerk with construction drawings and timescales for flood prevention measures for Prideaux Road and locations adjacent to Station Road. The Clerk has forwarded these to each Councillor.

Councillor Taylor provided figures showing where supporting project budgets had changed from 2010/11 to 2011/12.

**1103/08 FLOODING ISSUES IN ST BLAZEY**

Charles Richards told the Council that The Par and St Blazey Community Flood Group took part in the Environment Agency's Exercise Watermark bolt-on on Monday the 14<sup>th</sup> of March. The purpose of the exercise was to simulate a severe weather event and practice emergency response procedures.

The exercise was a great success for the flood group, they achieved their aims of mobilising flood wardens on the day, testing procedures and raising the profile of the group within the local community. Rather than alert every household of a possible flood they took the opportunity to drop a note through doors introducing the flood group to the community and welcoming their support and involvement.

Mr Richards would like to thank all 15 volunteer wardens who took part for their involvement and support. I would also like to thank the Environment Agency for inviting us to participate in their exercise.

Following the Watermark exercise a meeting was held to discuss what went well and where improvements need to be made to the provisional plan.

Charles Richards said that the first meeting of the new flood response steering group would be tomorrow's 1<sup>st</sup> April 2011. He asked if he could have St Blaise Town Council's permission to invite residents to contact the Town Council to raise issues on their behalf.

Charles Richards gave the Council an update on the progress of The Par and St Blazey flood group and asked if a Councillor would be prepared to become a Flood Warden. Councillor Heyward reminded Mr Richards that he had volunteered previously and so was confirmed.

Andrew Houghton from the Environment Agency reported to the Council improvements and changes that the environment Agency deem necessary since the widespread flooding overnight on the 16 and 17 November 2010.

In total around 400 properties flooded across Cornwall, communities were flooded by local rivers, streams and surface water, particularly in steep-sided catchments. Four of the worst affected locations were Lostwithiel, Mevagissey, Pentewen and St Blazey/Par.

A deep Atlantic low pressure system brought a slow moving weather front from the west of the UK, giving high rainfall accumulations over Cornwall. The rainfall was particularly intense on the back edge of the rain band, with peak accumulations moving through over a short period during the early morning of Wednesday, 17 November 2010.

Records from well established gauging stations on the River Fowey indicate a flow with a 1 in 25 to 1 in 50 chance of happening in any one year. There are indications that the rainfall was more significant on some of the smaller watercourses.

Transport infrastructure was seriously affected, with the A38 blocked, the closure of main roads in the flood affected areas south of Bodmin and disruption to the main line railway line as a result of a landslide triggered by the intense rain. Flooding started very quickly, from around 5am on 17 November.

Surface water run-off combined with out-of-bank flows from the Prideaux Stream and the St Blazey Stream caused widespread flooding in St Blazey, centred around Aberdeen Close and Station Road, with upwards of 50 properties flooded. Tredenham Close in St Blazey also flooded mainly as a result of surface water runoff.

Environment Agency teams were quick to respond in St Blazey, arriving at 0545hrs half an hour after the initial alarm. They started the temporary pump upstream of Station Road on the St Blazey Stream, although this was soon overwhelmed by the high flows. It was difficult to reach all flood risk schemes due to the bad weather and resulting road closures and traffic problems. As a result response times were significantly extended.

Flood watches and warnings are issued once pre-set triggers are reached at river level gauges. These gauges are generally located on the larger watercourses, which react less quickly to rainfall than the streams which contributed to this flooding. Due to the very short lead time between rainfall and reaction, the Environment Agency

does not currently issue flood warnings based on levels on smaller streams such as Prideaux. This explains why flood watches and warnings were issued after the majority of flooding.

On 30 November 2010, flood alerts replaced flood watches. Flood alerts can be issued based on forecast conditions, giving the opportunity to warn communities earlier. The Environment Agency is also currently investigating how to provide early warnings based on other information such as weather radar, rain gauges and trash screen alarms. A multi-agency Silver Control was established in Truro at an early stage, with Environment Agency liaison officers playing a key role in co-ordination and communication. Within hours of the start of flooding, culvert cleansing, culvert jetting and CCTV equipment were brought in, allowing removal of very large quantities of stone and silt, which had blocked critical culverts, and the assessment of damage to structures.

Extensive flood reconnaissance of the main affected locations was carried out by Environment Agency staff during the next two days, ensuring key flooding mechanisms were captured. The information is being used to inform potential future improvement work.

Response developed into recovery during 17 November and beyond.

A programme of CCTV inspections and clearance of affected culverts in the area was also carried out. Environment Agency flood defences were inspected to ensure they are fit for purpose, cleared debris from trash screens around the affected areas, and removed debris from channels upstream of the worst hit locations.

In the recovery phase, Cornwall Council established a Multi-Agency Flood Recovery Co-ordinating Group and other Sub-Groups. This recovery Group was set up in parallel with the Multi-Agency Response Group (ie. Silver Control) on the day of the incident and was well established by the end of the flood incident recovery phase. The group included various services from Cornwall Council, Environment Agency, Police, Public Health and voluntary and community sector representatives. Groups have now been set up to allow communities and partners to explore how flood risk could be reduced in future.

The recovery group members were quick to contact flood victims, visiting the larger affected communities from the day of the flooding. Some smaller areas received visits later on. Environment Agency staff and Cornwall Council staff set up a local support and advice framework centres from the first night of the flooding onwards, offering support and advice to affected residents.

More detailed flood surgeries provided further support and information to the affected communities for three weeks after the flood. These were well attended and had excellent multi-agency input from the Environment Agency, Cornwall Council, the National Flood Forum, town and parish councils and Devon and Cornwall Police

A community flood plan was already in preparation at St Blazey prior to the flood thus there were already strong community links in place. These links really helped engagement during and after the flooding. During the flood surgeries and at a

subsequent Community Flood Plan Workshop, communities expressed interest in developing plans. We will work with Cornwall Council and the communities to develop these plans over the coming months; this will include finding flood wardens. We plan to help the communities produce functional plans by December 2011.

Environment Agency flood defence schemes across Cornwall worked well, protecting approximately 3,250 homes and businesses. Since the flooding, consultant civil engineers have been working with the Environment Agency to review the flooding and look at how flood risk in some of the worst affect locations could be reduced in the future. Draft reports are now available for Lostwithiel, St Blazey, Pentewen, Mevagissey and Par Moor as well as an overview report.

#### 1103/09 **THE CORE STRATEGY**

The Clerk was supplied with one copy each of Cornwall Councils Core Strategy Option Paper and the Area based discussion paper which has been passed to each of the Councillors. Councillor Scrafton has drafted a reply which he has submitted on behalf of St Blaise Town Council.

#### 1103/10 **CLERKS INCREMENT.**

Councillor Heyward proposed that the Clerk move up one point to point 34 on the NALC pay scales, this was seconded by Councillor Putt, the Council all agreed and so it was RESOLVED.

#### 1103/11 **CYCLING INFRASTRUCTURE**

Cornwall Council is researching potential improvements to cycling infrastructure in St Austell, St Blazey and the China Clay Area and asked that we suggest suitable sites to install cycle racks and if we are aware of a suitable site for cycle skills training.

The Council are suggesting Cornish, Market World, The Town Car Park and the Football Club Car Park as areas to place cycle racks and the Eden Project as a flat surfaced area for training.

#### 1103/12 **NEW COMMUNITY WARDEN**

After due process Kevin Atkinson has been appointed as the new community warden, since his appointment rules have changed and by working 20 hours per week he will not be entitled to tax credits but he will if he works 30 hours. Councillor Putt proposed that we pay the new Warden 30 hours at minimum wage, the Council all agreed and so it was RESOLVED.

The Clerk will speak with Kevin Atkinson and if he is in agreement his appointment will go ahead. The Clerk will purchase suitable work attire to replace Ocean Housings uniform.

### 1103/13 **DONATION TO BISCOVEY BOYS CHOIR**

The Clerk has received a letter from Liz Davies Requesting a financial contribution to the Boys Choir travel costs. Councillor Scrafton proposed a donation of £100, Councillor Putt seconded the proposal and so it was RESOLVED.

### 1103/14 **PROJECT LIST**

**New Community Centre** – The Clerk has completed as much work as possible on the business plan that is necessary for the grant application until we have received quotes for the building work.

**St Blazey Fountain** – The Clerk has not had a reply to her application from the Community Grant Fund.

### 1103/15 **TOWN CLERKS REPORT**

The Clerk, Councillor Anderson and Councillor Putt will attend the inaugural meeting of the Community Flood Recovery Group tomorrow at 2.00pm at the Burrows Centre.

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

**Location:** St Andrews Road, Par  
**Timing:** 2nd to 3rd April 2011 (1800 to 1600 hours)  
**Reason:** Network Rail - Essential Rail Track Maintenance Works

### 1103/16 **PLANNING MATTERS**

There have been twelve applications received. It was RESOLVED to not object to ten of them.

- |            |   |
|------------|---|
| PA11/00446 | Full Planning<br>Renovation of existing dwelling<br>1 Bodelva, Par                        |
| PA11/00535 | Full Planning<br>Siting of garden chalet<br>3 Par Lane, Par                               |
| PA11/01004 | Full Planning<br>Conversion of garage into two story extension<br>7 Manor View, St Blazey |
| PA11/01259 | Full Planning<br>Convert garage into playroom<br>3 Polgover Way, Par                      |

- PA11/01287 Full Planning  
Erection of garage  
27 Chyandor Close
- PA11/01400 Full Planning  
Erection of single storey extension at rear of property  
67 Manor View
- PA11/01787 Full Planning  
Single storey extension at rear of kitchen with pitched roof  
1 Rebecca Close
- PA11/00828 Full Planning  
Erection of mobile home at Polkerris Parc  
2 Gribbon Way, Par

We did not comment as we do not have enough knowledge to comment regarding contaminated land.

- PA11/1547 Full Planning  
Construction of a two storey, three bed roomed house  
Land to the East of Penarwyn House, St Blazey.
- PA11/01331 Full Planning  
Mixed development for 511 units and associated site works.  
Carlyon Bay

The Council RESOLVED to object to two of them.

- PA11/01086 Full Planning  
Proposed new 5 bedroomed house & garage  
Plot 2A Uplands, The Mount, Par
- Gross overdevelopment of site  
Lack of amenity space  
Should be looked at with PA11/01121
- PA11/01121 Full Planning  
Proposed new 5 bed roomed house & garage  
Plot 2B Uplands, The Mount, Par
- Gross overdevelopment of site  
Lack of amenity space  
Should be looked at with PA11/01086

Planning Application results received.

- PA11/00010 Full Planning – Extension and Alterations.  
Britannia Inn, St Austell Road.  
REFUSED PERMISSION



PA11/00011 Listed Building Consent – Extension and Alterations.  
 Britannia Inn, St Austell Road.  
 REFUSED PERMISSION

PA11/00377 Full Planning – Alterations to Bungalow.  
 Orchards, Biscovey Road.  
 CONDITIONAL PERMISSION GRANTED

### 1103/17 ALEXANDER HALL

The Clerk has asked the electrician to put a timer light onto the front of Alexander Hall.

### 1103/18 ACCOUNTS

Income			
Hall Bookings	364.00	Broadband	27.72
Interest	2.96 2/11	SWW	55.00
		Electricity	38.00
		HMRC	267.70
		CC (pen)	327.41
		Cleaner	64.80
		Clerks Sal	974.03
		Window Cleaning	27.00
		Warden Advert	232.80
		DS Builders	1460.00
		Ocean	5000.00
		Thomson Local	43.20
		Icon Web Services	25.00
		Viking Direct	594.44
		JNC Safety Services	840.00
		Donations	350.00
		Travel	190.50
		Alexander Hall	58.35
		CIS	87.22
	=====		=====
	366.96		10,663.17

The council RESOLVED to accept the accounts submitted.

Councillor Miller proposed that the high interest investment be rolled over for a further 3 months, Councillor Scrafton seconded the proposal, all the Council agreed and so it was RESOLVED.

**1103/19****TOWN BUSINESS**

Councillor Miller told the Council that the type setters from Eden had made some improvements to his War Memorial booklet and would be ready for print in the next few months.

Councillor Heyward told the Council that the bin at Biscovey is missing, the Clerk and Councillor Putt will investigate.

Councillor Scrafton asked if the Community Energy Plus bid had been successful and if any progress has been made for installation, the Clerk will investigate.

**1103/20****DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be 28<sup>th</sup> April 2011 at 7.30pm.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.46pm.