

**MINUTES of the MEETING of the ST BLAISE TOWN COUNCIL
Held at the ALEXANDER HALL, St Blazey, on Thursday 31st March 2016**

Present

Councillor J Anderson – Mayor
Councillor A Seel – Vice Mayor

Councillors

R Blackie, J Moore, J Taylor, R Taylor and S Wheeler.

In attendance: Town Clerk
Cornwall Cllr R Taylor (incl above)
Cornwall Cllr D Scrafton
Two members of the public

Before the meeting began Mr Cunning and Mrs Franks spoke to the Council regarding PA16/02569.

1603/01 **TO ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors G Miller and A Putt. The Community Warden also sent his apologies.

1603/02 **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting of 25th February 2016 were confirmed as being correct and later signed by the Chairperson.

1603/03 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillors R Taylor and J Moore expressed an interest in item 1603/16.

1603/04 **MATTERS ARISING**

1602/04 The Clerk has heard from Liz Davis who will do her best to enable Biscovey Choir to perform at this year's Carol Concert and will ask Clay Country singers to perform. The Clerk has also asked Mount Charles Youth Band to perform but has not had a response.

1602/04 The funding from Cornwall Council for the Emergency Planning has been received. A meeting has been organised for April 4th but this date may be changed.

1602/06 The Warden and Councillor Putt have looked at the flooring in Station Road toilets and do not believe that the lino needs replacing yet.

1602/06 The Clerk has seen a carpenter about the fascia boards at Alexander Hall but has yet to receive a quote.

1602/11 The Clerk has met with Tasha Davies and has submitted an expression of interest for £5,000 funding for tree and legal work for the devolution of King Edward Gardens.

1602/14 The Clerk has received a letter of thanks from Cruse Bereavement.

1602/15 The Clerk has heard from Par Bay Big local Trust who are not prepared to give us any financial assistance as we have a precept.

1602/20 The lights at the back of Co-op are now working.

1603/05 POLICE CRIME FIGURES

February 2016

	Recorded 2/16	Recorded 2/15	Difference
Violence with Injury	2	2	0%
Violence without Injury	5	1	400%
Other sex offences	2	0	-
Burglary Dwelling	1	0	-
Burglary non-Dwelling	1	1	0%
Shoplifting	2	2	0%
Other Theft	4	4	0%
Criminal Damage	7	5	40%
Trafficking Drugs	1	0	-
Possession of Drugs	1	0	-
TOTAL:	26	15	73.3%

Logs/Calls to Police

	Recorded 2/16	Recorded 2/15	Difference
Anti-Social Behaviour	8	13	-38.5%
Crime Not Recorded	0	1	-100%
Crime Recorded	12	8	50%
Public Safety	33	32	3.1%
Transport	4	8	-50%
TOTAL:	57	62	-8.1%

1603/06 COMMUNITY WARDENS REPORT

Dave Pearce has litter picked at various areas around the town especially on Par Moor where there was a lot of fly tipping as well as general waste. The fly tipping was reported to Cornwall Council. Two cuts of the grass at Doubletrees Court have now been carried out. All the bus shelters have been pressure washed and he has started the roadside weed treatments.

All footpath work is up to date and a tree at the Mount footpath which is blocking the walkway has been reported. Piggy alley is looking exceptionally nice. The hedge surrounding Trailblazer Park has been cut down to the top of the fence.

The bin men are failing to replace the bin lids on the containers and therefore some are missing. Dave and others have retrieved these from streams, hedges and other hard to reach places.

1603/07 **A REPORT FROM CORNWALL COUNCILLOR ROY TAYLOR**

Tree at Middleway

A tree that was growing in public open space fell into the garden of a property on Middleway damaging a dry stone wall, rare plants and a pond. Update awaited.

CC Environment Service

I attended a briefing from the CC Environment Service. It is investigating means to raise additional revenue through sponsorship, sales and advertising. It occurs to me that we should be aware of the potential to raise an income from some of the parcels devolved to us. I will elaborate later in this meeting.

CC members remuneration

I was interviewed as a committee chair by the Independent Remuneration Panel that CC is obliged to appoint and later chooses to ignore the findings of every four years.

Biscovey Infants School

I have been a governor of this school for more than five years and had thought it time to allow them some new blood. However they are transitioning to Academy status and when this is achieved there will no longer be a governing body.

Updates.

1. **A390 level crossing closure** A report will be going to the Transportation PAC in May with a view to formulating policy to place controls on the activity of Network Rail with regard to similar repairs or replacements in the future.
2. **Kilhallon landslip** Work is expected to commence on a permanent repair next month. Update awaited.
3. **The Roundhouse** This is to be discussed later this evening engendered by a VAT surprise. Providing this issue can be overcome the Feasibility Study is progressing well.
4. **Motion re parking at Schools** Will be on the 25th April Transportation PAC agenda. Members are probably aware that the zig zag lines at schools are only advisory. I have no wish to prejudge the outcomes from that meeting but I understand that this spring the DFT are to make it possible for these markings to be made mandatory without a specific traffic order. Signage will have to be provided but this could help and may be achievable within existing budgets. Should this all be achieved, enforcement will be the next hurdle and I have already asked what plans could be put in place.
5. **PA15 064911** attended the strategic planning meeting where this was to be decided and spoke on behalf of the Town Council. For this I was granted three minutes and achieved exactly. I was not prepared to be given five minutes later on as a neighbouring CC member! Councillor Scrafton has more information.

6. **PBBL/PBCT** I attended the PBCT meeting on Tuesday but was unable to be at the PBBL meeting yesterday.

1603/08 **A REPORT FROM CORNWALL COUNCILLOR DOUG SCRAFTON**

Councillor Doug Scrafton presented the following report:

I have attended a number of meetings, including Cornwall Council's cabinet and an all member briefing on the forthcoming boundary review of the Council.

The boundary review will come into force in 2021. The review will be important for Cornwall. It will be important to ensure the right number of Councillors, given the need not only to represent the interests of the electorate, but also to ensure strong democratic governance for Cornwall as the Cornwall Deal is implemented and the Council acquires new responsibilities. I hope that the review will finally put an end to facile comparisons between the size of Cornwall Council and of, for example the Welsh Assembly: the latter may be smaller than Cornwall Council, but is underpinned by three hundred or more borough councillors.

With Councillor Roy Taylor, I attended the Strategic Planning Committee meeting on 10 March, when Wain Homes' application for permission to build 190 houses was considered. The committee decided to postpone a decision to allow for a site meeting and a public meeting – which is exactly what I had asked officers to arrange some five months ago. I understand that Wain Homes intend to lodge an appeal on the grounds of non-determination.

Work on the preparation of a proposal to take Par running track into community ownership continues apace, and the community group involved will, I am now fully confident, have a robust, viable and sustainable plan to put forward. The group are in contact with others to see whether other interests can also be included in their proposal. Assuming that Cornwall Council invite the group to work up their ideas further, there will be a good deal of local consultation work undertaken to ensure that everyone's views can be heard. The group were heartened recently to receive an unsolicited message from Golant Parish Council, offering support in principle for the effort they are making to assume control of the facility. I will shortly be approaching other town and parish councils in the catchment area, to seek similar endorsement from them. This will help demonstrate to Cornwall Council the strength of local support for local control of the facility.

The Clerk asked the Councillors if the letter could be written on receipt of the request, the Council agreed.

1603/09 **THE FUTURE OF ST BLAZEY POLICE STATION**

The Clerk asked the police to allow us access to the police Station to allow for two quotes for the installation of a sink. We were informed that they would only use their approved contractor who provided a quote of £2,400.

Councillor Seel proposed that we amend our offer purchase price to £27,400 on condition that the sink has been installed and the other alterations are carried out prior

to completion. Councillor Wheeler seconded the proposal, all the other Councillors agreed except Councillor Blackie and so it was RESOLVED.

Councillor Blackie is against the proposal as he does not believe this will ensure a police presence in the Town.

1603/10 **IMPLICATIONS OF LOCALISM AND CORNWALL COUNCIL CUTS**

Councillor Taylor is aware that other Councils are raising money from devolved properties and services through sponsorship deals and advertising, he believes that SBTC should keep this in mind while considering future funding.

1603/11 **TO CHANGE THE DATE OF THE ANNUAL MEETING.**

The Clerk will not be available on May 26th which is the date the Annual meeting and asked the council if the date could be changed. Councillor Seel proposed that the date be changed to Monday 23rd May, Councillor J Taylor seconded the proposal, all the Councillors agreed and so it was RESOLVED.

1507/12 **ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE CONTROL OF MONEY**

Councils are required as part of the current arrangements to move to internet banking to carry out an annual review of the arrangements it has in place to control “money” as set out in Appendix 10 of Governance and Accountability March 2014. Here money does not have its everyday meaning but includes things that commit money or give rise to the receipt of money as well the actual money in coin, notes or bank balances.

Our internal auditor has said that there are generally adequate arrangements in place to segregate duties or put in place compensating controls however we need to amend our compensating controls to reduce the risk of breakdown if there were more people involved in the checking processes who could take over as circumstances necessitated and thus should undertake some of the checks to be familiar with the systems in place. The Clerk asked if the following controls could be amended:-

Cash A Councillor to scrutinise all processes. Councillor Anderson does this already as she verifies all orders, purchases and payments.

Purchases A Councillor to scrutinise all processes. A person independent of the process to verify the transaction. Councillor Anderson does this already as she verifies all orders and purchases.

General Ledger A Councillor to scrutinise all processes. A person independent of the process to check all transactions. Councillor Anderson does this already as she verifies all orders and purchases.

The Clerk will amend the separation of duties matrix to reflect these changes.

Councillor Seel proposed that these changes be made, Councillor Wheeler seconded the proposal, all the Councillors agreed and so it was RESOLVED.

1507/13 **COUNCIL TO APPROVE AMENDMENT TO FINANCIAL REGULATIONS (THE PUBLIC CONTRACT REGULATIONS 2015)**

Public Procurement (THE PUBLIC CONTRACT REGULATIONS 2015) have been amended and therefore the Clerk has amended the financial regulations which have been disbursed to each Councillor. Councillor Seel proposed that the amendment to the regulations be adopted, Councillor J Taylor seconded the proposal, all the Councillors agreed and so it was RESOLVED.

1603/14 **ANTI FRAUD AND CORRUPTION POLICY**

The clerk has written an Anti-Fraud and Corruption Policy which has been disbursed to each Councillor. Councillor Seel proposed that the policy be adopted, Councillor R Taylor seconded the proposal, all the Councillors agreed and so it was RESOLVED.

1603/15 **REPRESENTATIVES OF GROW ST BLAZEY**

Grow St Blazey is a recently formed group that encourages growing in and around the Town, recently they have held a planting workshop that has resulted in 7 local children having their work on show at this weekend's gardening event at Boconnic. Shortly they will be holding a plant surgery at Wyevale and are holding a consultation event in King Edward Gardens.

The group will work closely with the Council when King Edward Gardens is devolved to us and the Clerk asked for representatives for the group. Councillors R Taylor, J Moore and J Anderson will be the Town Council representatives on the group.

1603/16 **ROUNDHOUSE – COASTAL REVIVAL FUND**

The Town Council is asked to act as 'banker' for St Blazey Roundhouse. St Blazey Roundhouse was granted £50k in December by the Coastal Revival Fund in order to conduct a feasibility study/outline business plan in respect of the Roundhouse and Turntable, which had just been placed on the Heritage at Risk Register.

There were initial discussions with the Town Council as regards the Council receiving this sum from Cornwall Council, in order not to incur VAT. The Council agreed to this however they instructed Cornwall Development Company. A local council may purchase goods or services and donate them to a voluntary body, e.g. the Roundhouse revival group if they are paid for by a grant.

Councillor Wheeler proposed that the Council act for the group, Councillor Seel seconded the proposal, all the Councillors agreed and so it was RESOLVED.

1603/17 **PROJECT LIST**

Neighbourhood Planning – There is to be a Neighbourhood Planning meeting on April 12th, CRCC has produced papers that are ready for pre-consultation.

Burrows Centre – The Clerk has now received three quotes for the extension.

1603/18 **TOWN CLERKS REPORT**

Smaller Authorities Audit Appointment Ltd, the body established to procure and appoint external auditors on behalf of smaller authorities, following the demise of the Audit Commission, have written asking if we wish to opt out of the sector led body for audit. The conditions for opting out are that we must appoint an external auditor and must convene an appropriate independent auditor panel which meets the requirements of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014. St Blaise Town Councillors do not wish to opt out.

Councillors R Taylor, D Scrafton and J Anderson met with Louise Dwelly from the Cornwall council affordable housing team on 14th September 2015. The £500,000 that Cornwall council have from the Carlyon Bay development S106 money could provide 25 social houses to be rented. The affordable housing team are to carry out some work to find the best site for these, preferably north of the A390. They will work with a housing association to bring this to fruition.

1603/19 **PLANNING MATTERS**

We have received eight planning applications, it was RESOLVED to not object to seven of them.

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|------------|--|
| PA16/01200 | Retention of ATM pod in grey finished steel with grey steel ATM fascia and non-illuminated black decal signage. Also retention of three black steel anti ram raid bollards to the concrete base and two bollards in front of ATM.
Biscovey Garage
St Austell road
St Blazey |
| PA16/01201 | Retrospective
Advertisement consent to display non illuminated signage to ATM pod.
Biscovey Garage
St Austell road
St Blazey |
| PA16/00708 | Construct a vehicular crossing over verge with gravel hard standing for two cars.
Land Adj to Maycross House
Par Moor Road |
| PA16/01702 | Proposed balcony to front of property to be constructed on top of existing flat roof garage and porch entrance.
5 Chyandor Close
St Blazey |
| PA16/01754 | Proposed pharmacy waiting room extension, first floor storage and associated works. |

Middleway Pharmacy
Middleway
St Blazey

- PA16/02073 Demolition of extensions to existing redundant social club building (leaving the original chapel) and erection of 2 semi-detached dwellings with private parking and private amenity.
Biscovey Sports Club
St Austell Road
St Blazey Gate
- PA16/02378 Construction of access path, ramp and steps on land to rear of hostel building to provide pedestrian/wheelchair access to the sports field for pupils. Works to include cutting through the existing boundary bank, provision of new gates on boundary line and associated handrails to ramps and steps.
Doubletrees School
St Blazey
- PA16/02569 Disability Extension to the side of the existing home.
6 The Consuls
St Blazey

It was RESOLVED to Object to:-

- PA16/02073 Demolition of extensions to existing redundant social club building (leaving the original chapel) and erection of 2 semi-detached dwellings with private parking and private amenity.
Biscovey Sports Club
St Austell Road
St Blazey Gate

Planning Applications results received.

- PA15/11628 Proposal for a new 3 bedroomed two storey dwelling with layby parking and associated works.
Land Adj to Belle Vue, Biscovey Road, St Blazey Gate.
APPROVED

1603/20 ALEXANDER HALL

The new boiler was installed on March 3rd.

1603/21 ACCOUNTS March 16

Payments Received

Hall Bookings	842.50
Interest	
High Deposit Interest	
Emergency planning	1,000.00

Expenditure

Clerks Wage	1350.98
Wardens Wage	568.67
Broadband	27.95
UK Fuels	31.32

Insurance	216.83
HMRC	496.61
CC (pen)	466.14
Eclipse	14.38
Travel Exp	72.00
Hydroscand	71.15
Mals Motors	112.38
DVLA	225.00
Commercial Ins	324.44
British Gas	68.26
Cruse Bereavement	100.00
Vodaphone	20.00
Councillors All	36.00
<u>AH</u>	
SWW	73.00
EON	20.00
Cleaners Wage	73.80
Chubb (parts)	13.02
Key cutting	22.47
Premiere Heating	2433.00
Kitchen equip	14.04
Maintenance	13.99
Window Cleaning	33.00
<u>PC</u>	
Locking	31.00
	=====
	6,929.43

=====

1,842.50

All the Councillors RESOLVED to accept the accounts submitted.

1603/22 **TOWN BUSINESS**

Councillor Wheeler is concerned about the poor quality of reflectors on the bollards by East Crinnis Farm on Par moor Road, the Clerk will report this to Highways. He is also concerned about the fencing by the railway crossing on St Andrews Road, the Clerk will report this to Highways.

1603/23 **DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be on 28th April 2016 at 7.30pm.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.59 pm.