

**MINUTES of the MEETING of the ST BLAISE TOWN COUNCIL
Held electronically on Thursday 25th March 2021.**

Present

Councillor J Anderson – Mayor
Councillor R Taylor – Deputy Mayor

Councillors

R Chamberlain, T Chapman, J Moore, A Pearce, A Seel & K Simms

In attendance: Town Clerk
Cornwall Councillor P Giles
Cornwall Councillor J Rowse
Barry West – Old Roselyon Park Group
Robert Hicks – Old Roselyon Park Group
Anthony Russell – Old Roselyon Park Group
Kylie Lock – Old Roselyon Park Group
Nikki Empel-Newman – Old Roselyon Park Group

As there were residents who wanted to discuss the Old Roselyon Play Area, the Chairman decided to bring this discussion forward.

2103/11 **PLAY AREA UPDATE**

Councillor Anderson gave the following update.

The Town Council agreed to take over the Polgover Way, Penarwyn and Deeble Drive Play areas at the January 20 Town Council meeting. Discussions took place with Cornwall Council and a Devolution package was agreed in March 20.

Under usual circumstances consultation would have begun but due to the pandemic this wasn't possible and the Town Council was very aware that the dangerous equipment needed to be removed and replaced at the soonest.

Whilst the legalities were being worked on the Council instructed the Clerk to get quotes for like for like or similar at the two playparks that need replacement facilities, The Clerk also did some research and found that climbing frames and swings are still the most popular types of play equipment. Many play equipment companies were contacted however only three gave quotes due to lock down. The Council agreed that initially both parks would have similar equipment installed but both would be treated the same. The TC asked for similar so cost is not relevant. Further equipment would be installed later.

The devolution was completed on February 21st 2021 and at the Town Council on February 25th the Council told the Clerk to get the children's opinions and this should

be done ASAP so that the dangerous equipment could be removed and new equipment installed by the summer.

On February 26th the Clerk contacted the Penarwyn RA who kindly consulted all the residents, equipment was chosen and an order was placed.

The same day the Clerk contacted the Chairman of the Roselyon Group who said he wanted to contact people himself so the Clerk said he had two weeks or she would be contacting residents. During this two weeks she spoke to the Roselyon Chairman who said he liked the Sovereign equipment but he needed to have a site meeting. The Clerk received an e-mail from the Chairman which informed her that the RA would be having a meeting on March 10th. The Clerk asked to attend but was ignored as had her many e-mails asking for contact details for the Group.

With no decision from Roselyon the Clerk spent all day Friday 12th March putting up notices and delivering fliers to every house on the estate asking for their choices. All the residents that had attended the January 20 meeting received letters with the park options. The notices with the three choices were taken down which in itself was destruction of property and the residents were contacted by the RA group and told to ignore the Clerk. However some residents have made a choice.

As a result the Clerk has not had too many responses but those received most have chosen Sovereign.

Councillor Seel asked the residents association how long they had been in existence as a letter written to each of the Councillors suggested thirty years and if so do they have a constitution? Is there a quorum for those attending meetings? Could the Town Council see copy of the minutes?

Councillor Seel believed that the play areas should be designed for the age range covering toddlers to bottom/middle juniors who need play areas close to home, avoiding the need to cross major roads. By the time youngsters are in top junior/secondary age groups they should be able to navigate roads safely and use facilities a little further from home.

Councillor Seel highlighted that play areas that cater for a wider age range are fraught with difficulties, including bullying and anti-social behaviour. In retrospect he felt that mistakes were made with Trail Blayser Park in trying to be all things to all age ranges. As one of the lead Councillors on that project, he admitted that the basket/goal post equipment and the Zip-wire were a mistake as it encouraged older children/adolescents to use and on occasions monopolise the park and he would not wish to see that error revisited.

Barry West told the Council that in 1990 a committee was formed by local people to campaign and raise money for the land at Roselyon to be turned into a play area. A play area was built based on the needs of the community. He asked that the Town Council stop all their current work and give a member of the Town Council the post of liaison officer.

Barry said that he had started a campaign to raise £12,500. £1,000 had been secured and that if not all the funds were raised he would donate the remaining money himself.

Robert Hicks who worked with Barry West in 1990 understood that the Town Council had worked hard under difficult covid restrictions and regretted that their group had not worked with the Town Council when asked. He said that there was a shared interest and that we should work together.

Anthony Russell said that he wanted a mixed use for any age and that none were suitable for a 9 year old.

Nikki Empel-Newman said that she wanted to work with the Town Council and wanted to see it inclusive respecting equality and diversity. She said she had a child with extra needs and would like to see a sensory garden.

Kylie Lock said she echoed what everybody else had said and that we shouldn't rush. The three quotes that the Town Council had acquired were not suitable for her three year olds.

Barry West asked that the Council appoint a liaison officer for their group. Councillor Pearce volunteered and all the Councillors agreed.

2103/01 **TO ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Councillors J Taylor & T Nethercott.

2103/02 **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting of 25th February 2021 were confirmed as being correct and later signed by the Chairperson.

2103/03 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

2103/04 **MATTERS ARISING**

2102/10 Thank you for the donation letters have been received from Victim Support and Cornwall Hospice Care.

2102/12 The Clerk has applied to the Eden Geothermal Fund for funds for Spring Rockers at Penarwyn Green.

2102/12 Grit bins have been installed at Manor View and Porth Meadow. The Grit bin at the Mount has been filled.

2103/05 **COMMUNITY WARDEN'S REPORT**

The Warden returned to work on Monday March 1st and therefore Trail Blazer Park has re-opened. We are waiting for Cormac to make their repairs. Dave has carried out the weekly play inspections on Deeble Drive and Trailblazer Park and cut the grass. The grass has also been cut at Doubletrees for the last time and the cutting is up to date at King Edward Gardens and Piggy Alley.

The equipment at Trailblazer Park that needs painting has been prepared for painting and now that the weather is improving this will be done.

Dave has started weed killing around the Town and has strimmed and cleared the footpath behind Biscovey School.

2103/06 **REPORT FROM CORNWALL COUNCILLOR PAULINE GILES**

The Community Larder van has started stopping at the Burrows and St Blazey AFC on Wednesday lunchtimes, uptake has been low. Residents should use it, or we will lose it.

Household Waste & Recycling Centre's will extend their hours to 9 am - 6pm on Wednesdays, from 7th April until 4th August, allowing those that work, to use it, and help lessen the queuing at a weekend. Number plate recognition will remain in place.

Pedestrian safety measures for Middleway have been agreed, and designs are being put together in order to decide the best option. This will be situated from the pavement on the Co-Op side of the road to somewhere close to the bus stop. Either a pedestrian refuge or a zebra crossing will be installed, this will allow people to park in the Co-Op carpark and walk in safety across to the doctor's surgery, hopefully alleviating the need to park on the road. It is hoped this measure will slow down the speed of the cars coming down Middleway.

It has been confirmed that the Tour of Britain will pass through the outskirts of St Blazey on 7 September. Towns and Parishes are being encouraged to organize community events and to decorate the route. St Blazey Recycle have had hundreds of coloured material napkins donated, anyone who would like to assist in making bunting can contact me. The bunting will be stored and loaned to organizations within the Town for their fundraising events.

And finally, some of you will know, I was awarded the Prime Ministers Point of Light Award on St Pirans Day, recognizing my work throughout the pandemic. I would like to thank all the volunteers who helped to ensure St Blazeys residents were well looked after through this tough time.

2103/07 **REPORT FROM CORNWALL COUNCILLOR JORDAN ROWSE**

I have continued to work on the Active Travel Path for Par Moor Road and the path to Spit Beach both during the past month. If you haven't seen the path to Spit Beach it is really quite impressive. Now the path is lovely and light I hope the dog's walkers

respect it a bit more. I am currently working with children from Biscovey Academy to do some nice 'pick up your poo please' posters which we will put along here.

Two years ago I confirmed that the skate ramps at Bull Engine Park were being removed because they were no longer safe to use and had reached their expiry date. They are at least 15 years old. We were in the fortunate position that, as many parks are having their equipment taken away and not replaced, Cornwall Council were to upgrade it.

The STARR Project came forward and needed the land where the old skate park was as part of their flood protection project. After discussions with the Open Spaces Team at Cornwall Council and the STARR Project, an alternative site was identified within the park to relocate it. After a few months delay due to COVID, I am pleased that works are now starting. This will be a great addition to the park for the local kids to enjoy. The landscaping works for the STARR Project at Bull Engine Park have also started.

Sunday was National Census Day. Your answers to the census questions will help organisations make decisions on planning and funding public services in our area, including transport, education and healthcare. I have tried to promote that under nationality you are able to enter 'Cornish' as we are a national minority. This is not an option but you could select "other" and enter your national identity in the space provided. This was an excellent opportunity for all to show that we are proud to be Cornish.

Lots of other things going on and I'm so pleased to see the Town Vitality Fund moving forward for St Blazey. This is a huge opportunity for the town so I am so glad we are now grabbing this opportunity with both hands.

As I say, next month will be my last with you but I will be sure to give you a good summary of all that we have achieved by working together over the last four years.

2103/08 **PLACE SHAPING PARTNERSHIP**

Councillor J Moore volunteered to be the Town Council representative on the Place Shaping Partnership, all the Councillors agreed.

Councillor Moore has circulated a draft proposal for funds and is hoping to use the St Austell Town Revitalisation document as a template for a constitution document.

2103/09 **IMPLICATIONS OF CORNWALL COUNCIL CUTS AND LOCALISM**

Cornwall Council have failed to bring Deeble Drive Park to an acceptable standard as there is welding work needed on the climbing frame. The Clerk has secured funds and arranged repair.

2103/10 **TOUR OF BRITAIN**

The Clerk attended a Virtual Tour of Britain 2021 by zoom on 26th February 21 with Councillor Moore organised by CALC. Three representative from Sweetspot, the

publication relations company for them said that the 8 day race would begin in Penzance on Sunday 5th September and finish in Aberdeen on September 12th.

On 5th September the race will run from Penzance to Bodmin and will go through the Eden Project and will include sub competitions. The final route map and estimated arrival times will be given at the end of May.

There are currently 18 teams registered including St Pirans and the event will be on free to Watch TV and the event will be plastic free and will encourage the same for spectators.

2103/11 **PROJECT LIST**

Neighbourhood Planning –

No further progress.

2103/12 **TOWN CLERKS REPORT**

The Clerk told the Councillors that workers who have been placed on furlough continue to accrue statutory holiday entitlements, and any additional holiday provided for under their employment contract.

Where it has not been reasonably practicable for the worker to take some or all of the holiday due to the effects of coronavirus, the untaken amount may be carried forward into the following 2 leave years.

When calculating how much holiday a worker can carry forwards, employers must give workers the opportunity to take any leave that they cannot carry forward before the end of the leave year and therefore the Clerk has also been unable to use her holiday

Carried leave is still subject to the usual rules around payment in lieu. An employer must facilitate the worker taking their annual leave and not replace it with a financial payment (known as payment in lieu).

2103/13 **PLANNING MATTERS**

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

PA21/02381	The construction of an infill dwellinghouse Land to the south of Pine Trees Sea View Terrace St Blazey
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Results Received

PA20/09676	Demolition of store, erection of two storey extension and extension of dropped kerb 20 Trenovissick Road Par APPROVED
PA21/00794	Works to Trees 1 Sycamore Tree Ref T5, Tree 2 Oak Tree Ref T6, Tree 3 Oak within Group G6 The Orchards Penny's Lane St Blazey APPROVED
PA21/00909	Formation of vehicular access with on-site surfaced, parking and turning. 2A St Austell Road St Blazey Gate Par APPROVED
PA20/06271	Installation of new timber slide Hangloose, The Eden Project Bodelva APPROVED
PA20/01777 JA/RT/JM	Provision of two open surface water storage features (ponds) and an offline attenuation (pond): with associated highway works and outfall into the St Blazey Stream. Parcels of land to East and West of Aberdeen Close at Junction with Bridge Street (a390), St Blazey and land to the South of Aberdeen Close, Adjacent to Football Pitch. St Blazey APPROVED
PA20/06810	Construction of single storey side extension and diversion of footpath to No.2 3 Hope Place PAR APPROVED
PA20/07966	Two-storey side extension 30 Ash Grove St Blazey Gate WITHDRAWN

2103/14 ALEXANDER HALL/ ST BLAZEY COMMUNITY ROOMS/ JUNE
ANDERSON HALL

The Clerk has been unable to engage a carpenter to fix the fire doors at Alexander Hall.

2103/15 ACCOUNTS

March 21

Payments Received

Hall Bookings	
Interest	0.47
High Deposit Int	18.41
Community Rooms	
JA Hall	
Grant	2096.00
Furlough	696.64
Black Sacks	21.00
Park devolution	50,000.00
Doubletrees	-99.00
Burrows	10,200.00

Expenditure

Clerks Wage	1588.17
Wardens Wage	817.93
Broadband	23.06
UK Fuels	
Insurance	208.25
HMRC	651.41
CC (Pen)	582.19
Donations	600.00
SWW (foun)	
Electric (foun)	26.29
Van Insurance	559.02
Wardens Tools	58.28
Stationery	40.58
St Austell GM	219.42
Solicitor	3430.80
Coun All	144.00
Cormac(WC sign)	300.88
Grit	202.00
WPS	31.41
Shovels	32.94
Cormac (TBP)	154.84
Westward Bld Soc	50.00
E-bay (Ink)	29.95
Wardens Phone	20.00
Site-builder	19.20
Screw-fix	34.99
Burrows Electric	265.08
192.com	17.94
<u>AH</u>	
Chubb (parts)	14.76
Corona (Elec)	57.69
SWW	21.50
Cleaners Wage	45.60
Cleaning Mats	36.49
Gas	162.67
<u>PC</u>	
Electric	
Business Rates	

	Locking	
	<u>Community Rooms</u>	
	Electric	80.31
	Business Rates	
	Water	
	<u>JA Hall</u>	
	Electric	47.62
=====		=====
62,933.52		10,575.27

All the Councillors RESOLVED to accept the accounts submitted.

2103/16 **TOWN BUSINESS**

Councillor Jenny Moore is investigating a sailing scheme to run for the children of St Blazey with the organizers of a similar scheme in Polkerris.

Councillor Chamberlain told the Council about the Pontsmill Community Fund which could assist with the park facilities in the Town.

Councillor Chamberlain told the Council that PL24 are looking for event organizers.

2103/17 **DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be on 29th April 2021, time and place to be confirmed.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7.54 pm.