

**MINUTES of the MEETING of the ST BLAISE TOWN COUNCIL  
Held at the ALEXANDER HALL, St Blazey, on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> October 2015**

**Present**

Councillor J Anderson – Mayor  
Councillor A Seel – Deputy Mayor

**Councillors**

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

**In attendance:** Town Clerk  
Cornwall Cllr R Taylor (incl above)  
Cornwall Cllr D Scrafton  
Five members of the public  
1 Member of the press  
1 Community Warden

Before the meeting began the Mayor introduced new Councillor Jenny Moore to the Councillors and welcomed her.

David Frost told the Council that he was incensed by the decision to close St Blazey Police Station, he feels that St Blazey being a deprived area, having a police station is a comfort to the vulnerable. He asked if the Council would be fighting the decision.

1510/01 **TO ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors Blackie and J Taylor.

1510/02 **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting of 24<sup>th</sup> September 2015 were confirmed as being correct and later signed by the Chairperson.

1510/03 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

1510/04 **MATTERS ARISING**

1509/19 Councillor Taylor has distributed Head of Cornwall Council's policy regarding the refugee crisis.

1510/05 **POLICE CRIME FIGURES**

Crime figures are very positive again for the month of September. The logs/calls to the Police also show a decline, with calls reporting anti-social behaviour down from 26 to 9 compared to September 2014. Whilst this is encouraging, we still ask that

members of public report all incidents to us, if we don't know it's happening, we can't do anything about it!

September 2015

	Recorded 9/15	Recorded 9/14	Difference
Violence with Injury	1	2	-50%
Violence without Injury	5	3	66.7%
Burglar Dwelling	0	1	-100%
Burglary Non Dwelling	0	2	-100%
Other Theft	0	1	-100%
Criminal Damage	2	2	-
Public Order Offences	0	2	-100%
Possession of Drugs	0	1	-100%
Other Offences	1	0	-
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>-35.7%</b>

Incidents Recorded

	Recorded 9/15	Recorded 9/14	
Anti-Social Behaviour	9	26	-65.4%
Crime not recorded	2	0	-
Crime Recorded	1	6	-83.3%
Public Safety	33	26	26.9%
Transport	14	9	55.6%
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>-11.9%</b>

#### 1510/06 COMMUNITY WARDENS REPORT

All the Flower beds have been re-planted except Station Road which will be done next week. Dave needs to do some more work with the whacker plate on Biscovey footpath and the fountain still needs to be emptied. Dave has been busy clearing leaves from footpaths around the town that have become dangerous.

#### 1510/07 A REPORT FROM CORNWALL COUNCILLOR ROY TAYLOR

I attended Expo 2015 at Newquay Aero hub with the mock-up of the Cornish built Bloodhound 1,000 mph car was on display as well as attending the Cornwall Community Flood Forum AGM and Conference in Truro.

The group interested in the Roundhouse has met twice in the last month which I attended along with a meeting of Fourways management Committee, Economy and Culture PAC, a Town Team meeting and met with Andy Stevenson with reference to Brooks Corner flooding.

I met with Rachel Tatlow, the new highways officer for this area, Rebecca Harris, our local PCSO and Cornwall Councillor Doug Srafton to view new proposed development site off Lamellyn Rd as well as the traffic / speed / yellow lines at the

bottom of Par Lane. I also went to a well attended public meeting led by Councillor Doug Scrafton regarding the Wain Homes proposals.

I attended an update in St Austell OSS on progress with the local plan, the Par Bay Community Trust meeting, a PBBL meetings as well as Apple Day which was an event they organised at Cornubia Hall.

I attended a member briefing on feedback from the CC staff survey, a Resources meeting at Biscovey Infants School, I Chaired the Burrows AGM and the board meeting which followed, I am still chairman.

A meeting was held with the EA, SWW and CC Highways regarding flood prevention at Brooks Corner and the surrounding area which was very positive.

I attended an Extra-ordinary meeting of the Communities PAC, Chaired the Network panel and the Transportation PAC today.

#### 1510/08 **A REPORT FROM CORNWALL COUNCILLOR DOUG SCRAFTON**

Like others, no doubt, I remain deeply concerned about the implications for policing in our area of further swingeing central government cuts to the police budget. I know from experience of the deep cuts that government has imposed on local government funding just what an impact this is likely to have. I have already received expressions of concern from some of our neighbours. I have therefore written to our Member of Parliament, to ask what action he is taking to ensure that the government do not further cut funding to our police service.

I have asked for the Wain Homes application for planning permission to be considered by a planning committee. A public meeting, attended by more than 50 people, demonstrated real concern about the implications of this. I wait to hear which committee will consider the application, and when. I have asked for a prior, formal site meeting with the committee, and for them also to hold a public meeting, so that local residents can express their views in person.

I am working with a number of local groups to explore the possibility of Par running track and its associated facilities being brought into community ownership. This facility is used by people throughout central Cornwall, and I believe that its future is best secured by means of local ownership. The indications from Cornwall Council are encouraging, provided that an appropriate business plan and social enterprise can be pulled together. This is a major undertaking, and I hope it will receive the active support of all local groups who make use of the facilities, or who would like to. I do hope that volunteers will come forward.

Another facility which, although not based in St Blaise is well used by people living here is Par Library. As you will know, Cornwall Council wishes significantly to reduce its expenditure on libraries, and Par Library would be likely to be a victim of any further savings. I attended a meeting recently between Cornwall Council officers and representatives of the Par Bay Community Trust, where there was initial discussion of ways in which the library might fall under their umbrella. I found these

discussions very encouraging. Cabinet is to discuss the devolution of library and other services next week. It will then become clearer what might be possible.

Roy Taylor and I attended a further briefing by SWW, the Environment Agency and Cornwall Council about flood prevention measures throughout the Par Bay catchment area. This was a very positive meeting, and I would hope that we will hear something rather more concrete at the next meeting, envisaged for December.

I attended part of the localism summit at County Hall on 30 September.

I was delighted to attend the launch of Grow St Blazey, and wish it the success it deserves.

I have attended a number of other meetings, to some of which Roy has already referred.

#### 1510/09 **THE FUTURE OF ST BLAZEY POLICE STATION**

Councillor Taylor suggested that we lease part of the Police Station back to the Police for a peppercorn rent if we are to purchase the building. This would allow neighbouring police to use it as well as the St Blazey Police.

The Clerk said that we are not allowed to spend money on neighbouring Towns and that the business rates etc. would put pressure onto the people of St Blaise via the precept. The Clerk was asked to find out if we don't charge the police rent and it is a service for the people of St Blaise could something be arranged to accommodate neighbouring towns.

Andrew White from the office of the Devon and Cornwall Police Commissioners office has written that they will continue to provide local policing to St Blazey but can provide no commitments as to the amount or make up of those resources. He also says:-

“I recognise that this uncertainty makes the decision of the town council more difficult. Unfortunately, from my perspective I will not be able to keep this matter on hold for an indeterminate period. If the council feels unable to make a decision regarding the purchase then I will need to offer the site to the open market. This is not my desire as I hope that we can still come to an arrangement with the town council to purchase the building on preferential terms enabling a continuation of police use.”

“I am happy to attend a town council meeting with an operational police officer as agreed but it would seem sensible that this only happens at a time when the town council is ready to make a decision.”

He will be asked to attend November's meeting.

## 1510/10 **IMPLICATIONS OF LOCALISM AND CORNWALL COUNCIL CUTS**

The Clerk has spoken with Tasha Davis, The Community Link Officer for St Blazey, Fowey and Lostwithiel regarding King Edward Gardens, apparently the delay is due to Cornwall Council only wanting to devolve the Gardens on a lease and not a freehold. The Clerk is averse to this as we will only get funding for improvement if we own the park. The Clerk was instructed to proceed with the devolution.

Tasha also asked the Council to consider if we still wanted the Football Club, Bull Engine Park and Penarwyn Green devolved when there would be no funds to accompany them. It would fall to the Town Council to pay all maintenance costs and Cormac would need to be paid for emptying the rubbish bins. The Clerk asked the Councillors to consider placing them of the Community Right to Bid register which would ensure they could not be sold or developed on before giving the Town Council the opportunity to purchase them.

The Councillors agreed that the three venues be added to the Community Right to Bid and removed from our request to the devolution team

## 1510/11 **MAINTENANCE OF DOUBLETREES COURT**

Residents of Doubletrees Court attended the meeting and brought photographs of the area that they require assistance with. There is an area at the entrance to Doubletrees Court that the residents are going to clear and maintain themselves. There is an area at the back of the parking place that is overgrown but they do not want the TC to care for and so they only want the TC to undertake the grass cutting of the area with the play equipment which is 24 meters by 24 meters.

The Council said that they would only take this maintenance on if we had a clear agreement of who would be paying for the Wardens services. Councillor Putt offered to give the residents one free cut from which a price for each future cut could be calculated and the amount of cuts per year would have to be agreed.

## 1510/12 **EMERGENCY PLANNING**

Councillor Taylor has spoken with Par and Tywardreath Council who are happy to work with St Blaise Town council to adapt Charles Richards original flood plan into an emergency plan. Charles Richards and Amy Pearce a resident of St Blazey who works for the Environment Agency were both present and explained the process to proceed.

The first step is to appoint Councillors to the Emergency Plan Committee, Councillors Jenny Moore, Stuart Wheeler, Amos Putt and George Allen. There is to be a meeting of the committee with the intention of re-invigorating the flood group. The new group will need to appoint representatives that do not live in the flood area and do not have jobs with the emergency services to ensure their availability if such an event should occur.

There is to be a meeting at Gott Hall on November 3<sup>rd</sup> and an Environmental training event on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> November.

Mayor June Anderson thanked Charles Richards for all his hard work past and future and emphasized a good job that was appreciated.

1510/13 **ROUNDHOUSE TURNTABLE**

Councillor R Taylor proposed that the Roundhouse Turntable be added to the list of Community Right to Bid properties, Councillor Moore seconded the proposal, all the Councillors agreed and so it was RESOLVED. The Roundhouse itself has now been added to the Heritage at Risk register.

1510/14 **COMMUNITY AWARDS**

Councillor Moore proposed that the Council have some kind of award for residents that have helped the Town in some way through the year. Councillor Taylor seconded the proposal, all the Councillors agreed and so it was RESOLVED. The details will be worked on later.

1510/15 **WARDENS PAY AWARD**

The Clerk asked the Council if the Wardens hourly rate should be increased, the National Working Wage increases from 1<sup>st</sup> November 2015. Councillors agreed that the Wardens wage be increased by 4.2% in line with the National Working Wage.

1510/16 **RETENTION of RECORDS POLICY**

The Clerk has written a Retention of Records policy, Councillor Allen proposed that the policy be adopted, Councillor R Taylor seconded the proposal, all the Councillors agreed and so it was RESOLVED.

1510/17 **PUBLICATION SCHEME**

The Clerk has written a Publication Scheme policy, Councillor Wheeler proposed that the policy be adopted, Councillor Miller seconded the proposal, all the Councillors agreed and so it was RESOLVED.

1510/18 **TO RESCIND THE DECISION NOT TO UNDERTAKE LIGHTING WORK IN PIGGY ALLEY**

Councillor Seel proposed that the minute 1508/14 be rescinded as 3 Councillors were in favour of the lighting in Piggy Alley being repaired, 1 Councillor voted against and 3 Councillors abstained, therefore it was not a full refusal. Councillor Seel believes that this is a serious danger and so re-agenda the item for the November meeting. Councillor Putt seconded the proposal, all the Councillors were in favour and so it was agreed.

1510/19 **LAYING OF REMEMBRANCE WREATH**

Mayor June Anderson volunteered to lay the remembrance wreath at St Blazey Church at the Service on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> November at 9.30 am. Councillor Anderson

asked that all the Councillors also be in attendance. Councillor R Taylor gave his apologies in advance as he will be out of the Country.

#### 1510/20 **PROJECT LIST**

**Neighbourhood Planning** – Councillor Moore said that the plan was progressing and that there is to be a meeting at the Burrows Centre on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> December at 6.00pm to discuss its progress.

**Burrows Centre** – The plans for the extension are currently out for tender, the Clerk is to meet with one of the builders who will be quoting on site on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November.

#### 1510/21 **TOWN CLERKS REPORT**

The Clerk attended the Cornwall association of Local Councils meeting on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2015 and reported:-

**Libraries** –The Registrar's and One Stop Shops are to move to Libraries, 2<sup>nd</sup> tier Councils who have put in expression of interest will have to share costs with neighbouring Council which caused concern as we will not know the result before putting in our precept requests and will be a double taxation. The devolution of libraries are unlikely to be before April 2016 which will result in a Cornwall Council shortfall.

**Cornwall Flood Forum** – the flood forum have written a training package and will train community volunteers for free.

**Cornwall Council Training** – The Council are to develop a training portal which will be available to all parish and town councils.

The Clerk has forwarded an expression of interest form to Cornwall Council in relation to the recently announced Waste Incentive Neighbourhood Scheme. They have returned an application pack that is to be returned by November 20<sup>th</sup>. Councillor R Taylor will assist the Clerk with the application.

Councillor J Taylor has sent the Clerk some notes she made from the planning conference on 15<sup>th</sup> October which was read to the Councillors. Councillor Moore also attended and said that most information received was basic good sense.

Gill Butler from Par Community Association would like the Town Council to join with them in the Big Lunch 2016. They will be holding it at Sweets Grill which is behind Par Station on Snowland's property and who have offered their wholehearted support. Par Community association believe this to be an ideal spot, apart from being picturesque by the fishing lakes, there is plenty of space for public parking and marquees etc. There is also plenty of toilets and other facilities. It will be held on Sunday 5th June. No record breaking attempt this time though. The Councillors agreed.

Cornwall Council invite everybody to attend a special 'Open Doors' budget event for businesses, local council and voluntary stakeholders to hear an update on and discuss the Council's Business Plan and budget constraints. It is to be held at New **County** Hall on Thursday 12 November at 6.30pm. They will also give you an update on the Cornwall Devolution Deal and other Council business and you will also be able to put your questions directly to them.

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

Location: Biscovey Road, St Blazey

Timing: 30th November 2015 to 4th December 2015 (24hrs)

Par Community Association have sent an invitation to all Councillors to join them for 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations and AGM on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> November at St Blazey Football Club at 7.30pm. There will be a Bar, Buffet and Entertainment and is will be free entry.

#### 1510/22 **PLANNING MATTERS**

There has been two planning applications received and it was **RESOLVED** to not object to either of them.

PA15/09253 Works to trees subject to a TPO(2xAsh,1xBeech).  
Land to the rear of 56 Chyandor Close.  
St Blazey

PA15/09601 Installation of Cables/rock anchors in association with  
approved cliff stabilisation works.  
Cliff Top land adjacent to Crinnis and Shorthorn cliff faces.  
Carlyon Bay

Results Received

PA15/07855 Property to be divided into two smaller letting properties.  
31 Bridge Street  
St Blazey  
**APPROVED**

#### 1510/23 **ALEXANDER HALL**

We have had a new quote for electricity from LSI utility brokers, our electricity contract finishes on 31.1.2016. Scottish and Southern Electric continue to provide the cheapest quote. All agreed to continue with SSE as our supplier.

The Clerk asked the Council if the Cleaners hourly rate should be increased, the Councillors believe that her hourly rate should be increased to the National Working Wage from 1<sup>st</sup> November 2015. Councillor R Taylor proposed the increase, Councillor Wheeler seconded the proposal, all the Councillors agreed and so it was **RESOLVED**.

1510/24 **ACCOUNTS**

October 15

**Payments Received**

Hall Bookings	607.50
Interest	
High Deposit Interest	130.62 9/15
Cornwall Council	700.00
Donation	100.32

**Expenditure**

Clerks Wage	1350.98
Wardens Wage	545.67
Broadband	29.88
UK Fuels	39.56
Insurance	216.83
HMRC	486.87
CC (pen)	466.14
Eclipse	14.38
St Austell Trophies	18.00
Cumbria Clock Co	174.00
Falmouth Ent	2500.00
EDF	61.00
Hay Nurseries	220.32
CH Shear	187.50
Grahams GM	74.02
Purl Design	5400.00
Co Travel	33.30
Earl Haig	150.00
<u>AH</u>	
SWW	73.00
EON	51.00
PRS	148.54
Chubb F/A	140.52
Cleaners Wage	67.00
Chubb (parts)	12.78
<u>PC</u>	
CIS	17.57
Bus Rates	53.00
Warden	31.00
British Gas	306.58

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1,538.44

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12,869.44

All the Councillors RESOLVED to accept the accounts submitted.

Councillor Miller said that we had over £280,000 at the end of October and asked if the Council should transfer an additional £50,000 into our high interest account. All the Councillors agreed.

**1510/25****TOWN BUSINESS**

Councillor Moore told the Council that she is developing a new group in the Town, Grow St Blazey, which is intended to develop peoples growing skills and food production. A launch event was held at Wyevale Garden Centre on October 10<sup>th</sup> and this Saturday, November 1<sup>st</sup> and event is to be held at Landreath Community Garden.

Councillor Allen reported that there was overgrowth onto the footpath in St Blazey Roads. The clerk will report this to DB Schenker.

**1510/26****DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be on 26<sup>th</sup> November 2015 at 7.30pm.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.33 pm.