

St Blaise Town Council

Annual Report

Introduction

Welcome to the first edition of the St Blaise Town Council's Annual Report. This is also our 2nd Newsletter.

I would like to thank all our Councillors and our Town Clerk for the hard work they have put in over the last year. With regret, I have accepted Councillor David Goddard's resignation from the Council. We wish him well. Procedure to elect or co-opt a new member has been put in place.

The Town Plan was successfully launched on the 9th November at St Blazey Football Club. A committee of four councillors was set up to execute the plan. Initially the three priorities are a Town Bus, allotments and quality status for the Council. The Town Plan was adopted by the Town Council and has been submitted to Cornwall Council for adoption by them.

Due to the withdrawal of funding by Cornwall Council, Ocean Housing could no longer afford to support the Warden Scheme. The Town Council decided to employ a warden for

30 hours per week. The vacancy was duly advertised and Kevin Atkinson was successfully appointed; he began working for the Town Council on 1st April 2011. Ocean housing have generously leased the warden's shop to us for an annual rent of a £1 for one year, have given us all the former St Blaise warden's equipment and van. They have also agreed to pay one year's council tax, water and electricity bills for the shop for this year.

St Blazey was badly flooded in November, 55 homes were affected as well as several businesses. This was due mainly to surface water run off and out flow from Prideaux Road culvert and the St Blazey Stream. Charles Richards, now Chairman of Par and St Blazey Community Flood Group has kept us informed of progress made, for which we thank him together with Cornwall Councillors Taylor and Hughes for the work they have done. 30 volunteer flood wardens have been appointed and the group are looking at ways to improve warning systems. Funding has been secured for individual flood protection for properties but Station Road has been excluded as flood prevention measures are due to be implemented there by Cornwall Council Highways, although I believe other funding is being sourced. A flood plan has been drawn up and will be in place after the wardens have been trained and insurance secured. Worryingly some residents are experiencing problems renewing their insurance policies, they are faced with increased costs and their excesses have risen dramatically, some companies are not covering the true cost of the resident's losses.

A flood recovery steering group has been established by Martin Eddy which will have some executive powers. The group consists of representatives from Highways, the Environment Agency, SWW, local Town and Parish Councils and Community Flood Groups. Flood prevention measures have already started in Prideaux Road.

Since the ownership of the Burrows Centre was transferred to the Town Council, full planning permission has been obtained for the extension and we are in the process of applying for grants to fund the build. A business plan is being drawn up and various experts have been engaged to see the building work through.

St Blazey, Tywardreath and Par have been selected to receive money from the Big Lottery Fund, £1,000,000 over a ten year period. Chris Laing from the BLF attended the Town Plan Launch where many people expressed an interest in funding for various projects. The fund is to enable people to have a better chance in life, to build stronger communities, improve environments and assist in promoting healthier and more active people and communities.

Jess Pytel from Cornwall Councils Regeneration Team has been keeping us abreast of the plans for the Eco Town at Par Harbour. There will be 40% affordable housing, possibly off site. A joint Transport Strategy is being drawn up by Cornwall Council transport Services and Eco-Bos the developer, which will benefit the entire community. No actual plans have been submitted as yet as noise, environmental and other studies are to be carried out first.

Application for full planning of the sea wall and out-line planning for 511 units plus retail and leisure facilities were submitted by CEG for the development of Carlyon Bay. Some of the units will be permanent residences, which will incur a planning gain or an offsite contribution.

All our Councillors have studied the Cornwall Core Strategy Options Consultation documents, and have made their opinions known. They concur with the Town Plan.

St Blaise Lantern Parade was a great success with over 300 parading; it is to be an Annual event with plans for next year underway with a new title of "St Blazey Reclaimed"

A new group for the area covering PL24 has been set up to foster community spirit. It is in its early stages, if we work together great benefits can be achieved for the common good.

The St Blazey Fountain awaits reinstatement and after many years it will be operational again.

Another full and busy year when we have done our best to make St Blazey a better place in which to live.

Councillor June Anderson
Chairman of St Blaise Town Council.

Finance

Set out below is a summary of the Council's income and expenditure for the financial year 2010/11.

Income	£	Expenditure	£
Precept	49,000	General Admin	31,405
Alexander Hall	8,487	Warden Scheme	5,000
Vat refund	1,826	Community Assets	4,641
Other	634	Donations	1,894
		Town Plan	2,415
		Burrows Centre	10,645
		AlexanderHall	5,125
	=====		=====
	59,947		61,125

Attendance At Meetings

	Full Council	Other
Cllr J Anderson	12	47
Cllr A Seel	7	9
Cllr G Allen	8	1
Cllr M Gill	9	16
Cllr R Heyward	12	23
Cllr D Hooper	9	3
Cllr G Miller	11	9
Cllr A Putt	11	4
Cllr D Scrafton	10	30

Councillors Responsibilities

June Anderson - Par Liaison Group, The Community Warden Partnership, St Blazey Community Watch, Burrows Board of Directors, Planning Committee, St Blazey Reclaimed, New Pavement Steering Group, New Community Centre Steering Group, Carlyon Bay Development Representative

Adrian Seel - Planning Officer, Eden Liaison, New Pavement Steering Group, Community Network Area Representative

George Allen- Local Transport Representative, Par & Newquay Branch Line, Deputy Luxulyan Valley Partnership Representative, Employment Committee, Town Plan Committee

Michael Gill- Press Officer, Planning Committee, Burrows Board of Directors, Deputy Community Network Area Representative, New Community Centre Steering Group, Employment Committee

Richard Heyward- Tree Warden, Luxulyan Valley Partnership, Planning Committee, St Blazey Town Plan Committee, New Pavement Steering Group

Dave Hooper - Police Liaison, St Blazey Community Watch

George Miller - Internal Verifier, Deputy Community Network Area Representative, Employment Committee, Burrows Board of Directors

Amos Putt - Footpath/Bridleway/ Cycle ways, Hands Together, The Community Warden Partnership, New Pavement Steering Group

Doug Scrafton - Community Network Area Representative, St Blazey Town Plan Committee, New Community Centre Steering Group, Par Community Association, Big Local Steering Group, St Austell, St Blazey and Clay Country Development Plan Steering Group.

Vacancies - Fourways Youth Centre Committee & St Blazey Town Plan Steering Group

Local Community Grants Available

Application forms are now available to local community groups that operate within the parishes of Par & Tywardreath, Lanlivery, Luxulyan, and St. Blaise and the grant must be for the benefit of residents within the parish.

- Grants are not available to political organisations or individuals.

- Grants will only be allocated to projects, which will help improve the social, economic or environmental quality of life.
- Organisations or groups awarded a grant will be expected to provide reports on their use of their grant to the Pontsmill Community Fund Sub Committee within 12months.
- Although not essential, organisations or groups will be expected to contribute to the total cost of the project. Volunteer time may be used as your contribution to the project. **Only in very exceptional circumstances will grants be made for the total cost of the project.**

The closing date for applications for the next distribution is 31st July 2011

For an application form please email:
pgrant@bodiggo.eclipse.co.uk or
contact Ed Harradence on 01726 851158.

The Council can be contacted on 01726 816595 or E-mail townclerk.stblaise@virgin.net or write to :- Town Clerk, St Blaise Town Council, Alexander Hall, Middleway, St Blazey PL24 2JH.