

# St Blaise Town Council

## Newsletter

### Issue 11 Autumn 2013

#### **Introduction by the Chair of St Blaise Town Council. Councillor June Anderson.**

Council elections have been held throughout Cornwall. St Blaise now has a new council, which will be working for you from now until 2017. I should like to welcome our three new town councillors. With two of our town councillors (Roy Taylor and Doug Scrafton) also representing St Blaise at Cornwall Council, I am confident that our team will not only be able to work together constructively, but that it is also well equipped to serve the people of St Blaise as effectively as possible.

The newly-refurbished public conveniences in Station Road are re-opened. These are now under the town's ownership, following a threat from Cornwall Council to close them. The town council considered it essential to keep these facilities open, despite the fact that this will incur additional cost to the town (and therefore to the council tax payer).

We are also forging ahead with preparations for the Neighbourhood Plan. In partnership with the Par Bay Big Local, we have now acquired the lease of the vacant shop next to the Cooperative supermarket. This has taken rather longer than any of us would have wished, but we expect very soon to have it open. The intention is to provide a place where we can explain some of our thinking on the Neighbourhood Plan, and – much more important – where you can tell us your views on what you would like to see done.

For some time we have felt that with a little effort and small amounts of money it ought to be possible to make our town look a little more attractive. We have a number of ideas about how this could be done. But we would be very open to suggestions from our fellow residents. If you, either individually or in a group, would like to let us have some thoughts on this, please feel free to do so, by contacting the town clerk or any of the town councillors. All we ask is that you bear in mind that funds are limited, and you are likely to be disappointed if your ambitions exceed our ability to find funding.

The pot-holes in the Town Car Park have now been filled and the rubbish has been cleared from the Co-op car park. The nearest recycling is at Cost Cutters in Par.

The planters at the traffic lights on Station Road were a very sad sight a few weeks ago, and the Council decided that something needed to be done. Your Town Councillors therefore spent some hours weeding, digging, adding compost and fertiliser and then planting. We are very pleased with the results of our efforts and we hope that you are too. Special

thanks to Councillor Rob Blackie, who negotiated a very good deal for us for the bedding plants and who has been ensuring that the planters are watered during dry spell. But thanks to all of the other councillors who gave their time and effort to the task. I must also thank Archie Taylor who has also assisted with the watering.

Finally, I do hope that you all enjoyed the Big Lunch as much as I did. We thought that it made sense this year to hold a joint event with Tywardreath and Par, and I should like to express our gratitude to the Par Community Association, who bore the brunt of the excellent arrangements. They did a first class job! The Haul Road is a perfect place for a street party – and I hope that we will be able to repeat this exercise again next year!

### **St Blazey Boat**

Par Community Association and St Blaise Town Council have joined together and are placing a boat on the green space opposite Edgcombe Terrace. Our sincere gratitude go to Maurice Hunkin from Fowey Gig Builders for donating the boat and helping Tony Nethercott, Gill Butler, Eve Winterbottom and Roy Taylor with the restoration.

### **Par Bay Skatepark Project**

Well, another step forward, but not without difficulties. Tywardreath and Par Parish Council have agreed to take on the skatepark after it has been built, but with a few acceptable conditions which we have agreed to verbally. One of the conditions being that we have RoSPA training in order

to carry out regular inspections. Three of our Steering Group have volunteered BUT we need three more over the age of 18. It will be a half day course when the skatepark is built and will be free for you individually. The reason for doing this course, is to take away the need for Tywardreath and Par PC or Cornwall Council to employ someone to do the inspections, thus reducing maintenance costs. There will be paperwork attached to these inspections and records to be kept.

We will now, at long last, be able to the funding Application process. We have been unable to do this before because we did not know who was going to be responsible for the park once it has been built. We have permission now to run events on the existing ramps and will need to set the dates. I have the event application forms now and Tempus will insure the use of the ramps and site, PCA insurance covers the organisers.

Fund raising locally is on-going and you may see the odd collecting box around, so please put your money in and get your friends to put in their change or folding money! There is one in St Blazey Post Office, one will appear in Costcutter, Par Green, shortly and there will be others! Every little helps.

Tywardreath and Par PC are going to ask Cornwall Council about the site and the lease for us. We have been adding to the website [www.parbayskatepark.org](http://www.parbayskatepark.org). It is a 'work in progress' and if you come up with any ideas for the site please let us know. All I ask now is for your continued support of the project. All is going in the right direction.

Gill Butler

## DON'T FORGET

Skatepark Fundraising Competition Event: Sept 1st at the existing ramps.

11am - 4pm

Prizes, demonstrations, barbecue and more.

Some seating for spectators or bring your own chair!

### **Par and St Blazey Community Flood Group**

Finally there was some good news for home owners at risk of flooding when the Government announced in June details of a proposed way forwards on flood insurance.

Until now, flood insurance has been widely available throughout the country due to a voluntary agreement between the Government and members of the Association of British Insurers (ABI). However, the Statement of Principles was due to expire on the 30<sup>th</sup> of June prompting speculation over the past year or more over what, if anything, would replace it.

The new solution is a package of initiatives that includes; additional national funding in flood defences up to 2021, proposed regulatory powers through the Water Bill and a new flood insurance scheme called Flood Re.

Flood Re will be an industry-run, not-for-profit scheme that will effectively cap the most that high-risk households would have to pay for the flood component of their home insurance. The actual maximum premium costs would differ according to council tax band. This means that home owners will know in advance the maximum they will have to pay for flood

insurance on top of other components such as fire and theft. Through the scheme the level of the excess paid in the event of a claim would also be controlled.

While the prices to be paid will be capped, it is estimated that customers will pay 20-35% higher premiums under Flood Re than those currently paid on average by high risk households, while some may see a decrease. Flood Re is intended to provide help with affordable flood insurance over the next 20-25 years allowing time for choices to be made and flood risk to be managed. Some properties may be excluded from the Flood Re scheme such as those in the highest Council Tax band which is "H".

The scheme will be funded by a new industry-backed levy likely to be set at around £180m which is the equivalent of approximately £10.50 for each UK household with both contents and building cover. The Government's proposal also includes mechanisms to encourage competition between insurers to keep prices down and supervision through the Financial Conduct Authority.

It might take until 2015 to introduce the scheme while approval is sought from insurers, Parliament and the European Commission. Until that time, insurers have agreed to continue to abide by the current Statement of Principles.

The above summary has been adapted from documents published by Defra and you can find out more through the Defra website. If you would like more information on flood alerts, home insurance or steps you can take to help protect your property, please contact Charles Richards on 01726 814855 or email: [parandstblazeyfloodgroup@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:parandstblazeyfloodgroup@yahoo.co.uk)

## **Cornwall Councillors**

Cornwall Councillors Roy Taylor (St Blazey) and Doug Scrafton (Par and St Blazey Gate) would like to thank all those that supported them at the elections in May. They intend to serve all of the residents of St Blazey and Par to the best of their abilities during the coming four years and intend to make themselves as available as possible.

Councillor Wheeler would like to thank all those who supported him in the May elections for Cornwall Council, and would like to congratulate Councillor Taylor on his re-election. He looks forward to serving with Councillor Taylor and the other Town Councillors over the coming years.

One of the ways the Cornwall Councillors will be doing this is by holding surgeries on the first Saturday of each month, where anyone can visit and raise issues of concern to them.

Roy Taylor – Café by Co-op – 9.00 am to 11.00 am  
Doug Scrafton – Café by Co-op – 9.00 am to 9.45 am  
Par Library – 10.00 am to 11.00 am

They can both be contacted on their home telephone numbers.  
See back page.

## **Town Council**

St Blaise Town Council meet the last Thursday of every month at Alexander Hall at 7.30pm. Members of the electorate are invited to attend.

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

## **List of sitting Councillors**

Councillor George Allen	6 Bay View, The Mount, St Blazey, Cornwall PL24 2BY <b>815707</b>
Councillor June Anderson	37 Rose Hill, St Blazey, Cornwall PL24 2LQ <b>813995</b>
Councillor Rob Blackie	3 Ash Grove, Biscovey, Par, Cornwall PL24 2HE <b>813273</b>
Councillor Richard Heyward	'Little Acorns' New Road, St Blazey, Par PL24 2SB <b>813060</b>
Councillor George Miller	3 Kilhallon Woodlands, PAR PL24 2RJ <b>815179</b>
Councillor Amos Putt	55 Polgrean Place, St Blazey PAR PL24 2LH <b>815444</b>
Councillor Douglas Scrafton	Reynards Rest, The Mount, Par, Cornwall, PL24 2BZ <b>815770</b>
Councillor Adrian Seel	145 Landreath Place, St Blazey, PAR PL24 2LA <b>815829</b>
Councillor Roy Taylor	Palm Garden House, Tywardreath Highway, Par PL24 2RW <b>816112</b>
Councillor Stuart Wheeler	No 9 Vernon Villas, St Blazey Gate, PL24 2LF <b>815370</b>