

St Blaise Town Council Newsletter



Issue 17

Spring 2015

Introduction by the Mayor of St Blaise Town Council. Councillor June Anderson.

Our last newsletter was published just before Christmas which is now little more than a memory as is new year but I do hope you had a good, safe and enjoyable time and Father Christmas was as generous as you wanted and deserved. We all very much enjoyed the Annual Christmas Carol Concert and the mulled wine, hog roast and mince pies that were served at the reception afterwards at St Blazey Football Club. I would like to take this opportunity of thanking them for allowing us to use their back room for this purpose.

If you were there, I hope you had as good a time as I am told the Councillors had, unfortunately I was unable to attend and so have made sure that I have put December 13th into my diary already. If you were not, then you might like to also put this date in your diary. It really is a good way to meet and celebrate with your fellow residents of the Town.

On February 3rd many celebrations took place for St Blaise Feast Day which included the parade, the youth concert in King Edward

Gardens, the service for the boy bishop at St Blazey Church and singing and dancing at the Football Club where soup and buns were enjoyed.

The Feast day initiative is now four years old and grows each year. It is another great opportunity to get together with your neighbours. I am aware just how hard those who organise these events work and I would like to thank the organisers of this event, St Blazey Reclaimed, for their efforts.

We have made some encouraging progress on the Neighbourhood Plan as we now have a figure for housing from the Cornwall Council Local Plan. The neighbourhood Plan will enable us to influence the way in which developers work in our town. We can't stop them building, nor would we want to while there are so many young people unable to find homes nearby, but we will have a say in where they should be built. We will be able to have a say in what type of homes should be built which is also really important.

I welcomed the recent news that Par Bay Big local have acquired Cornubia Hall to use as a neighbourhood hub. I am told that the new facility will provide opportunities for our area and it will compliment the existing local community centres. It will be a while before the property is up and running and I personally will be attending either the open evening on 27th March or the open day on March 28th, both to be held at Cornubia Hall. I hope you will also attend and give your ideas of how it should be used, the hub is intended to be a facility for our community and should therefore reflect what the community say they want.

Finally I have a goodbye and a hello.

I was sorry to receive the resignation of Councillor Richard Heyward who has been a member of St Blaise Town Council since 2002. Councillor Heyward was an active member of the Council who being a tree surgeon was the Town Councils tree officer, a

member of the planning committee, represented the Town Council at the Luxulyan Valley Partnership meetings and sat on the Neighbourhood Plan Committee. I would like to thank him for his service not least with the arranging of the delivery, decoration and removal of the Christmas Trees each year.

I am very pleased to welcome our new Councillor Jenny Taylor who is already an active member of the Community. Jenny has lived in St Blazey for ten years although her ancestry is originally from Bodmin, Truro and Redruth. Jenny has been a member of the Neighbourhood Plan steering group from its inception, is a member of the Par Bay Big Local Partnership and a member of Par Carnival Committee.

Many of you will have recognise Jenny as a volunteer in the Big Ideas Shop, a volunteer at the Big Local Shop, has stewarded at the Feast Parade and read at the 2014 Carol Concert.

St Blazey Warden

Dave Pearce will be responsible for clearing the pavements of weeds and so we would be grateful if you see any areas neglected during the summer you will report them to the Town Clerk. St Blaise is a large area and so it is expected that the weeds treated first are likely to start re-growing before winter sets in, if Dave is aware of any issues, he will deal with them.

Fourways Youth Centre

Fourways Management Committee have reached agreement with Cornwall Council for the current employees to take over commissioning of some youth services that would otherwise have ended 31st March. The Management Committee intend to contract a Community Interest Committee set up by the existing Fourways staff who are to be made redundant. Funding has been sought that should support 2015/16 financial year and maybe a little longer.

Speed Cameras

As you may know the current speed cameras on the A390 are being changed to average speed control cameras.

The contractors have identified 23rd March for 5 days as a provisional date in the work programme for the erection of the average speed camera columns on the A390. This is dependent on the columns being received from the supplier. The installation and commissioning will follow on from this. The signing has started to appear but these are being bagged to avoid confusion.

Par and St Blazey Community Flood Group

Previously we described three projects that were being undertaken to make repairs and improvements to the flood infrastructure within Par and St Blazey. These were largely in response to the winter of 2013/14 which was officially the wettest since records began in 1910. At that time, the Environment Agency was conducting repairs to the banks of the Par River and was also carrying out de-silting of the St Blazey Stream downstream of the culvert at Station Road. In the Brooks Corner area (intersection of St Blazey Road, Par Lane and Harbour Road) Cornwall Council had completed a scheme to improve the highways drainage to help alleviate surface water flooding.

In a fresh update provided recently by the Environment Agency it is confirmed that a total of 335 tonnes of material had been removed from a 300m length of the St Blazey Stream: “The works so far have concentrated on clearing the channel downstream of the Station Road culverts to ensure these are able to discharge fully and also provide an area where silt discharged through the culverts can easily be removed in the future. The Environment Agency have also started de-silting more accessible areas around the Co-op which will draw down silt from the less accessible areas to allow future removal. The de-silting of the St Blazey Stream will need to be

done in several phases as budget becomes available. This initial phase has enabled us to identify sections of the watercourse to concentrate on in the next phases”. Also, repairs to the banks of the Par River have been completed.

The Par and St Blazey Community Flood Group now has its own rain gauge. The gauge is part of a joint pilot project involving South West Water, Hydro-Logic Services and our flood group to help increase the understanding of flood risk within our community. The pilot is also incorporated within the Cornwall Community Flood Forum’s Defra-funded Flood Resilience Community Pathfinder project which sets out to trial a range of initiatives to promote resilience and help reduce flood risk within communities in Cornwall.

The gauge itself is a tipping bucket rain gauge (TBR) with a built-in data logger that is capable of transmitting real-time information when alarm thresholds are triggered. It has been installed within an area of St Blazey affected by fluvial and surface water flooding in November 2010. The Par and St Blazey catchment is large and complex with many factors often combining to cause flooding. The purpose of the project is to help our community develop a better understanding of the primary triggers of flooding and, importantly, when it might happen. The gauge serves two roles: firstly, it provides alerts to the flood group during periods of high intensity rainfall, and secondly, data collected over time can be used to help identify conditions that could trigger flooding in the future.

Information from the gauge is being sent directly to flood group co-ordinators and is being made publicly available through the Par and St Blazey Community Flood Group’s Facebook page.



Join us on Face Book for local flood alerts, news and information. Search for “Par and St Blazey Community Flood Group”

St Blazey Town Team

The St Blazey and District Town Team is going from strength to strength and are representing the area on St Austell Bay Economic Forum S.A.B.E.F and the South and East Cornwall Lag L.A.G. More recently heading up the possibility of the area being designated as an Enterprise Zone, more information on the above will be available when finalised. These involvements mean that we are represented in all major organisations that have influence in the area and we now have a strong voice in them all.

WE are also working together with both Cornwall Council, St Blaise Town Council and Cornwall Cllrs who have been very supportive. We are working with The Neighbourhood Planning Group, The Big Local and the Eden Project to list a few.

The Town Team whilst business led was and is set up for all areas of the community to get involved, we have groups set up under our Unity in the Community Programme which is being finalised. We offer involvement to anyone who wants to not only have a say but to be actively involved in being instrumental in what you want to happen where you live and help shape and achieve this by joining one of our groups or form one of your own. Groups include the following:-

Tidy Group Working with the Community Payback Scheme.
Mobile Job Club-Taking it out and about on a bus provided by Roselyn Coaches.

Regeneration-looking at what's best for area as well as being instrumental in creation of new town centre.

Marketing-Working together to promote the best of what we have to offer as well as creating better signage /information boards etc.

The above is not all that The Town Team is doing just a selection.

We are keen for the younger generation to get involved so if you know anyone or you are one then please get involved by contacting us using the details below. There is no cost to join if you wish to find out more or want to join us the contact me Fred Jackson (Chairman) on 07734151245 Or Email fred.jackson448@btinternet.com

Burrows Centre

Under new management

Available for bookings

Competitive Rates

Ring for details

01726 816595

The Happy Phoenix Club

The Happy Phoenix Club meet at the Burrows Centre, Lamellyn Road on Fridays between 10.00 am and 2.00pm and is open to people 50 and over. It costs just £5.00 to participate and £5.50 for lunch which is served at 12.30 pm.

Teas, coffees and toast are served which is included in the participation fee as is weekly entertainment which is very varied. The group enjoy bingo, scrabble, arts, crafts and other games. There is a weekly raffle at a small charge and transport can be arranged.

Ring Sylvia on 01726 72496 or 07815 554529 for more details.

LIST OF SITTING COUNCILLORS

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|-----------------------------|---|
| Councillor George Allen | 6 Bay View, The Mount, St Blazey PL24 2BY 815707 |
| Councillor June Anderson | 37 Rose Hill, St Blazey, Cornwall PL24 2LQ 813995 |
| Councillor Rob Blackie | 3 Ash Grove, Biscovey, Cornwall PL24 2HE 814658 |
| Councillor George Miller | 3 Kilhallon Woodlands, PAR PL24 2RJ 815179 |
| Councillor Amos Putt | 55 Polgrean Place, St Blazey PL24 2LH 815444 |
| Councillor Douglas Scrafton | Reynards Rest, The Mount, Par, Cornwall, PL24 2BZ 815770 |
| Councillor Adrian Seel | 145 Landreath Place, St Blazey, PAR PL24 2LA 815829 |
| Councillor Jenny Taylor | 40 Chyandor Close, St Blazey PL24 2LP 816867 |
| Councillor Roy Taylor | Palm Garden House, Tywardreath Highway, Par PL24 2RW 816112 |
| Councillor Stuart Wheeler | No 9 Vernon Villas, St Blazey Gate PL24 2LF 815370 |

Council meets in Alexander Hall at 7.30pm on the last Thursday of every month bar December.

The Clerk can be contacted at Alexander Hall, Middleway, St Blazey, PL24 2JH. Telephone 01726 816595. E-mail townclerk.stblaise@virgin.net