

# St Blaise Town Council Newsletter Issue 5      Spring 2012

## Introduction

Welcome to the 5<sup>th</sup> edition of the St Blaise Town Council magazine. We hope you are finding the magazine of use and feel you know more of the Councils activities on your behalf.

## St Blazey Fountain

We are expecting the Fountain on the triangle between St Blazey Road, Station Road and St Andrews Road to be operational again very soon. The Council decided that the time was right to invest money into the project as it is Queen Elizabeth 2<sup>nd</sup> 60<sup>th</sup> Jubilee year and the fountain was installed to mark Queen Victoria's 60<sup>th</sup> Jubilee year.

St Blaise Town Council have paid for the new electricity and water connections and the trenching work, this was necessary as the electricity supply was previously taken off the lamp post which is no longer permissible. May Gurney are replacing the water pump, ball valve and filter for a greatly reduced price and Clearflow are emptying and cleaning the fountain prior to it becoming operational again for free as a goodwill gesture. We would like to express our gratitude to both companies.

## A Possible Skatepark

PCSO James Ward has identified a need for the skate park in our area and a steering group has been formed to take the project forward. The group consists of interested people and those with the necessary skill needed to take the project forward.

It is to be a youth-led project, a youth survey was carried out and youths from the area have formed their own steering group and have established their preferences. The youth steering group will advise the lead steering group.

The youths have made a design of the skate park that they would like to see, this would include a large covered area ensuring the proposed park could be used all year round. Statistics were provided proving that skate parks reduce anti social behaviour in areas that they have been introduced and that police logs (calls) to Par running track have been reduced since skate ramps were introduced in 2008. A survey will also be distributed to the neighbours of the preferred skate park site which is next to Par running track.

It is hoped that most of the funding will come from the Big Local Lottery Grant or something similar. They have to get all their facts and figures, design etc ready before June so as not to miss the deadline for a Big Local lottery Grant. They will be looking for local funding also.

## Flooding

During the past few months, significant progress has been made locally to help reduce the impact of future flooding.

Throughout December South West Water removed a large volume of sand and debris from the waste and surface water lines running along Harbour Road, the bottom of Par Lane and Brooks Corner. A connection has been made into the surface water pipes in Harbour Road directly into St Blazey Stream to act as an overflow. Cornwall Council has replaced the culvert at Brooks Corner.

The Environment Agency and Cornwall Council have begun essential work to improve water flow through the Station Road culvert leading from Piggy Alley. South West Water is taking the opportunity to relocate a mains water line to improve the capacity of the culvert.

The Environment Agency have completed upgrades to the pump station at Tredenham Close and have been supporting South West Water and Cornwall Council with their investigation work at Par Lane.

South West Water will soon be upgrading the control equipment at Aberdeen Close pumping Station.

The Par & St Blazey flood group has been working closely with the Environment Agency to develop a pilot warning scheme dedicated to the local area. The scheme has already proved useful with more than a dozen alerts issued thanks to all the flood wardens who give up their time to monitor the area and report problems. St Blazey will be the focus of a research project during April by the Red Cross to identify the needs of Households before, during and after a flood. Experiences from St Blazey will be used to assist other communities responding to similar events.

## **The Community Warden**

St Blaise Town Council decided to employ a community warden to provide a high profile caretaking service for the residents of the town and respond to enquiries from residents. Kevin Atkinson was employed to undertake the position.

The Warden's many duties include helping to control car parking, in particular the control of abandoned or illegally parked vehicles, reporting fly tipping to the relevant parties, the cleaning and or washing of Parish furniture and the cutting of Council grass and Verges, general Town Maintenance including removal of dog faeces and disposal into receptacles,

Last year he painted and repaired the bus shelters, we hope you all enjoy the motifs that have been added to the bus shelter in Church Street and he has repaired and maintained all of the town council owned flower pots and beds. If a resident of St Blaise should see any areas that need attention such as broken street lamps, broken or defaced street signs or any areas that could do with attention, could you report these to the clerk, Kevin will be happy to deal with them.

Kevin can often be seen patrolling the area and can be recognized by his uniform that says St Blaise Community Warden and the Warden van has his job title emblazoned across it. Kevin has responsibility for reporting anti-social behavior to the police if it is a situation beyond his control. Kevin will tell you to pick up if he sees you dropping litter, move on if he believes your loitering could be deemed threatening and will report vandalism, squatting and noise nuisance to the relevant authorities. Kevin meets regularly with the police and they keep each other abreast of problems as they occur in the Town.

Kevin visits many vulnerable residents and is happy to help with small chores such as changing light bulbs or popping out to the shops to collect prescriptions or buy milk. If you know of any vulnerable resident that Kevin could assist, please let the Clerk know.

In November, Kevin assisted the flood wardens and residents during the flooding, he was busy filling and supplying sand bags to those in need. He checks and clear drains when heavy rainfall is forecast.

Kevin has been trained and is authorized to give fixed penalty notices for littering and dog control orders. We hope after reading this you have a better idea of the value of a community warden.

### **Queens Elizabeth 2<sup>nd</sup> Diamond Jubilee Celebrations**

St Blaise Town Council, St Blazey Football Club, St Blazey Brownies, Biscovey School and Hands Together have decided to join together and arrange a day to celebrate our Queen's Diamond Jubilee. The date will be Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2012.

The celebrations will begin on the green at Penarwyn, it is hoped that there will be a face painter, a nail artist, a children's entertainer, pollinators from Eden and others and will continue in the afternoon with a sports day at the Football Club. Later on in the day it is proposed to have a disco at the Football Club for the older children.

The Council want to present all the children from the parish who attend with a commemorative coin.

### **St Blazey Reclaimed**

St Blazey Reclaimed held its Annual Lantern Parade and service at St Blazey Church, when the children of the Town had their throats blessed , on 3<sup>rd</sup> February. This was followed with music and dancing at St Blazey Football Club. On the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> February a Timelines Exhibition was held in the Old Kemutec building. These events were enjoyed by many and next years event is already being looked forward to by many.

### **Annual Parish Meeting**

The Annual Parish meeting will be held at 7.00pm on Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> May. It is a chance to engage with the Local Community and any local organisations wishing to make a report should contact the Clerk.

There will be a report from the Chairman of St Blaise Town Council, both the County Councillors for the Parish and the local police. It is a good chance to find out what is going on in the Town and we look forward to seeing you then.

### **A Message from the Chairman of St Blaise Town council**

St Blaise Town Council has now set our precept for 2012/13, this is the money that is added to your council tax bill that comes to the Town Council to fund the activities we carry out on behalf of the residents of St Blaise. This has not been easy. We have had to seek an increase to cover the cost of the Community Warden which is a new position within the Town Council. Until last year the Warden was employed by Ocean Housing and he worked mainly in their housing estates.

Cornwall Council show signs of pushing responsibility for some services down to us (but not the money to go with it).

What we take in precept is a very small amount, and we have always taken pride in managing your money very carefully. It does, though, mean that there is a limit to what new work we can take on without a significant increase.

There has been talk recently of Cornwall Council leaving us to maintain and run the public conveniences near the football club. According to Cornwall Council, this costs them over £8,500 per year. That sum represents nearly 20% of our current income. You will understand why we have felt unable to take this responsibility on.

The Big Local steering group have finished phase 1, which involved consultations with residents of the Big Local Area. Phase 2 has begun which involves preparing a vision statement which will set down on paper the aspirations voiced by the residents of the area. As well as some guidelines on how individual applications will be assessed.

St Blaise Town Council has applied to be a front runner for Neighbourhood Planning. Neighbourhood Planning is a new way for communities to decide the future of the places where they live and work. We have not heard if we have been successful yet but Councillor Heyward, the Clerk and myself attended a very informative 3 day course at the Eden Project at the beginning of February. If we are successful expect to see us at your local community event as we will be asking for your views.

Finally, I hope that many of you were able to attend the St Blaise Feast week celebrations and join me in congratulating everyone involved in the planning of the enjoyable events.

#### LIST OF SITTING COUNCILLORS

Councillor George Allen	6 Bay View, The Mount, St Blazey PL24 2BY <b>815707</b>
Councillor June Anderson	37 Rose Hill, St Blazey PL24 2LQ <b>813995</b>
Councillor Michael Gill	Rexholme, Biscovey Road, Par PL24 2HW <b>813273</b>
Councillor Richard Heyward	'Little Acorns' New Road, St Blazey, Par PL24 2SB <b>813060</b>
Councillor Dave Hooper	Hillpark, Kilhallon, PAR PL24 2RL <b>815692</b>
Councillor George Miller	3 Kilhallon Woodlands, PAR PL24 2RJ <b>815179</b>
Councillor Alexia Muskett –Geake	Trewillowen, 113 Landreath Place, St Blazey, PL24 2LA <b>813670</b>
Councillor Amos Putt	55 Polgrean Place, St Blazey, 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>

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