

St Blaise Town Council Newsletter



Issue 8

Winter 2012 -13

Introduction

St Blaise Town Councillors would like to begin by wishing all residents a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and look forward to seeing many of you at this year's Carol Concert.

St Blaise Annual Carol Concert

The Carol concert will be at St Blazey Church on 9th December at 6.00pm. There will be performances by De Ja Vue barbershop quartet, Mount Charles Youth Band and the boy's choir from Biscovey Academy, each entertaining us with their solo spots and joining in with us all in singing traditional carols.

After the Carol Service, there will be a reception at St Blazey Football Club where a Hog Roast, mulled wine and mince pies

can be enjoyed along with the sounds of Eastern Male Voice Choir and the singing from the boys of Biscovey Academy. We know how much this will be enjoyed and appreciated from the many comments made after last year's event.

Christmas Closure

The Council office will close at 1.00pm on Friday 21st December and re-open on Friday 4th January; all the contact details of our Councillors are on our web-site and town notice boards and they can still be contacted. We are allowing the Clerk some time off and so she will not be available during these dates. Our web-site address is www.stblaisetowncouncil.co.uk and the office phone number is 01726 816595. Any messages received will be responded to after the Christmas break.

Neighbourhood Plans

St Blaise Neighbourhood plan steering group is to be helped by architecture students from Plymouth College. A number of them came to the Town on Tuesday 13th November when an engagement workshop was held with community representatives not just the steering group. They had an initial look around the town and it was interesting to see the opinions, of those that have never been here, of the area. This has provided the steering group with a good basis to see where improvements could be made.

Cornwall Local Plan (Core Strategy)

The Cornwall core strategy is now to be called the local plan which will be presented to full council on 11th December 2013. It proposes 48,000 homes over a 20 year period. They will begin a six week consultation period in January and presented to the inspectorate in March 2013. The document will be

assessed against the National Planning Policy Framework and it is hoped will be adopted at the end of 2013.

Clay Country Greenspaces Development Project

The Big Local has agreed to part fund the costs of getting a greenspace audit for the town. The project is to organise and carry out an audit of all open spaces within St Blazey. This is a piece of work that the Town Council is keen to support as a mapped greenspace will be made of the area.

Data collected will include: photographs, location, current use(s), approximate size, land ownership (where available), historical and environmental features present, comments received and potential for improvement/alternative use.

St Blazey covers an area which includes both rural and urbanised environments within which there is a surprising amount of open space, a sad proportion of which does not meet its full potential for improving community life.

St Blaise Town Council web-site

More and more people are using mobile phones and tablets to access the Internet and therefore the town council will be altering their website to allow these users to view and use the website correctly. We will upgrade look and feel of the website to bring it up to date with regards to graphics/layout and accessibility. We will be adding an option for a user to provide their email address and receive regular updates via email for minutes, newsletters and other council business.

Eco-Bos

The Eco-Bos plans for Par Docks are currently on hold as they are waiting for Cornwall Council updating their planning policy.

When Cornwall Council has finished consulting on the core strategy, Eco-Bos will continue working on the project before submitting a planning application. Cornwall Council will be releasing more information shortly.

Skate Park

The skate park project is gathering momentum and is to be called Par Bay Skate Park which will link with future local projects i.e. Par Bay Big Local and tourist advertising. The youth group raised funds by holding a car wash and are planning future fund raising events with a sponsored scoot/skate/bike ride in February.

There is to be a Par Bay Skate Park logo competition for under 16's organised through the schools when the short listed finalists will be voted for at a consultation day that will be held in March. A large mobile Skatepark is to be hired for the consultation day so that the end users can demonstrate their skills; this has been made possible by successfully applying to Par Bay Big Local for a grant.

Par Community Association

Par Community Association have released their 8th Newsletter and will be holding their AGM on Monday 10th December at 7.00pm at St Mary's Methodist Church, Par. Their newsletters continue to be informative and we would encourage you all to pick up a copy. Newsletters can be picked up from St Blazey Service Station, Biscovey Garage, St Blazey Stores, The convenience store in Lamellyn Road, Par Library, St Blazey Post Office and Stores, Par Post Office and Par Library.

The group are purchasing Community Poster cases, funded by a donation from the Police Property Fund, which will be

available to any local club/organisation to advertise their events.

St Blazey Reclaimed

St Blazey Reclaimed is again organising the St Blaise Feast ceremony on Sunday 3rd February at St Blazey Church. The Lantern parade will start at Polgrean Triangle at 5.30pm and will process down Middleway, up Station Road to the Church for the service. There will be dancing and refreshments at St Blazey Football Club afterwards.

After the success of last years Timelines exhibition, there is to be a photographic display which will include both heritage and this years Town to Tide material.

Big Local Poised to Implement its Plan

The Par Bay Local Partnership, which covers St Blaise, Tywardreath and Par, is poised to begin work on implementing its plans for the £1 million granted by the Big Lottery.

The Local Partnership has become one of the first in the country to have its vision statement and work plan endorsed by the London-based Local Trust. Initial funding is expected in the very near future.

The intention is to begin work straight away, but to work gradually at the beginning. This will allow time for the Partnership to gain experience. But more importantly, it will also allow for new people and new ideas to come forward, so that as many as possible can be involved in this project.

The vision statement and work plan, and information on how people can get involved in the project, can be found on the Partnership's website: www.parbaybiglocal.org.uk.

Plantlife

Wild plant charity Plantlife (www.plantlife.org.uk), are hoping to reach out to many wild plant enthusiasts and nature lovers by inviting them to become wild plant 'pioneers' and subscribe to a free quarterly e-learning bulletin to learn more about our native wild plants via the 'Wild About Plants' project website - www.wildaboutplants.org.uk.

The Wild About Plants project aims to help people reconnect with the outdoors and their local greenspaces. Working with schools, families and communities from all walks of life and with fantastic free downloadable resources, the team hope to engage people with the nature on their doorstep. In recent years subscribers have been asked to record the plant life in their local area and recount what they used to see/pick and forage for. Wild about Plants is funded by Natural England through Access to Nature, as part of the Big Lottery Fund's Changing Spaces programme. It is a partnership project involving partner organisations throughout the country."

Did you know that the County flower of Cornwall is the Cornish heath (*Erica vagans*)?

Par and St Blazey Community Flood Group

It will probably come as no surprise that the Met Office has confirmed the summer of 2012 was the wettest in the past 100 years. Numerous flood alerts have been issued throughout

this period by the Environment Agency through their local flood warning pilot scheme. Through the scheme flood alerts are relayed to members of the community flood group as text messages directly to their mobile phones. We are grateful to all of our volunteer flood wardens who have reported drainage problems in the area and continue to function as the 'eyes and ears' of the local flood authorities.

The Par and St Blazey Community Flood Group supported South West Water in a bid to Ofwat to secure an additional £1.8m for investment locally. The bid was successful and the funding will be shared between Par, St Blazey and Mevagissey. The area known as Brooks Corner, which includes Harbour Road and St Blazey Road, will be targeted through this additional investment. South West Water intends to investigate the drainage problems in the area and will also make much needed improvements to the pumping station at Par. Cornwall Council and the Environment Agency have already collaborated to make significant improvements to the culvert running beneath Station Road. This additional funding will enable South West Water to complete the exercise by improving capacity to the middle section of the culvert.

The first conference of the newly established Cornwall Community Flood Forum was held at Cornwall Council's offices in St Austell on the 21st of September. The purpose of the Forum is to maintain a focus on flooding issues locally and raise general flood awareness throughout Cornwall.

As the wet weather is expected to continue we keep our fingers firmly crossed for the months ahead.

If you would like more information on flood alerts, home insurance or the supply of sand bags, please contact Charles Richards on 01726 814855 or email: parandstblazeyfloodgroup@yahoo.co.uk

LIST OF SITTING COUNCILLORS

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 Michael Gill	Rexholme, Biscovey Road, Par, Cornwall PL24 2HW 813273
Councillor Richard Heyward	'Little Acorns' New Road, St Blazey, Par PL24 2SB 813060
Councillor Dave Hooper	Hillpark, Kilhallon, PAR PL24 2RL 815692
Councillor George Miller	3 Kilhallon Woodlands, PAR PL24 2RJ 815179
Councillor Alexia Muskett –Geake	Trewillowen, 113 Landreath Place, St Blazey, PL24 2LA 813670
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

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