

Lanteglos-by-Fowey Annual Parish Meeting

Monday, 14th May 2018

Chairman's Report

I would like to take the opportunity of thanking all of our Councillors and Clerk both past and present for their input and hard work in ensuring the work of the Parish Council has been carried out to the upmost of our abilities.

Councillors presently serving

Chairman Pat Moore

Vice Chairman Adrian Fisher

John Adams

Dianne Wilton

Teresa Libby

Valerie Libby

Roger Talling

Andrew Kelly

Michael Carter

Margaret Shakerley

Joan Bunt

Clerk to the Council Gillian Thompson

We place on record our thanks to Julian Shakerley who has retired from the Council and welcome Dianne Wilton as our newest councillor.

Council Meetings: The Council has met each month both at Whitecross Village Hall and at the January 2017 meeting we resolved that we would no longer hold a December meeting and that meetings would be held on the 4th Tuesday of each month. Any additional meetings are held in the Polruan WI Hall. This arrangement is due for review and is on the agenda for the Council meeting next week. We are pleased to see so many members of the public at these meetings. We value your comments and questions so please keep attending, and make any point that concerns you during the time allowed for public participation.

Toilets: We knew when we took office in 2013 that the opening and upkeep of these facilities was a priority for residents, and also for visitors. The Council has made consistent and strenuous efforts to ensure these facilities remain open. There is a cost element involved in this which is reflected in our precept. Over the past five years the Council has successfully maintained, cleaned and kept in good condition the three toilet blocks and our thanks go to our contractor, Michelle Fisher. The Frogmore Toilet Block has been refurbished then the beast from the East arrived and the pipes froze. This was repaired quickly and they are re-opened. An ongoing project is the purchase of the St Saviours Toilet Block and we are in negotiation with Cornwall Council's solicitor.

Highways (Drains, Footpaths and Potholes, etc.): Owing to funding arrangements, the maintenance and frequency of repair of potholes and drain cleaning, the Council faces an uphill battle with the Local Authority, to deal with what appear to be simple problems. The Council has now appointed a lengthsman (roadman) scheme whose task is to deal with these using such basic tools as a sickle, shovel and iron bar plus that extremely old fashioned term

‘Elbow Grease’. We are about to start negotiations with Cornwall Council for grant aid to enable us to take on more of upkeep, not potholes, that will stop small problems becoming big ones.

Social Housing: We are in discussion with Cornwall Council about the provision of further small units in Polruan. A Pre-Application has been made by Affordable Housing to Planning for the provision of two small units in Greenback; the Parish Council has supported this and we await developments. We have also been in negotiation with Cornwall Housing to stop the sale of the Chapel Lane flats and to have them refurbished with moneys from the sale of West Street and to continue to have accommodation suitable for single people in the heart of the village.

Traffic Enforcement: At present the old signage is being replaced; unfortunately the mapping system used by Cormac is not quite accurate and the School Lane sign will be replaced in its right position. The Restricted Parking Zone Signage is in place with Parking Enforcement Officers carrying out their allotted tasks. The Council therefore asks all residents of the parish for due care and consideration in their parking habits, combined with ensuring any employees/contractors who are being employed in work in the Parish to be of the same mind-set and that YOU could be in need of that Emergency Vehicle that has been obstructed attempting to reach the accident.

Lanteglos Neighbourhood Plan: In the last year the Steering Group and Local Landscape Character Assessment Group has met regularly. The landscape assessments were carried out by local volunteers and I have the results here and will talk a little more on these in a moment. A second, more detailed Residents’ Survey is now live and has been delivered to every household in the parish. I urge you to complete this, either on-line or on paper to tell us your ideas and comments. We know from the Housing Needs Survey we carried out in 2016 that we have an identified need of 37, which I believe has now grown to 41, with new additions on Cornwall’s Homechoice Register. Cllr Adams and I met with Andrew George of the Cornwall Community Land Trust and it may be that this is the route the Parish will wish to explore further for the provision of Affordable Housing. One of the benefits of such a scheme is that much more local control is in the hands of the Trust. We will keep you up-to-date. We have made a further bid for grant aid from Locality which has been agreed. One of the other developments we have made is to make a call for Sites. We know that the housing need we have cannot be satisfied by infill, conversion or rounding-off in the existing settlements, and we are constrained by where development can take place by much of the parish, particularly the edges of settlements being in the AONB. There is further grant funding available for the assessment of such sites that are offered. Because an offer is made does not mean that development can automatically be agreed. The results of the survey and your comments on the Local Landscape Character Assessment will have a strong influence on policies that eventually go into the Neighbourhood Plan. Once the plan is written it then has to be agreed through a local referendum. If the vote is in favour the Neighbourhood Plan is ‘made’ and cannot be ignored when planning applications are decided.

Partnership: We have endeavoured where ever possible to work closely with other organisations in the Parish and look forward to continuing to work with them for the good of the whole community. Meanwhile thank you for your support and please continue to come to our meetings as we value your input and again, thank you everybody for all of your assistance during previous years.

Cllr Dr Pat Moore OBE

Chairman Lanteglos by Fowey Parish Council & Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group