

Lanteglos-by-Fowey Annual Parish Meeting

Tuesday, 27th April 2021

Chairman's Report

I would like to take the opportunity of thanking all of our Councillors, both past and present, and Clerk 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 John Adams

Teresa Libby

Valerie Libby

Roger Talling

Andrew Kelly

Michael Carter

Margaret Shakerley

Joan Bunt

Adrian Fisher

Clerk to the Council Gillian Thompson

Covid 19: In March 2020 the country and we went into Lockdown which meant that no Parish Council meetings could take place in person and since that time all Council meetings have been held virtually via Zoom. The Annual Parish Meeting for 2020 could not take place in accordance with central Government directive. There is now a Government expectation that Parish and Town Council meetings should be taking place in person after May 17th. We are currently investigating how that can safely be done, adhering to Covid guidelines.

Another casualty of Covid was that the local elections, Police and Crime Commissioner Elections, Mayoral Elections all had to be postponed from May 2020 to May 2021. Cllr Di Wilton left the Council in 2021 and we thank her for her work and support. There will not be an Election for the Parish Council as all nominees were deemed to have been elected:

John Adams

Paul Beresford

Joan Bunt

Nevin Carmichael

Edgar Goddard

Andrew Kelly

Phill Pyke

Robert Rooney

Roger Talling

The first meeting of the new Parish Council will take place on May 18th when new officers will be elected. It is likely that this first meeting will be an open-air meeting. Up until now all Parish Council meetings have been virtual ones held via Zoom. Members of the public have always been invited to join these meetings and several residents have joined us. We met

on Wednesdays, at 7.00 pm. 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: The Council has continued to make consistent and strenuous efforts to ensure these facilities remain open once this was allowed in 2020 and part of this entailed parting company with our then contractor and appointing CORMAC as our contractor for the three months of the summer. We have now appointed a local resident as our contractor, Mrs Cathy Kelly. 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. The Frogmore Toilet Block has been refurbished, St Saviours has been redecorated and any repairs are made as speedily as possible.

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. We are still in discussion with Highways, South West Water Authority about the state of the drains in Fore Street and West Street in Polruan, and Mixtow and Tredudwell. Pont has been improved. We keep reminding Highways about potholes, the aim in all of this is to stop small problems becoming big ones. Currently work is underway by Highways on the stretch of road from Tredudwell to Frogmore.

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 these now go into the Housing Revenue Account. We were successful in negotiations with Cornwall Housing to stop the sale of the Chapel Lane flats. These have been refurbished as two one bedroom flats as this is where the highest housing need is. Discussions are at a very early stage over the provision of an affordable housing development in the Parish. Until we have further detailed information we are not in a position to make any firm plans.

Preliminary studies and plans will have to be made. In the meantime we have been advised to suggest that anyone who might be interested should make sure they are registered with Cornwall Home Choice. At the last count the number registered was 17. We know that this is low, bearing in mind earlier figures and what we know from the results of our own Housing Needs Survey which showed 37.

Traffic Enforcement: At present the old signage is being replaced and being brought up to date. 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. Parking off road at Lanteglos Highway was the subject of a local survey and this showed that there is a need for additional parking. This is under review.

Lanteglos Neighbourhood Plan: The plan has been completed, has been passed by an Independent Inspector and will go to Referendum, as soon as these are set up by Cornwall Council. We probably need to make another call for sites which would be outside the Neighbourhood Plan but would be the remit of a Housing Working Party 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. If the vote is in favour the Neighbourhood Plan is 'made' and cannot be ignored when planning applications are decided. It already carries weight in deciding current planning applications.

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.

I am standing down after 10 years on the Parish Council, 6 of them as Chairman. I thank all outgoing Councillors for their support over the years and wish our new Council every success. I should also place on record our thanks to our Clerk, Mrs Gillian Thompson, for her dedicated work for all of us and can say the new Council will be very well supported by her.

Polruan Surgery: Because of the Covid there have been far-reaching changes for residents of the Parish who are registered with Fowey River Practice. We know how difficult it has been for some to reach the Fowey practice and have raised our concerns both with Cornwall Councillor Edwina Hannaford and local MP, Mrs Sheryll Murray. We will keep you informed.

Like you I look forward to coming out of lockdown and following the Government Road Map to the new normal. We anticipate that this is going to be a very busy Summer in Cornwall but, but as I write, the sun has been shining for days, but where are the swallows?

Lastly I must say a special thank you to all those people, especially the PolyPals for the sterling work they have done and the kindness they have shown in support of our more vulnerable residents.

Cllr Dr Pat Moore OBE

Chairman Lanteglos by Fowey Parish Council & Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group