

Minutes of the Annual Assembly of St Mawgan-in-Pydar Parish held in **St Mawgan Community Hall on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2015 commencing at 7.00pm**

Present: Chairman Cllr K Atkinson - Cllrs R Cawley, W H J Corbett, S Gardner, G Jennings, S Jennings, S Jones, E McKenzie, K Mullard, & S Tavener

In Attendance: CC Cllr J Fitter, PCSO Parry, Miss Donna James (Parish Clerk), 3 members of the public

Apologies – received from: Inspector Meredith, PC Lenton, PCSO Burgess

Minutes of the meeting 30<sup>th</sup> April 2014

Agreed and resolved to accept the Minutes of the meeting as a true record of the meeting and they were signed by the Chairman

**Formally proposed and agreed to amend the order of the meeting to allow PCSO Parry to read the police statement at item c.**

Police Address

PCSO Parry addressed the meeting and read out the following police report from PC Lenton:

Crime trends have decreased across the Devon & Cornwall policing region. In relation to St Mawgan I, am delighted to inform you that our crime figures are also down. You continue to live in a safe and relatively crime free area.

There have been some difficult policing moments during the last twelve months. The tragic events at Mawgan Porth in October last year which resulted in the deaths of three people are a reminder of the power of the sea. However, great credit must go to individuals and the community as a whole for the support and assistance.

We have continued to visit and help at the local school, pre-schools, Steam Rallies, fun runs and various meetings. We will always be available when operational commitments allow. The roll out of Street Net which is an upgrade to Neighbourhood Watch is still ongoing and we hope that after the summer we will be able to progress.

I hope that our new sergeant PS ADAMS will be attending a parish council meeting in the not too distant future.

I would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank the parish council for their support and advice.

Could I also mention PCSO BURGESS and PCSO PARRY and thank them for their continued hard work and dedication, in particular during the last few months with my absence.

Address by Cornwall Councillor John Fitter

Cllr Fitter reported to the meeting:

Newquay Airport – Passenger growth continues. PSO is continuing for 4 years. Work is ongoing to find a carrier for holiday destinations (sunshine runs), they are reasonably confident that they will have a carrier in place for 2016.

The enterprise zone is moving along at a pace and is well into the construction phase.

The surf licence debate is still up for debate. A meeting is being held for those with concerns to discuss. CC Cllr Fitter assures he will fight for the local businesses that are already in operation.

CC has confirmed that Mawgan Porth toilets will be closed as of 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016. They have advised that there is no funding available for refurbishments.

Devon and Cornwall Police have a strong relationship with Dorset Police which is endorsed by CC.

CC Cllr Fitter thanked the Parish Council for working with him and the community for the past year.

## Chairman's Report

The Chairman read the following report:

I would like to begin by thanking all Councillors for their hard work and for supporting me during a very busy year for the Parish Council.

There was one change in the Councillors this year; in late June we were sorry to receive Cliff Mitchell's resignation after many years of valiant service on the Council. Cliff was the Chairman when I joined the Council and subsequently I was privileged to serve as his Vice Chairman and learned a great deal from him. On behalf of the Council and parishioners I would like to thank Cliff for all his hard work over the years.

Following Cliff's departure four very able people presented themselves for co-option at the October meeting. That meeting was Chaired in my absence by the Vice Chairman and I understand that reaching a final decision between the candidates was very difficult but the new Councillor chosen was Sue Jones. This is not the first time that Sue has been on the parish Council and we welcome her back into the fold. We are already enjoying her, very direct, pertinent contributions to the debates.

There have been 13 meetings since the Annual Assembly last year and only two Councillors, Beryl Cawley and William Corbett have attended all 13; well done Beryl and William. For the record the attendance figures for individual Councillors are as follows:

Cllr Keith Atkinson - 12  
 Cllr Beryl Cawley - 13  
 Cllr Richard Cawley - 11  
 Cllr William Corbett - 13  
 Cllr Steve Gardner - 8  
 Cllr Gwen Jennings - 12  
 Cllr Sarah Jennings - 12  
 Cllr Sue Jones - 7 out of possible 7 (elected October 2014)  
 Cllr Liz McKenzie - 12  
 Cllr Cliff Mitchell - 1 (resigned July 2014)  
 Cllr Kate Mullard - 11  
 Cllr Michael Raby - 7  
 Cllr Steve Tavener - 10

The Parish Council had 33 planning applications and raised no objection, or supported, 23 of these. Of the remainder, we deferred decisions on some pending further information from either the applicant or Cornwall Council.

The Parish Council raised the Precept to £35,000, the first rise for many years. This rise was necessary for a variety of reasons including inflation in costs and the acquisition of the toilets. It was also deemed prudent to establish contingency funding against the possibility of more services, currently undertaken by Cornwall Council, being devolved to the Parish Council.

As I reported last year, our Amenity Area Working Group had been developing plans for the complete refurbishment of the children's play area in St Mawgan. These plans finally came to fruition this year with the official opening, by Mrs Young-Jamieson, of our state of the art play area. Currently the Council is considering renewing all the fencing around this play area.

Since Cornwall Council took the decision to close public toilets throughout Cornwall, Parish Councils have been debating taking on the responsibility of toilets within their parish. In our case this meant considering keeping some part of the toilets in St Mawgan village open for the public. You may recall that last year I thanked, on behalf of the Council, our County Councillor, John Fitter, for cleaning the Disabled toilet in St Mawgan for most of 2013 while we awaited the outcome of discussions between Cornwall Council and the Mawgan Porth Business Group about the latter taking over the Mawgan Porth toilets and the Disabled toilet in St Mawgan. In the event these discussions appeared to have failed and the Parish Council, supported by local residents and businesses, resolved to buy the freehold of the toilets in St Mawgan and keep some part of them open for the public. The negotiations and legal matters took most of the year and throughout all of that time Cllr Beryl Cawley personally cleaned the toilets and kept them open at no cost to the Council. I would like to publicly thank Beryl for behaving in such a selfless manner to achieve

something so important for the village. While the toilets will not officially be known as “Beryl’s Bogs” I am sure many of us think of them in that way! At present the Council is arranging the erection of notices on the toilets stating they are run by the Parish Council and acknowledging all the people and businesses that supported us in keeping the toilets open.

Discussions of the Councils’ Standing Orders and Financial Regulations have continued this year. These discussions culminated in the final version being put on the table at the April meeting ready for adoption at the May meeting.

The Neighbourhood Plan Group, chaired by the Vice-Chairman, Cllr Liz McKenzie, continued their work for much of the year but unfortunately work on the Neighbourhood Plan has been put into abeyance because of lack of public support. However, most of the ground work has been done and this project will be restarted when there is the public appetite for it. I would like to thank Liz and her Group for all the work they have done on this project.

As parishioners know, the Parish Council has been in discussion with the Affordable Housing team at Cornwall Council for some years about the provision of Affordable Housing in the Parish. In order that the actual need for Affordable Housing was fully understood and to gauge the parishioners’ views, the results from the survey questionnaire were analysed in conjunction with Cornwall Council. Unfortunately, to date, we have not been able to progress any Affordable Housing schemes in the Parish but we are always alert for proposals coming forward.

During the year we have renewed Tim Michell’s maintenance contract for a further twelve months and in March the Council agreed to purchase a replacement mower; the previous mower had done over 15 years valiant service and was not new when originally purchased. Mike Farmer has been awarded the Beach Cleaning contract and also, in February 2015, we awarded the contract for cleaning the public toilets in St Mawgan to Andrew Prowse. The Parish Council thanks each of these contractors for their hard work for the Parish.

Our Clerk, Donna James, has been with us for nearly eighteen months and she has fitted into her role extremely well. This year has been a particularly busy one for her with the purchase of the toilets, the refurbishment of the play area, the revising of Standing Orders and the Financial Regulations as well as the drafting and awarding of three contracts, in addition to the normal Clerk’s duties of Minutes etc. We are lucky to have such a hard working and competent person to support the Parish Council. During the year Donna did have some illness and we were very grateful to Paul Roberts for standing in as locum Clerk for a couple of meetings at no cost to the Council, thank you Paul.

Finally, when the previous Clerk resigned he asked me what I hoped to achieve before I stood down as Chairman. At the time I replied that I hoped to completely renew the play equipment in the play area. This has now been done, but in addition we have preserved the St Mawgan toilets for the Parish and so, on this very positive note, I would like to take this opportunity to announce that I shall be standing down as Chairman at the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council in May. I have enjoyed my years as Chairman and wish my successor, whoever he or she may be, every success for the future.

#### Parish Affairs in General

None.

The meeting closed at 7.45pm

Signed as a true record of the meeting

Chairman.....

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