

## **CARDINHAM PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES OF ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

**Held in Cardinham Parish Hall on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2023 at 7:30pm**

**Present:** Councillors J Best (Chair), G Tucker, L Sutton, R Farley, P Claridge, K Morris, T Irwin, G Rogers, A Bonker, County Cllr J Cruse, J Wilson (clerk & minute taker). 16 Parishioners

**Speakers:** Gill from Citizens Advice Cornwall

: Mel & Steph from Tamar Toll Action Group

### **Apologies**

Cllr R Dyer, Mr M Pidcock.

### **Declaration of Interests**

None.

### **Minutes from the previous Annual Parish Meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> April 2023**

The minutes from the Annual Parish meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> April 2022 were accepted and approved by all. The Chair signed the approved minutes.

### **Matters arising from the minutes of the previous Annual Parish Meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> April 2023**

None.

### **Speaker: Gill from Citizens Advice Cornwall**

The Chair introduced Gill Pipkin, who is CEO of Citizens Advice Cornwall, and Gill began with a brief overview of the Charity and the type of work it is involved in.

The Charity is an independent Cornish Charity, reliant on themselves for funding plus some funding from Cornwall Council. They help around 8 to 9000 people a year and cover a wide range of issues, and many people who call have a variety of problems that they need help with. Current issues that are coming up a lot are Housing and energy/energy debt. In Cardinham in the last year, this charity has helped 9 people with 38 different issues.

There is currently an office in Bodmin in the Old Library. There are paid staff but also a lot of volunteers with expertise in a wide range of fields. If anyone has a particular skill or knowledge and is able to volunteer then they should get in touch.

The Chair thanked Gill for attending our meeting and for giving such an interesting and thought-provoking presentation, with such insight and depth of knowledge. It was startling to hear the range of issues dealt with and the number of people in Cornwall, and locally in Cardinham who received vital assistance from this much needed service.

**Speaker: Mel and Steph from Tamar Toll Action Group** group, Steph Carter. This group is campaigning for a toll-free Tamar, and seeking a fair deal for the people that use this bridge.

The Campaign is creating the potential for change to happen and to raise awareness about why the toll should be removed or reduced and the impact this could have on local businesses and residents who have to use this road on a regular basis.

The group is asking anyone who is affected or wants to support the Campaign to write a letter of support or write to their local MP to tell them that the toll is unfair. When this was built the toll was supposed to be stopped once the bridge was paid for – but this hasn't happened.

An impact study is needed, the group is currently trying to engage with local hauliers via the Road Haulage Association and Spotlight will be doing a story.

There followed a short question and answer session, then the Chair thanked Mel and Steph for attending and for providing a very informative presentation on this campaign, some of which was quite surprising.

Mel and Steph then left the meeting.

#### **Chair's Annual Report**

The Chair gave a brief summary of notable actions and events that took place during the previous 12 months, including information on planning items considered throughout the year, highways issued raised and events held during the year eg the BBQ held on 2<sup>nd</sup> June in celebration of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, and red white and blue flowers placed at the entrances to the village for the Jubilee weekend. The Chair thanked the Councillors for their attendance and support during the year, the clerk for providing admin/finance support, Cllr Cruse for her assistance with planning and highways issues, and particularly the Vice Chair, Cllr Greg Tucker for his invaluable assistance with footpath issues and support at the meetings.

#### **County Councillor's Annual Report**

Cllr J Cruse provided a detailed annual report which is appended to these minutes.

There was a short question and answer session which covered housing, the 20mph rollout, potholes and the state of the roads and fly tipping.

The Chair thanked Cllr Cruse for her attendance and support throughout the year.

#### **Finance Report – Clerk/RFO**

The clerk had prepared a summary of the years finances and a copy is attached at the end of these minutes.

#### **Any Other Reports Relevant to this Meeting**

None.

#### **Parish Matters**

Mr C Brown raised the issue of rubbish in the parish, particularly on the way up to the A30, and suggested a litter pick. Cllr J Cruse has spoken to Cllr Leigh Frost about this suggestion to carry out litter picks.

It has been noted that there are currently phone scams doing the rounds that show the callers number as being local. Please be aware and notify other members of the parish especially if vulnerable.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8:49pm.

Chairman:

Date: 15/05/2024

## Annual Report from County Councillor 2023

This has been an increasingly busy year. I find my daily emails have grown exponentially. The phrase 'there are never problems only solutions' is sometimes hard to achieve. Quite apart from my three main Committees, 6 parish Councils, and Bodmin Town Council I have also joined the Police Councillor Advocate Scheme and am Chair of the Bodmin Moor Dark IDA and sit on the Town Teams and AONB board. I join the Bodmin Blue Tits Tidy it Team whenever I can and was particularly pleased to gain a pledge from McDonalds for a daily litter pick along Launceston Road. Organised and really enjoyed a Family Making Space for Nature Day at Tredanek and also created the Dymond Court Garden Group. I enjoyed improving the two roundabouts at Dunmere and Launceston Road and have in every part of my work around the Council tried to promote the sanctuary of green spaces and preserve our precious wildlife.

The Conservative administration must be congratulated on 'balancing the books' as we inherited a 60million budget deficit and this March we heard that the budget had been balanced.

A lot of time and effort has been given to the Devolution Deal. It was always my impression that the level 3 Deal would not get over the line. Matters took their course. Our leader tried hard to get the Level 3 agreed without a mayor. A great deal of deliberation and consideration was given and finally the results of the public consultation proved considerable opposition. We now must concentrate on getting the best Level 2 Devolution Deal for Cornwall and get back to needs of our residents.

The Camel SAC embargo has continued to create issues within my ward. I have tried to help the more urgent and essential applications, but the bar is set high for mitigation, and it is my belief it will be quite some time before a satisfactory method is in place to guarantee the future good health of the River Camel.

The Nanstallon Community Trust are continuing in their bid to receive SPF funding to purchase the Methodist Chapel. They have done a grand job at raising a large sum of money and we have every confidence we will be successful in obtaining further Good Growth funding. I would recommend every parish council taking a good look at what funding is available, and I am always keen to help with any application going forward. The bid for a feasibility study in to a cycle route from Cardinham to Bodmin is still in the 'waiting room'. Trying to find the right application criteria has proved to be difficult but I am continuing to look for avenues that fit the project.

The affordable housing development at St Lawrence has received 5.6 million pounds of Government funding to enable this very much needed development to go forward. Into Bodmin has received an additional £180,000 for restoration of the premises, and support for the café and arts activities. The One for All Hall at Lanivet has also received £80,000 of SPF funding to offer training opportunities to the café staff. We have made the provision of affordable housing a priority, purchasing hundreds of market homes, and developing our own sustainable housing projects, the Solohaus projects are now live as well as retro-fitting existing stock. We have brought Cornwall Housing back in house as they were failing our residents. More visible policing and extra police out on the beat. Confirmation of two additional wards and the Urgent Treatment Centre at Bodmin Hospital is also very welcome. However, the general state of the NHS is a constant worry which is made worse by staff shortages, particularly in the Care sector. A great deal of effort has gone in to recruiting local people to become part of a very much needed Carer work force 'Proud to Care'. We have recently appointed senior officers who are working very hard to improve matters with an extra 45 million invested into Adult Social Care I am confident that the ambulance delays and delays to discharge to care will show a marked improvement this year.

The state and safety of our roads continues to be of great concern. It is without doubt that there is an increasing presence on the roads of cars, and some very inconsiderate driving. I am constantly badgering Highways about issues, and it is evident that they are also under considerable financial

strain as well as struggling to employ suitable staff. The 20 is plenty role out has begun and my ward will receive their allocation in 2016. Bodmin being one of the safest road traffic areas in Cornwall.

The new Localism group Community Area Partnership (CAP) which in our case will include Bodmin, Wadebridge Padstow and St Teath and Tintagel will begin their meetings in May. I am safe in saying this move has not been welcomed by Members as we all fear a certain amount of 'tribalism' especially as funding will be shared. I hope we get a good representation from the Bodmin area as this will be pivotal in getting what we need funded. Each Parish council can sent a voting member and additional members can come along although unable to vote.

We have all just enjoyed the Coronation celebrations. I would like to congratulate the Bodmin Town Council on their excellent organisation of activities which were greatly appreciated. Despite some rather tricky weather all the communities in my ward came together for a grand show of community spirit. The Community Civic Service at St Petrocs on Sunday was very well attended with over 30 voluntary groups coming forward to light a candle, in the afternoon my grandson and I thoroughly enjoyed the Blisland Fayre on the iconic Village Green, we were treated to Sea Shantys and some exuberant street dancing plus of course the free ice cream. On Monday morning the event on the Folly in Bodmin entitled 'Lend a Hand' and to me this was something to celebrate, so many positive hard-working residents providing service to keep our community safe and inspired. In the evening hubby and I helped at the Cardinham BBQ to a great turnout...an improvised gazebo worked well and saved us from soggy sausages and burgers. Within all my wards there are so many caring and helpful residents who go that extra mile to put others first. Seeing all those good and caring folk was a tonic after the dreadful news of the murder in Bodmin. All the emergency and voluntary services reacted so professionally to the incident and have been there to assist and help those struggling with what happened. We have such a strong sense of community within our residents that this kind of action will only bring greater strength and resolve to make our area a great place to live.

We look forward to another busy year and build on the good work done so far. In June 24<sup>th</sup> Cornwall will be hosting the National Armed Forces Day over 3 days and I look forward to joining that event in Falmouth as once again the spotlight falls on Cornwall. A full programme can be viewed on the Council website.

Thank you for all that you do as a Parish Council, I appreciate all the hard work and care that goes into looking after the Parish. and I wish you all a very pleasant summer especially now the sun has finally arrived.

Email [Cllr.jennifer.cruse@cornwall.gov.uk](mailto:Cllr.jennifer.cruse@cornwall.gov.uk)

Mobile 07710219465

**Cardinham Parish Council**

**Finance Report for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023**

The comparison between receipts and payments for the year 2021/22 and the year 2022/23 shows:

Receipts in 21/22: £13,441

Receipts in 22/23: £14,377

The increase in receipts of £936 from 21/22 to 22/23 was made up mainly of:

- LMP - Claims for both 21/22 and 22/23 were received in 22/23, amounting to an increase of £1000
- A reduction in the precept grant from £185 to £68, a difference of -£117.
- A reduction in the amount received for burial fees of -£130.
- An amount of £157 was received for CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy) and an amount of £27 for sundries (contributions re free BBQ)

Payments in 21/22: £14,224

Payments in 22/23: £15,234

The increase in payments of £1,010 was mainly due to the following

- Increase in wages of £566.
- Increase in hire of hall of £170.
- Decrease in stationery/ink of £123
- Decrease in sundries of £277
- Increase in grass cutting £441
- Increase in footpath maintenance £260
- Replace laptop £521
- Decrease in software costs £96
- Decrease in s137 grants £350
- Decrease in election fees £255
- Small increases in costs for Burial fees, Chair's allowance, vat to reclaim and defibrillator costs £142

As in previous years, the budget to actual comparison is prepared on a monthly basis and payments are made monthly. A bank reconciliation statement is also prepared monthly.

In March 2023 the amount in the bank account was £23,676, down to £22,576 after taking into account the outstanding cheques of £1,100, as at 31/03/23.

Last year at the end of March 2022 the amount in the bank was £24,274 but with outstanding cheques of £842 taken into account it was £23,432.

The reserves last year should have shown the defibrillator reserve of £4,332 and bench maintenance reserve of £273. These remain the same for 22/23.

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