

SOUTH PETHERWIN ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 2017

The Annual Parish Meeting of South Petherwin was held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 19th April 2017 at 7.30pm.

Councillors Present: Cllrs J Butler, (Chairman), P Parsons, D Rogers, P Fox, C Powlesland. County Councillor Neil Burden. Clerk Alison Barham.

Apologies: Oliver Jones (Highways), Rev Heather West (Parish Church), Roger Pyke (Website), PCSO Hambrook (Police), Theresa Mills (School), Andrew Dabrowski (Little Red Bus), Annette Martin (SP Allotment Growers), Vi Brook (BIMBOS)

9 members of the public and representatives of community organisations were present.

The minutes of the meeting held on 18th May 2016 were approved. (Proposed Cllr Parsons, seconded Peter Northmore).

Council Chairman's Report

Cllr Butler opened the meeting and thanked everyone for attending the meeting. The town and parish council elections are coming up on May 4th, but there were only 7 nominations received for South Petherwin Parish Council, and so people will be duly elected. They are all current councillors, and are Cllrs Parsons, Rogers, Powlesland, Fox, Finnimore, Screech & Kneebone.

Cllr Whiting is leaving the council after many years on it, including a stint as chairman, and the council would like to extend their thanks to him for all his hard work and commitment. As you may have also noticed, I am also leaving the council due to personal commitments in the next few months.

This leaves three positions that will be co-opted. If you are interested, look out for notices on the boards and website for further information. Please don't hesitate to ask any of the councillors or clerk for further information about the role (again, there is some information on the website).

The council has processed nearly 30 planning applications in the last financial year, which range in scale and potential impact. Paperless Planning has been fully implemented. Transparency Code for smaller authorities (minutes, agendas & financial information must be posted on publicly accessible websites) has also been adhered to, and the Clerk now updates the parish website with council information.

There was no increase to the precept this financial year, and we still hope to hold this for the foreseeable future.

The roads still suffer from potholes, most notably Petherwin Water & Tregaller Close. Unfortunately these are low down on the list for Cormac to address, due to budget restrictions.

Footpath Tiny Meadows has finally been adopted, the Church pathways have been repaired and the Council amended their Church graveyard cutting schedule after complaints about the lateness of the first cut.

Signed:

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The public toilets are now open after the leak in an external pipe has been fixed. BT want to decommission our public telephone box as it hasn't been used for over a year. However the council have requested that it be kept open at present. If it is decommissioned we should be given the opportunity to buy it for a £1, and then ideas for its future use will be opened up to the parish.

We applied successfully for a Devolution Fund, for use on youth projects, the pump, noticeboards and footpaths.

Last year saw the Queen's 90th birthday celebrations & two skatepark events, both of which were very well attended. GLL have taken on the contract over Tempus for leisure, so at present we are unsure about the next events.

Thanks again for taking the time to participate tonight, and we look forward to hearing all the reports from our numerous and diverse range of clubs and associations. If you haven't already, can you please send or give our clerk a copy of your report for inclusion in the minutes.

Cornwall Councillor Neil Burden

Councillor Burden is canvassing for the upcoming council elections at the moment. He talked about the Devolution Fund – all the whole network area of Launceston and surrounding parishes, only Lezant and South Petherwin applied for and successfully obtained some funding. £7,000 has been retained for the library and £10,000 for a feasibility study on the library. The building needs £50,000 spending on it. The One Stop Shops are invaluable, but the Launceston one isn't open all the time.

The freeze on car park charges is due to the act that every time the Council put charges up, revenue went down. Cornwall used to get £15million in revenue and now it is only £8-9million. £1 on Saturday in selected car parks has been introduced.

The Sustainable Transformation Plan (merging NHS with social care) is now called Vision for the Future and consultation has been delayed until the Autumn. The Launceston Health Centre upgrade is still ongoing. Plans which are very good (including more car parking, a one way system and an extension) have been approved, and now we are waiting to see who will carry out the work. Devolution Plan for Cornwall – there is only one person managing this project. Dual ticketing for transport is one of the plans, but Cllr Burden was unsure how this would work in areas like Launceston with no trains etc.

All the zigzag marking outside schools are being repainted a cost of £800,000. Over 20 schools have illegal markings (as they are incorrect). The signs mean no parking, stopping or unloading.

Cllr Burden has been the Chairman of the Scrutiny Committee for the past 4 years, and this includes flooding (and getting the three responsible agencies to work together), Safeguarding and Procurement.

There was a question from a parishioner regarding the dual ticketing.

Bell Ringers (Nigel Parker)

Nigel took over from the late Leon Vanstone in February 2016. Leon Vanstone was a long-serving member and ringer (for over 50 years). Sadly, Bernard Wadland and Keith Couch have also both passed away. All their names will be put on a special board in the church.

The bellringers try to ring for all services if possible, and practice most Mondays from 7.30 – 9.00 pm, with 7-7.30pm being for new ringers, who are all welcome.

They have been raising money for the renovation of the clock, which has been in situ since 1911.

One of the faces is now back, and the other is having some modifications, so the chimes and clock will be going again soon.

They have recently had visitors from four ringing bands, including Romsey Abbey, Bath Abbey and the Truro Diocesan Guild, who rang a special quarter peal in honour of Leon Vanstone.

The clock repairs are costing £8,000, and thanks were given to Sue Vernon and Barbara Cobbledick who braved the zip wire at the Eden Project to raise some money. There are a precious band of winders, as the clock has to be wound 2-3 times a week. Eventually, they would like to raise enough money to automate the clock. They also need some new muffles (used for funeral services and Remembrance Day).

A parishioner asked how much the automation will cost. This will be up to £9,000, but it may be possible to get it for less.

Highways

Report sent from Oliver Jones of Cormac.

Current surface treatment schemes:

Higher Landlake Farm to Brockle Ford

South Petherwin village to Larrick

These sections will then be surface dressed next year (this is the application of tar and chippings to completely seal the surface and stop the ingress of water)

South Petherwin Church Yard – Footway surfacing – now completed

2017/18 Forward Program for surface treatment:

Carvean (Trecrogo) short cut to Kennards House link

Trekelland Bridge to Drinnick

Landlake Cross to Link Rd (Launceston)

Kennards House link roundabouts

Rural Maintenance in the Parish will commence week commencing 22nd May, this is drainage, ditches, bolt holes maintenance and repair, including signage as necessary.

If you require any further information or require any specific responses following your meeting please let me know.

Parish Magazine

(Phil Fox, Committee member, read out the report from Helena Northmore, Editor)

The magazine continues to be produced on a voluntary basis by a committee of 7: Phil Parsons as chair, Sue Vernon as secretary, Helen Masters as treasurer, Alison Barham as advertising officer, with Helena Northmore as editor. In addition we have Cherry Pyke, and Phil Fox who took Mary Stoneman's place after she resigned from the committee in 2016. Everyone on the committee is involved in writing articles and deciding on the content of the magazine but we also actively seek contributions from as many people in the parish as possible to make it relevant and interesting to our readers

The look of the magazine has been much enhanced this year by new laser printing and also by the addition of a new logo designed by Roger Pyke.

At present the magazine is funded largely through advertising and a grant of £450 from the South Petherwin Community Wind Turbine fund. Despite the rising costs of printing, the magazine remains solvent and is in a healthier position financially, than last year. Thirteen pages or 40 % of the magazine is devoted to adverts. Generally there is no shortage of local businesses and companies who want to advertise with us as parish magazines are well known for attracting local companies. As a committee we are unwilling to devote more space than this to advertisements, as the principle aim of the magazine is to inform the local community about activities, events and local issues. We receive many positive comments from readers from which we derive a sense of its value to the community. At present we have 500 copies printed every two months which are distributed by volunteers to every household in the parish with remaining copies left in the shop.

We are very grateful to all the advertisers who support us, the volunteers who distribute the magazine, and everyone who contributes by sending in suggestions, articles and photo's.

Website

The Clerk read out the following report received from Roger Pyke.

It's been an eventful year in that the website, now in its 13th year, migrated over to a new operating platform in June of last year. The site is now using the popular word press platform which offers a more flexible approach for its use. Firstly it is now fully responsive in that it can be easily viewed on all media such as mobile phones and tablets. Secondly it enables multi users to administrate the site which was essential with the new parish council transparency code and the Parish Clerk has been trained in its use. We have a site that we can be proud of when many parishes still have none and has continued to be popular.

Signed:

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The old design had attracted well over 24,000 visits in its 12 years, but since the new design and with a new more accurate method of visitor data capture, to date we have had 17,159 visits in one year alone. The new Parish Clerk page is proving the most popular and is a convenient way for the Clerk to relay important information. Also in the top 10 of pages visited is the Parish Diary. There was also a Community Shop page added which due to the new platform has a direct feed from the shop's Facebook page.

Unfortunately the age old problem still continues, whereby there is very little information to pass on. The little that I get to post is either gleaned from the Parish Magazine, or from second hand. Many events that have taken place over the last year have been completely missed. The website is an important point for which to advertise any parish event, but visitors will only return to the page if they know it's being regularly being updated. Details in how to get in contact are on the website, so it's not difficult. At the end of the day the 'Parish of South Petherwin' website is your website to use.

Methodist Church (Wendy Smith)

I could pretty much repeat what I said last year with one or two updates of attendances etc., but that would resemble Ground Hog Day and we try to avoid that at all costs!

Sadly, we have recently lost Owen Goodman from our Chapel family as well as from Lunch Club and he is greatly missed. We also saw the passing of Emily Jenkin and Margaret Whale, two more long term and faithful members of Chapel.

The last paragraph of last year's report mentioned a programme of work for the premises. The good news is that the new boiler has been installed and John Whale is getting used to its idiosyncrasies. The not-so-good news is that arrangements were in hand to start work on the roof immediately following the Easter holiday but it was brought to the attention of those concerned that the Chapel needed to have a bat survey before the work on the roof could commence. This survey cannot be undertaken before May so we await developments on that front before the erection of the scaffolding and the work on the roof is rescheduled. In the meantime all activities in the Chapel and the Sunday School Room continue until such time as we are told to stop. It is to be hoped that by the time of the 2018 Parish Meeting we can report that the roof has been finished and all follow up decorating has taken place.

Parish Church

The Clerk read out the following report received from Revd. Heather West.

The year 2016, started with the news in February, that Revd. Anne Brown was moving on to another Group of Churches, and would be leaving us in August, putting the Church into a interregnum period. The good news was that in the Interim Heather West (curate) was able to take over Revd. Anne's work after being herself ordained in August at Truro.

The church continues to hold 4 services a month, 2 of which are Communion services along with healing services and Baptisms during the year and sadly funerals and the burial of ashes.

The Bell ringers, regularly ring for Sunday and special services, and continue to raise money for the automation and refurbishment of the clock faces, and a sponsored ZIP Wire, and a concert was held to help the cause

The shop is still continuing within the Church and along with the Church have worked together to try and raise funds for the shop and the church. A separate report is to be submitted by the Community shop committee.

The Church and the shop, needed maintenance work to the electrics in order to obtain the 5 year electrical certificate. Work was done to the lightning conductor, and while the steeple jacks were here they also inspected the pinnacles and they were found to be in good order. The organ was serviced this year and was found to be in a good condition.

A quinquennial inspection took place on 31/7/16, minor repairs needed and the guttering needs repair /replacing.

The Remembrance service was held at the Methodist Chapel this year, after a short service at the War memorial.

A community Carol service lit with Candles/parade of handmade Lanterns was held.

Late December, Revd Heather accepted the position to Curate with responsibility of The Benefice to the three rivers,

Once again the Bells saw us out of 2016 and into 2017.

Looking forward into 2017, the pathway was resurfaced, and the clock face's taken for refurbishment, 1 returned (the other sent back for minor repair).

Plans are underway, for a disabled ramp to be installed during the summer.

An apology for not attending as our own APCM is on the same night.

FROM St Paternus PCC

Community Shop (Cindy Marsh, Committee Member)

The shop and Post Office continues to trade 9.00-1.00pm Monday to Saturday with two part-time members of staff and a small band of volunteers who work in shifts of 2-4 hours.

The shop has been open for 1 year and 9 months, and it means that the Church is open every day. However it continues to run at a deficit. The wages are £1,000 a month and the turnover is only £500 month.

The project was the brainchild of the Revd Ann Brown, who saw it as a way of supporting the community, and not just a commercial enterprise. Many more people have used the Church and it is a place to meet people as well as providing staple goods. However it can't open for commercial hours eg. for people who work.

A feasibility study showed that the villagers wanted it and would use it 3-4 times a week. There is a loyal, small and regular customer base, but with a small average spend.

The Diocese is positive, but they have sunk a lot of money into it and they can't keep shoring it up.

The shop needs support from village influencers, from the community, more volunteers and an increase in the customer base.

Signed:

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Everyone who uses it thinks it's a good idea. It only needs to balance the books, rather than make profits.

Sue Wood-Smith, the shop manager, has resigned due to other commitments. The AGM is on the 13th May, and once a month there will be coffee mornings on a Friday.

Question from the audience: How do you volunteer?

Answer: in the shop, or through the Facebook page

Question: why isn't there a sign on the school side?

Answer: they have struggled with marketing and the capacity of the committee to get things done.

School

(The Clerk read out the following report from Theresa Mills, Head)

Firstly, may I offer my sincere apologies for not being able to attend today's meeting.

Obviously all the best things happen on 19th April as it is my birthday today!

It has been a busy and happy year in school. I am very pleased to let you know that we had a very successful Ofsted inspection last month. The report was published on the Ofsted website yesterday (18th April).

"Current pupils' achievement across the school is good because you have a clear understanding of what good learning looks like. Pupils say that teachers ask questions that help them to understand how to do things. One pupil said, 'They don't just tell you how to do things', showing they enjoy discovering answers for themselves. Pupils engage well with their learning because they find work interesting and stimulating. As a result, their behaviour is good. They follow instructions carefully, pay avid attention to the teacher and work very well with each other." Ofsted, 24th March 2017

We currently have 108 children on roll and are full already for 2017/2018. We are therefore looking forward to our extension work to start this term. This will involve enlarging our two infant classes and the hall. Many thanks to Phil Parsons for allowing access across his field to enable the building work to take place with the minimum of disruption. We are also having our roof repaired this term. I have no intention of increasing the numbers on roll as I want South Petherwin School to remain as a true 'village school'. These improvements are merely to make the learning environment the best it can possibly be for the children in our care.

Signed:

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Finally, and most importantly, may I say a huge thank you to everyone in the parish for their support over the last year. This includes funding the ever popular skate park and giving us such a warm welcome when we do our local field trips. I really enjoy working in the village and am totally committed to keeping the school at the heart of the community.

Police: PCSO Lawrence Hambrook sent the following report that the Clerk read out.

Offence	Recorded Crime 01/04/2016 to 12/03/2017	Recorded Crime 01/04/2015 to 12/03/2016	Recorded Crime % Difference
Total	19	21	-9.5%
Violence with Injury	3	3	0.0%
Violence without Injury	4	4	0.0%
Burglary Non-Dwelling	0	1	-100.0%
Vehicle Offences	0	1	-100.0%
Other Theft	3	3	0.0%
Criminal Damage	6	4	50.0%
Public Order Offences	0	1	-100.0%
Trafficking of Drugs	0	1	-100.0%
Possession of Drugs	3	3	0.0%

Incident Closing Category	Incidents - 01/03/2016 to 12/03/2017	Incidents - 01/03/2015 to 12/03/2016	Incidents % Difference
Total	178	144	23.60%
Anti Social Behaviour	6	7	-14.30%
Crime Recorded	10	8	25.00%
Public Safety	54	47	14.90%
Transport	108	82	31.70%

Here is the data I promised this is a snap shot of recorded crime for the last 12 months in the South Petherwin area, as you can see the table list things like violence with injury sounds horrific but it covers things like two brothers having a fight over alcohol or a youngster claiming her parents have been hitting them, violence without injury is people being verbally abusive this covers road rage incidents. Other thefts: a vehicle broke down on the Pennygilliam estate the vehicle was recovered the garage spoke with the owner saying that the to fix it was more that the car was worth and would be better off scraping it, the garage did not hear from owner after that so a week later it was sent for scrap the owner then asked for his car back and reported the garage for theft.

As you can see the table titles can be a little shocking but it is only how we classify the crime most time when investigated its turns out to be not as bad as the classification makes it sound.

We live in a very peaceful town as the volume of crimes shows most of our antisocial behaviour calls nowadays is for livestock on our roads and burglary s are mostly to gardens sheds where people have not secured them properly.

The second chart show the overall calls to us public safety is everything from people missing to checking up on people who have not been seen for a few days. Transport is road related issues.

I hope this has been helpful to you and apologise that we are unable to attend.

Signed:

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Neighbourhood Watch (Mary Stoneman)

Since my last report there have been quite a lot of changes. The communications system has been updated to provide a two-way communications tool specifically designed for community engagement. Devon & Cornwall Alert system was set up in December 2016 on the back of the new nationwide Neighbourhood Alert system which happened earlier in the year. Of course this is all happening online with passwords etc.

The advantage is that anyone can sign up to this new system by completing a registration form online and will then receive as much or little information by choosing to opt in or out of links to Action Fraud, Fire & Rescue Service Local Authority, Neighbourhood & Home Watch Network, Police & Crime Commissioner and The Police. Devon & Cornwall Alert is linked to the national Neighbourhood Watch 'Our Watch' system and will improve the way in which police and watch schemes are able to communicate with and support each other.

I have 2 pages of FAQ's sheets for anyone who would like to have an insight into the scheme and will put an article in the Parish magazine in due course.

I do have concerns though when a suspected bogus meter reader called incident happened on our patch at Daws House before Christmas. The first I knew about it was when I saw an article in the local Corish & Devon Post. I made enquiries to my NHW co-coordinator colleague in Tregaller lane who also had no information. I was also contacted by the PM Editor to ask if I would write a report about it as it was assumed that I had been informed.

I finally contacted the Launceston police station about the matter and PCSO Gary Langan confirmed there had been a report of a cold caller suspect in the area but was unable to release any details because of Data Protection. Surely this was a prime example of what NHW is all about, immediate communication when a suspected incident arises and immediate contact with us. I did not get an answer as to why we were not contacted other than it was probably put on Facebook.

I will let you draw your own conclusions to this matter but feel that anyone who is not on Facebook, Twitter or computer literate is getting left behind. It may not just be the elderly and vulnerable but some people choose not to have anything to do with a computer.

We no longer see PCSO's around our villages; I assume it's all down to costs.

Village Hall (Sue Vernon)

The village hall continues to be an increasingly useful asset to the village. There have been several private parties during the past year, both adult's & children's; also a dance class, a men's inaugural breakfast event, the annual lantern making & a play rehearsal. The regular events are still going strong – the skittles, bingo & table tennis clubs are all valuable contributors to the hall's income. We have also been able to lend chairs & tables to various people for one-off occasions, for a nominal rent.

The short bowls mat, which has attracted no interest in the village, has now been promised to Lifton's new community hall, freeing up valuable space in the store room. As soon as it has gone, there will be a re-organisation of the space in there. If anyone here would like to change our trestles into folding ones, we would be very grateful!!!

The hall AGM will be on Thursday 11th May at 7pm and everyone is welcome. New committee members are always needed – we only have two or three meetings a year, so it is not very taxing!

Signed:

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Skittles (Peter Northmore)

South Petherwin Skittles have had their usual range of internal competitions and winners this year were Bill Salt, John Nutley, Andrea Congdon and Charles Wonnacot. John re-joined this year following an absence of some years and showed he has not lost any of his skills.

We have had another successful year and again have not had to raise the joining fee of £5 a year with a weekly playing fee of £2.50. There is no compunction to turn up although most do regularly. The weekly fee includes several raffle prizes and tea/coffee and biscuits. The fees also managed to provide all members with a meal at Trethorne earlier this year.

Skittles remains the most popular and best attended local activity with approximately 28 members and usually 16 to 18 attending each Tuesday.

New members are always welcome and you can try it for three weeks before committing to join.

Sadly, Bob Buckledee, one of the founding members as well as Treasurer and scorer for many years died last week. Bob was an inspiration to all. He and a couple of others started skittles to purchase and support the village hall in 1989. Although Bob has not lived in the Parish for many years he attended regularly until becoming ill about two years ago. It is a tribute to him and the other original members that skittles is still going and remains popular.

Allotments (Annette Martin)

However, for your notes, we are fully let this year - for the first time ever - and so we are all looking forward to an active year of growing. If anyone is interested in a plot in future, we have a Facebook page which will advise if any plots become available and anyone interested should keep an eye on that for details.

Bimbos The Clerk read out the following report sent in by Vi Brook

BIMBOS get its name from Bones in Mind Beats Osteoporosis and is gentle, gradual exercise aimed at keeping our members aged 50 to 93 out of the graveyard.

Members meet every Monday morning at the Methodist Chapel Hall. With the closure of the Hall for renovation we will temporarily relocate to The Winds of Change who have kindly offered us a room in which to continue our 16th year of existence. A date for the move has yet to be decided but will be publicised as soon as we hear.

Space at our temporary home will be limited so we are unable to take new members at present.

But if you want to get on our waiting list, the BIMBOs Group is led by Vi Brook who's been involved in keep fit for over 50 years. Give her a call.

SPED (Phil Fox)

The South Petherwin Emergency Defibrillator group (SPED) comprises of Phil Fox (Chairperson), Alison Barham (Vice Chairperson), Sue Vernon (Secretary), Pam Fox (Treasurer), Peter Vernon, Paul Barham, and Phil Parsons.

Signed:

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The group is into its third year, and fortunately the defibrillator has not been needed to be used.

The unit is self-explanatory, and will talk anyone needing to deploy it, through the necessary steps in how to prepare and apply the electrodes to the casualty. It will then perform a diagnosis of the casualty and decide if a shock needs to be applied – if the condition of the casualty doesn't require shocks to be applied, the defibrillator won't apply them.

SPED will be looking to set up a voluntary scheme that will enable the defibrillator to be retrieved from its cabinet and taken to a casualty within the Parish, through the use of a single specialist telephone number, distributed to all households in the Parish. SPED will be holding a meeting in the Village Hall on Thursday April 27th, starting at 7:30 pm, to explain how the scheme will work and to seek volunteers. Additional training on how the defibrillator works will also be available, and should there be enough interest, this could be combined with basic CPR training as well.

Please contact Phil Fox on 01566 773125 if you would like further information.

Community Benefit Fund (Jonathan Blake, Treasurer)

The Independent Parish Community Benefit Members have met on a number of occasions during the last 12 months' and distributed the following grants within the South Petherwin Parish.

- South Petherwin Parish Council - £250.
- South Petherwin Parish Magazine - £450.
- Flower Tubs - £100.
- Christmas Lanterns - £100.
- South Petherwin Church Clock cleaning - £1,000.

There is a balance remaining in the bank account which is available to any future successful applicants and the Accounts for the year ending 30th April 2016 have been professionally audited by Prydis Accountants in Liskeard.

As many Parishioners may be aware, The South Petherwin Community Benefit Trust is a separate entity to the Committee that distributes funds received from the Papillion Turbine and its income is currently generated from the Trevozah and Bottonnett turbines.

Grant applications are always welcome as are interested individuals who wish to join as a Trustee.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.50 and thanked all those who attended.

Signed:

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