

SOUTH PETHERWIN ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 2018

The Annual Parish Meeting of South Petherwin was held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 23rd May 2018 at 7.30pm.

Apologies: County Councillor Neil Burden, Cllr Amy Trehane, Nigel Parker (Bellringers), Roger Pyke (Website), Phil Fox (SPED) and Vi Brook (BIMBOS).

13 parishioners and representatives of community organisations along with the following Councillors were present: Cllr P Parsons (Chairman), Cllr C Powesland, Cllr D Rogers (Vice Chairman), Cllr R Jeffery and Cllr S Vernon. Clerk Rebecca Frame.

The Vice-Chairman opened the meeting and thanked everyone for attending. Due to the delayed arrival of the Chairman there would a slight re-ordering of proceedings with the report from the Parish Council occurring on the Chairman's arrival.

1. The minutes of the meeting held on 19th April 2017 were approved (proposed Alison Barnham and seconded by Cllr Sue Vernon).

2. **South Petherwin School (The Theresa Mills, Head)**

I have just returned from Camp Kernow Residential with Class 4 where the importance of being outside has been reiterated. Thank you very much to the Parish for our play park which benefits the children on a daily basis. The biggest development has been the school extension. Thank you very much for your patience. The work will officially finish after summer half term when we will then have an official opening. The new work includes; a new hall, new Class 1 and Class 2 and new kitchen. Although the school is bigger we are not increasing our pupil numbers. We have had 40 children apply to join the school in September 2018, 25 have been given a place all of which are within a catchment area of 0.6 miles or have siblings at the school. The village school is at the heart of the community.

Question: Has school capacity increased?

Answer: No, just the space for the children has increased.

3. **Devon and Cornwall Police (PCSO Steve Stoppard)**

This report will briefly cover what we are now concentrating on as a neighbourhood team. With regard to the team itself it now comprises of myself and PCSO Mark Canvin for both Launceston town and rural patches, so as you can expect we are very busy. We are now dealing with high risk safeguarding of vulnerable adults and children in our community. This involves working and assisting partner agencies to make sure these individuals are not subject of financial or physical abuse from individuals who target them.

An example of this was when we carried out a drug warrant recently at the address of a local resident who had been targeted by an out of town drug gang. They do something called 'cuckooing' which is when they target a vulnerable person and just take over their address. They then utilise the premises to sell/distribute drugs and more or less keep them a prisoner in their own home and use intimidation and violence to keep control of them. We disrupted this and that person is now safe and proceedings against the individual are ongoing at his time. We ask local residents to be vigilant to this and report anything that is not the norm in relation to the home situation of elderly/vulnerable people in the community.

We work on a model called THRIVE which is as follows:

T – Threat – To whom, what and with what?

H – Harm – If threat carried out what is the likely level of harm?

- R – Risk – What is the likelihood that it will occur?
- I – Investigation – Is there need for investigation, and if so what?
- V – Vulnerability – What is it? Health/Financial/Personal/Disability?
- E – Engagement – Is there an opportunity to engage for police or relevant agencies?

As you can see this is quite a broad working platform which gives us a greater understanding of people’s needs.

On top of this we are assisting with creation of the Launceston Community Speed Watch which should be up and running in the coming months and I have already visited and approved the sites with the force road casualty officer.

We are still visiting all the local schools and are about to embark on our latest round of internet safety delivery to all the schools in the Launceston area, both secondary and primary. To this point we have already delivered to over 2000 children and parents.

Thank you for listening and allowing me to send you this brief report and I will try to attend one of your meetings in the future, regards Steve Stoppard.

Question: Will it be a handheld camera used by the Community Speed Watch team and what is done with the data collected?

Answer: Yes, cars speeding will have their registration and speed recorded, this is sent to police who will send out a warning letter. If they are found speeding again a second warning letter is sent stating that the Police will actively target their vehicle.

Question: Do you brief internet safety inform parents?

Answer: I do chats for parents at every primary school but there is very low attendance. We have tried different times and days. If you would like a community event I will do one.

Question: What area do you patrol and with how many officers?

Answer: Five response sections, plus 3 officers, a road policing team, PCSO’s and a traffic at Bodmin, CID, SOCO, Specials and Reservists.

Question: Have there been any crimes in the Parish?

Answer: I haven’t looked so don’t know but crimes figures are up due to the way crime is recorded and due to the internet.

Question: Can we ring the Police station?

Answer: No, dial 101 as Launceston Police Station is closed or report online if the crime is not ongoing. The wall phone still works and will be answered if there is someone in.

I encourage you to sign up to the Neighbourhood Alert scheme.

4, Guest speaker Joan Heaton, Launceston Medical Centre Patient Participant Group (PPG).

The plans to expand the Medical Centre has been ongoing for 5 years but building is to commence in August 2018. There are 4 phases to the work:

Phase	Building work to be undertaken	Time taken to undertake the work
1	Commencing 1 August 2018, a new build adjoining the back of the present medical centre. It will be ‘T’	9 months

	shaped T towards hospital. This work will not affect the medical centre.	
2	A link between the old and new building. IT will be moved to the new section. Once the system is online patients will be able to directly access health record and order repeat prescriptions.	3 months
3	Work will be undertaken on one side of the building. Some consultant's rooms will be closed and moved into the new build.	3 months
4	The remaining rooms will be refurbished. Two rooms will be knocked down which will allow a one-way system. Cars will enter through the current entrance and exit on the hospital road. There will be a new, separate, entrance to a dispensary.	3 months

An extra pharmacist has been employed, there are now two, and more doctors and nurses will be employed. Promotion of self-help in the community will be increased, in particular to address social isolation.

Question: How many more doctors

Answer: An additional 2 working 2 days and 1 working 4 days.

The Parish Council Chairman, Cllr Phil Parsons, took over the meeting.

5. Council Chairman's Report

Thank you for attending it is good to see so many people. This year we have lost a clerk and a Councillor but have recruited a new clerk and 4 new Councillors. The speeding issue at Daws House is ongoing, speed and volume of traffic data is being collected and the next step is to wait for the recommendations. This may be a permanent speed sign, white centre lines removed and/or solid side lines resulting in a slightly narrower road. This week is Scarecrow Festival Centenary celebrations.

6. Parish Magazine (Alison Barham on behalf of Helena Northmore, Editor)

This has been a very stable year for the magazine. Although the price of printing has increased, Phil Tucker, who is a one-man band in Whitstone, still offers an excellent service at a price which is well below any other printer in the area. We have been able to cover the increase in printing costs by accepting more advertisers in the magazine, which in turn has allowed us to extend each issue from 32 to 36 pages. We are keen to keep a good balance in the magazine between adverts and articles so at times we have had to put potential advertisers on a waiting list until there is space for a new entry.

The additional income from new advertisers has also meant that we have not had to apply for a grant from the South Petherwin Community Turbine Fund this year.

The magazine content is largely written by a committee of 7 – Phil Parson, Sue Vernon, Alison Barham, Cherry Pyke, Phil Fox, Helen Masters and myself as editor. However, the number of external contributors i.e. people who live in the parish but are not on the committee – has also increased to about 12 per issue and we are extremely grateful to them. The magazine depends on people in the parish sending in their ideas, photos and articles to ensure we have a magazine that reflects the issues that are relevant to everyone who lives here.

Although this has been a stable year I am about to upset the apple cart as I have decided to step down as editor and from the committee. I am happy to say that from September Alison Barham will take over as editor and Cherry Pyke will be responsible for the advertising. I have enjoyed my six and a half years as editor and feel sure the magazine will continue to go from strength to strength in the future.

Cllr Dawn Rogers congratulated the magazine on the quality of the product.

7 Methodist Church (Wendy Smith)

At the end of my report this time last year I said "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". Well I am pleased to say that this is pretty much the case. Despite some truly appalling weather the bulk of the work has been completed with only some guttering and down pipes to be finished off and some minor items of decoration inside the building to be completed. Now we think about the decoration and refurbishment of the Chapel inside, badly in need of some TLC. The property Committee, led by Roger Parson, Philip Parsons and John Whale, have done a sterling job in keeping the work progressing.

The Chapel celebrated its Anniversary earlier this month with an afternoon service followed by a Bring and Share Tea, always a good opportunity to get together and exchange memories.

There has been an increase of activities in the Hall since last year. *Slimming World* meets weekly on a Tuesday evening this is complemented by a Pilates class on Monday evenings also weekly. Another innovation has been the introduction of a Tea and Toast invitation to parents, grandparents and other interested parties who have left children at the School and want a time together to chat. This has been instigated by Tony and Margaret Stephens and has proved extremely popular.

Reverend Jo Smart is investigating the possibilities of more joint activities with St Paternus and she and Reverend Heather West are in the process of arranging services to demonstrate ecumenical partnership to the community.

You will have seen that the mobile post office is using the Chapel car park for an hour on Tuesdays and Fridays. A welcome return of this facility to the village.

8. Pre-School (Liz Gurr)

This year we have had 40 children on the register for preschool. 18 Children are going on to primary school, 15 of these are going into the primary school and either live within the parish or have a sibling at the school already.

In September we will still have over 20 children that are currently with us and have a waiting list for others to start. The preschool is very busy as always and we enjoy being part of the local community and are currently making a scarecrow to join in with the rest of the Parish.

Thank you for having an interest in our Preschool.

Question: Are you at capacity?

Answer: Yes, there is a waiting list.

Question: Do parish children have priority?

Answer: Yes, most children who attend live in the Parish.

9. Village Hall (Alison Barham)

Ali Barham and Phil Fox are new to the committee this year and re running lettings. They have set up an online booking. There has been a steady flow of groups with a new choir and bowls. Finances are healthy and the AGM is in June. We still have plenty of bookings for children's parties and the school. We would love to get the kitchen refitted.

Question: There are not enough electric sockets?

Answer: There are 3 behind the curtains.

10. Neighbourhood Watch (Mary Stoneman)

Last year in my report I stated that the communications system had been updated and now provides a 2-way communication tool specifically for community engagement and known as the Devon and Cornwall Alert System. All Devon and Cornwall Alert messages are sent within the secure Neighbourhood Alert System and are clearly branded as being from Devon and Cornwall Police.

This has not replaced our Neighbourhood Watch schemes but the hope is to complement existing schemes and initiatives. Devon and 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.

This has been working well and has greatly improved since being launched. National and local alerts are being sent out on a regular basis. To sign up to the scheme you are required to complete a registration form online and you have the opportunity to select the settings that interest you. I forward the Alerts to members by email but you can use Facebook or Twitter if you wish.

I do feel though that with the absence of a local PCSO our elderly and vulnerable and anyone who may not want to, or be, computer literate do not have a regular point of contact, so I use the Parish Magazine as a way of communication with these groups.

11. Bell Ringers (Sue Vernon on behalf of Nigel Parker)

An active year since the last village AGM. The clock work has been finished and more recently some of the ringers had to climb into the bell space to secure it against rooks who had managed to get in but before too much mess was made. New muffles have been purchased which will be easier to fit than the old ones. The old year was rung out and the new one in and we have rung for all relevant occasions with several visiting teams enjoying the bells. There is an outing to five SE Cornwall towers on 23 June 2018.

12. Red Bus (Lavina Archer)

New legislation is a challenge but there are some good trips coming up.

13. Bimbos (The Chairman on behalf of Vi Brook)

BIMBOs is going well and there is a waiting list. Keep moving!

14. SPED (Alison Barham on behalf of Phil Fox, Chairman)

Another year of the Defibrillator in place, and thankfully another year without it needing to be used. The Defibrillator has the potential to save lives, but to do so it has to be able to be deployed when needed. Recently, the South West Ambulance Trust changed their rules on how close the caller needs to be to the Defibrillator, in order for the caller to be told there is one nearby, and be given the code to open the Defibrillator cabinet. The distance now used by the South West Ambulance Trust is a mere 200 metres, meaning the caller needs to be no more than 200 metres from the local defibrillator.

One of the ways to mitigate this is to arrange a local scheme whereby a group of volunteers can be contacted by members of the community, who can then fetch the Defibrillator and take it to the point of need. The SPED committee have previously investigated this as an option, but unfortunately there was not a sufficient response from the community to enable it to be put into action. The situation will be constantly reviewed, and if the SPED committee deem it to be possible, then we will set such a scheme up, but, it can only be achieved if there is the necessary support through volunteers, from the community.

Meanwhile, we shall continue to maintain the existing Defibrillator, and pray it is never called in to action.

Comment from the audience – please don't give up in trying to get people are interested. Consider other methods such as facebook and fridge magnets.

15. Community Benefit Fund (Jonathan Blake, Treasurer)

The Community Benefit Members have met on 4 occasions over the last 12 months' and distributed the following grants, within the South Petherwin Parish.

- The Big Lunch - £50.
- Planters re Bernard Wedland - £95.
- Christmas Lanterns - £50.
- Tregadillett Songbirds - £350.

As at our last meeting on 25th April there was a balance in the Trust's bank account of £6,393.21. This is available to any future successful applicants and the Accounts, for the year ending 30th April 2017 have been professionally audited by Prydis Accountants in Liskeard.

The South Petherwin Community Benefit Trust is a separate entity to the Committee that distributes funds received from the Papillion Turbine and income received from the Trevozah and Bottonnett turbines.

Grant applications are always welcome as are interested individuals who wish to join as a Trustee and there is one vacancy on the Committee.

16. Cake and Rakers (Abigail Caine)

The proposal is to take-over the management of the grassed areas of the closed churchyard. It is hoped that with a change to the way and that the grass is cut and managed that over time there will be a significant improvement to the aesthetics and ecology of the churchyard as well as bringing together the community. churchyardspcakeandrakers@gmail.com

Question: Will the scheme be advertised on anything other than Facebook

Answer: Details will be in the next South Petherwin magazine and in the church, and chapel magazines.

17. Website (The Chairman on behalf of Roger Pyke)

The Chairman expressed a very big thank you for all Roger's hard work.

It's been another good year for the site with some 59,000 visitors making 240,000 visits. After the home page which received 42,500 visits, the Parish Clerk page was the next popular with nearly 2,000 direct visits. This was followed in popularity by the Parish Council Minutes page proving that people are interested in the workings of the Council. Interestingly after the Parish News page, the history of the Parish gained interest with people visiting the various pages relating to the subject. This leads to the next in popularity being the various census pages, in particular the 1851 and 1861

censuses which gain visitors across the globe, seeking to trace their genealogy. Google was the most popular search engine used with Firefox being the widely used web browser. All in all it has been another successful year for the site, especially now that it has bedded in with the new Word Press platform introduced just over a year ago. The perennial problem of obtaining current up to date Parish information continues, although this has been slightly mitigated with the introduction of the Parish Clerk page. This will be my final report for the web site as after 14 years I am passing the administrators' baton across to Phil Fox who I know will continue the hard work in making this one of the best and longest running Parish web sites in the area. I'd lastly like to thank all those that have helped me over the years in the running of the site.

18. Cornwall Councillor Neil Burden (The Chairman on behalf of Councillor Burden)

Following last May's Cornwall Council election, which once returned me with a very humbling result, I continue to try where I can to ensure that our community get a fair slice of the cake and that our young people's needs are addressed. The council remains a hung council string leadership model meaning then cabinet or directors make nearly all the decisions, even on policy, and although the conservatives won most seats they failed to take the lead role and another coalition was formed between the Independent and Liberal Democrats. The 123 members are; Conservative 46, Liberal Democrat 37, Independent 31, Labour 4, MK 4, and standalone 1.

The boundary commission have been and the numbers of members will be reduced to 87 for 2021 We await their final verdict but it appears that the division will be similar or bigger than the old CCC division. At the moment the Altarnun and central Launceston seats will disappear and the new Stoke Climsland division could be from Kit Hill to Jamaica Inn. The Launceston area will end up with just 3 Councillors. There has been a reduction of principle committee from 10 to 5. I sit on both children and young people and resource scrutiny elected as vice Chairman and also a voting member of planning.

Housing have seen changes in allocation protocols and a new housing needs list which all those who would like or have for a social home must reapply. The changes in allocation which will help local applicants and what the officers were not keen on – we waited 6 years, means that local persons get priority over all new comers no matter which level of need they have, this is especially helpful to local people who need to be near relatives or have local jobs etc.

You may have seen the debates for the new waste contract for 2019 and the suggested changes This week that committee will discuss whether wheelie bins should be reintroduced and they still have them in west Cornwall. It has been decided to have food waste boxes collected weekly other changes have yet to be confirmed and if a contractor is willing.

Council tax rose by a further 4.99% the cabinet wanted to go to 5.99% members said no and then at the 11th hour the Government granted a further help for social care. The council supports around 2000 elderly in residential or for homecare these costs rise annually and have had to pay the care home sector and substantial increase for the new contracts.

Positive form member pressure that the grant support to Cab should be abolished. Members threatened a revolt and this was reviewed and the funding for the CAB for 4 years will now total £1.2m aprox £300K a year. Living wage is being paid to all lower paid council staff but not for the arms length company's, some only pay minimum wage.

The gross budget this coming year is £1,160,353.00m. This is made up of 27% council tax 17% business rates (Cornwall is a trial area for h=retaining business rates), 45% Government grant mainly for education, 10% Charges. We have a population of 553,687 people. Even this we will lose a

further 200 staff. We still have 127 LEAS schools who have declined to be academies and the council is still responsible for school standards at all the schools. The cabinet have decided to build 1000 houses making a huge capital investment in affordable house building to rent a buy the purchase price would be about £200,000 for a 3 bed house.

This past few months I have been asked to chair a task group looking at digital customer inclusion, this goes to cabinet next month. Not everything was as we thought, we communicated with other Councils and skyped Durham, Wilshire and Plymouth and they like us had 20% plus people who could not, or had no intention of, being digital but it was general and across all demographic groups.

There are over 200 staff at our call centres in 14 sites and the major issues for people are; cataracts and reading, hearing when accessing social care, insular lives and when the relatives ring in panic or neglect that they can't get a bleep out of an elderly relative. We were impressed with the software used and how the officers managed the calls. Mondays is busiest with up to 20% aborted calls which is deep concern. Cash payments are costly whichever way they are made as the post alone charges the Council over £250K for that service last year.

We also recommended that the council maintains the customer promise of choice, face to face phone calls, etc and maintains the policy of digital by choice and not by default as is the case with universal credit. Even so for universal credit the job centre will help those who simply can't but universal credit is not for pensioners.

Council members voted to grant £3m towards the proposed stadium at Truro. This has been a long saga of lies, promises and manipulation by the developers and if rejected the members will get the blame. I opposed this as the business plan did not stack up and on the day of the vote Lidl's pulled out their £2m so at the moment they are a further £8m short, only 2 years ago the council were told that no public funding would be required!!

New enforcement rules are coming which there will be no information list published of areas that enforcement is pending. The simple way forward now would be for the PC clerk to raise the concerns of public and elected members and then report the information and progress the outcomes to the Parish Council either in closed session or public session.

Question: Have there been any ideas for the use of the telephone box?

Answer: I have a list of ideas, nothing taken forward as yet but we will hold another event to decide.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.17 and thanked all those who attended.