

**Minutes of the Annual Parish Assembly of the Parish Council held at Lanlivery
Village Hall on Wednesday 3rd April 2019 at 7.00 pm**

Present Cllrs Sinkins, Challis, Haley, Paterson, Richards, Roberts and Turner.

In attendance The Parish Clerk, Mrs Sally Vincent
Cornwall Cllr Colin Martin
Jack Wellington, TSSO officer
10 members of the public.

18/162 Apologies Hilary Mann (Headteacher, Roselyon School)

Declarations of Interest

- i. Pecuniary** – None
- ii. Non Registerable** – None
- iii. Dispensations** - None

18/163 Minutes of the Annual Parish Assembly held on 4th April 2018

It was proposed by Cllr Roberts, seconded Cllr Haley and RESOLVED that the minutes be approved and signed by the Chairman.

178164 Matters Arising

None.

18/165 To receive the Chairmans Report

Cllr Sinkins gave her annual report

Welcome to you all and thank you for taking the time to come to our Annual Parish Assembly. It is always good to see local residents taking an interest in your Parish Council. As usual this year has flown past in a blur of potholes and planning.

The major event of the year has been the Parish referendum and subsequent adoption of our Neighbourhood Plan. This represents some 5 years of work by the Steering Committee, Cllrs and our Clerk as well as our planning consultant Tony Lee. I would like to thank all those who have taken part for their efforts and remind us all that we must take the Neighbourhood Plan into account in our future planning decisions alongside the Cornwall Local Plan and the National Planning Policy Framework. The Planning Department at Cornwall Council has made it clear that they will only take notice of our decisions if they are based on sound material planning reasons, which are in line with these documents and if we do not use them then we will be undermining any influence we have on the Planners.

Most of the planning applications we have seen over the year have been relatively straightforward. One that stands out is Rock Mill in the Luxulyan Valley where a retrospective application to allow a build very different to the original plans resulted in the entire roof having to be removed and replaced to bring the build back into line with the original plan.

The ever-present potholes have continued to plague the Parish Roads but with the help of the FixMyStreet App, and a few nudges to Cormac from Cllr Martin they do seem to be under better control than in past years with the

exception of Loving Lane and one or two parts of Redmoor, which are taking a little longer to get the attention they need. Please continue to use the FixMyStreet App or contact Cornwall Council direct to report issues with our roads and fly tipping as the more a problem is reported the more likely it is that some action will be taken.

The Forest Field continues to be successfully used by Lanlivery Primary School under licence including 2 occasions where the children have enjoyed camping overnight and we have continued to manage the playground in the Playing Field with regular safety inspections being undertaken by Cormac on our behalf. The repairs which were outstanding on the handover from CC have also now been completed.

To mark the 100-year anniversary of the end of WWI we have ordered a commemorative bench, which should shortly replace the bench outside the village school and be close to the War Memorial in the Churchyard. The old bench will be placed in the playing field.

The new Roselyon Prep School opened in September at Churchtown and Parish Councillors were given a guided tour of the beautifully refurbished buildings by the Head Teacher, Hilary Mann. We wish them every success with the school. The passing places which are a condition of the planning permission are now to be installed during the Easter holidays so work should be starting in a week or so and once finished should make travelling in and out of the village at peak times a little less difficult.

Following a near miss outside the village school due to speeding traffic we are awaiting costings from Cormac for some traffic calming measures which we feel are important with 2 schools now in the village. Any firm proposals that come out of this process will of course be subject to full public consultation. I am also pleased that, after a long period of closure, the public footpath running between the Crown Inn and Churchtown is now open again as the cause of the sewage leakage was finally found and resolved.

The Churchyard has as usual been kept looking tidy and our flowerbeds looking lovely by Ed Veerman and I would like to thank Ed for his efforts and continued help.

Finally, I would like to thank all the hard-working Parish Councillors for their continued efforts, our County Councillor, Colin Martin for his invaluable assistance with the issues raised over the past year and the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group for their invaluable input. Last but by no means least, I would like to thank our Parish Clerk, Sally Vincent, for the never-ending work she does on our behalf and for her advice throughout this year.

The Chairman presented the Parish Clerk with a bouquet of flowers

18/166 To receive the report of the Cornwall Councillor

Cllr Martin reported

Election promises kept:

Affordable homes: There are several levers to pull in the housing market:

Pressing developers to include more affordable homes in their schemes. This has delivered a total of 914 new affordable homes in the last year; more than any other Council area in the country.

Cornwall Council acting as a developer and building 1,000 homes from 2017-2021. The first of these homes have now been built in Bodmin and Tolvaddon,

with more to follow. These sites include a mixture of homes for sale, part-ownership and rent, including a high proportion reserved for local people at “affordable” prices (20% below market value). However, because of borrowing rules, this site had to be self-funding, meaning that some homes have to be sold or rented at full market price to subsidise the cost of the affordable homes. Following the Lib Dems successful campaign to scrap the cap on Councils borrowing to build social housing, Cornwall Council is able to borrow at 2.5% interest over 40 years. This will allow us to bring forward schemes to build homes for rent to local people at 50% below market rates. Cornwall Council has supported Town and Parish Councils to create Neighbourhood Development Plans which give local communities a much stronger voice in the planning system. I am confident that this will result in more affordable homes being built for local families.

Real Living Wage: This week the National Minimum Wage increased to £6.15 per hour for 18-year olds and £7.70 for 21 year olds, with the so-called “National Living Wage” being the legal minimum wage for employees aged 25 and over increasing to £8.21. However, this “National Living Wage” should not be confused with the Real Living Wage, which is set by an independent charity at £9.00 per hour for all employees aged 18 and over. From 2013-2017, the Liberal Democrats changed Cornwall Council’s pay policy to ensure all employees were paid at least the Real Living Wage. From 2017-2021 it is our policy to extend this to cover everyone who works *on behalf of* the Council but are employed by third parties. For example, last April, all domiciliary care workers were moved onto the Real Living Wage, this April it has been rolled out to all residential care workers and next April the new doorstep waste collection and recycling contract will incorporate it too. As Cornwall Council takes steps to integrate the commissioning of Social Care with the NHS commissioning of Health Care, I have personally called for the NHS in Cornwall to adopt the same policy, ensuring that hospital porters, cooks and cleaners all receive the Real Living Wage too.

Social Care: Our third election pledge was to ensure that our services to vulnerable children and adults were protected, despite continued cuts in funding from central government. Despite this increase in Cornwall Council’s spending on social care, demand continues to grow even faster as people with complex needs live longer. This year, as Vice Chair of the Health and Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee, I supported plans to work with Newton Europe, a private consultancy, to improve our working practices. The result of this programme is that our Reablement Team is now able to help an extra 1,000 patients per year moving back into their homes after a stay in hospital, without any change to the number of staff in the team!

Liberal Democrat Values: Liberty, Equality and Community

Localism: We believe in giving local communities a stronger voice in the decisions which affect them. We opposed the proposed changes to Parliamentary boundaries which would have seen Cornwall being represented by 5½ MPs. We believe this would weaken Cornwall’s voice in the ongoing battle to secure fair funding and recognition of our cultural identity from central government. The boundary review has now been paused but could be brought back at any time. Many councils around the country have responded to funding cuts by closing services such as local libraries and public toilets which the Government deems to be “non-essential” even though the public

consider them to be extremely important. Cornwall Council has taken a different approach, passing these responsibilities to Town and Parish councils. This imposes an extra cost on their budgets, but most communities agree that this is better than losing the services altogether. Obviously Lanlivery never had public toilets or a library, but residents visiting Lostwithiel can continue to use these services which are now operated by Lostwithiel Town Council.

Neighbourhood policing: Last summer the Police and Crime Commissioner was pushing hard for a merger with Dorset Police. Alongside my Cornwall Council colleagues, I fought hard against this move which we felt was being driven by financial problems in Dorset and would have diminished Cornwall's voice in the force. In the face of this opposition, the PCC backed down and the merger was cancelled. Despite a 13% increase in the Police precept this year, there will only be one new PC for the whole of the St Austell sector, whilst PCSO numbers continue to fall. There is no longer a neighbourhood policing team for Lostwithiel and Lanlivery – a team of just five officers covers the whole area from Lanlivery to Polruan, Mevagissey and St Dennis! Predictably this team spends most of its time in St Austell. In response to these cuts to neighbourhood policing, Cornwall Council has jointly funded a team of Tri-Service Safety Officers who are permanently attached to ten specific communities. Jack Wellington will soon start work as our TSSO, and is required to remain within 10 minutes of Lostwithiel Fire Station. This means he can visit Lanlivery, but will not be taken to St Blazey or St Austell.

Community Networks: It is difficult for Cornwall Council to communicate effectively with 213 town and parish councils across Cornwall, so bringing them together in 23 Community Networks allows Council officers to meet face-to-face with representatives of every area. These meetings are also open to the public and I encourage as many people as possible to attend.

As well as sharing information, these community networks aim to take joint action, such as employing a shared member of staff or designing highway improvement schemes which benefit us all. This works well in places like Bodmin but has not been so successful in our area which does not have a single centre.

Neighbourhood Development Plans: I am delighted that Lanlivery, along with Lostwithiel, has now produced a Neighbourhood Development Plan. I know that a lot of hard work went into producing this plan, but the result is that I will now have much more power in fighting to ensure that planning applications are decided in line with the wishes of the community.

Highway repairs: Our value of equality should be reflected in the way we maintain our road network. Whilst it isn't possible for highway stewards to visit every little lane as often as they inspect the main roads, we *do* have the same policy on rapidly repairing dangerous potholes (classed as anything over 4cm deep). This year Cornwall Council put an extra £30 million into the budget for highway repairs, particularly focusing on rural areas, with the result that our roads are rated as being in the top 25% nationally.

However, it is important to remember that these issues will only be addressed once they have been reported, so please keep doing your bit to let the Council know about any issues, either through www.cornwall.gov.uk/reportit or through www.fixmystreet.com. As always, if you have any concerns about the speed of response, please let me know.

18/167 To receive the report from the Tree Warden

Cllr Paterson his annual report

There had been no particular issues to deal with over the previous 12 months, apart from the potentially dangerous tree at Puddle. Hopefully this would be dealt with in the near future. He was pleased to note that overhanging trees in parts of the parish junction had been cut back

Cllr Paterson confirmed that he was always happy to receive reports of tree problems from parishioners

18/168 To receive the report from the Friends of the Luxulyan Valley

No report.

18/169 To receive the report from the CALC representative

No report

18/170 To receive the Community Emergency Plan Report

Cllr Roberts gave her annual report

The plan is about communities using local resources and knowledge during an emergency, both before emergency services are on the scene and working alongside them once they arrive. It involves identifying and planning for things that could happen during an emergency so communities can help themselves.

The plan has been written but with every document it will now need to be updated, so I will be working with the other Councillors to update the plan to ensure it continues to work for us a village. This will also involve updating all external resources that we would be able to use if something was to happen and ensuring that plan is fit for purpose.

18/171 To receive the Thomas Bullock Report

Cllr Haley gave her annual report

Thomas Bullock was a Yeoman of the Ancient Parish of Lanlivery, similar to what we call a Parish Councillor today. He started donating money to poor householders, widows and fatherless children in 1721. In his Will of 1734 he provided for the continuation of the donations that he had been making. He left £110 to be laid out in land, and the income to be distributed each year. Land at Rosenannon in the parish of St. Wenn was purchased by the Trustees of his Will, who were the Masters and Governors of the Parish, and the rent was six guineas.

In 1975, the Thomas Bullock Trust was formed and the land was sold. The money was invested in the Charity Commission. The Trustees were made up of two Councillors from Lanlivery Parish Council, two Councillors from Lostwithiel Town Council and one co-opted Trustee. The reason for there being two from Lostwithiel is because the ancient Parish of Lanlivery included part of Lostwithiel and Restormel Castle.

The Trustees meet once or twice a year, and the interest from the investment is distributed.

Donations go mainly to widows and widowers from the parish, but a few other projects that have benefitted over the years are The Church Restoration fund, the Village Hall, Churchtown Farm, the Playing field, Over 60's club, Jubilee mugs, the School and many other good causes.

In the last financial year, a total of £615 was donated at £15.00 per beneficiary plus a one-off donation to a local youngster who represented Great Britain in equestrianism.

18/172 To receive the report from the Luxulyan Valley Partnership

Cllr Sinkins gave her annual report

This has been a disappointing year for the Luxulyan Valley. As many of you know the bid by Cornwall Council & Cornwall Heritage Trust to the Heritage Lottery Fund for £3.4 million to repair the viaduct and leat system was successful last year. However, in the end it was decided not to accept the funding as it would be impossible to complete the project because costs had risen by over £1 million. This increase in costs was mainly due to the extra work and higher specifications required by Historic England in relation to the viaduct. The possibility of reapplying for the HLF grant in the future has not been ruled out.

The good news is that CC have voiced their commitment to continue supporting some of the aims within the grant project including the interpretation scheme in conjunction with FOLV and Wheal Martyn Museum. Last month Cornwall Heritage Trust also announced that they had received £55K of funding from Historic England for the investigatory works on the viaduct, which should cost around £70K in total. This should give a much clearer idea of the essential works required in the long term.

CC is also looking again at the viability of the HEP turbine project and Cllr Martin who is the current chair of the LVP is working hard to find a viable cost-effective solution that would get the turbine up and running again. If this could be achieved then the return from the power generated would help to fund the maintenance of the valley going forward.

18/173 To receive the report from the Network Area Representative

Cllr Roberts gave her annual report

There are 23 Community Networks across Cornwall and Lanlivery is part of the St Blazey, Fowey and Lostwithiel Community Network. The network is a way in which Cornwall Council can connect with local communities and address local issues. The group is made up of local Cornwall Councillors and representatives from Parish and Town Councils within the community network area. The group meet once a quarter. The meetings are well attended with various guest speakers and over the past year we have discussed anti-social behaviour, cleaning contracts, highway maintenance or the lack of it, community safety in regard to reduced police, community highways scheme where we have made suggestions to Cornwall Council regarding the road network within the area and discussed health provision within the community. The meetings are very useful because they feed information down from Cornwall Council but also allows us to build connections with our neighbouring parishes and can help us join resources if required.

18/174 Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr Sinkins gave her annual report

Following the Consultation process early in 2018 our NP was sent off for final examination and whilst the examiner was generally supportive of the Plan, she was insistent that our aim to promote lower cost housing within the Parish

must be altered throughout the Plan to “affordable” housing. The Neighbourhood Plan staff at CC were very supportive of our original intentions and made strong representations to the examiner on our behalf. However, in the end the examiner would not change her view and the Plan was altered accordingly to keep it in line with both national policy and the Cornwall Local Plan.

After 5 years of research, drafting and repeated re-drafting the completed Plan was put to referendum on 24th January this year and of those who voted 81.35% were in favour (18.64% against). Although the turnout was only 26.51% of the electorate we were told that this was a better turnout than for either the European elections or the Police Commissioner elections.

The Lanlivery NP has now been adopted by ourselves and CC and will form part of the planning process in the future.

I would like to thank all of those who have helped progress the Plan including the steering group members, Cllr Roberts and our Clerk, Sally Vincent and, of course, Tony Lee for their help with the many amendments and drafts.

Cllr Richards recorded thanks to the ‘wonderful Chairman and Parish Clerk’ for all the work they do for the community behind the scenes

18/175 Public Questions

Jack Wellington gave the meeting an overview of his role as a Tri Service Safety Officer. He had completed 5 months of training and had only passed out earlier in the day. Following a further 5 weeks of mentoring work with the St Austell Neighbourhood Team he would be based at Lostwithiel Fire Station and would also cover Lanlivery for category one calls if he was the nearest responder, although technically he should never be more than 5 minutes from his base. He was keen to engage with the community to identify any local issues. He may be able to help with

John Vincent reported that Loving Lane was in a disgusting state; with large potholes liable to cause damage to vehicles. Cllr Sinkins confirmed that she had reported the situation several weeks previously but nothing had been done. Cllr Martin would chase up repairs as a matter of urgency.

Verna Roberts queried if CC social housing would remain as social housing or be sold off as the council housing stock had been. Cllr Martin confirmed that Cornwall Council was very keen to make sure that the authority did not end up in the same trap as before and that the houses would remain in the system for future generations.

Thanks were recorded to Cllr Paterson and Cllr Martin for all their work in respect of the dangerous tree at Puddle.

The Chairman thanked everybody for their attendance invited all present to enjoy some refreshments and a glass of wine.

Meeting Closed 7.48pm