

**Minutes of the Annual Parish Assembly of the Parish Council held remotely via
Zoom on Wednesday 7th April 2021 at 5.50 pm**

Meeting ID: 815 4720 9814

Passcode: 059570

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

In attendance The Parish Clerk, Mrs Sally Vincent
Cornwall Cllr Colin Martin
PCSO Wendy Christophers
5 members of the public.

20/134 Apologies None

Declarations of Interest

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

20/135 Minutes of the Annual Parish Assembly held on 3rd April 2019

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

20/136 Matters Arising

None.

20/137 To receive the Chairmans Report

Cllr Sinkins gave her annual report

Thank you all for joining us in what is our first Parish Assembly since 2019 and our first ever remotely held Parish Assembly as a result of the Covid 19 lockdowns.

As I looked back over this very strange year, I was reminded that the last time we met in person was over a year ago in March 2020. At the time we did not know that it would be our final meeting ever to be held in the village hall as well as our last meeting in person for the foreseeable future.

When we did finally meet again, it was remotely via Zoom and what felt very strange then has now become the norm for many aspects of our lives.

It is now around 2 years since our Neighbourhood Plan was formally adopted and, as a Parish Council, we have tried to apply its provisions consistently to all the planning applications that have arisen. We have found that differing approaches from different planning officers has caused confusion at times and this is something that we hope can be discussed with planners in more detail when lockdown is over. We have also been faced with a few applications for Certificates of Lawful Development and quite a few complaints about potential enforcement issues which have all been reported to Cornwall Council.

Despite lockdown, we have persevered with the first phase of the proposed junction improvement scheme in the centre of the village in order to slow

traffic down. The design of the build out outside the Crown Inn was completed and put out to consultation. The computer modelling showed that a school bus should be able to turn successfully but unfortunately when Roselyon Coaches performed a physical test it demonstrated that the build out not allow buses to turn and so the design will need to be amended perhaps with dropped kerbs. The sale of the closed Roselyon School at Churchtown was completed and the new Redmoor School opened successfully in September 2020. The new owners planned for work on the passing places to start in December 2020 but they are currently still awaiting completed paperwork from Cornwall Council before work can finally commence.

The defibrillator outside the school has been fixed and placed in new more weatherproof cabinet so it is now working as it should.

A new gateway has been installed between the Forest Field and the new area of the Churchyard to allow for the occasional access of machinery for maintenance and digging to be carried out in the churchyard now that the village hall access is no longer available.

Potholes and fly tipping continue to be an issue within the Parish and as ever we would ask that you report any issues on either the Fix My Street site or direct to Cornwall Council on their Report it facility.

I am sad to report that 2 of our current councillors are not standing for re-election and we will miss them both; Cllr Morley Richards has served this Parish for many, many years and Cllr Kay Roberts has moved out of the Parish but has promised to return in the future. Thank you to both of them for their valuable contributions over the years.

Finally, I would like to thank all the hard-working Parish Councillors for their efforts, our County Councillor, Colin Martin for his help over the past year and our Parish Clerk, Sally Vincent for “holding the fort” throughout lockdown

2/138 To receive the report of the Cornwall Councillor

Cllr Martin reported

The pandemic has obviously dominated all our lives for the past year, but hopefully the end is now in sight. The vaccination programme being rolled out by the NHS with the support of local volunteers is obviously a great success, and I hope you will all go out and get your jabs as soon as they are offered.

However, as I look back over the past year, not everything has gone so smoothly. At a Health Scrutiny Committee meeting on March 11th 2020, when there were just five cases in Cornwall, I asked the Director of Public Health whether Cornwall Council’s contact tracing team was involved in preventing these five cases from spreading across the Duchy. I was shocked to hear that Central Government would not even tell the Council which towns these cases were in, and that they wanted to handle all testing and tracing centrally. It was many months before the Government even began to build a centralised Testing and Tracing team, and in the end, it only got on top of the situation when it asked Councils to get involved.

In addition to providing Public Health support, Cornwall Council assisted in the delivery of food parcels to those who were shielding, enforced lockdown restrictions on businesses and helped care homes to protect our most vulnerable residents.

We also continued to run our front-line services (e.g. waste and recycling collections, child protection) and on top of all that, we shifted thousands of staff overnight to working from home (which has saved huge amounts of paper and carbon emissions).

Council meetings have all moved online, and whilst it is sad to see that some of our longest-serving parish and county councillors have struggled to take part in this way, we have also seen a welcome increase in participation from members of the public. I am disappointed that the Government has banned virtual meetings from May 7th, but I hope that all Councils will try to incorporate the best of both worlds (i.e. using a laptop in the meeting room to allow remote participation).

My focus over the past four years has been Health and Adult Social Care, and alongside the COVID response, we have been working to achieve closer cooperation between the council and the NHS. We have even gone to the extent of having one person employed jointly as the Strategic Director of the Council's Adult Social Services **and** the Chief Accountable Officer of NHS Kernow. I am worried that the Government has now announced plans for another top-down reorganisation of the NHS, but has not yet announced how it will fund Adult Social Care (which currently costs Cornwall Council almost £200 million per year). It has also abolished Public Health England and created a new "National Institute for Health Protection", but says that now is not the time to hold a public inquiry into the handling of COVID because staff are too busy to think about anything but front-line services.

If I am re-elected in May, I will not be continuing on the Health committee: Instead, I will be switching my focus to the Climate Emergency. Over the past two years, Cornwall Council has put plans in place to reduce its own carbon footprint to zero by 2030, but now the challenge is to help every home and business in Cornwall to do likewise.

I believe that the Luxulyan Valley Partnership has an important role to play in setting the priorities for the way our landscape is managed to reduce flooding, capture carbon, enhance biodiversity and generate renewable energy, as well as enabling more people to connect with our nature and heritage. But if it is to achieve these goals, it will need to be transformed from its current state: At the moment, I believe it is seen by senior Cornwall Council officers as the place they go to tell us what the Council is going to do with the bit of the valley it owns. In future, it needs to be the place where the Council, the Environment Agency, DEFRA and all the landowners in the valley come together to hear from the community about what we want to see in our environment and how we want our public money to be used to support our priorities.

Most of all, I want to thank the Parish Council for being my eyes and ears in the community, pointing out potholes, reporting fly-tipping and guiding me on planning issues, and over the past year, helping to make sure that everyone got the support they needed during three lockdowns. I am glad to have been able to deliver some funding towards your village-centre traffic-calming scheme and I hope to see most of you again in May. I want to pay particular thanks to Kay Roberts and Morley Richards who are standing down as parish councillors: Your years of service to the community are greatly appreciated and you will both be missed.

And finally, I want to thank Sally Vincent the Parish Clerk for her endless patience with me despite never sending my written reports on time!

20/139 To receive the Police Report

PCSO Christophers gave the annual report

Neighbourhood Police Team

Neighbourhood Team Leader

Sergeant 4794 Dave Mitchell

Neighbourhood Beat Manager

PC 4886 Andrew Barnicoat

PC 5929 Gareth Hawken

PC 6170 Colin Sheppard

PC 7177 Will Chesterfield

PC 7069 Yasmin Vokes

Police Community Support Officer

30499 Julie Carpenter

30047 Wendy Christophers

30528 Natalie Merrikin

30004 Ally Relf

30262 Steve Tibbles

30055 Graham Wade

30449 Jamie Ward

30740 Yasmin Barrott

Overall Crime

Really positive news, roughly a 10% reduction in all crime over the last 12 months. Almost all crime types are down with significant reductions in dwelling burglary, vehicle offences and shoplifting. The main increase has been in violence without injury and this is largely due to changes in the crime recording rules and the classification of offences, all harassment/stalking/malcomms offences for example are categorised as violence without injury which inflates the numbers considerably. Other areas which have increased include possession and trafficking of drugs, and weapons offences which should be seen as a positive thing as these offences only get recorded when they are detected by officers and demonstrates our proactive work to tackle drugs and weapon crime. Despite the numbers being up in these crime categories they are still low by national standards. Individual crime figures can be found on our website.

Priorities over the last 12 months

Safeguarding of vulnerable people particularly with Covid and significant partnership work undertaken. Domestic abuse has been a national priority due to the concerns around increases particularly during periods of lockdown. We have seen some rises at various times but overall, our sector hasn't seen the increases that other sectors have.

Anti-Social Behaviour has been an issue from time to time and has been tackled with partner agencies such as Helen Toms ASB Officer.

County Lines has been a real priority which as a sector we have tackled very well in terms of executing warrants, charging, and remanding several key individuals and seizures of drugs. The perpetrators of county lines have continued their 'business' but using different tactics, as a sector we have carried out more drugs warrants than anyone else.

We must stress the importance of community intelligence and encourage communities to report things to us. Information relating to vulnerable persons being exploited is particularly important right now.

Covid legislation has been introduced and it has been a priority for some time to deal with reports of breaches. We have utilised the 4 E's approach, Engage, Explain, Encourage and Enforce. There have been a significant number of reports to us placing real pressure to respond and at times we have been unable to do so due to other more pressing issues around Threat, Risk and Harm.

Moving forward

Last year was unprecedented for us in terms of demand. There was approximately a 20-30% increase on our demand and we anticipate the same this year due to the number of visitors coming down as opposed to going abroad. We are planning for the easing of lockdown and anticipate real challenges. G7 is taking place but the impact on local resourcing for this will be minimal.

An increase in neighbourhood officers over the last 12-18 months has been a real positive for the team. There is talk that we may see more staff, but this is not yet confirmed. We have operated as 'one team' for some time now and the system is working well. There is currently no thought that we will return to dedicated officers for each area. The national uplift of 20,000 officers has also meant that response staff have seen the benefits so in terms of staffing we are in a better place than we were a few years ago.

20/140 To receive the report from the Tree Warden

Cllr Paterson gave his annual report

For the past twelve months the lanes and roadways within the Parish have been remarkably clear of overhanging branches and limbs. These obstacles over the years have been especially problematic to the numerous delivery vans and trucks going about their daily business. However due to the Covid lockdown, it is blatantly obvious that householders and land owners have most definitely been out and about taking care of their own area of public roadways. As we all know, when one of the many delivery vehicles on the roads hits an overhanging branch or limb e.g. the cost of replacing a simple wing mirror can result in a bill of several hundred pounds. This high cost can be attributed to electric mirrors in many cases which are remotely adjusted by the driver from his seat. Bear also in mind that should a serious incident occur due to overgrown trees or over hanging limbs then it is quite likely the driver of the vehicle would claim off the landowners insurance.

Secondly Cormac have been extremely diligent in going around our Parish handing out warning notices to landowners who have not cut back overhanging trees, branches or thick vegetation advising them that if the problem has not been resolved within a few weeks time frame then Cormac will themselves resolve the problem in question and pass the cost onto the landowner.

I have heard that Cormac did issue quite a number of such notices late last year within the Parish, which in my opinion alleviated many of the usual problems we have experienced in the past. I hope Cormac keep up the good work.

Again, due to the Covid lock down with the increase in delivery vehicles and courier vans continually driving with in the Parish, vegetation has had little chance to get out of control.

One final point although not attributed to overhanging branches and limbs is the increase of large tractors towing huge implements going along our relatively narrow lanes which are continually dislodging numerous boulders and causing extensive damage to the sides of the lanes and roads. Whilst I fully realise farmers do have massive tractors and equipment to conduct their daily business, it should be normal practice that they routinely check the roads their vehicles use and clear up any such stones and earth left lying in the roadways. We all see numerous cyclists about these days and this is likely to continue so injury due to such debris lying in the roads will cause a serious accident shortly.

I thank you all in the Parish for doing your bit and keep our roads and lanes safe for us all to walk ride and cycle in safety.

20/141 To receive the report from the Friends of the Luxulyan Valley

Cllr Turner gave the annual report

The Friends are very disillusioned with the Luxulyan Valley Partnership; Cornwall Council officers are not listening to local stakeholders and are dictating how the valley is run to the detriment of both the valley and the local community.

20/142 To receive the report from the CALC representative

Cllr Roberts gave the annual report

The Cornish Association of Local Councils which Lanlivery is a member, provide information about the operation and powers of Parish and Town councils. They provide support to local councils and ensure that everything is being done properly. The association keeps in touch with members through regular emails which contain information from Government down to local level.

20/143 To receive the Thomas Bullock Report

Cllr Haley gave her annual report

There was no meeting of the trustees of the Thomas Bullock Trust held in October 2020 due to Covid19 restrictions and illness. Unfortunately, some the trustees don't have access to technology so it was not possible to hold a zoom meeting.

A meeting will be held as soon as possible, and the relevant beneficiaries will receive their donations.

20/144 To receive the report from the Luxulyan Valley Partnership

Cllr Sinkins gave her annual report

Since my last report in 2019, the Partnership has continued to meet over Zoom and teams this past year.

Following the decision not to go ahead with the Heritage Lottery Project and repairs to the viaduct, Cornwall Heritage Trust obtained a separate grant of around £75K for further surveys of the viaduct structure. These showed that the structure itself is sound but the rubble & infill material originally used to underpin the abutments at either end had shifted over the years and it was this

that was causing the leaks. CHT are now looking at the best way forward to remedy this situation.

Earlier this year members were quite alarmed to hear from our County Councillor, Colin Martin who also chairs the Partnership that Cornwall Council were considering finding a new owner for the Luxulyan Valley. More recently the Valley has proved increasingly popular with visitors during the lockdowns and CC has now committed to spend around £400K on improving the car parks, as well as maintaining the leats and trees. Whether this is a long-term plan to maintain the site or a prelude to selling it off remains to be seen. Proposals to improve the surface of the car park at Black Hill and install some benches including picnic tables just beyond Black Hill were initially welcomed but recent plans to expand the car park at Black Hill, possibly tarmac the surface and widen the entrance have rung alarm bells with members and some local residents as the narrow lanes are already struggling to cope with the increase in visitors. Some partnership members including the Friends of the Valley, CHT or other local stakeholders have also voiced concerns that CC is ignoring their advice and input into the future of this sensitive site.

20/145 To receive the report from the Network Area Representative

Cllr Roberts gave her annual report

It has been a strange year and like everyone else had to adapt to a new way of working. This meant that the St Blazey, Fowey and Lostwithiel Community network panel of which Lanlivery is a member would now move to virtual meetings. The group allows the local community to discuss common problems but also allows us to receive talks and information. Over the past year we have discussed traffic calming measures which are progressing. In regards to talks we have had talks on illegal money lending, cyber crime, safety discussions, community health care to name a few. The talks have been interesting and informative. The benefit of being on line is that more people can attend and fits in with lives easier!

20/146 Public Questions

Cllr Roberts reported that she had decided to not re-stand as a Councillor as she had moved outside of the village to live with her partner Hayden. She thanked everyone on the council for a wonderful and enjoyable 8 years, it had been a real pleasure and honour to be a Parish Councillor, to help with the Neighbourhood Plan, Emergency Plans and many planning applications. Cllr Roberts thanked Cllr Sinkins for being a great Chair and wished everyone well and she shared that it was her plan to return to the village one day and to re-join the Council if she could – she would always be a Lanlivery girl in my heart.

A member of the public thanked Cllr Roberts for dedication to the community. A member of the public thanked the Councillors and the Clerk for all their hard work in the parish and praised the Parish Council for encouraging the public to get involved in community matters

A member of the public commented on the lack of signage to the Holy Well. Cllr Turner confirmed that she had sent 2 emails to Redmoor School asking for permission to erect some fingerposts but to date she had received no reply;

she would try to call at the school to enquire. Cllr Sinkins recorded that the path to the Well was not a public footpath but a permissive one.

Meeting Closed 6.14pm