

Draft Minutes of St John Annual Meeting of St. John Parish Council on Thursday 18th May 2017 at 7.00pm in St John Village Hall .

Those present : Mr D Richards (Chairman), Mr R Hoskin (Vice Chairman) Mrs J Hirst, Mr R Trick, Mr H Everard , Mr C Trevitt ,Mrs Cook, Clerk to St John Parish Council, Mrs Allen and Mr Ferris.

1. Apologies for absence. None.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting 19th May 2016 were reviewed and approved by St John Parish Council.

3. Matters arising. None.

4. Chairman's Annual report 2016/2017

Neighbourhood Development Plan

The Rame Neighbourhood Development Plan is a most significant milestone for the five parishes in the Peninsula. The Plan was approved by Cornwall Council to go to local referendum and whilst the referendum was held just after our reporting year it is appropriate to include in this report that the Plan has now been approved, and by approximately 86% of the 55% of the Peninsula that voted.

This is a hugely significant achievement for the people of the peninsula as it sets policies which will go a long way to protecting us from inappropriate development, and in fact, becomes the highest level of planning rules and policies for all development applications. The Caradon Local Plan is now "dead" and the Cornwall Local Plan and our NDP, together with the National Planning Framework are the only relevant planning requirements (with the exception of Clause Four policy for Freathy which has been retained from the Caradon Plan).

Our Cornwall Councillor, George Trubody, has worked very hard in driving and completing this process, which started in 2012 when St John parish issued detailed questionnaires to all our parishioners. I admit to be particularly pleased to be able to dispose of hoards of documents cluttering up my study.

Planning.

Planning applications have been particularly light with no large controversial schemes this year. It remains to be seen whether the finalisation of the NDP will now precipitate any more or less

applications.

There has been little movement with the sale or development of St John Inn this year, although it is now under offer and we await the outcome with interest. We voted to remain neutral on the application to "separate" the small cottage from the Inn and Cornwall Council approved this application.

Environment.

We have lobbied Cornwall Council/Cormac in respect of several local deficiencies over the past year, in respect of storm pipe renewal to prevent flooding of the church, various potholes in and around the ford and repairs to St John's Lane. All these have resulted in mainly satisfactory action by Cornwall.

We have liaised with the Cornwall Wildlife Trust and the Woodland Trust in respect of woodland management and access improvements to "Hilda's Wood" and Benskin's Wood, where in both cases we have had practical support from parishioners. We hope to move this forward by further access improvements and refurbishment of the bird hide

We have discussed with Antony Estates the possibility of a new footpath from Efford Bridge to Antony Village and we hope to move this forward in 2017.

In 2015 we signed an agreement with British Solar Renewables (Freathy Solar Park) in respect of an annual Community Fund of £3,083 over 25 years. The second annual payment has been made and a Community Fund Committee has met to determine allocation of the income to various local community projects within the Parish.

These have included donations to the Freathy community in respect of contributions towards the water supply, oil tank and hall heating and for St John we have agreed donations for repairs to the Hall's flooring, contribution towards the Defibrillator and direct expenditure on local environmental works, particularly the new access steps into Benskin's Wood.

Communications and Transparency.

The St John Website went live in May 2016, enabling us to comply with the Government's Transparency policy. Reaction from the community has been poor, with little interest being shown. We intend to make changes next year and to raise awareness and interest in both the parish council and the community aspects of the site. In particular I would like to see a more efficient layout of PC documents and with basic information on current planning applications.

With your support I would like to raise the general awareness of the parishioners into our work on their behalf, particularly in respect of any controversial planning applications or proposals. I would hope that we could encourage more interest by the improvements to the website and possibly the calling of special meetings.

Parish Clerk

At the end of the year we received our Clerk, Carole's resignation for family health reasons. We have recruited a new Clerk, Mrs Caroline Allen to take over the position in July 2017.

We are very grateful to Mrs Cook for all the hard work that she has put in over many years, and for the support and advice provided by her (and Jim) to us and we sincerely hope that she and Jim have a relaxing and happy retirement.

Following handover in June, Caroline will be in place and will attend our next meeting and we look forward to her formally joining us then.

Retirement of Councillor Ray Waldock.

Finally, we would like to express our very best wishes to Ray Waldock who decided not to stand for the Council on the 8th May . Ray has been a dedicated and active Chairman of our Parish for many years and we shall miss him. We shall have plenty of opportunities to seek his experienced counsel, as no doubt he will maintain his personal interest in our work for the community.

5. Correspondence

None.

6. Finance**6. a STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT TO 31 MARCH 2017.****Liabilities & Fund Surpluses**

Total Receipts	£14,647.12
Total Payments	£ 8,797.49
Surplus Carried Forward	£ 5,849.63

Bank Account Reconciliation

Current Account @ 4/4/2017	£ 3,916.93
Deposit Account @ 06/04/2017	£ 4,966.78
Sub-Total:	£ 8,883.71
Less Unpaid Cheque(s)	£ 3,034.08
Total Funds available:	£ 5,849.63

St John Parish Council approved the 2016/2017 End of Year Accounts.

6. b FINANCIAL REPORT & PRECEPT

	<u>2016/2017</u>	<u>2017/2018</u>
Affiliation Fees	£ 250.00	£ 250.00
Hire of Hall	£ 40.00	£ 40.00
Insurance	£ 260.00	£ 275.00
Remembrance Day Wreath	£ 100.00	£ 100.00
Clerk's Annual Salary	£1,500.00	£ 1,500.00
Petty Cash	£1,000.00	£ 1,000.00
Environmental Works	£1,900.00	£ 2,500.00
Audit	£ 60.00	£ 60.00
Donations	£ 150.00	£ 150.00
Computer Services	£ 150.00	£ 175.00
Sub-Total:	£ 5,410.00	£ 6,050.00
Election Fees	£ 100.00	£ 500.00
Sub-Total:	£ 5,510.00	£ 6,550.00
Less funds C/Fwd:	£ 615.00	£ 478.00
Total Precept:	<u>£ 4,895:00</u>	<u>£6,072:00</u>

Proposed :Cllr Hoskin

Seconded : Cllr Hirst.

The Parish Council agreed the Financial Report and the Precept for 2016/2017.

7. Annual Report from County Councillor and Devon and Cornwall Police.

No reports were received.

8. Any other business.

None.

Meeting closed at 7.40PM.