

Highlights from the Altarnun Parish Council meeting on Wednesday, 5th November 2014

Chair Dowler and 8 Parish Councillors enjoyed an early Christmas mince pie (courtesy of Chair Dowler), festive butterfly cakes (courtesy of Cllr Baker-Pannell) and cup of tea with 5 residents, and the parish council's grounds manager and its project support officer when it met at the Bolventor Reading Room for its November meeting.

There was a packed agenda including consideration of 5 Planning/Listed Building consent applications. The Parish Council were excited by the extensive alterations proposed for the sensitive modernisation and expansion of the historic and iconic Jamaica Inn (**PA14/09381 & PA14/08859**). Mr Alan Jackson, the new owner behind this extensive investment in one of the parish's major tourist attractions, came along to introduce himself and answer any questions the Councillors may have. He said he was hopeful that the scheme would be ready in time for next year's season. He was also clear that it would be business as usual whilst the building works were completed. A priority for the management company would be the site clearance and general tidying up of the rear of the property. This would enable the installation of a modern, new kitchen; the provision of additional bedrooms and the creation of an attractive circular conference and entertainment area. With its wonderful views of the moors across the A30 this, he suggested, would be an ideal wedding reception and functions area. There was also to be a wedding chapel area for civil services and a smaller meeting room. Finally, the plans included the transformation of the old kitchen into purpose built storage area and a new farm shop opposite the existing gift shop. This, he said, would be sourced with local goods and produce. The Parish Council approved the Cornish stone and hung slate fascias which kept the development in keeping with the look of the original inn. They also welcomed the creation of some 30 plus new jobs, as well as the potential for an increase in tourist numbers. After a lengthy review of the detailed planning and design statements, associated documentation and general discussion the Parish Council had no hesitation supporting the planning application and listed building consent request. They did request, however, that the site access/egress be improved by possibly widening the current entrance or creating a new entrance for an in-and-out system to avoid congestion that may be generated by the potential increase in vehicles and touring coaches.

The Parish Council went on to support two further applications designed to support the continued success of two other local businesses. Both planning application **PA14/07922** for the erection of a permanent dwelling for a person employed by the existing equestrian business at Poldhu Stables, Altarnun and planning application **PA14/09984** seeking permission for the removal of the existing HGV canopy, removal of pumps & replacement with a new above ground LPG tank, compound & delivery bay with associated drainage works at the Bodmin Services off the A30.

The Parish Council then considered and raised NO OBJECTION to planning application - **PA14/09444** to extend and alter number 2, The Row, Five Lanes but asked that proposed slate hanging be of local Delabole slate, to match existing & neighbouring properties. They also considered and raised NO OBJECTION to planning application **PA14/10365** which had been registered on the day of the meeting, for a single storey extension at the rear of Barn Lea, Trethinna. Finally, the Parish Council was disappointed to note the ruling by the Planning Inspectorate that the Application by Pennon Group, on behalf of South West Water Limited (Ref. COM 393) for the non-registration as common land of the covered reservoir at Trewint, had been approved in part. The Inspector concluded that on the balance of probabilities, the criteria for deregistration set out in paragraph 6 of schedule 2 to the Commons Act 2006 had been satisfied in relation to that part of the land within the current fenced area and a small area to the south west. The land outside the fencing, however, would remain part of the Common Land designation.

The Parish Clerk then introduced an outline budget proposal for 2015/16. The councillors reviewed the status of the current budget which they noted was absolutely on track. There was a preliminary discussion on the expected timelines for proposed parish projects, on-going service commitments & the likely demands upon the parish grounds manager with the potential knock on impact on the preparation of the annual Precept submission to Cornwall Council, anticipated around the year end. During the discussion, councillors noted that residents were demanding more & more of the parish council in terms of introducing local improvements. Similarly, the budget restrictions facing Cornwall Council coupled with increasing government devolution plans were likely to generate even more demand on the parish's limited local resources. Concern was also expressed that there had been an increase in the number of direct approaches to the parish grounds manager for unforeseen work to be undertaken, by-passing the Clerk and Councillors who were expected to lead on processing such requests. Residents are reminded of this protocol and the Clerk was asked to refresh and re-publicise the parish contact details.

The meeting closed with a run through of correspondence received in the month and the authorisation of various financial transactions.

The next Parish Council meeting will be held at 7.30pm on 3rd December 2014 in the Altarnun Village Hall.

All residents are welcome.

Clerk to Altarnun Parish Council – November 2014.