

ALTARNUN PARISH COUNCIL – HIGHLIGHT REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 2015

Eight members of the Parish Council, led by Chair Dowler, Grounds Manager Smart and 2 residents met in the Altarnun Village Hall on 4th November 2015.

The Parish Council were advised that a very late application for outline planning permission for a single dwelling with parking for 2 vehicles at the old Reservoir site at Trewint, Launceston, PL15 7TG had been received after the agenda had been posted. The application, **PA15/09792**, had been submitted by Peninsula Properties. The Parish Council reserved the right to submit comments after the next APC meeting scheduled for the 2nd December 2015 in order to give residents the time to consider and comment upon the proposal.

****PA15/08974:** The proposed alteration and extension at Kynewas, Trethinna Hill, Launceston raised NO OBJECTION.

****PA15/09809:** Retrospective permission to retain an earth bund erected previously without permission, and the use of an existing caravan as temporary accommodation for the owner of Bodmin Moor Equestrian Retail outlet was supported.

****PA15/09808:** Change of use of part of the stable block @ Bodmin Moor Equestrian Retail outlet for an equestrian retail outlet and removal of hay store into an alternative stand-alone container on the site raised NO OBJECTION.

****PA15/10063 (Ref PA12/05088):** Permission to make non planning material changes to the finishes proposed for the previously approved extension at Tregirls Mill Cottage, Altarnun, Launceston, PL15 7SA was approved.

****PA15/09360:** Following a public meeting during which residents expressed their total opposition to an application from Wain Homes to build up to 37 dwellings (12 affordable) and associated engineering works, infrastructure, drainage and landscaping, on land to east of Fairfield Park, Five Lanes, Launceston, the Parish Council pointed out that this was an exception site, which could only be supported for affordable housing purposes. As previously published, Altarnun Parish Council Policy is to favour small, dispersed, mixed developments which aid smoother integration and allowed for systematic, widespread regeneration throughout the Parish, rather than concentrate all such investment on a single super site. The Parish Council policy had already resulted in support being given to three schemes on much smaller exception sites at Bolventor; Trewint and Five Lanes. Affordable unit limits of between 50% – 66% had been imposed on these sites. The current Wain Homes proposal was for only 30% affordable units (12 units) which was considered insufficient to justify consideration of the development of this site. In addition, it was the Parish Council's view that there was simply no demand for an affordable housing development upon yet another exception site, as the steps already taken by the Parish Council had facilitated the satisfaction of the demand for affordable housing currently registered in the CC Homes Choice Register. The handling of foul water/sewage remained a major point of concern. No information on rumoured SWW plans for upgrading and enlarging the Altarnun Sewage Treatment Plant had yet been received and this was regarded as an essential pre-requirement of any future development. The concern expressed by residents over traffic management and road safety risks to and from the site and the Five Lanes junction was shared by the Parish Council. The Councillors still felt that a second access, or a completely discreet access via the southern boundary, should have been suggested as it was needed should any development of this site be pursued. The inclusion of two further potential site expansion access points was also noted with concern given that the building development boundary was not redrawn by the receipt of planning permission for an exception site. Any future expansion to the east and/or north of the site would render a single access via Fairfield Park and School Hill even more dangerous. The Councillors were disappointed to note that the MUGA, the school user pedestrian access and the temporary builders access to the south of the site during construction, all included in an earlier application previously withdrawn by Wain Homes, had been lost in the current proposals. Similarly, the cumulative impact of such a large suburban style development upon the rural character of Five Lanes was still not acknowledged, nor recognition apparent that public facilities and services would need to be significantly enhanced in support of the introduction of such a large influx of families. Various suggestions for such community benefit investment contributions had not been built into the current proposals despite previous discussion with the Parish Council on the original planning application withdrawn earlier in the year. The Parish Council remained opposed to the Wain Homes Scheme.

After the consideration of monthly financial transactions, various matters arising and correspondence received, the Clerk reported that Western Locations had expressed their gratitude to the Parish Council and Community on behalf of the German film crew who had used the Altarnun Village Church; Penpont House, the Village Hall and the street near the Packhorse Bridge for the location of a 90 minute film of a Rosamund Pilcher book. The film is based on her book "The Brown Fields" and it will be called "The Doctor and Three Women". The Film company, FFP New Media GMBH had been commissioned by the state television channel ZDF which is equivalent to the BBC. The visitors thought the location was perfect for their needs and were grateful to all those residents who had supported the filming and made them feel so welcome. The Cornwall and Devon Post had also featured the story. Altarnun Parish Council were delighted when Altarnun village was chosen for the film. There was inevitably some disturbance to normal village life, but several groups had benefitted directly from the experience and it had provided a great opportunity to once again showcase this iconic Cornish village and hopefully attract many more tourists into the area in future years. The Chair thanked all those who had helped make the opportunity a success.

The December Parish Council meeting will be held in the Bolventor Reading Room at 7.30pm, Wednesday, 2nd December 2015 and all parishioners are welcome to come along.