

## ALTARNUN PARISH COUNCIL – HIGHLIGHT REPORT FOR AGM & JUNE MEETING 2017

The June meeting was a busy affair for the newly appointed Parish Council. The new Parish Councillors are Chris Bloomfield (Eastmoorgate); Debra Branch (Five Lanes); Craig Dowler (Trenilk); Tom Hoskin (Trewint); Neil Jasper (Tredaule); Jason Kendall (Bolventor); Rosalyn May (Five Lanes); Marion McCallum (Altarnun); Lisa Baker-Pannell (Trewen); Catherine Richards (Altarnun) and Wesley Smith (Trewint). Once again there is a good spread of Councillors across the Parish and a healthy mix of experience, age, work status, history and gender. The Councillors were joined by the new Cornwall Council Altarnun Ward Councillor - Adrian Parsons. Also present was Parish Grounds Manager - Paul Smart and Parish Clerk, Margaret Savage.

The evening began with a public meeting with Ms M McKeeman, Chief Operating Officer, ALAT and Ms K Dalton, Academy Principal Altarnun Primary School and existing/potential parents and residents. (See separate report).

### ALTARNUN PARISH COUNCIL - ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:

The evening continued with the Annual General meeting at which the Parish Clerk read out the 2016/17 Annual Report and presented the 2016/17 Financial Report. (See separate report). The Chair, Craig Dowler, said that parish assets, grounds and budget had been well managed through the year with expenditure running under budget enabling good progress to be made on various discretionary projects including preparations for the proposed new public toilet block in Altarnun. There had been a successful internal audit and notices were to be posted on Parish Notice Boards advising that the records were available for a limited time for public inspection via the Clerk who could be contacted on 01566 86582 or by email at [clerk2altarnunpc@btinternet.com](mailto:clerk2altarnunpc@btinternet.com). After review, questions and answers the Chair thanked the Clerk. He then proposed approval of the report and accounts. This was seconded by Councillor Kendall and approved by all. Mr Dowler then resigned and handed the Chair to the Clerk to undertake the election exercise for a new Chair from the incoming Councillors. After a separate nomination invitation & closed ballot process exercise Mr Dowler was re-appointed as Chair of Altarnun Parish Council for the forthcoming 4-year term. The Annual General Meeting was then closed.

Parish Clerk

12<sup>th</sup> June 2017

### ALTARNUN PARISH COUNCIL - MONTHLY MEETING FOR JUNE 2017:

Chair Dowler formally welcomed new parish councillor Rosalyn May, new Cornwall Councillor Adrian Parsons and three residents to the monthly meeting. After the introduction of the new Parish Councillors, the Clerk and Parish Groundsman to Mr Parsons he invited him to address the meeting. CC Parsons said he intended to continue the practice of attending parish meetings across the ward. He was still undertaking his induction and training but looked forward to providing information for and consulting with the Parish Councillors and representing residents across the Ward in coming months.

The three members of the public presented resident opposition to the proposed construction of a two-storey family dwelling on the site of the old reservoir at Trewint. Objections had been logged on the CC Planning website. The proposed build was felt to be too overpowering for the site and neighbouring bungalow/s. The site entrance was not where the original SWW entrance had been and now breached the surrounding Trewint Common. Keir, under SWW instruction, had recently had to halt works whilst SWW sought proof of Planning Inspectorate consent to cross and work on the common to divert the water pipes to enable demolition of the old reservoir. There were continuing concerns about drainage and surface water run-off, the connections for foul water & waste and the building process itself given the restrictive nature of the site. Chair Dowler thanked the residents for their input.

After meeting protocols were reprised, Cllrs Richards & Smith signed the register of interests in relation to planning applications PA17/04707 & PA17/04800 respectively and excused themselves from the relevant discussions. Chair Dowler then thanked Cllr Kendall for stepping in and running the May meeting for him. The Councillors said they were pleased to see Mr Dowler back and well on the way to a full recovery.

After the minutes of the May meeting were approved and signed as a true record of events, the Parish Council then considered the following planning applications: -

**PA17/04432** - for a Conservatory at 11, St Nonna's Close, Altarnun, Launceston raised **No Objection**.

**PA17/04707** – for trimming work to trees covered by a Tree Preservation Order at Penpont House, Altarnun, Launceston raised **No Objection**.

**PA17/04800** - to discharge a planning obligation attached to E1/2001/1008 – 6/8/2002 @ Laskey Farmhouse, Trewint raised **No Objection**.

**PA17/04695** – to cut down & remove various trees within a Conservation Area to enable construction of a workshop (PA17/01716) & ensure efficiency of proposed solar panels at Penleat House, Altarnun, Launceston was **Opposed** by the Parish Council.

**PA17/02452** – a revised plan for a new dwelling after demolition of the redundant reservoir at Trewint was **Opposed** by the Parish Council.

The APC repeated that it did not object in principle to the development of this site. It acknowledged & appreciated that the applicant had tried to reduce the impact, look and height of the new building roof line and had attempted to move the building away from the adjacent building property line but it was not felt to be sufficient to address concerns. The APC were also disappointed that there was no reference to an approach to the Planning Inspectorate or answers to previously stated sensitivity about Trewint Common access and protection issues; concerns about drainage and the ability to connect to public sewers and mains water without damaging the common and the tight access, especially during the proposed build. There was no indication that comments raised by SWW Services, Environmental Health & Planning & the Commons & Greens Registration Officer who had flagged that the site is surrounded by registered Common Land (Unit Number CL 230) for which section 38 of the Commons Act 2006 states that there is a general prohibition on works on common land without the consent of the appropriate national authority, the Planning Inspectorate acting on behalf of the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs have been addressed especially as there appears to be a new private vehicular access being constructed over the common.

The Clerk then ran through actions requiring attention following the uncontested election of the incoming Parish Council. She collected Register of Interests Forms; the Councillors signed Acceptance of Office notes; she checked that all Councillors had completed & returned their Nil Expenses Returns to the returning officer; she ran through a proposed approach to the production and circulation of refreshed Induction & Policy Documents; shared details of available Code of Conduct and Financial Management training and finally presented the parish risk assessment statement for consideration. After review this was approved.

The Parish Groundsman gave a brief update on the status of parish maintenance and the completion of the base preparation for the new public conveniences block. Tender documentation will now be prepared and issued.

There was a general discussion on highways matters and the status of the parish projects on Mill Green and the Altarnun Village Green. Cllr McCallum felt that additional planting was needed on Mill Green and observed that the tree trimming work at Penpont House would help improve its appearance. Cllr Kendall expressed concern that the APC may not have sufficient reserve funds following the toilet block commitment to finance proposed grass protection work on the Green but it was agreed that costings should be sought so that options could be considered fully at a future meeting.

Attention then turned to the month's financial transactions which included the annual internal audit fee payment; monthly grass cutting charges; a donation towards the cleaning of the Church Hall toilets and a reissued cheque for toilet block materials.

The Clerk presented the 2016/17 audit for review and approval. The internal audit had been completed successfully. Copies of the key audit documents, the annual governance statement for 2016/17, the 2016/17 budget reconciliation statement and the proposed 2017/18 budget were distributed for consideration. The Clerk said that the Parish Council had produced a viable budget for 2016/17 in line with Cornwall Council guidelines built on an annual precept award of £8500 and a reduced CTS grant of £478. The bulk of actual Parish expenditure excluding reserves accounted some 52% on parish grounds maintenance. Fees & administration charges accounted for a further 11%. Donations, including cemetery maintenance at St Nonna's & Bolventor Churches and new stage carpeting in the village hall for the Penpont Players, accounted for 8% and project spend for some 29% of all actual spend. She explained that the parish council had built a substantial financial reserve over recent years but that this would be expended as work on the toilet block commenced.

The proposed budget for 2017/18 followed similar lines to that of 2016/17. The Council's decision to hold the precept at £8500 for another year and the start of the toilet project meant that it would require careful management. The proposed budget anticipates that 31% of expenditure (32% in 2016/17 budget) will go on Fees & Administration; 62% (58% in 2016/17 budget) on Maintenance and 8% (10% in 2016/17 budget) on donations. In 2017/18 provision would need to be made directly from reserves for the toilet block and possible Altarnun village green protection work. Provision in reserves against possible local, town & national election charges had also been made. There was little to no funding available for unforeseen events or new project schemes. After careful deliberation, comment and discussion all were approved by the Parish Council. The Chair signed off the 2016/17 external financial audit submission. The Clerk then undertook to post the public notices advising parishioners of the completion and availability of the audit for inspection.

Finally, there was a brief reprise of correspondence circulated during the month including a letter of thanks from the Altarnun Choir for the recent organ donation and an invitation to attend the Launceston Community Network AGM & Panel Meeting at 7pm in Launceston Town Hall on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2017. Councillor Branch agreed to represent the Parish Council.

The next Parish Council meeting will take place on Wednesday, 5<sup>th</sup> July 2017 at 7.30pm in the Altarnun Village hall. Residents are welcome to attend and give input on anything discussed, as always.

M. A SAVAGE - *Clerk* to Altarnun Parish Council

*12<sup>th</sup> June 2017*