

Highlights from the Altarnun Parish Council meeting on Wednesday 13th June 2012

Parish Councillor Chair, Craig Dowler, seven Councillors, Parish Grounds Manager and Cornwall Councillor Phil Parsons were joined by eight parishioners. Apologies were received from Councillors Jasper and Langley who were on holiday.

The evening started with the Parish Annual General Meeting in which the Clerk read out the combined 2010/11 and 2011/12 Annual Report and reprised the year end Accounts for 2011/12 and forecast budget for 2011/12. The Parish Council had delivered all its commitments within its 2011/12 of £7750, and was on track to do the same with the slightly higher budget of £8500 set for 2012/13 to prepare for its potential takeover of maintenance of the public conveniences in Altarnun, jubilee celebrations and expanded general parish maintenance activities. The Report and Accounts were approved by the Chair and Council and the Clerk was asked to arrange for the Annual Audit. The Clerk confirmed that all of the Council members had affirmed their desire to remain on the Council. The Chair and Vice Chair were re-selected by the Council for a further year. Spring, 2013, will see open general elections for all Council posts. The AGM closed at 8.00pm.

The monthly meeting then commenced with an active public representation session covering many topics of regular interest to the community.

a) Motocross Track - The Clerk advised that the operation was close to meeting its event cap. No other information was yet available on the outcome of noise tests.

b) Waste Management – Cllr Parsons explained that the new approach was designed to pre- sift recyclable and commodity re-saleable items at the kerb site to speed up processing time at plant level. The differentiation of materials may make no sense at domestic level but reflected the opportunity to make money from waste at bulk level. There was a lively debate about the knock on implications for the home owners and tax payers, and examples of how user friendly products such as kerb sides could be made from such waste. It was agreed that the Clerk and Councillor Parsons would arrange for the responsible officer to attend a future meeting to discuss service issues further.

c) Cornwall Council Governance Review - Cllr Parsons enquired about how the public and Council felt about even more consultation/fresh reflections on how Councils govern themselves. A review questionnaire was with the Parish Council for input by 6th July. It was debateable whether any conclusions will be taken before the general County and Parish Council elections due in the spring 2013. It was agreed that the Clerk would invite Alex Robertson to visit the parish and meet the Council and members of the public at a meeting in October.

d) Common Land @ Trewint – The Clerk had no information on the Reservoir, and to date limited information on the extent to which a potential development at Laskeys Farmhouse would affect nearby common land rights. Both issues were being pursued.

e) Affordable Housing @ Trewint - The family of the owner of Laskeys Farm, Trewint, enquired about the current status of their applications to remove 106 restrictions to a small triangular parcel the farm land attached to the permission given to build their farmhouse in 2001, and their application to build five affordable homes and three market priced homes on that section of land and a small parcel of land nearby. The 106 partial lifting was being considered by Cornwall Planning & Regeneration Office, one public objection had already been registered by a local resident. The actual development application had been made late on 8th June but no detail was available on the register website as of Monday 11th, and the Planning Officer assigned had received no detail either. The Clerk had registered the requirement for a public meeting to discuss detailed proposals and the Parish requirement that all the concerns re Sewage; Drainage; Environmental impact; Common land impact be publically satisfied before any decision could be made by the Parish Council on the development application. In response Mr Lund of ALMa had supplied just prior to the meeting a statement of intent document but this was deemed insufficient to trigger either the public hearing or decision on the new development application.

f) Diamond Jubilee Celebrations - Cllr Bailey stated that general consensus suggested that events had been a major success despite vagaries of the weather. All local school children had received mugs and he thanked Cllr Rider and the Clerk for distributing these at the school. Others were receiving mugs separately and about 20 were left. It was agreed to hold 10 back for any children born during remainder of the year. Thanks also went to WPC Nicky Lawson and Highways Agency Manager Oliver Jones for their support in preparing road, traffic & parking requirements, and to village PO and Shop owner, Helen Mason, for remaining open through the weekend activities. The Council then confirmed that the new Jubilee Benches were really liked by residents & would be sited just behind the Altarnun War memorial; near the Trewint Bus pick up spot and near the Jamaica Inn @ Bolventor.

g) APC Website - Cllr Bailey described the site that the Parish Council hoped to launch at the end of June. He revealed sample pages for the new site which were liked by all and talked about the photos. Shots of Bolventor still had to be sourced. Photos could be added to and would be refreshed

periodically to maintain interest. He thanked John Woods of the Altarnun History Society for his potted introduction to the site.

h) A30 Road Safety Plan/Plusha Junction & general Highways update – Cllr Parsons still had no update on Plusha junction safety measures. Thanks were given to Chair C Dowler and P Smart for their effort, in dreadful weather, to clear rubbish from the front of the newly cleared Bodmin Services area. The issue of speeding across the Parish was again discussed at length. The danger to local children as evidenced in a recent accident in Altarnun, was of particular concern. A member of the public wryly pointed out that most offenders were actually locals. The Clerk was asked to arrange a meeting with the Highways Agency, and the Police, in order to agree practical action to be taken across the parish, including Trewint, Treween and Altarnun.

i) Flood Prevention - Cllr Parsons confirmed final details on flood prevention scheme were awaited. Clerk mentioned that a flood warning alert had been issued and affected residents advised accordingly.

j) Parish Maintenance - Mr Smart stated that complimentary feedback had been received from the local Funeral Directors about the appearance and upkeep of the Parish Cemetery which was considered to be one of the best they attend. The Council expressed general appreciation of the much improved, attractive, appearance of the old Chapel following remedial work by the new owners.

k) Parish Public Toilets –Cllr Parsons said SWW had been confirmed as owners of the Conveniences. Early talks had suggested they may be interested in talking to the Parish Council about a change of ownership. Discussions were in hand with Cornwall Council about some funding for maintenance and, possibly, other funding for the enhancement/development of the tourist aspects of the facilities. There was an animated debate about ideas for making better use of the facility. The Clerk will arrange a meeting with local residents in the summer (if it ever arrives) to pursue ideas and a second meeting with responsible officers from SWW & the Parish Council to discuss transferring ownership of both the Conveniences in Altarnun, and the Reservoir site in Trewint, to Altarnun Parish Council.

l) Parish Council vacancy – Closing date for applications was 15th June. Selection panel membership was agreed and the interviews were scheduled to take place on Monday 2nd July.

The Council then considered a number of applications and noted two very late arrivals for which little detail was available at the time of the meeting:-

- a) **PA12/03741**- Mr Naylor: listed building consent to remove/repair west gable, and remove, repair & replace rusted ridge vents & roof ridge tiles at Altarnun Church hall. **NO OBJECTION** made.
- b) **PA12/04799** - Mr Jamieson: Retrospective permission sought to retain 2 horse stable block, tack room and field shelter at West Trelyn, Altarnun, PL15 7SN. **NO OBJECTION** made.
- c) **PA12/05088** – Mr & Mrs Patterson: Permission sought for a two storey extension to Tregirls Mills Cottage, Tregirls, Altarnun, PL15 7SA. **NO OBJECTION** made.
- d) **PA12/04109** – Mr Smith: application for a slight modification to the boundary to exclude a small area restricted under a section 106 planning obligation on application E1/2001/1108 attached to Laskeys Farm House, Trewint, Altarnun PL15 7TG to allow for development of affordable homes. After considerable discussion the Parish Council acknowledged that the area for which relaxation was being sought was a very small section of the whole parcel of land impacted by the 106 restriction. The Council felt that the application had been confused by the actual introduction and direct link of the potential affordable homes initiative. On a strict understanding that their feedback would not be construed in any way as pre-emptive approval of the linked but separate proposal for a small affordable homes development on the land in question, or tacit agreement to any extension to the Trewint Building Development boundary, the Parish Council had on balance **NO OBJECTION** in principle. The Clerk was asked however to caveat the feedback with the standard Parish qualification. The Senior Development Officer, Cornwall Planning & Regeneration Office, subsequently confirmed advice he had given previously that the relaxation on this tiny section of the farmland could not and would not extend the existing building development boundary for Trewint by default. Equally, that the bulk of the land between Trewint & the moors outlined in red on the proposed plan attached to the application remained under the restriction. He also pointed out that Planning Authorities no longer tied section 106 restrictions to actual parcels of land preferring to link restrictions to houses and the type of occupation, namely for agricultural worker, as there had been recognition for some time by the Government that Farm owners needed the financial flexibility to be able to trade in farm land.
- e) **PA12/04114** – Mr Smith: This formal, linked, small affordable homes development application to build five affordable homes and three market priced homes on a section of land behind Laskeys Farmhouse, Trewint and a small parcel of land nearby, now ended recent speculation. It was registered late on 8th June. The Clerk had re-stated that the Parish wanted to hold a public meeting to share and discuss full details of the development with local residents and the wider community to hear how the developer planned to overcome the serious concerns across the community about sewage capacity, drainage run off and flood risks, access issues including clarity over common

land status and the long term likely impact on Trewint Building development boundary extension and the surrounding environment. There was currently insufficient information available to the Parish Council for them to even formulate an opinion, let alone reach a decision. The Clerk did share material sent that evening by ALMa, the developers representative, and re-circulated the outline location sketch layout plans received the month before. The family members present at the meeting were urged to encourage the release of more information as a matter of some urgency. The Council agreed that it would defer its decision until its meeting on 4th July to allow time for the Clerk and Cllr Parsons to make enquiries about the Common Land Status and for full planning details to be submitted for proper consideration and arrangements to be made for a public meeting.

- f) **PA12/04957** – Mr Richards: A very late application seeking permission for the demolition of an existing dwelling and the erection of a replacement dwelling (a revision of an earlier submission that had been supported by the Parish Council but rejected by the Cornwall Planning & Regeneration Office - proposal PA11/08264) at the Barn, New Hay View, Altarnun, had hit the Clerk's in box the evening of the meeting but details were not accessible in time to print off or circulate via email. It was agreed that this too would be reviewed and formally considered at the meeting scheduled for 4th July 2012.

The Council then briefly reviewed and discussed the month's correspondence from mainly Cornwall Council including information papers about a review of polling places; Governance review; Facilities Survey; Notification of appointment of new Auditor; Vacancy notice for new members for the Cornwall Rural Housing Association and play equipment suppliers.

The next Parish Council meeting will be held in Bolventor Reading Rooms on Wednesday 4th July 2012 @ 7.30 p.m. Residents are welcome to attend all Parish Council meetings.