

Highlights from the Altarnun Parish Council meetings on Wednesday 1st August and 5th September 2012

It is summer time and we have at last seen some sunshine. Parish Council meetings this time of year are generally light in content and several Councillors are often away on holiday, tending to farm matters or tied up on other business matters elsewhere. This summer was no exception.

On 1st August Chair Dowler was covered by Vice Chair Retallack who was joined by seven Councillors and one resident. The meeting on 5th September saw Chair Dowler back with four Councillors, who were joined by three residents and three visitors. The Parish Grounds Manager, Paul Smart and Cornwall Councillor Phil Parsons were at both meetings.

The Council gave a warm welcome to Mrs Marion McCallum as the new Parish Councillor, and bade a fond farewell and huge appreciation to Helen Mason who has handed on the baton of running the successful Altarnun Village shop to Councillor Carlyon's wife, Louise.

The Council heard with great delight from Cllr Parsons and Mr S Blatchford that the work on the installation of 200metres of 2 parallel – 2ft wide underground storm water pipes was to start week commencing 10th September. Notices had been posted. Work could take 8 weeks. The contract had been let to Cormack. The run would start at the right hand entrance into the Richardson's land below the Shepherd's field and exit from the Baker's land at right angles into Penpont Water, opposite the Church Hall. Grills were to be put at start and end of run and the exit was shaped to slow down and ease the flow out into the river. The grills were to be checked bi-weekly. On-going maintenance was a responsibility of Cornwall Council or its successors. A 9" hole at the entrance would allow some water to flow out into the old leat run to keep it functioning but the pipes were designed to cater for a 1 in 100 year storm + 30% for global warming. He ended by advising the Council that whilst site access had been kindly granted by the Richardson's entry was tight and there would be disruption when plant and machinery and spoil were moving on and off the site. Work would be undertaken Monday to Friday between 7.30am and 6.00pm. Cllr Parsons said he would drop by and talk with Penpont residents too. The Parish Council thanked Mr Blatchford effusively for his personal, active support in bringing the scheme to fruition at long last.

The Council were introduced to Mark Wilson and Andrew Rigby, representing BIBIO of Tavistock. Set up 4 years ago, the local company builds only high quality, code 3/ 4, sustainable, affordable housing for Housing Associations within rural areas. They seek to use local tradesmen and develop close relationships with the communities they develop in. They were interested in the parish because of the school; church; bus service; shop; pubs and thriving community networks and for cost reasons they were looking at the "Pooley" site just on edge of the village development boundary at Five Lanes. They had been made fully aware of Parish and Parishioner concerns about the site in question by the Parish Clerk, research with recent housing association initiatives and Planning Officers - namely sewage; drainage and flood risks; environmental compatibility; site access; development boundary protection; community benefit and real affordability for local people. There was considerable discussion with the Parish Councillors who explored each of the points raised and the local residents present who pushed hard on the affordability claims. BIBIO agreed to share further information with the Clerk on some of the issues raised and hoped to engage in community workshops about the potential site development in coming months. Chair thanked them for attending.

There followed updates on website development, maintenance and highways initiatives, the Altarnun village toilets, the village hall committee meeting, fun week, the successful re-launch of the Horticultural show for which the Parish Council had funded a trophy and, hot off the press news that consideration was being given to the extension of local bus services from Launceston to Bodmin and then Truro. The Clerk also confirmed that the Bevo Motocross operation had ceased following the issue of a noise abatement order. Concern was also raised about poor lighting and poor maintenance of the play area in the Penpont View estate. Cllr Rider mentioned that he was exploring the idea of a metal detection group with youngsters around the Parish and asked if landowners on the Parish Council would be willing for their sites to be surveyed occasionally. Anyone interested in trying their hand were welcome.

There were only two applications considered by the Parish Council over the period of the two meetings and NO OBJECTIONS were raised.

- **PA12/07334** - Mr. I Scott – Casamoor, Five Lanes, PL15 7RX -
Application for sub division into 2 three bedroom dwellings with parking.
- **PA12/07856** - Western Power for lazy leg and pole onto existing overhead lines for proposed Wind Farm at Higher Tregunnon PL15 7SX

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 3rd October in Altarnun Village Hall. As ever, all Parishioners are welcome to attend.

Clerk to Altarnun Parish Council – August and September 2012.