

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL LEZANT PARISH MEETING
HELD AT TREBULLET HALL ON TUESDAY 15th MAY 2018 at 7:30pm**

Present: Cllrs. N Burden, J Dinnis, S Oakley, G Scott, G Holter, PJ Cairns
4 Members of the Public

Clerk: Mrs S Inman

PRESENTATION BY PC STEVE STOPPARD ON NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING.

Apologies were received from PC Stoppard who had been called away on urgent police business. The Vice Chairman read out a short statement on his behalf. The statement explained that the Neighbourhood Team was increasingly busy dealing with high risk safeguarding of vulnerable adults and children in the community. The team works assisting partner agencies to make sure individuals are not subject of financial or physical abuse from individuals who are targeting them.

The neighbourhood team work on a model called THRIVE which is as follows:

T - Threat – To whom, what and with what.

H – Harm – If threat carried out what is the likely level of harm?

R – Risk - What is the likelihood that it will occur.

I – Investigation – Is there need for investigation, and if so what?

V – Vulnerability – What is it? Health/Financial/Personal/Disability.

E – Engagement – Is there an opportunity to engage for police or relevant agencies?

In addition, the team was assisting with the creation of the Launceston Community Speed Watch Scheme which would be up and running in the coming months. PC Stoppard had already visited and approved the sites with the force road casualty officer. They are also about to embark on their latest round of internet safety delivery to all the schools in the Launceston area, both secondary and primary. At this point they have already delivered to over 2,000 children and parents.

Cllr Oakley introduced the next speaker, Mr Andrew Hudson.

PRESENTATION BY MR ANDREW HUDSON ON THE NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN.

Mr Hudson started by saying that the Neighbourhood Development Plan was progressing well. The survey had yielded a very good response, with a return rate of 64%. The results had been analysed with the help of a number of volunteers. This had taken a considerable amount of time as over 50,000 entries had been inputted during the process. The committee had also developed their own logo and were in the process of putting the results on the NDP website.

Mr Hudson highlighted some of the key findings. Firstly, in terms of those responding it was noteworthy that 49% lived on their own. 68% were aged between 45 and 74. 43% were retired and the majority of people were likely to remain in the parish in the next 10 years. Three quarters of respondents believed that within the parish there was a need for affordable housing for those with a local need. The majority felt that the most appropriate way to fulfil this was to provide 1 or 2 dwellings on a plot rather than larger developments of over 9 houses.

The issue of speeding and road safety was central to many. Renewable energy, protecting wildlife and the environment were all deemed important by most people. Respondents supported the creation of protected areas, a tree planting programme and encouraging the management of hedgerows to improve wildlife habitats by planting native species. Other aspects of the community such as having a shop, post office, recreational areas and community events also scored highly.

Mr Hudson concluded by explaining the next stage of the plan was to formulate objectives, projects and policies which reflected the wishes expressed in the survey results. Everyone would then be able to comment on these policies before the plan could be assessed.

Councillor Oakley thanked Mr Hudson for his informative presentation.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Received from Cllrs Nash, Hill and Ayres.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The minutes of the Parish Meeting held on 16th May 2017 were approved as a true and correct record and signed by the Vice Chairman.

PRESENTATION OF THE ACCOUNTS FOR 2017/18

The Clerk presented the accounts which have not yet been approved by the internal auditor or the Members of the Parish Council. There were no questions.

The accounts were accepted by all present.

VICE CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Vice Chairman, Sebastian Oakley gave a brief report on the events of the year. He started by explaining that 16 planning applications had been received during the period. Of these the Parish Council had supported 12 and their opinion was in-line with the planners in the majority of cases. In terms of expenditure the Community Fund had been used to purchase a defibrillator and bench at Treburley and grass cutting in the parish. In addition, grants had been awarded to the Lezant Horticultural Society and the Short Mat Bowls Club. Boundary walk mugs had also been purchased.

Cllr Oakley concluded by saying that the Council was still looking for a new Councillor to co-opt after the recent resignation of G Green.

Cllr Oakley introduced the next speaker, Councillor Neil Burden.

CORNWALL COUNCIL MEMBER'S REPORT

Cllr Burden started by briefly explaining about the Council structure. At present it remained a hung council with 123 members. Although the conservatives won most seats they failed to take the lead role with another coalition being formed between the Independents and Liberal Democrats.

Cllr Burden then discussed the boundary commission whereby the number of members will be reduced to 87 in 2021. At the moment the Altarnun and Central Launceston seats will disappear and the Launceston area will end up with just 3 Councillors.

Council tax rose by a further 4.99%, with a gross budget of £1,160.353m. This is made up of 27% council tax, 17% business rates, 45% government grant (mainly for education) and 10% charges. There was a population of 553,687 people and the council supported around 2,000 elderly in residential or homecare.

The issue of housing had seen changes in allocation protocols. A new housing needs list had been introduced which would result in all those who would like or currently had a social home reapplying. It was expected that the changes in allocation would help local applicants as they would be prioritised regardless of their level of need. This would be especially helpful to people who needed to be near a relative or who

had local jobs and previously had to compete against people nationally to get social housing in the area.

There had been debate regarding the new waste contract for 2019 and possible changes. Discussions were underway as to whether wheelie bins should be reintroduced and it had been decided to have food waste boxes collected weekly.

Cllr Burden reported that Members successfully brought change with regards to the grant support to the Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB), which was likely to be abolished. CAB was the only place members of the public could get free legal advice and Members felt strongly that this should continue. The decision was reviewed and the funding for the CAB for the next 4 years would now total approximately £1.2m.

The Cabinet had decided to build 1,000 houses and make a huge capital investment in affordable house building. The purchase price for a three bedroom property was envisaged to be approximately £200k. Furthermore, Cllr Burden explained he had been pushing for sprinkler systems to be included in every new build as there had never been a fatality in a house where one had been fitted. He would continue to work closely with the fire brigade.

Cllr Burden had also been chairing a task group looking at digital customer inclusion, looking at how people related to the increasingly digital world. The task group worked with other councils (Plymouth, Durham & Wiltshire) and there was a similar picture identified across the areas. The results from the task group would be reported to the Cabinet in June.

Council members were due to vote about the grant towards the proposed stadium in Truro. This had raised many issues with the developers.

Cllr Burden explained that there were discussions regarding having a pedestrian bridge at Newport, in Launceston. Currently, the bridge is narrow and dangerous for pedestrians.

Finally, Cllr Burden explained that enforcement regulations have changed. Cornwall Council will no longer publish online the details of planning enforcement and the weekly lists of cases opened and closed will no longer be sent to councils. This is as a result of data protection issues. Going forward the only cases visible online will be cases where an enforcement notice has been served.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There being no further matters raised, the Vice-Chairman thanked those present for attending and closed the meeting at 8.40pm

Signed.....Chairman Date.....