

MINUTES OF THE LANDULPH PARISH ASSEMBLY

The Annual Assembly of Landulph Parish was held on Monday 15 May 2017 in the Landulph Memorial Hall Annexe at 7.15pm and was chaired by Councillor G Stevenson, Chairman of Landulph Parish Council.

PRESENT: Councillors G Stevenson (Chairman), G Braund, P Braund, R Cradick, and M Dennis, Councillor Jesse Foot, plus members of the public. The Clerk to the Parish Council was also present.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. **Minutes of the previous Parish Assembly**, held on 16 May 2016 were read, approved and signed by the Chairman.
2. **Matters Arising:** none.
3. **Chairman's Report 2016-17** The Chairman, Councillor G Stevenson, presented his report to the meeting – this report is attached to these minutes.
4. **Councillor Jesse Foot** – Cornwall Councillor for St German's and Landulph
5. **Public Forum**

Meeting closed at 7.30pm

SignedChairman

LANDULPH PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman's Report 2016-2017

Good evening everyone.

It is with mixed feelings that I am presenting this, my final annual report, as chairman, to the parish assembly.

These have been four very interesting years for me, and I am stepping down with very mixed emotions. It has not all been plain sailing, but overall I have enjoyed the experience.

The credit for this goes to a number of people, not least our parish clerk, Katherine Williams, who has been a tower of strength since her appointment. I doubt that I would have survived; indeed the parish council would not have survived, without her considered and helpful support over the years.

My thanks also go to my fellow councillors. This has been very much a team effort, and I would particularly like to acknowledge the work done by three councillors who have retired this year, namely Mac Armstrong who served us well as vice-chairman, Chris Wyman who succeeded Mac as vice-chairman, and David Peck. I am sure you will all join me in wishing them all the best for the future.

We began last year with another planning application for the development of the Crooked Spaniards. The Parish Council objected to this application, and it was subsequently turned down by the planning department of Cornwall Council. Since then, to my knowledge there have been no further developments proposed for this quayside site. Nonetheless, many of you will have seen the old part of the pub masquerading as The Black Dog in the BBC series, The Coroner. Speaking personally, it looked great to me, and demonstrated how much the community misses through not having a good pub in the parish.

In my report last year, I mentioned that we had used funds from the solar park development for the benefit of the Memorial Hall and its various user groups. During this year, the solar farm gained planning permission to extend its life from 25 to 30 years. Following negotiations with the company, the Council was paid an additional £10,000 benefit payment, and invitations were put out for further projects which would be of use for the whole community.

I am pleased to be able to say that the Under Fives group has profited through the provision of books and an IT project undertaken at the Hall. Funds have been used for the upkeep and replacement of facilities at Penyoke Playing Field. The PTA of Landulph School has been helped by the refurbishment of its outside shelter at the school, and a heart defibrillator has been obtained for public use on the outside of the Memorial Hall. Training sessions have been arranged to take place in the main hall on Tuesday 4th July from 7pm – 9pm. The hall will accommodate up to 120 people, so I would encourage as many people as possible to attend.

Speaking of medical matters, following the retirement of doctors at the Saltash Health Centre, I am sure I am speaking for everyone when I say that it was a big disappointment to learn that the Health Centre found itself unable to continue to support the community with a surgery at the Rectory Rooms in Cargreen.

Turning to the Playing Field, it has been good to see the formation of a Working Group by parishioners to look after the play area, and advise the Parish Council on appropriate maintenance requirements, and the use and replacement of equipment there. Thanks are due to Nigel Cummings for the repairs (replacement even) he is carrying out on the tractor unit. The Council has upped the precept by 10% this year, with the extra funds being ring fenced in order to provide an ongoing fund for the maintenance of the playground. This cost amounts to just £3.49 per annum in council tax on a band D house in the parish.

Indeed, it has been heartening to see the commitment of parishioners generally to the enhancement of our environment, for example, Allen Pack who continues to look after the new crab apple trees at Penyoke, Marilyn and Steve Dennis who have spruced up the war memorial, and the Butcher family for hosting the spare salt bin outside their house, with apologies for any unsung heroes whom I have not named here.

This time last year, problems of flooding in the playing field were reported. At the time, responsibility was bounced back and forth among the Health & Safety Executive, the Environment Agency, South West Water and Cornwall Council. It has been a long time a-coming, but finally, action is being taken by the Environment Agency and Cornwall Highways to rectify the situation of blocked and broken drains. Our thanks go to Councillors Braund and Braund and to our parish clerk for their efforts in bringing this matter to a conclusion.

You may recall from the Parish Council's Annual Meeting last year that an incident had been reported where an ambulance had difficulty in finding a property in the postcode area PL12 6PA which covers Back Lane and Penyoke Lane. The Parish Council took up this issue with Cornwall Highways, and I am pleased to be able to say that all entrances to Penyoke Lane are now marked with nameplates (in two languages so there can be no mistake). An unfortunate aspect of this is that the short stretch of street known to locals as Back Lane does not officially exist, and is encompassed within the Penyoke Lane labelling.

Last year I reported that the Devon and Cornwall Police were planning to set up regular Police Liaison Group meetings in order to communicate and consult with local communities. This followed a decision to cease visiting town and parish meetings and to stop issuing a monthly on-line report. Unfortunately, these liaison groups have not been forthcoming, despite repeated requests to our local police inspector and to the Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner. I should take this opportunity to mention that our sector police sergeant, Angela Crowe is retiring at the end of this month, and we will be looked after by Sergeant Jo Williams who is based in Liskeard. My understanding is that the PL12 area will then be looked after by one police constable and three PCSOs.

Soon after the Parish Assembly last year, the Parish Council was approached by a firm of architects, Cleave Design, who then came to present their ideas for a new development of up to 42 houses on land located between Fore Street and Church Lane, opposite the Memorial Hall. Following this meeting, and without further direct communication with the

Council, Cleave Design subsequently arranged a public consultation in the Memorial Hall to which members of the parish were invited. Reports from members of the public who attended that consultation meeting indicated that they were not favourably impressed by what they saw and heard from the presenters. The Parish Council has noted the comments received. At this point, I can report that no formal planning application has been received for the Council to consider.

I'm getting close to the end now, you will be pleased to hear, but I cannot sign off without making mention of the proposed neighbourhood plan. Under the able leadership of Jo Butcher, and in her absence, Debbie Allan, the Steering Group has been working hard during the year with questionnaires, consultations and much head scratching to create a neighbourhood plan for the parish. A second draft plan is in preparation and close to publication for further comment and consultation. Advice is also being obtained from Cornwall Council on the structure and content of the document. As always, I cannot stress enough the importance of this neighbourhood plan to the future of the parish. It cannot prevent development, but it can promote and encourage the sort of development best suited to the needs of Landulph. Please get involved and give serious considerations to the ideas and policies contained within it.

Finally, it cannot have escaped your notice that there were some local elections a few days ago. We now have a new Cornwall Councillor, Jesse Foot, who defeated Daniel Pugh by just 5 votes. I have congratulated him on his election, and requested that he should come to a meeting of our Parish council to share his vision for the future. I am pleased to be able to report that he has responded with a promise to come and speak to us at a council meeting.

Also you will shortly be welcoming two newly elected councillors who will be joining the Parish Council at the Annual Meeting which follows. These are Martin Worth and Martin Holmes. I also need to mention Philip Braund who was initially co-opted to replace Mac Armstrong when he stood down last year, and who has now been duly elected. I would just like to end by urging our new councillors to attend as soon as possible, the training sessions organised by Cornwall Council on the Code of Conduct which they must observe, and on understanding the planning system.

Well, that's it, folks. It has been a privilege to be a member of Landulph's Parish Council and to serve as chairman. I wish you all well for the future. I am sure you remain in good hands.

Thank you and good-bye.

Gerry Stevenson Chairman, Landulph Parish Council