

## **Minutes of the South Petherwin Annual Parish Meeting held on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2023, at 7pm, in South Petherwin Methodist Chapel Hall.**

Present: Cllr P Parsons (Chairman), Cllr S Sleep

In Attendance: Linda Coles, Parish Clerk.

There were seven members of the public present.

**Item 1. Apologies.** Apologies were received from Cllr Barham and Cllr Butler, and also from Oliver Jones, Cornwall Highways.

**Item 2. Chairman's Welcome.** The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting.

**Item 3. Minutes of the 2022 Annual Parish Meeting.**

The Minutes of that meeting were resolved as a true record at the Parish Council meeting held in June 2022.

**Item 4. Reports of Parish Council matters during the year.**

The Chairman of South Petherwin Parish Council reported the following:

- Royal Occasions. The Parish has celebrated the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, commemorated the Queen's death and celebrated King Charles III Coronation.
- Ongoing issues in the Parish are dog bins and speeding traffic.
- Traffic Calming installations at Daws House are still giving concerns which have been raised with Cornwall Council Highways Officer.

**Item 5. Reports from local organisations.**

Reports from the following are attached to these Minutes as Appendices:

- a) South Petherwin Village Hall
- b) Parish Magazine and Website
- c) Neighbourhood Watch
- d) South Petherwin Methodist Church
- e) PPG
- f) South Petherwin CP School
- g) South Petherwin Allotment Gardeners
- h) South Petherwin Community Benefit Fund
- i) Cricket Club

**Item 6. Public Open Forum.**

An email had been received about the foul smell in the village following muck spreading. This was discussed

**Item 7. Closure of the meeting.** The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.12pm

## **SOUTH PETHERWIN VILLAGE HALL 2023**

We are pleased to say that our bookings are up and we have some great regular users, including a very popular line dancing group. It was also great to see the hall happy and busy during the recent Coronation event. Our village hall run events have also been very popular, including a free First Aid Acquaint, table top sales, quizzes and bingo.

We are well underway with a project to update the Trust Deeds including the land registry document. The hall was given to the parish over 20 years ago by the WI and a committee set up to oversee its running. The original members of the committee signed the land registry document, not surprisingly, only one of these original members remain on the committee and sadly many have passed away. In order to update the land registry document, we have had to track down all the original members who are still living and obtain death certificates for those who have passed away. We are nearly there, with only one person left to track down. At the May meeting of the Parish Council, it was agreed that they will be the new Holding Trustee going forward.

This year the exterior of the hall was repainted thanks to Andy Crocombe and the finished result is amazing. We received a grant from the Community Fund to purchase a large screen TV and soundbar. We are awaiting final connection of broadband to be completed by BT.

We have had a couple of decluttering sessions for the kitchen and storeroom, sold a couple of chairs and installed a safe and a letterbox. We are now looking into getting some new chairs that can be stowed more easily in the storeroom.

Skittle alley and trestle tables are being offered for sale.

If anyone wishes to join the committee, please let us know – new people are always welcome.

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## Parish Magazine (Sue Vernon)

The magazine has been running well – we produce up to 40 pages in colour and deliver the magazines for free to all the parish. However, print costs are escalating and advertising revenue alone, even though we increased this the other year, will not sustain us. We are therefore very pleased that the Wind Turbine Fund gave us the funding to print two issues, which has been a tremendous help. We constantly look out for new advertisers, and if you know of anyone please let us know.

We produced a calendar for 2023 which was fully self-funded and we were able to donate £267 to Cornwall Air Ambulance. However, sadly we think this will be the last time we produce a calendar - with the rise of smart phones, people are not as interested anymore in a printed wall calendar.

We are never short of great articles and photos by our regular contributors and general public, which ensure we have a magazine that reflects the issues that are relevant to everyone who lives in our parish. The Editor would like to thank everyone who is involved – their commitment is amazing and we are all volunteers. We always welcome new committee members.

## Website

Since our relaunch in May 2021, we now have over 41,500 views and 15,700 users. We encourage people to sign up to the email distribution list which means they receive notifications of news as it happens. We have a page for all clubs and societies – if you want to add/update yours please let us know. The Partners Page is where our magazine advertisers can advertise for a small annual fee. This all helps to pay for the website administration.

## NHW Report 24<sup>th</sup> May 2023

As a Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator, all Devon and Cornwall Alert messages are sent to me within the secure Neighbourhood Alert System. I then forward them onto my members via email but they can be shared via other forms of social media.

The system is continuing to work well at a national and local level and alerts are being sent out on a regular basis including details of latest scam, rural crime and other local updates. To sign up to this system you are required to complete an online registration form and have the opportunity to select the settings that interest you.

We have to bear in mind that not all are computer savvy or have any interest in the internet, so important messages are passed either by word of mouth, posted on Notice Boards or placed in the Parish Magazine.

The most recent ones received this week are telling us about Operation Vortex, targeting drivers of all types of vehicles who disregard road traffic laws on roads across Devon and Cornwall with 15 already reported for using mobile phones. There is also an increase in livestock worrying by the public not controlling their dogs and adhering to and understanding the Countryside Code. All land is owned and access is not a given right. Allowing dogs to chase or attack livestock is a criminal offence. Today's alert says "Have you secured your email account@ and gives useful advice about this.

Mary Stoneman

## South Petherwin Methodist Church Report 24<sup>th</sup> May 2023

We continue to meet on Sunday mornings and celebrated 151 years at our Chapel Anniversary on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2023. We have had a busy year and hosted 3 important Parish events, namely services for Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June, then a Service of Prayer, Thanksgiving and Commendation in remembrance of her late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> September and the Service of Remembrance on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November. We closed on May 7<sup>th</sup> 2023 to attend the Parish Coronation Service held at the Church.

Last year our Rev Jo Smart left us to take up a new post in the Isle of Man and we hosted a Circuit Welcome service to welcome our new minister Rev John Haley on Wednesday August 31<sup>st</sup> 2022, when the Chapel was packed with representatives from churches and chapels far and wide.

Our Church hall continues to be used by various groups and the Friendship Group held on the last Monday of the month continues to be well supported. The Mobile Post Office runs its services every week and has just changed its day to Monday but the opening hours remain the same 3.00pm -5.00pm.

We have now erected our disclaimer notices on the entrances to the graveyard and car park, as advised after our Quinquennial inspection, both of which are not public rights of way. We have recently encountered more dog fouling on the paths around the chapel building and on the grass. Although notices have been posted on the gates asking dog owners to be respectful to our groundsman who keep the chapel yard in immaculate condition, unfortunately this is not being adhered to. Consequently there is a dog bin just across the road. Often our responsible dog owners clean up and report back to us. As the path through and around the chapel yard is not a public right of way the gates could well be locked in the future if this problem continues. The car park is also not a dog walking area but private land and maintained by our groundsman. I understand that this is an ongoing problem throughout the village and would once again bring it to the Parish Council's attention.

We continue with our outreach work into the community and along with our minister Rev John Haley who is always at hand to deal with any pastoral related problems and will do his best to help.

Mary Stoneman

# **Health Provision Report to South Petherwin Parish Council**

**24 May 2023**

## Launceston Medical Centre Patient Participation Group (PPG)

Last PPG meeting took place online on 17 April 2023 – our chair is Paul Ford (also a volunteer with Cornwall Air Ambulance) and vice-chair is Joan Heaton. Our next meeting will be at Launceston Medical Centre on 21 June at 6pm.

At our last meeting, the following were noted:

- newly appointed full-session female GP joining the practice in July
- newly appointed paramedic joining the practice in July
- newly appointed Clinical Psychologist joining the practice through external funding
- recruiting for new HR manager
- Dr Jones leaving for Neetside Surgery, Bude in June
- 2 full-time GP posts are vacant – new GPs urgently needed
- Health Hub on plan – holdup due to business plan amendment but funding safe – services concentrating on preventative care
- practice using new system – Klinik – rather than e-consult
- practice staff visiting other practices to see Klinik in use
- GP contract being updated – patients should be offered an assessment of need at first contact and not asked to call back at another time
- practice is looking at a new dispensing system – EPS – to speed up prescriptions
- patients aged 75+, housebound and nursing home patients served by Spring Covid-19 Booster programme (other patients can book through NHS app on website or call freephone 119)
- a new website is being initiated – a complete list of clinical staff will be updated on the website
- Dispensary queues can be quite long but there has been improvement – mid morning seems an optimal time to pick up
- PPG actively lobbying for a Renal Dialysis Unit in Launceston
- PPG actively lobbying for more Dementia support for those living with dementia and their carers

## Cornwall & Isles of Scilly (CIOS) Integrated Care Board (ICB)

I follow the ICB meetings online as Chair of the Citizen Advisory Panel (CAP). We feedback the voice of the patient to the ICB, the commissioning body for health provision in county. Transforming the model of healthcare is necessary to provide the right service at the right time in the right place. The purpose of the new Integrated Care Systems throughout England is to collaboratively work with partners at scale to:

- improve outcomes in population health and healthcare
- tackle inequalities in outcomes, experience and access
- enhance productivity and value for money
- help NHS support broader social and economic development

Since April 2023, the ICB has been responsible for pharmacy, optometry and dentistry. The ICB is working closely with the police to ensure health and social care reaches people in crisis and improve the mental health provision.

There are almost 6000 voluntary organisations in county and approximately 150,000 volunteers. Without volunteers, the NHS would be sorely pressed. Dementia care is a case in point and our own Memory Café does invaluable work supporting those with dementia and carers. The Cornwall Dementia Conference was held on 19 May and one of our PPG members attended – she is a founder member of our Memory Cafe. There are 43 Memory Cafes in county and around 650 people attend the cafes. Support groups visit the cafes and assist with sensory experiences, exercises, breathing and relaxation techniques, quizzes, singing, engaging with carers, and much more. Work with patients on Garner Ward at Bodmin Hospital is exemplary.

Mental health and suicide prevention is being addressed by the ICB, Public Health and Voluntary Sector services. The Community Gateway has been offering support to communities in collaboration with the ICB. There is a dedicated phone line – 01872 266383 – 7 days a week 8am to 8pm. Launceston also has a free counselling service SILC, working out of the Orchard Centre – self-referrals and referrals from the GP surgery – 01566 701823. The ICB is now focussing on Intermediate Care – helping to keep patients at home with help for as long as possible. Wider engagement with social care is necessary and that requires workforce and resources, both problematic at present. Personalised care and reablement is focussed on place-based care rather than acute hospital care. The ICB was aware of the need to examine its purpose and think differently about health delivery, requiring a sea change throughout the system.

Joan Heaton  
23 May 2023

## Parish Council Annual Meeting

We have had a busy year in school. We now have 115 children on roll which is the largest number ever. Our Year 6 SATs results put us in the top 20% of schools in the country and we have received a glowing Ofsted report praising our 'welcoming and inclusive school':

*Parents are overwhelmingly positive about all aspects of the school. One parent's comment reflected the view of many, 'the school is a community where everyone is part of a team. It's such a wonderful caring environment.'* Ofsted May 2023

The park is a much valued asset and a well-loved space. The school pays for the yearly inspections of the play equipment and sadly, on this year's report, areas have come up that need attention. The cobweb unit, rockers, playboat, tower within the slide and space net all require repairs totalling £1520.00. The main wooden play apparatus needs repairs coming to a price of £2424.00.

Sadly we have suffered some vandalism and unsociable behaviour on the school site over the last year. Our school goalposts have been damaged, fences broken, the reception class outdoor area is repeatedly 'played in' at the weekends and left in an awful state and our outdoor classroom has had graffiti scrawled over it. This is in addition to us having to clear up vomit, broken bottles, cigarette ends and even condoms. We have taken security advice and entrance to the park and school site is now through one gate (rather than two) as this gate is monitored by CCTV.

Finally, this is my final report as I am taking early retirement at the end of the summer term. May I take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to everyone in the village for making me (and my dog Buddy!) so welcome. The last eight years as headteacher of South Petherwin School have been the happiest of my long (35 years) career in education. It has been a privilege to see the school flourish and I will miss everyone greatly.

Theresa Mills  
Headteacher, South Petherwin School



# Annual Report for SP Parish Council

## Changes to committee

At the AGM in February, two committee members left their roles due to time constraints (although continue to remain as plotholders) and three new members joined. All are enjoying their roles and play an active part in discussions and future plans for SPAG.

## Tenant occupancy/waiting list

We have had a few plotholders leave due to health and time constraints but all plots are fully occupied again. We also have a short waiting list and are always open to more names if anyone is interested.

## Challenges over the past year

The hot summer was challenging and made the ground dry and dusty, and some crops had particularly poor harvests. However others thrived and plotholders are better prepared for this year with many investing in their own IBCs for rainwater collection.

Many plotholders are interested in regenerative agriculture which focuses on building soil quality through topdressing with compost and manure, and minimising disturbance to soil structure caused by unessential digging. Not only does this make the ground more fertile, it also enhances soil microbiology and improves moisture retention. This will mean less watering is required in hot weather which is crucial now in our changing climate. Because these practices rely on the addition of compost and manure, we are all incredibly grateful for the generous supply of manure from our landlord, Ian Trehane.

The site was hit with heavy wind and rain in winter which caused the gate post to rot through. Thanks to the help of the Trehanes, this was able to be replaced swiftly and effectively. We'd like to also note the recent improvements to the entry of the site with further thanks to the Trehanes for this. It has made access and turning much easier and looks very tidy indeed.

As expected, rabbits and deer continue to be a problem, although with most plots fenced now theft by rabbit has been minimised. Deer still jump the fencing and last year took the majority of everyone's sweetcorn across site! Due to good housekeeping practices, as defined in our tenancy agreement, we do not have a problem with rats at all.

## Future plans

We have had to remove some sickly fruit trees in the communal area at the top of site due to canker (fungal disease), and we hope to secure funding to replace these in autumn. We also have an area that we are rewilding for nature and plan to sow a pollinator friendly patch to help enhance biodiversity and support native wildlife.

We have four community work days per year where all plotholders come together and help with essential maintenance around the site. This year, as well as revamping the communal area and planting new trees, we have plans to paint the shed, repair any weathered parts and fix/sharpen communal tools.

We also have several seasonal social gatherings planned which we hope will help to boost community spirit and bring plotholders together in a more fun and relaxed way. Community is incredibly important for everyone, and with a shared passion for allotmenteeing SPAG offers a fantastic opportunity to create and build lasting friendships. To help facilitate this, we have recently created a whats app group chat for plotholders to communicate more easily, whether this is to ask or offer advice, share about related events, raise concerns to the committee or just discuss allotment life in general. We have also set up a Facebook group in addition to our page for similar purposes but which members of the public and people on our waiting list can join as well. We hope that this helps to inspire others to try allotmenteeing and experience the joys that we all relish in!

### **South Petherwin Community Benefit Trust**

The trustees met four times in the last 12 months and various grants have been awarded. There is a balance of £9726.64 in the Trust's bank account and applications for a grant are always welcome.

### **Cricket Club**

The Cricket Club has two men's teams. The first team finished in its highest position ever but the 2<sup>nd</sup> team was relegated. There is also a Ladies Team and Sam Payne is the coach. The Cricket Club will host the Cornwall under 18s v Wales in June. There is also an All Stars group of 5-8yr olds. Around the ground there are panels advertising local businesses. There is a defibrillator at the Cricket Club.

