

LUDGVAN PARISH COUNCIL

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING AGENDA:

Wednesday 11th May 2016, 7pm at the Oasis Childcare Centre, Lower Quarter Ludgvan.

- 1. Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Wednesday 13th May 2015.**
- 2. Matters arising from the Minutes.**
- 3. Annual Report by the Chair of the Parish Council on the activities of the Parish Council during the twelve month period ending 31st March 2016 (a copy can be found on the Council website).**

LUDGVAN PARISH COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE TWELVE MONTH PERIOD TO 31ST MARCH 2016
TO THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 11TH MAY 2016

1. CHAIRMAN & VICE CHAIRMAN:

At the 13th May 2015 Annual Parish Meeting, Councillor R Sargeant was nominated and re-elected as Chairman. Councillor Peter Vaughan was re-elected as Vice-Chair.

2. PARISH COUNCILLORS:

During the year councillors Graham Ronan, Eddy Edwards and Peter Vaughan all resigned on health grounds, their contributions, knowledge and enthusiasm will be greatly missed. Jonny Hewett and Charles Richards were both co-opted to the Council later in the year, leaving one vacancy to fill.

3. MEETINGS OF THE COUNCIL:

The Parish Council held twelve monthly Parish Council Meetings. The various Committees met as and when required.

4. STAFF & CONTRACTORS:

The Parish Council's only employee is the Clerk, Mr. S P Hudson who completed his third year in March 2015. As Chairman I would like to thank the Clerk for all his hard work during the year. This has made a major contribution to the smooth running of the Council

Thanks are again due to the following contractors who carried out various tasks to their usual very high standard on behalf of the Council:-

- Henry Rich – Grass cutting and general maintenance.
- Chris Fry and Kirstan Gorvin – public footpaths/bridleways.
- Mr Simon Rhodes – Cemetery maintenance and works at the new churchyard and garden area as well as the Churchtown plot.

The ability and willingness of all contractors to undertake work at very short notice to high standards and at competitive rates is much appreciated.

5. FINANCIAL MATTERS:

The 2015/16 precept was set at £30,939 an increase over the previous year of £4,193.

Balances at the end of the year stood at £31,570 an increase of £8,789 during the year. Earmarked reserves stood at £17,633

The Council's internal auditor is Mr David Gallie, the internal audit was completed to his satisfaction on 24th April 2016. The Annual Return will be approved at the Annual Parish Council Meeting on May 11th after which it will be delivered to Grant Thornton the external auditors.

Full details will appear on the councils website once the accounting statements have been approved.

6. DONATIONS:

Under Regulation S137 of the Local Government Act 1972 the Council is authorised to spend a limited (capped) sum on ‘good causes’ within the Parish. Some other grants are provided under specific powers. In an environment of shrinking resources the Council has introduced a grant policy to assist its deliberations in awarding monies and during the financial year ending 31 March 2016 total donations totalling £520 were made.

7. ALLOTMENTS:

The Council maintains allotments at Long Rock (11 plots) and Church Hill, Ludgvan (49 plots). As at 31st March 2016 most plots were let and under cultivation. Mains water is connected to standpipes at both sites.

The newly formed Allotment Committee has looked at the terms of the tenancy agreement, introduced a policy of splitting plots to encourage more users and reviewed the annual rent which was increased to £27.50 per annum from 1st January 2016 to ensure that income received matched the cost of providing the sites.

A combined waiting list is maintained for both sites which at the time of writing stands at eight parishioners and twelve non-parishioners.

The Parish Council again supported the popular Ludgvan Horticultural Annual Summer Show and provided prizes for the “Most Improved Allotment”, the “Best Kept Allotment” and the vegetable “Top Tray” competition.

8. CEMETERIES:

All the Council's cemeteries and the new amenity area were maintained to the usual high standard during the year.

In total eight burials took place, six at St. Pauls and two at Crowlas.

9. FOOTPATHS:

Footpaths and bridleways within the Parish continued to be maintained to a high standard throughout the year. The budget of £3,200 represented an increase compared to the previous year. as the Council has now taken responsibility for the St Michael's Way. It has also agreed to work with the local Ramblers Association to undertake other improvement works to the St Michael's Way.

10. BUS SHELTERS/PUBLIC SEATS/GRASS CUTTING/CHURCHTOWN PLOT:

The responsibility for the maintenance, insurance and cleaning of bus shelters has been transferred to Fernbank Ltd, public seats and the White Cross Monument all within the Parish were cleaned and maintained to the usual high standard. Maintenance of the Royal British Legion site on Church Hill is carried out through the Spring and Summer.

11. ROAD & OTHER SAFETY MATTERS:

The Council continues to campaign for road safety improvements to the main A30 trunk road and the various Parish secondary roads. A report on the A30 between St Erth and Newtown roundabouts with suggested improvements is expected to be published shortly.

12. PLANNING:

The Council considered 55 planning applications during the year, the same as in the previous twelve months.

13. PUBLIC TOILETS:

Tenders to run both sets of toilets in the parish from private concerns have been received by Cornwall Council, unfortunately the immediate future of the toilets in Long Rock car park has been put in doubt by the collapse of the sea wall.

14. POLICE MATTERS:

Throughout the year the parish council has continued to enjoy an excellent and productive working relationship with our Rural Neighbourhood Police Team. Unfortunately information regarding the number and type of criminal investigations will no longer be provided.

15. NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN:

The Council has taken the decision to produce a Neighbourhood Plan which will provide statutory planning policies applicable in the parish. A Steering Group of volunteers and councillors has been established to manage the project. Progress has been good and extensive public consultation is due to take place in early summer.

CONCLUSION

Another busy year for the Council with the usual high standard of service provision maintained.

Richard Sargeant
Chairman, Ludgvan Parish Council