

Lostwithiel Annual Parish Meeting

Tuesday 25 May 2021

Lostwithiel's Annual Parish Meeting was held in the Church Rooms on Tuesday 25 May 2021 at 7pm.

Welcome

The Mayor of Lostwithiel Councillor Karen Ross welcomed the 17 people present at the meeting. The Mayor expressed how nice it was to see people face to face.

Apologies

Lostwithiel Brownies

Fire Service

Police

St Winnow School

Minutes Tuesday 21 May 2019

It was proposed by Deputy Mayor Henderson and seconded by Councillor Guiterman that the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Tuesday 21 May 2019 are signed as a true and correct record.

Annual Police Report for Lostwithiel

Mayor Ross read out the following report from Sergeant David Mitchell.

Parish/Town Council AGM Report 2020/2021

Neighbourhood Team Leader

Sergeant 4794 Dave Mitchell

Neighbourhood Beat Manager

PC 4886 Andrew Barnicoat

PC 5929 Gareth Hawken
PC 6170 Colin Sheppard
PC 7177 Will Chesterfield
PC 7069 Yasmin Vokes
PC 5427 Phil Dingle

Police Community Support Officer
30499 Julie Carpenter
30047 Wendy Christophers
30528 Natalie Merrikin
30004 Ally Relf
30262 Steve Tibbles
30055 Graham Wade
30449 Jamie Ward
30740 Yasmin Barrott

Overall Crime

Really positive news, roughly a 10% reduction in all crime over the last 12 months. Almost all crime types are down with significant reductions in dwelling burglary, vehicle offences and shoplifting. The main increase has been in violence without injury and this is largely due to changes in the crime recording rules and the classification of offences, all harassment/stalking/mal comms offences for example are categorised as violence without injury which inflates the numbers considerably. Other areas which have increased include possession and trafficking of drugs, and weapons offences which should be seen as a positive thing as these offences only get recorded when they are detected by officers and demonstrates our proactive work to tackle drugs and weapon crime. Despite the numbers being up in these crime categories they are still low by national standards. Individual crime figures can be found on our website.

Priorities over the last 12 months

Safeguarding of vulnerable people particularly with Covid and significant partnership work undertaken. Domestic abuse has been a

national priority due to the concerns around increases particularly during periods of lockdown. We have seen some rises at various times but overall, our sector hasn't seen the increases that other sectors have.

Anti-Social Behaviour has been an issue from time to time and has been tackled with partner agencies such as Helen Toms ASB Officer. County Lines has been a real priority which as a sector we have tackled very well in terms of executing warrants, charging, and remanding several key individuals and seizures of drugs. The perpetrators of county lines have continued their 'business' but using different tactics, as a sector we have carried out more drugs warrants than anyone else.

We must stress the importance of community intelligence and encourage communities to report things to us. Information relating to vulnerable persons being exploited is particularly important right now.

Covid legislation has been introduced and it has been a priority for some time to deal with reports of breaches. We have utilised the 4 E's approach, Engage, Explain, Encourage and Enforce. There have been a significant number of reports to us placing real pressure to respond and at times we have been unable to due to other more pressing issues around Threat, Risk and Harm.

Moving forward

Last year was unprecedented for us in terms of demand. There was approximately a 20-30% increase on our demand and we anticipate the same this year due to the number of visitors coming down as opposed to going abroad. We are planning for the easing of lockdown and anticipate real challenges. G7 is taking place but the impact on local resourcing for this will be minimal.

An increase in neighbourhood officers over the last 12-18 months has been a real positive for the team. There is talk that we may see

more staff, but this is not yet confirmed. We have operated as 'one team' for some time now and the system is working well. There is currently no thought that we will return to dedicated officers for each area. The national uplift of 20,000 officers has also meant that response staff have seen the benefits so in terms of staffing we are in a better place than we were a few years ago.

Cornwall Councillor Colin Martin

Cornwall Councillor Martin praised the fantastic community in Lostwithiel, who cared for one another during the pandemic.

Cornwall Councillor Martin said instead of going back to normal we have an opportunity to 'Build Back Better'. Cornwall Councillor Martin is hoping that meetings will allow for face to face and virtual as virtual meetings increased attendance for the public in Cornwall Council meetings.

Cornwall Councillor Martin said his aims are to 'Build Back Better in 4 main areas -

1. Children's welfare
2. Older people. Currently adult social care costs take up a huge proportion of Council Tax bills and Cornwall Council will be looking for new funding for adult social care.
3. Housing and Planning. Cornwall Councillor Martin said that looking after the countryside and also providing affordable housing to local families were his priorities here.
4. Climate. Cornwall Councillor Martin stated that the last year has proven that we can act in an emergency if needed. He stated that Cornwall Council is going to be looking at ways to reduce our Carbon Footprint, not by lecturing people but facilitating ways that Carbon Footprints can be reduced.

Annual Cornwall Council Community Network Report

Tasha Davies Congratulated the Mayor and Cornwall Councillor Martin.

Tasha stated that it had been an interesting 12 months and that local communities have been amazing.

Tasha reported that the Community Network Panel attendance has been good with lots of interesting presentations, including Mental Health and Suicide Prevention.

At the recent AGM areas that needed attention were planning, highways and speeding, waiting restrictions, devolution of the Cattle Market car park.

Tasha said that she has been working on the Town Centre Vitality Fund with Caitlin Lord.

Tasha also mentioned the importance of working together on reducing Climate Change and looking at ways to improve the environment.

Duchy of Cornwall Report

Not present

Lostwithiel Army Cadets Report

Not present

Lostwithiel Beavers, Cubs & Scouts Report

Councillor Lindley read out the following report from Peter Berry, Acting Group Scout Leader.

Good evening, sorry I am unable to attend tonight. As with a lot of youth organisations over the last 12+ months things have come to complete stand still, as we hopefully come out lockdown again we are hoping to make a start back to scouting.

We hope to return after half term BUT we are running a reduced program with both Cubs and Scouts on the same night for the first weeks till summer.

We are in desperate need of new leaders to help with the week to week scouting and for more young people from the Town to attend as most at present come in from out of the Town area.

As we move forward, we will continue to support events within the Town where possible but with limited adult support it will be hard, basically if the Town want the Scout group to continue we need more support.

Many thanks,

Peter Berry
Acting Group Scout Leader

Lostwithiel St Bart's Church Report

Revd Paul Benyon congratulated the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Cornwall Councillor Colin Martin.

Revd Paul Benyon said that the pandemic has effected both society and the Church in good and not so good ways. He reported that the pandemic has hastened improvements in the technology the church uses by about 10 years. He stated that this modernity hasn't been easy for all and that it has been hard doing this for a grade 1 listed building. However, the Church's social media presence as been a life line to many of those that would normally attend St Barts and that that the online attendance has been widely accessible and lots of people have joined services online.

Revd Paul Benyon said that one of the most immediate pressures is the economic pressure, there is currently a restoration of the Church Tower needed. The Tower is unstable, there is water ingress and the handing bell needs restoration. It is estimated that this will cost £120,000 and that they are half way to their target. Revd Paul Benyon said that there will be a fund-raising BBQ and meet and greet on 3 July 2021.

Revd Paul Benyon reminded people that St Barts remains committed to its open doors and offers a warm welcome spiritually as well as practically.

Lostwithiel Business Group Report

Not present

Lostwithiel Community Centre Report

Not present

Lostwithiel Fire Station Report

Apologies sent.

Lostwithiel Brownies & Girl Guides Report

Councillor Lindley read out the following report from Joanne Brown, Brownie Leader.

Our last group meeting was on Thursday 19th March 2020, as many due to Lockdown we were unable to meet face to face.

When not in a lockdown we were governed by number restrictions for large groups indoors.

Girlguiding also require risk assessments of space used, by us and the owners of building, increased cleaning procedures and safe social distancing policies, it was considered not safe to all concerned to meet.

We have encouraged communication through Newsletter and a Brownie Facebook page where activities have been shared.

In April guiding held an 'Adventures at home spring social' through You Tube and in June our Gribbin District are holding a virtual Sleepover!! With given activity times to Zoom meet friends.

We are Looking forward as a group to meet up together again, and are in the process of looking into possibly holding outdoor meetings before summer holidays - weather permitting of course,

And in September we have a special Birthday we are hoping to celebrate.....

100 years of Brownies in Lostwithiel

Fingers crossed for better times.

Many Thanks

Joanne Brown

Brownie Leaders

Lostwithiel Memory Café Report

Martin Austin from the Memory Café read out and then submitted the following report.

I am here tonight to talk about the Lostwithiel memory café. My personal memories right now go back to when I last spoke at this meeting. I could say it's been a funny old year but in fact it has been neither! I spoke on the 21st May 2019 so it has been two years, and it has been far from funny.

When I last spoke, we had a fairly well attended and seemingly valued organisation. Now we have virtually nothing apart from some very happy memories. At the last annual parish meeting I outlined what we do, which boils down to providing Cognitive Stimulation Therapy for our guests and a little respite/companionship for their Carers. This we were doing fortnightly in the Oasis Suite here at the community centre, creating a café like atmosphere with tea and cake and professional practitioners. Our model was recognised as being ideal by The Alzheimer's Society and one of our founders was asked by them to attend their international meeting in, I think, Canada to 'tell the world' what we were doing, so highly regarded in our field.

Inevitably dealing with older people does lead to losing some of them, but as time goes on, as a Guests join us. But this last 14 months has left us with just one guest. Not only is it very sad to see all our work for the last 10 years go down the drain, but it really hurts to lose friends, which is what our guests and their care has become.

So, the way forward no good moping we are beginning to look how to restore the café to its former glory and benefit the community and the NHS are CST has been shown to be more effective than some drugs therapies and it delays the need for care homes.

Strangely for an organisation that is free to use as money is not a problem. We have some very generous benefactors and donations come from a variety of sources including sadly funeral collections, so funds are not the problem. We are creating a strategy, to target members of the community who will benefit from a service. GDPR are makes it illegal for the surgery or dementia professional professionals to provide us with details of potential guests, however the surgery who already put up our details on their website has promised to help. Details will be sorted out later! We will also put posters up have newsletter entries and use as many means as we can to let people know who we are, what we do and how we can

potentially help. Another coffee morning might be on the cards, but we feel targeting potential guest person they should be the first step.

The other problem of course is this abominable virus. All the people are particularly vulnerable and even with the fantastic vaccine rollout we say feel it may be some while before we can persuade people to come into room with maybe 20+ others. As always people's actions are determined by whether they feel safe not that the government tells them that they are safe. So, I wonderful tea and cake will have to wait a little while as we assess the situation and how potential new guests feel about joining post-pandemic.

We have put a lot of time and energy into the memory café over the years and have had a great deal of satisfaction from seeing people benefit, so we are not about to give up. We are halfway through the year and we may not be up and running this year but hasta la vista baby will be back.

Lostwithiel Methodist Church Report

Sadly, our church has been closed since the beginning of the Covid pandemic, but we are hopeful that we will be able to open again at the end of June or the beginning of July.

If the circumstances permit, we will then welcome Societies back into the building and resume Bible studies and coffee mornings. Café Churches will also be resumed on the second and fourth Sundays.

Pastoral support during the pandemic has been given in the form of a daily email entitled 'The Daily Groan'. That included a few sentences about life past and present, a very short prayer of thanks, a terrible joke and a sentence of encouragement and hope. This email has been passed on to people all over the county and country.

We are taking part in the Wave of Hope, to give our messages for a better world to the G7 when it is held in June. This will be displayed in what was Coronet Hairdressers on the A390. Please take a moment to look at it. We are also sending one 'hand' to Carbis Bay, where, with others, they will be displayed for the G7 to see on a daily basis.

During the year we will lose Rev Stephen Caddick as our church minister and the circuit superintendent minister. We look forward to working with Rev Paul Benney when he arrives later in the year.

Our main aim is to resume our Christian presence in Lostwithiel and to be able to serve the community and the wider world.

Maureen Adams, church steward

Lostwithiel Museum Report

Not present

Lostwithiel Rotary Report

John Berryman reported that he has taken over the presidency for the last year. He stated that it has been difficult meeting online and there has been no Carnival or Beer Festival this year.

John reported that the Rotary has been involved in the Primary School Trust and has provided for the 'computers for home' drive. The Rotary has also been involved in marshalling the Bodmin Medical Centre. They have helped remove a dead tree in the river and also provided a Christmas tree for the Parade, which will now be an annual 'gift' to the town. The Rotary has now purchased a number of young trees, to provide a steady supply. The Rotary is continuing to support 'End Polio Now', which has eradicated Polio in all but two countries in the world.

John said he hopes that annual fund-raising events will resume in time and they hope to support the town again.

Lostwithiel School Report

Not present

Lostwithiel St Winnow's School Report

Mayor Ross read out the following report.

Please accept my apologies for being unable to attend the annual parish meeting this year I have included a brief overview of St Winnow as detailed below.

Over the last 12 months the school's capacity has increased dramatically. We currently have 95 pupils on role which in September 2021 will rise to 102. As our PAN is 105, we will very nearly be full!

During the summer term work will be starting on a new library which the Lostwithiel Education Trust has kindly donated towards. This is a project which has been in planning for two years now and we are very excited to see it completed in time for the start of our next academic year in September. Having the library built will be a huge asset to the school and will enable all of our pupils to have access to a wide range of books across the curriculum and foster love of reading throughout the school.

We have been able to purchase new resources to support our PE provision from The Sports Premium Grant, this is enabled us to promote 'active child, active mind' across the school encourages all of our people to stay active and healthy.

We are looking to Develop our Early Years provision over the next 12 months and this will be a key focus of our fundraising efforts in the future.

Thank you for your continued support it is very much appreciated.

Kind regards

Jennie Franklin - Executive Head of School

Lostwithiel Town Band Report

Sue Berryman, Secretary of Lostwithiel Town Band read out and submitted the following report.

The aims of the band are to provide music for the town and a learning environment for people of all ages. As a Community band we aim to entertain the people of Lostwithiel and surrounding area. To improve the standards of playing, we hope to engage in contests when the restrictions allow.

Brass band is part of Cornwall's heritage and Lostwithiel town band has provided players currently, and in the past, who have gone on to be top musicians. Also, many players have gained great enjoyment from playing regardless of their standard. Currently our youngest player is age 7 and our oldest is 88.

The social club is no longer being available to us due to Covid restrictions and its consequences. Therefore, we have had to establish a new home for rehearsals and storage in the Community Centre. Unfortunately, this is the 9th move in 20 years. This move will become a good focal point for the town and will help us to involve the wider community.

Obviously, recruitment is a priority for the band and important old children's artistic development. Playing in a band provides opportunities for working in teams and learning how to support each other. We are hoping that our move to the Community Centre will make us more visible and so people are more aware of what we can provide.

We are hoping to start playing again and fulfil engagements, including concerts, when rehearsals resume after such a long break when more players feel confident to return to the band. Obviously, sponsorship and fundraising will be key elements to enable us to fulfil our targets.

We would be grateful for assistance on the committee to enable us to move forward with the band.

Mike Lovegrove and Sue Berryman
On behalf of all at Lostwithiel Town Band.

Lostwithiel Young Farmers Report

Not present

Lostwithiel Town Council Mayor's Report.

Mayor Ross reported that the Council held their first meeting of the new Council on 18 May 2021. She reported that there are returning and new Councillors, so the Council should have the benefit of experience and new ideas.

Mayor Ross said the Edgcombe House Heritage Building Committee have been working hard on the future of the building and that they are currently waiting to hear back from the Town Centre Vitality Fund.

Mayor Ross reported that the Town Council has been working hard on the allotments and has been bringing them up to date and available.

Mayor Ross reported that the Flood Plan has been working well, with Co-ordinators and Wardens out in December. She stated that the flood plan is always being adapted and improved.

Mayor Ross reported that the Library is still operating a 'Click and Collect' service. Hopefully the Library will be reopening in July, but that we need volunteers to help run the Library.

Mayor Ross reported that when looking at the Gillyflower planning application the Town Council looked at its own Neighbourhood Plan, The Cornwall Local Plan and The National Planning Policy Framework to provide its response and in the opinion of the Town Council the application did not meet some of the criteria outlined in these documents, so the Town Council did not support the application.

Mayor Ross reminded people that the Town Council is just a consultee in the planning process and that the final decision is now with Cornwall Council Planning Department.

Finally, Mayor Ross congratulated Lostwithiel in its response to Covid-19.

Time allowed for any other Town Organisation to address the meeting

Lostfest

Councillor Guiterman addressed the meeting regarding this year's Lostfest. He advised that the Festival is going ahead on Sunday 13 June 2021 at 13.00 – 21.30 for a socially distanced festival following current Covid-19 regulations. There will be live performers for the ticketed events and it will also be live streamed online.

Councillor Guiterman advised that they still need some volunteers to help set up the festival.

Bowling Club

Councillor Henderson addressed the meeting regarding the Bowling Club. She reported to those that were unaware that the club is based on Restormel Road and currently has about 40 members who participate in competitions. She reported that it has been a difficult year, but that the club reopened in April and that they will be having open days on 30th and 31st May 2021 for anyone interested in joining.

Open Forum – An opportunity for residents to address questions to the town organisations and Councillors present.

Councillor Guiterman asked Cornwall Councillor Colin Martin if he could speak on the Climate and Environment.

Cornwall Councillor Martin said the Climate Emergency is going to be looked at on 3 different levels. A National Level, a County Level and a Local Level. So, plans will be set out by the Government, Cornwall Council already has objectives such as planting more trees and improving water quality. Locally a 'Nature Recovery Plan' will be developed in, partnerships will be set up and Lostwithiel and the

surrounding area will get to decide what is important for our own area.

A member of the public congratulated the new Councillors and asked if the new and existing Councillors could introduce themselves and asked that the new Councillors could speak a little about why they wanted to join the Council.

All attending Councillors spoke regarding their backgrounds and reasons for joining the Council.

The meeting way closed at 8.10pm by Mayor Ross.

Chairman

Date