



Budock Parish Council

Annual Report 2010/11

Chairmans Report

Budock Parish Council

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Members of the Council :

Cllr John Bastin (Chair)
Cllr Peter Fairbank (Vice Chair)
Cllr Steve Cotton
Cllr Rob Gibson
Cllr Nigel Hennell
Cllr Tim McCabe
Cllr Mrs Irene Clarke
Cllr Mrs Hazel Perham
Cllr Phil Hart

Cornwall County Councillor :

Cllr Neil Hatton

2010/11 has been another year of constant change and uncertainty. I mentioned in the last report that Cornwall had elected to move away from county and district councils and to amalgamate these into a Unitary Authority for Cornwall from 1st April 2009. This was a strategic move which was supposed to transform local government in Cornwall, with all services now being delivered by the single authority in partnership with the community. Despite promises at the time that a lot more 'power' would be devolved to Town and Parish Councils we are a long way off this in reality. There is, still however, potentially a great opportunity for local input to influence the future of our local community; I hope this is what will soon happen and that in this time of austerity, funds will be used wisely. "One Stop Shops" for advice and services are in the old Carrick Council building in Falmouth, and within the Town Council offices in Penryn.

Sarah Moore has been our clerk for over a year now and has settled well into her new post. Sarah is also the clerk for Mawnan Parish Council. During this period of reorganisation Budock Parish Council took the opportunity to share a council office with Mawnan Parish Council, the clerk should you wish to see her in person is available in the office within Berry's Estate Agents in Goldmartin Square in Mawnan Smith on Thursday and Friday mornings. (01326 251051) She is also contactable by e-mail -clerk@budockparish.net

Falmouth Town Council has recently been successful in obtaining planning permission for a new cemetery next to Budock Church. This emphasises how Budock is intermeshing with Falmouth, and demonstrates the need for us to be clear on how far we are prepared to allow our boundaries to coalesce while retaining our rural identity, that said there are great opportunities for joint working with both Penryn and Falmouth in the future.

Hazel Perham has re-joined the Parish Council and along with Nigel Hennell gives Treverva a direct voice. Steve Cotton has also joined the Council and brought with him skills that have already been put to good use. With sadness I have to report the death of Ravenna Pengelly who joined our council following my plea

for more councillors. Ravenna brought with her that vital local knowledge that can often make sense of difficult situations she will be missed very much by our community.

The role of a parish councillor has changed substantially over the years with more responsibility, accountability and time commitment, but it can be very interesting and rewarding. We currently have vacancies. It is particularly important as mentioned above to have councillors with a history of local knowledge, and also representation from the younger sector of the community. If you would like to know more about what would be involved please speak to me or the Parish Clerk.

Local community spirit has shone this year, with many activities taking place. In particular the Christmas lights and carols gave an opportunity for people to get together. Another success story has been Budock Playing Field, where young children can let off steam and interact safely. I thank the Playing Field and Village Hall Committees for their enthusiasm and commitment. As with the Parish Council, they rely on volunteers and are always keen to find new members. Budock Garden Show has also gone from strength to strength and with a renewed interest in 'home grown' and allotments gives the opportunity for local gardeners to showcase their products with of course the usual friendly rivalry.

Crime and disorder is still relatively low within the Parish but this should not lead to complacency. We also have a continuing issue of vehicle speed within both Budock and Treverva and the Police will soon be undertaking speed checks within our area. Interestingly we are now under Falmouth for our policing previously being policed from Helston.

Finally I would like to place on record my thanks to all past and present members of this council and also to our County Councillor Neil Hatton for his loyalty and hard work in supporting the Parish and its community.

*Cllr John Bastin
Chair Budock Parish Council*

How the Parish Precept was spent in 2010/11

ACCOUNTS SUMMARY, 2010/11

Balances Carried Forward

By Sarah Moore - Clerk

The main income of Parish and Town Councils is provided by the Parish Precept, an element of your Council Tax.

Bank Balance (excluding Reserved Funds)	£17,045
	£17,045

Plus Income

During 2010/11, Budock Parish Council's recurring expenditure included the day to day operation of the Parish Council, along with maintenance of public footpaths, and grass cutting at Budock Playing Field.

Precept	£16,500
Other Receipts	£2,741
	£19,241

Less Expenditure

In addition, the Street Lighting Loan still has a schedule of repayments for quite a few more years, and continues to cost over £3,000 per annum.

Parish Precept, 2011/12

Budock Parish Precept for the year is £18562. The Council is very conscious of the need to contain costs in the current economic climate.

Insurance	£1,108
Salaries & Training	£4,463
Council Office / Equipment	£1,200
Administration	£387
Footpaths & Open Spaces	£1,946
Village Halls	£1,833
Other	£551
Other Donations & Subscriptions	£495
Street Lighting Loan Repayment	£3,763
VAT Charges	£520
	(£16,266)

Closing Balance	£20,020
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Planning Report

During 2010/11, the council was consulted on 23 planning applications within the parish. Although there were no applications concerning major developments, 2 were for the building of new dwellings.

Budock Parish Council takes great care to consider each application on its merits, demonstrated by the fact that the council held a site visit for appropriate applications, to allow it to understand the nature of that specific proposal and its potential effects on the surrounding area.

A summary of Applications considered during 2010/11 is :-

- Development 2
- Work on Trees in Protected Areas 1
- Extensions, Alterations & Other 20

Treverva Village Hall Committee

Treverva Village Hall remains under the same committee as 2010, with short quarterly meetings mainly to review bookings, maintenance and funding. Usage has improved slightly from 2010, with letting income up to just over £300.00 for the year. Small local groups, Young Farmers, and Save the Children Fund providing our modest income. We would welcome other users.

Following a request from our insurers for evidence of an up to date electrical inspection for compliance with current legislation, local electricians 'Addinals' conducted the inspection. New earth rods and cable were required and installed, a further satisfactory inspection and report being sent to the insurers.

The application for a £300.00 grant from councillor Neil Hatton was successful, and together with a spend from our own funds the hall was completely re-carpeted by Cooks of Falmouth. Together with previous works and decoration, Treverva Village Hall presents a smart welcoming venue to users at modest rates.

Other regular income is provided by the '100 Club', although take-up remains modest, a small but successful plant table and honesty box provided by Mrs Cheshire, and continuation of last years fortnightly coffee morning timed to coincide with the library van.

Plans for a newsletter have not materialised

Paul Bennett
Chair, Treverva Village Hall Committee

Council Meeting Dates, 2011/12

The Parish Council meets at 7.30pm on the final Monday of each month, unless this is a Bank Holiday. Meetings usually take place in the Lower Hall of Budock Village Hall, except for June and October, when they are held at Treverva Village Hall.

There are no meetings held in the months of August or December.

The Planning Committee meets as and when required, to consider any planning applications for which observations are required in advance of the next full council meeting.

Meetings are notified on the Parish Notice Boards in the Jubilee Garden and the Church Car Park, Budock Water, and outside Treverva Village Hall.

Residents are welcome to come along to any meeting, take part in the public participation, and listen to the proceedings.

Meeting dates for 2011/12 are as follows :-

18 Apr 11	31 Oct 11
23 May 11	28 Nov 11
27 Jun 11	(no December Meeting)
25 Jul 11	30 Jan 12
(no August Meeting)	27 Feb 12
26 Sep 11	26 Mar 12

Footpaths and Public Rights of Way

Footpaths and Public Rights of Way are some of the most valuable assets of the parish. Not only do they serve a useful purpose in enabling people to get around the parish without using cars or public transport, they also provide amenity spaces for everyone to enjoy.

Following a Cornwall Council reassessment of the parish paths back in 2008 prior to improving some of them and upgrading others to Gold Standard, the maintenance agreement was looked at again. While most of the paths in the parish had previously been classified as requiring to be trimmed twice each year, many of them are now only subject to this regular maintenance once each year.

The Parish Council acts in partnership with the Cornwall Council, and appoints and pays its own maintenance contractor to do this work. When the work has been carried out satisfactorily, we are then able to claim back most of the cost from Cornwall Council. Now that some paths are only routinely trimmed once each year, it may be that some will get overgrown in between the scheduled cuts. If you find this to be the case, please let the Parish Council know about it – although we cannot guarantee to have the work carried out as money might not be available, we can ensure that the Highways Authority in the Cornwall Council are made aware of the problem. They are ultimately responsible for maintaining the paths in a satisfactory condition.

Unfortunately this year there was some delay in Cornwall Council providing the necessary cutting schedules and rates that they were prepared to pay, and this meant that the Parish Council were not able to appoint a contractor before the usual time of late February.

Please remember that the Parish Council (acting as agent for Cornwall Council) is only responsible for any growth **underfoot** on the paths – brambles, nettles, branches etc growing out from the edges of fields or walls are the responsibility of the landowner to keep trimmed to keep the path open and clear! The landowner also has a legal responsibility to reinstate any footpath, bridleway or byway that they plough or disturb when sowing or cultivating a crop, and this must be done within 14 days of the first disturbance. Any subsequent disturbance to the Right of Way must be made good within 24 hours unless the landowner has been allowed an extension by the Highways Authority. If you come across cases where the path has not been reinstated properly, please let the Parish Council or Highways Authority know about it.

One final point – if you walk along the paths with your dog, please remember to clear up after it. Bins for dog and other waste are sited around the parish, so please use them and keep the paths pleasant for everyone to enjoy. If more bins are needed, then please let the Parish Council know and we will try to get funding for some more.

Cllr P Fairbank

ATTENDANCE AT COUNCIL MEETINGS, 2010/11

Cllr Bastin	10 meetings	Cllr Mrs Perham	8 meetings	Cllr Hart *	4 meetings
Cllr Hennell	10 meetings	Cllr Cotton	7 meetings	Cllr Miss Pengelly#	0 meetings
Cllr Fairbank	9 meetings	Cllr McCabe	7 meetings		
Cllr Gibson	8 meetings	Cllr Mrs Clark *	4 meetings		

Resigned May 2010

* Co-opted October 2010