

St Breward Annual Parish Meeting

Monday 18th May 2015 in St Breward Methodist Church commencing at 7pm

1. Present:

Raymond & Betty Hoskin, Barbara Kendall, Emily King, Veronica Stansfield, Ted Raynham, Charles Webb, Caroline Ralph, P L Ralph, Alison Hoskin, Jane Hanscomb, Sue Mitchell, Denis Lusby(Chairman), Anita Cornelius (Clerk), Charles Mant

2. Apologies were received from Unitary Authority Councillor Lugg, Councillors Kay, Nankivell, Cornelius, Champion, Sutcliffe and Poxon.

3. Approval of Minutes 15th May 2014 was requested by the Chairman. Proposed to be a true and accurate record by Veronica Stansfield and seconded by Barbara Kendall. All present voted in favour of this resolution.

4. Matters arising from the 2014 minutes – there were no matters arising.

5. Summary Report from Parish Council Chairman for 2014/15 was given and is detailed below:

Welcome to Our Annual Parish meeting.

We have Charles Mant from Mant Associates who has brought along proposals for an exciting new play area at Rylands, and Norman Trebilcock from FLEET who are helping to raise money for a defibrillator for the village.

Last year has been difficult financially for most of us and the country continues to be deep in a balance of payments deficit. Locally, Cornwall Council continues to make severe cuts to all of its budgets and severe cuts to the aid they give to voluntary organisations. Despite the cuts to services our community charge has increased by over 2%. I am pleased to say that St Breward PC has managed to keep its annual precept at the same level for the third year running. Breaking news today is that CC's Chief Executive, Andrew Kerr, has jumped ship to an even higher paid job, taking with him any golden handshake he may have negotiated – CC rudderless once again after just 18 months!

Your Parish Council has worked hard to keep the impact of these cuts to a minimum. We have taken over the running of our public toilets and we have assisted the St Breward Institute & Memorial Hall to set up a micro library to replace the withdrawn mobile library. We are waiting for Cornwall Council to set this up. We paid for extra salt bins for the village and have just ordered two replacement benches for the village. This year we have given financial support to St Breward Church for the upkeep of the churchyard; to St Breward Community Bus group and to St Breward Football Club who are embarking on a major refurbishment. We successfully campaigned for School Lane to be resurfaced; an end to a saga that had been ongoing for almost 10 years. The lane is now on CC's Urban Footpath register and should be maintained on an annual basis, or at the very least inspected annually.

Rylands Play Area: We have had to remove most of the equipment, with the rest to go before the autumn. Your Council has put away some money each year for the play area, but it is never enough. New play equipment is expensive and your Council has approx. £20,000 to put towards this project. The metal equipment should have a life expectancy of 20 to 25 years and as Rylands is now our sole play area, whatever we put there, we will have to live with it for all those years. We are applying for grants, but as I mentioned earlier, grants are becoming as rare as hen's teeth. To make up the shortfall, the community needs to do some fund raising and the PC is looking into alternative ways of securing funds.

The Parish Council could borrow the remaining £30,000

The Government will lend to Parish Councils through the Public Works Loan Board.

Applicants will need a borrowing approval from the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG), for which they should approach their County Association of Local Councils. For example a £30,000 fixed interest loan, with half yearly repayments, would have an interest rate of 1.8% and would cost £3,152.19 per half year. Total cost £31,521.90 (Fixed

interest rates are calculated twice a day and are based on gilt yields. These repayments would be 20% of our precept.

I would like to see new play equipment installed before the end of 2015, as I remember the upset caused by 4 years of no play equipment in St Breward, when the old was condemned and the then Parish Council had no reserves or contingency measures. Fund raising and an increase in our precept would help us repay such a loan.

A Defibrillator for St Breward: PC is in negotiation with BT to secure the red phone box at Row to house a defibrillator. A stumbling block is the state of the door. We have asked BT for a replacement door.

I would like to thank our councillors who have worked hard on your behalf throughout the year.

Finally I would like to thank our Clerk, Anita who with a light touch has guided us along a steady path, making your parish council one you should be proud of.

6. **Norman Trebilcock from FLEET** demonstrated how to use a cardiac defibrillator and advised the meeting how funds can be raised to have one in St Breward. Discussion took place following a practical demonstration and there was unanimous support for the Parish Council to actively support its provision. Proposed by Sue Mitchell, seconded by Betty Hoskin with everyone present agreeing to this plan.
7. **A scheme to replace the play equipment at Rylands** was presented by Charles Mant. Members of the public asked questions and made suggestions to the first draft scheme. Mr Mant reassured the meeting that he was able to be flexible to the needs of the Parish and looked forward to providing a solution which was suitable for the village.
8. **Feedback from Parishioners** – Caroline Ralph, Alison Hoskin and Emily King advised that on behalf of the Village Play Group they would actively help with any fundraising and support the Parish Council in their ambition to provide a new facility in 2015. They explained the benefits of play to the meeting, which was supported by all present. The public asked the Chairman some questions regarding the PWLB and confirmed that this scheme seemed a sensible method to secure the capital funding of the replacement scheme. The Chairman thanked those present for their support and asked the meeting if all were in favour of this direction of travel. All present offered support to the Chairman to proceed with this process to secure monies.

The Clerk confirmed that letters of support for the play area replacement had been received from a number of village organisations and groups (Art Group & Camera Club, Baby & Toddler Group, Christmas Lights, Football Club, Friends of St Breward Church, Garden Club, Guides, History Group, Memorial Hall, Methodist Chapel, School, School PTA, Stitch & Bitch Crafts, Village Hall, WI

9. The Chairman confirmed that the next Annual Parish Meeting will take place in May 2016.

The meeting closed at 21:15hrs.