

LANREATH PARISH

Minutes of Annual Parish Meeting held on 17th May 2022
Commencing 18.30

Present: Mr P Seaman – Chair, Mrs E Lee, Miss J Tamblyn, Mr P Bartram, Mr John Williams, Mr John Gundry, Mr David Heard, Mrs R Warren (Clerk), Mr Derek Stephenson, Rev. Richard Allen

The Chair welcomed everyone to the Annual Parish Meeting

1. Chairman explained the function of the Parish Meeting

This is separate body from Lanreath Parish Council. Unlike a Council meeting the giving of Notice is a shorter period, the Chairman of the Parish Council or a group of six local electors can call the meeting, and the Agenda can be added to, up to and including the day of the meeting. If a vote is called for on any matter discussed then all present, who are local electors, have an equal vote – including members of the public – and the Chairman has the casting vote in the event of a tie. As to any decisions made at the Annual Parish Meeting, whilst not binding on the Parish Council, it would be wise for the Parish Council to take note. The Parish Clerk will take Minutes which will be published in draft form until such time as they can be approved – at the next Annual Parish meeting, which must be held between 1st March and 1st June each year.

2. To approve the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting 6th May 2021

Cllr Bartram proposed that the minutes be accepted, seconded by Cllr Williams and carried by unanimous vote of those who had attended the meeting. The Chairman signed the minutes.

3. Annual Report of the Parish Council – given by the Chairman

Government interim legislation that permitted Local Authorities to conduct statutory meetings remotely during peak COVID was revoked in May 2021, subsequently, all Parish Council meetings have been held face to face with open access to members of the public.

Following the uncontested Parish Council Elections in 2021 which left 4 vacant seats on the Parish Council, the vacancies were advertised in June 2021. Three applications were received and at the July meeting of the Parish Council, John Gundry, David ‘Buzz’ Heard and Peter Bartram were co-opted on to the Parish Council. They were welcomed as councillors at the Extraordinary Meeting held to discuss a planning application in August 2021 and the Parish Council has benefitted from their input and experience throughout the balance of the year.

The resurfacing of the path to the Village Shop was deferred during the year due to lack of Parish Council Funds. The resurfacing has recently been completed and was fully funded by a generous donation from the Furzedown Community Fund. On behalf of the Parish Council and the community I would like to thank the Furzedown Community Fund Committee for their generosity.

After several years of watching the sad deterioration of the Punch Bowl Inn, it very pleasing to note the progress being made with the renovations and we look forward to seeing the Inn reopen and resuming its place at the centre of village life.

The Parish Council budget for the current financial year was agreed in November 2021. In setting the Precept for the financial year 2022/23, consideration was given to the prospect of significant inflationary pressure on the 2022/23 budget. Following several years of either minimal or no change to the annual Precept, the Parish Council had not provided for the build-up of a general reserve when setting its annual budgets. At the meeting in November the Parish Council resolved to incrementally build a modest general reserve to provide a fund for one off unbudgeted costs and a line item for £1000 was allocated to this in the 2022/23 budget. To address potential inflation and to provide adequate contingency funds the Precept for 2022/23 was set at £13,900.

To reduce costs and to ensure value for money, cost comparisons have recently been made for both the energy supplies to the Millennium Building and for the Parish Council's insurance policy. The revised quotes for both services will potentially save several hundred pounds a year over previous contracts.

The Financial Reports for the financial year 20/21 will be reviewed at the Parish Council Meeting on the 17th May, however, the audited accounts for the financial year 2021/22 show that the year closed with a balance of £3,667, slightly lower than forecast when setting the 2022/23 budget.

In closing, and on behalf of the Parish Council, I would like to thank our Clerk, Rebecca Warren, for her diligent support throughout the year.

4. County Councillor's report none

5. Community Organisation Reports

Richard Allen – The Rector of Trelawny

“It is very kind to be invited to this Annual Parish Meeting and I want to say thank you for all the support given to the Church and in particular the additional financial help from the Parish Council this year. We meet at 9.30 am every Sunday and have regular congregations of between 15 and 20. In addition there are meetings outside in the Summer, and we appreciate the ability to use the facility of the Village Green. There have been Songs of Praise Services, Pet Services, and Tractor Services in the last year and there will be more in the coming year. 12 months. In July there will be a scarecrow service and we encourage the Parishioners to brighten up the village with their scarecrows.

Like all voluntary organisations we are struggling with the maintenance of a Grade I listed building in the centre of the village. The diocese has started an “On The Way” process to address losses (last year it was £2m) Now each Parish has to pay for themselves, a burden which falls onto the Benefice. We are doing our best to raise funds and we had a successful Johnny Cowling concert which was a great fund raiser.

My wife and I have now been here for 15 months and have been made to feel very welcome.

Details of all services can be found pm the Trelawney Benefice website, and via a link on the Parish website. This Sunday at 5pm there will be a Rogation Service when prayers will be for the Farming Community, followed by pasties and cider, and possibly a game of rounders.”

Lanreath and Pelynt Minibus Report – given by Mr Derek Stephenson

“On behalf of myself & fellow driver Geoff Bowyer from Pelynt. We now have more Pelynt passengers, we'd like to thank you for your donation towards keeping the bus on the road.

It has been a difficult time. So, the normal outgoings, but little income. The annual upkeep is £2400 approx. Insurance, road tax, service, MOT & 10 week safety checks.

We've increased fares to help but since COVID, bookings are down. Regulation 19 community bus service does restrict who can use the bus, e.g. No private parties.

Here are 2 examples of finance:
2019 Income £4786 Outgoings £3467 --- £1319 credit
2021 Income £2285 Outgoings £3311 ---- £1020 debit

This year got off to a bad start when we had a £1000 repair bill to replace an electronic unit in the bus. We are in the process of asking for help from wind turbine funds. Pelynt parish council also donate £300.

At the moment we have £2000 in our account.

Once again thank you.”

Lanreath Community Shop and Post Office – report from Tracey Davis, Chairwoman of Lanreath Community Association Ltd. Read by Chair.

Introduction

It is very pleasing to report that our Community Shop and Post Office has done very well during the Pandemic, thanks to our shop managers and band of loyal volunteers.

Shop Managers Changes

Sheila Lemon left us just as the Pandemic started and the L.C.A. appointed Mrs Siobhan Rawlins as joint manager with Mick Dwyer. Siobhan also continues in the role of sub-post office manager. Making her full time and Mick part time employees. We also awarded them both a bonus of £250 each for all their hard work over the last two years. They have really kept the shop together to serve the community.

Fridge/Freezer

We had some problems with both the fridge and freezer at the end of last year, both were leaking and not cost efficient. Thanks to a grant from the Parish Council and some of our savings we replaced both the old fridge and freezer with new larger models, which has given us more room for frozen goods.

Information Leaflet

As the village has had several new residents over the past few years, it was decided to produce a leaflet that could inform every household around the village of the shop and Post Office opening times, services we provide and how people could help support the shop. Although we have a very loyal team of volunteers, we are always on the lookout for more.

Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the shop's governing body, the Lanreath Community Association Ltd will be held in the Village Hall on Thursday 7th July at 7pm. Although voting is restricted to shareholders this is an open meeting and we hope that members of the Parish Council and other residents will attend.

Future Prospects

Our Community Shop and Post Office has an enthusiastic committee, loyal volunteers, and brilliant managers. All working together for the good of the community. The Committee would like to thank the Parish Council for the support it has given the shop and post office over the years and look forward to continuing this tradition in the future."

Lanreath Amenities report from Mrs Sandra Pipe, read by Clerk

"Like most of the Community Groups the Amenities had a very quiet time during last year. We managed to re start the monthly bingos very slowly which took a while to build up to reasonable numbers attending. We had hoped to be able to hold the fireworks display and the Christmas dinner but the odds were against us once more.

What was very encouraging was people discussing in the village how much they would have enjoyed being back with friends and neighbours for a good catch up, especially at the Christmas Dinner, this was a boost for the Amenities Committee knowing that once things were safer and people were more comfortable to attend events, we could at least start to take tiny steps forward towards some normality."

Lanreath Ladybirds report from Mrs Sandra Pipe, read by Clerk

"The group continued to remain open from the September to Christmas period. Since the pandemic started like everywhere else within children's facilities it had been very much affected, but we managed to get through. We started to see our numbers steadily rise during the Autumn Term, and had the opportunity to meet some of the new babies that had been born during this period and families were managing to start returning to the group once again.

It was so evident that both the adults and the children had lost a little ground during this time not being able to meet up with other families. It was great to open our doors and get back into some sort of routine.

Ladybirds had been particularly lucky keeping open during these times many of these small groups had not managed to restart again, but with the support of families wanting to attend, and the financial support that the Parish Council gives it all helps the group continue, and it is still very much needed for local families within our parish and surrounding villages."

Safeguarding Report from Mrs Sandra Pipe read by Clerk

"During July a safeguarding situation arose within the Community, all the appropriate and necessary multi-agency services were involved with the families concerned.

As safeguarding officer for the Parish, I had 1-1 meetings with some of the families involved, but on a supportive level only. The schools and relevant support workers worked closely with the families during the case, which is now closed although being continually monitored with support available if required."

LPCC Churchwarden's Report given by Mrs Gill Sanders read out by Clerk

"This year we welcomed Richard officially to our Benefice of Trelawny. He was licensed in February 2021 but as we were still in the middle of lockdown, we had to wait until the middle of July before celebrating his role as our priest at a special service held at the church in Lansallos. Richard and Harriet are now happily settled at the Rectory in the village.

Pattern of Worship: Despite many Covid restrictions such as social distancing and the wearing of masks, the church at St. Marnarch was able to offer a service of worship each week, this was only made possible by Richard taking two services a month with the other two weeks covered by either Helen White or Sarah Ruddock. We really appreciate all their hard work and dedication. Helen and John's choir and band have grown and we can now join in with live music for most of our church worship. So a very big thank you to Helen and John White and also to David Rawlins who plays the trumpet plus of course the choir including the wonderful singing from Jenny Williams. How wonderful to have such accomplished musicians in our little village.

Towards the end of Summer we had to say a fond farewell to Sarah Ruddock who moved house to live in Somerset. We miss her and are really grateful to her for all of her hard work in support of our church.

With the warmer weather last Spring and Summer it seemed much safer to hold outdoor services of worship wherever possible. These services were well attended with our usual congregation plus many people who would probably feel more restricted within the church building. Richard held a pet service on the green which was attended by many dogs with their owners! as well as our usual visit from Siobhan and David's tortoises obviously enjoying the music! We also had a 'tractor' service outside. Later in the year we were able to continue with our popular Christingle service on Christmas Eve and just before Christmas we all gathered on the village green for a lovely candlelit carol service with music provided by Helen with her choir and band. What a lovely way to end the year!

Fund Raising: Once again many of our fund raising activities were much curtailed because of Covid. We were very fortunate that Bridget Clarke offered to open her garden for a summer tea event that was well attended. Also, Richard and Harriet opened the Rectory garden to everybody in July just before his service of welcome. This event was a good opportunity to meet with the rest of our Trelawny Benefice.

Weddings, Baptisms and Funerals: Despite the restrictions of Covid, we were fortunate that many of these services continued albeit with restricted numbers. Lanreath church hosted 3 weddings and 4 baptisms, one of which was very special as it was Jenny Williams an active member of our church and choir who had her baptism in the sea down near Seaton. What a lovely witness for the Lord and what a special day it was for her with Richard officiating in the sea.

Sadly in 2021 we said goodbye to Len Cox who had been a good supporter of our church for many years. With restrictions of attendance at the funeral many people wished to say their goodbyes by lining the road through Lanreath as the funeral car went past. In true Len style, the hearse went past earlier than anticipated so we all missed that opportunity. Our thoughts and prayers go to Len's family.

The PCC really appreciate all the hard work of many people within our church family. We would like to say a special thank you this past year to both Helen and Sandra who completed the rather gruelling Stage 2 of the diocese safeguarding course thus updating their qualifications which are necessary now to comply with the Church of England regulations.

Hopefully next year may see the end of this Covid pandemic allowing us to get back to some form of normality. We are in the hands of the Lord and whatever happens He will be our guide.

PCC Financial Report given by Mr P Bartram read out by Clerk

“2021 has once again been a struggle to balance the books. No opportunities to raise funds mean we have relied on income from funeral and marriage fees, and the generous donations of several wonderful benefactors.

Our gross income is down over £3,500 from 2020, not a good year itself, whilst we have restricted our outgoings by £1,192 from 2020, by frugal management. We managed to totally pay our MMF in 2020 but struggled to settle around two thirds of the 2021 call. To make ends meet we need around £1500 a month (£820/month received in 2021) and with many costs increasing, this will not be easy. We do encourage people to sign up to the Parish Giving Scheme to help the situation and meanwhile, hope that 2022 allows us to return to some form of normality. A thousand thanks once again to the generosity of so many, giving their time, talents, expertise and goods to support our Church.”

Lanreath WI given by Mrs Chris Seaman and read by Clerk

“Lanreath WI celebrate their 75th birthday this year. We are planning a lunch out in July, and all members will be welcome to join us.

We currently have 16 members. We have a varied selection of speakers, and we are always very happy to see visitors at our meetings. There is a small charge for attending, but it is well worth it. To find out what is on our program, please look at the posters which are designed by Sally for us each month. Our program posters are now added to the Lanreath Community Spirit Facebook page too. We have a page on the Parish Council website, which will be updated. We had our annual meeting in March, and now have a revamped committee, with a new line-up of officers!

If you would like to know more about us, or are interested in joining us, either for a meeting, or as a member, please get in touch – we would love to hear from you. You can contact the president, Chris Seaman, on 01503 220726, or email – pandcseaman@aol.com.

We meet at 7.30pm on the 4th Wednesday of every month (except December and August), at Lanreath Village Hall. We look forward to welcoming you. Our next meeting will be 25th May, and our speaker is Bunny Warren ‘Life on a Wave’.”

6. Items Raised by Electors of the Parish – presented by Chair

Nothing has been received from the Parish, and the only item on the agenda is a carry forward from last year about Lifestyle Magazine.

This publication is much missed in the community but to produce it requires a lot of dedication from a group in the Parish.

Cllr Gundry said that whilst he would be able to pull together an events sheet, he could not be the publisher of a Lifestyle type magazine, although he could perhaps act as editor. Such an enterprise would require people to do the publishing, sell advertising, and distribute.

Perhaps through an independent out reach a group of volunteers in the community will take this up and replace Lifestyle with a similar publication for those in the community not using the internet.

There being no other business the meeting was brought to an end at 19.18