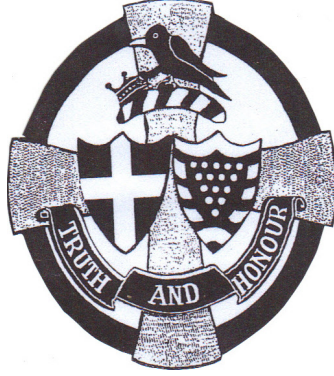


# Breage Parish Council



## Annual Report 2014/2015

May 2015

### Parish Rooms

Breage

HELSTON

TR13 9PD

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Website: [www.breagepc.org.uk](http://www.breagepc.org.uk)

### Members of the Council:

Cllr Mrs Rose Wyvern Batt (Chairman)

Cllr Pete Greenough (Vice-Chairman)

Cllr Tony Ackland

Cllr Tony Best

Cllr Mrs Tanis Board

Cllr Howard Bradford

Cllr Simon Caddick

Cllr Trevor Coleman

Cllr Mrs Phil Darby

Cllr I Davis

Cllr Graham Higginson

Cllr Ms Carole Rashleigh

### Cornwall Councillor:

Cllr John Keeling MBE

### Clerk: Mrs Carol Macleod

The Clerk is available at the Parish Council office, by appointment only (due to Health and Safety conditions), on Thursdays from 11.00 a.m. to 12 noon and on Fridays from 3.30 to 4.30 p.m.

## Chairman's Report

Another year that seems to have gone past so quickly.

The first highlight and privilege was to be asked to welcome HRH the Duke of Gloucester on 27 May, on his arrival at Godolphin House. I attended with Simon, my consort and Carol, the Parish Clerk. I confess to practising my curtsy! The Wardens of the National Trust at Godolphin House were also in attendance.

We toured the House and the gardens and the Duke was especially interested in the cider press that was in the process of renovation. We then had the honour of sitting with the Duke and Colonel Edward Bolitho, the Lord Lieutenant of Cornwall to take tea and cakes – and extra ice cream for the Duke!

Breage Parish now has two defibrillators in place: one at Breage House, Breage, bought with money, raised through donations, by Breage C of E School and the second at the Lion and Lamb, Ashton with money raised through sponsorship of Trevor Coleman's walks.

Breage Parish Council is still hoping to take ownership of Ashton Amenity Field, once negotiations have been completed.

In June I was lucky enough to be invited to the High Sheriff's party at Caerhays Castle. It was the perfect June day in the most fantastic setting.

There have been three Civic Services, two of which I was unable to attend but the Vice-Chairman and his wife kindly attended in my place. The Mayor of Helston's service on 8 June began with a procession from the Guildhall to St Michael's Church. Cllr Greenough reported that the sun shone and folk were waving from the sides of the roads. The service was followed by tea and biscuits back at the Guildhall. The Mayor of Porthleven's service was on 4 October. Cllr Greenough reported that it had been enjoyable and the new Mayor of Porthleven led the procession from the Public Hall to St Bartholomew's Church for the service where arias were sung by a soprano. He felt it was a pity that the walk from the Public Hall to the Church was not through Porthleven centre as people could not see it. Afterwards there had been pasties to enjoy. It was a lovely day.

Both the Vice-Chairman and I attended the WW1 Centenary service on 20 July, meeting at the Guildhall, Helston to process with the town band, flag bearers and dignitaries to St Michael's Church. The service was followed by a tea party in the Guildhall.

Breage Band played in August at Little Pengelly Cream Tea Garden in aid of St Julia's Hospice and its own funds. Little Pengelly Staff all gave of their time. It also coincided with my birthday!!

November saw a very large turnout for Remembrance Sunday at Breage with no room near the War Memorial. I laid a wreath on behalf of Breage Parishioners. There followed a lovely service taken by Revd Dr Peter Johnson. Cllr Greenough laid a wreath on behalf of Parishioners at Godolphin War Memorial; Lieutenant Commander Alan Rogers laid one on behalf of the Commanding Officer, officers and ship's company of RNAS Culdrose and crosses were laid for those listed on the memorial. A service conducted by Elsie Balm followed at the Methodist Church.

December saw the Parish Council's Christmas Meal at the Sandbar, Praa Sands – very well supported, lovely food and great company. Sadly I was unable to attend as I was at the Godolphin WI Christmas Meal.

Folk have now moved into their new homes in Penbro Way and Penbro Vean, Breage. An s106 grant, given by Devon and Cornwall Housing was used to help Breage Social Club with necessary maintenance; Breage Village Hall with new flooring and Breage Playing Field with repairs and maintenance.

My most sincere thanks go to The Clerk, Carol, for her help and direction pointers and to Pete Greenough for chairing meetings I could not attend through infirmity and for his wonderful support as Vice-Chairman. Thanks too to all the other Councillors who cover Finance; the Cemetery; Footpaths; Planning; Streetlights; and many other Parish matters with such diligence.

**Councillor Mrs Rose Wyvern Batt – Chairman  
Breage Parish Council**

## FINANCE

The Clerk is the Responsible Finance Officer. She and Cllrs Wyvern Batt, Best, Caddick, Greenough and Higginson form the Accounts Team.

Payments and other accounts matters are checked by Cllr Best, Caddick, Greenough or Higginson before being presented to the Council each month. Three-monthly financial statements are also checked before presentation to the Council. The Council's Internal Auditor this year was Mr DJL Gallie.

### Accounts Summary 2014/2015

Opening balances as at 1 April 2014:

Bank	£30,317.69	
Petty cash	£100.00	£30,417.69

Add: Receipts in the year

Precept	£49,000.00	
Council Tax Support	£4,495.96	
LMP Payments footpaths	£3,273.00	
SWCP Payments	£1,918.45	
Cemetery fees	£3,905.00	
Administration	£93.80	
Bank interest	£20.45	
VAT reclaimed (2013/14)	£25.80	
VAT reclaimed	£2,727.31	£65,459.77

Less: Payments in the year

Administration	-£26,578.41	
Grants s137	-£1,240.00	
Grants other	-£4,350.00	
Contract work	-£10,660.22	
Open Spaces	-£1,332.66	
Public Lighting	-£7,718.44	
Running costs:		
Cemetery	-£1,125.58	
Bus shelters/benches/notice boards/signs/phone box/handyman tasks	-£1,078.60	
Parish Rooms	-£2,972.13	
VAT paid	-£2,727.31	-£59,783.35

**Closing balance receipts & payments as at 31 March 2015**

**£36,094.11**

Receipts for 2014/2015 increased by £429.44 over the previous year. An s/106 grant of £12,456 was also received from Devon and Cornwall Housing following the building of the new homes in Penbro Way and Penbro Vean, Breage. This was allocated to Breage community buildings for help with repairs and maintenance. Breage Village Hall received £9,000; Breage Snooker and Social Club, £6,000 and Breage Playing Field Committee, £245. There was no increase in the Precept this year but a Council Tax Support grant of £4,495.96 was also received. Grants were received towards the South West Coastal Path cutting, £1918.45 – a thousand pounds less than the previous year and the Footpaths cutting, £3,273.00 – the same as the previous year. Thankfully the Cemetery fees were up by £1,329.

Payments decreased by £1,673.85. Non-routine streetlight repairs amounted to £4,082.12 – necessary work that had to be completed and 9 lights will now be taken over by Cornwall Council. Grants of £500 each were made to community groups this year as follows: to Ashton Amenity Association towards running costs for the amenity area; to Ashton Snooker Club towards weatherproofing the building; to Breage Village Hall towards replacement front windows; and to Breage Brownies towards travel expenses to the 'celebrating 100 years' activity. Grants of £400 each were made to Ashton Village Committee towards a small marquee and to Breage Playing Field towards repair/renewal of the basketball post. Breage Silver Band received £600 towards cost of free tuition and providing musical entertainment for Parishioners. Praa Sands Community Centre received £1,000 towards the new kitchen work. £300 was awarded to the Jubilee Sailing Trust towards sailing for disabled Breage Parishioners. Sadly, so far, no possible recipients for this have been found. Carleen Pantomime Group was awarded £500 towards a new sound system to be paid on production of an invoice. There has been no pantomime again so this has not been forthcoming. Carleen Village Hall was awarded £800 towards storm drainage for Carleen Village Hall, again, on receipt of an invoice and again, this has not yet been received. An emergency grant of £1,298 was made to

Godolphin Chapel Hall, that is used by the community, towards roof repairs.

St Breaca Church was paid a £30 annual grant towards the upkeep of the village clock and the British Legion was supported by the purchase of wreaths and Breage Band was awarded a grant for playing at the Remembrance Service. Cornwall Air Ambulance received £250 towards assistance for Parishioners needing aid and there have been many. Small grants were awarded to Victim Support Cornwall to help victims, witnesses, families and friends in Truro Magistrates Court and to CAB Penzance (nearest branch) to help Parishioners sort their problems.

New gates were purchased for the Cemetery from a donation by Ann Greenstreet, a former Councillor and her sister Mary. A plaque has been placed on the gates in memory of their mother, Florence Harvey.

Expected receipts for 2014/15 are £59,880.00 and expected payments £57,056.04, as listed in the budget figures.

After the accounts had been examined by an Accounts Team Councillor, Cllr Best on 20 April 2015, they were passed to the Internal Auditor, Mr D J L Gallie. The Annual Audit Return was completed and signed by Mr Gallie on 28 April 2015. Mr Gallie is thanked for auditing the accounts this year and also the Breage Playing Field Accounts.

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## Retiring and New Councillors

There have been no retirements and no newly elected Councillors this year. The 12 Councillors therefore remain the same.

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## Council Meeting dates

### 2015/2016

Meetings at 7.00 p.m. (unless otherwise stated), in the Parish Rooms, Breage.

Meetings are notified on the Parish notice board outside the Parish Rooms, Breage.

7 April 2015

5 May 2015 Annual Parish Meeting at

6.30 p.m. followed by Parish Council Meeting

2 June 2015

7 July 2015

4 August 2015

1 September 2015

6 October 2015

3 November 2015

1 December 2015

12 January 2016

2 February 2016

1 March 2016

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## Attendance at Council Meetings

### 2014/2015

There have been 12 Ordinary Parish Council meetings this year, an Annual Parish Meeting, 1 Extraordinary Meeting and a Precept Meeting – a total of 15 meetings. There have also been other informal meetings that are not included in the attendance figures.

Cllr Mrs R Wyvern Batt 14 meetings

Cllr T Ackland 11 meetings

Cllr T Best 12 meetings

Cllr Mrs T Board 15 meetings

Cllr H Bradford 11 meetings

Cllr S Caddick 14 meetings

Cllr T Coleman 11 meetings

Cllr Mrs P Darby 13 meetings

Cllr I Davis 7 meetings

Cllr P Greenough 14 meetings

Cllr G Higginson 13 meetings

Cllr Ms C Rashleigh 14 meetings

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## BREAGE PLAYING FIELD

It is seven years since the play equipment was installed in the playing field, and I'd like to think it has been a great success for the whole community. There have been running repairs required and some are on-going but all in all it has been a good year. It has certainly become a popular place: people meeting up with space for the families to run around, or just to walk through from one end to the other.

The new planting seems to have been a success too with only a couple of losses and these have mostly been replaced with 'spares'.

We look forward to another good year. Thanks once again to the Parish Council for their continued support for this project.

**Jane Ratcliffe, Secretary for Breage Field Committee**

The Field is checked annually in April by RoSPA (Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents) and further checks are carried out by the Parish Council's Handyman in January, July and October. If anyone notices any faults during the time between the checks please inform the Parish Clerk.

The Parish Council owns the field and has responsibility for the grass and hedge cutting, safety checks and Public Liability insurance.

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## FOOTPATHS AND RIGHTS OF WAY

We are still enjoying the help and support from our Contractor and our Countryside Officer, Mr. Bob Sanders and Mr. Hamish Gordon respectively. I am pleased to say that we seem to have had a quieter year with not so many problems.

I'm delighted to report that the new boardwalk that was promised at the end of last year has been constructed and has been put to good use by walkers and cyclists. The gates on footpath 40 in Praa Sands gave cause for concern for a while but new gates have now been installed.

Footpath 58 across the field at Penhale-an-Drea has been fenced off and become very overgrown. Cornwall Council has offered to clear the path when more funds are available in the new financial year and we will then endeavour to keep it clear.

As always, please let us know if you spot any difficulties and we will try to get them sorted.

**Cllr Mrs P Darby – Footpaths Representative**

