

Mrs Carol Macleod Clerk/RFO to the Council
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DRAFT MINUTES ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 10 MAY 2022
AT 6.30 P.M. IN THE PARISH ROOMS BREAGE

Attending Parish Councillors had each carried out a negative lateral flow test, worn Council supplied new face masks on entry and had used the bacterial hand gel. Seating places were spaced and all surfaces had been cleaned before the meeting. Anti bacterially wiped covered agendas were provided. Although Plan B Covid measures have been lifted by the Government, Breage Parish Council has determined that Councillors will continue to carry out lateral flow tests and adhere to social distancing. Attending Members of the Public had been advised that the Council would be grateful if they would complete a Covid-19 lateral flow test within 48 hours of the meeting, advise the Clerk that they will be attending and had a negative lateral flow test result, wear a face mask and adhere to social distancing to help to maintain Covid security.

Any member of the public was able to speak if they wished to do so. however, only those on the electoral register for Breage Parish could vote.

Present: Cllr A E Woodhams (Chairman)
Cllr C Ralph
Cllr N Roberts
Cllr M Southam
Cllr D Thomas
Cllr R Wyvern Batt

1 Member of the Public
Mrs C Macleod (Clerk/RFO)

The Chairman welcomed everyone and explained the Fire Evacuation procedure and the GDPR.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies received from Parishioners.

2. CONFIRMATION OF THE NOTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON 4 MAY 2021

Proposed, seconded and resolved confirmed for accuracy.

3. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2021/2022

The Chairman read out his report a copy of which all those present had received:

For the second year the business of Breage Parish Council has been influenced by the dictates of Covid 19 and latterly the Omicron virus. We have managed to successfully discharge the functions of local government whilst following central government guidelines to keep parishioners and councillors safe. The thanks of Breage Parish Council go to all the many parish community and faith groups who have worked so hard to maintain the social cohesion that is so vital to the wellbeing of the communities. The latest and newest addition being Ashton Hub at what was previously the snooker club. The group are making terrific progress in providing much needed community space in the village. Whilst the majority of council meetings were held remotely via zoom in the early stages of the pandemic, we are now steadily moving back to our previous role with no personal restrictions at our regular meetings. The regular meetings are held on the 1st Tuesday of the month with the Planning and Land use meetings held on the last Wednesday preceding the regular meeting. Both meetings commence at 1900 in the parish rooms and members of the public are welcome and encouraged to attend. We also hold Planning Pre-Application meetings where an individual parishioner or developer thinking of submitting a planning application can arrange an informal meeting with Breage Councillors to better understand the policies outlined in the Neighbourhood Development Plan and other planning issues. This has proved to be a useful method of developing a better understanding of the planning process and parish planning compatibility. The parish finances are in good order with several projects underway or completed. We have constantly striven to keep the tax/ precept burden for Breage parishioners as low as is practicable whilst supporting parish services. Currently the services provided by Breage Parish Council cost 66p per week or £34:32 per year. We are constantly monitoring the situation to ensure that our parishioners are not being "double taxed" for services that are already paid for via council tax to Cornwall Council. Last year saw local government elections with some councillors leaving and new members arriving. The parish council is currently three Councillors short of its complement so if you feel that you would be interested in serving your community as a Councillor please contact the Clerk for an informal discussion. Due to its rich mining heritage, Breage in general and the Carleen/ Wheal Vor area in particular has found itself sharply in focus in the search for precious metals. A series of small exploratory drills will be carried out during this year to examine the viability

of future larger scale mineral extraction. Breage Parish Council in conjunction with Cornish Tin, the exploration company, has held both virtual and live meetings to ensure that the parishioners are kept fully aware of progress. Derek Thomas MP has generously facilitated the e-news mail drop to ensure that as many parishioners as possible are aware of developments. Breage Parish Council is actively engaged with the D&C Police and Cornwall Council to reduce the speed of traffic through our villages by implementing the "20 is Plenty" scheme and to reduce the incidence of speeding further by joining "Speed watch" which, after suitable training, uses volunteers with speed cameras to monitor and report speeding motorists. The Council is also a partner in the scheme of traffic regulation orders (TRO) that is attempting to ensure that emergency and utility vehicles can access our villages in safety. This has not always been the case due to the inconsiderate and frequently dangerous parking of some individuals. The play and recreation areas at Breage, Ashton, Praa Sands and Carleen continue to be well used and are, with the exception of Carleen, in the ownership of the parish council. Health and safety checks and maintenance are carried out on a monthly basis with public liability insurance being in place with BPC. As a burial authority we have made vast improvements to the cemetery at Breage and have incorporated additional land to ensure that Parishioners can be confident that this service will be available in the future. Further improvements are ongoing along with routine maintenance. The Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) is in its final stages of examination and will be submitted to you as parishioners by referendum during the course of this year. The wooden parish council notice boards scattered around the parish are being replaced with aluminium which should give years of good service. Where space permits they double up to allow community use. Lower Trevurvus pond will be fully reinstated by the end of the year as a wildlife haven and water source. This exciting project is being carried out by BPC in partnership with the local school and others. The public rights of way (PROW) in the parish continue to be maintained by BPC and the council has signed up and agreed to be part of the Enhanced Local Maintenance Project which seeks to further improve and where appropriate create new and enhance the existing paths to ensure they are accessible to all users. BPC has taken the responsibility for the Lengthsman project in the parish; this scheme ensures that culverts, gullies and run-off areas are kept clear and that excess rainwater is able to run off safely to prevent flooding. Additionally road junctions on B, C and unclassified roads are kept safe by cutting back excessive vegetation. Funding has been put in place to enable BPC to employ an apprentice Clerk/ Financial Responsible officer who it is anticipated will be in post this year. This exciting opportunity will allow the right candidate to be fully trained to degree level and be able to progress to wherever their ambition takes them in local government administration and further. Full details will be available on the BPC website and in the press later this year. Preparations by the parish council are in place to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee celebrations of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Second. A small leaf lime tree has been planted in the cemetery and a Jubilee Garden is planned for Coaches Corner at Breage. This is supported by Trevena Cross nursery. Additionally all the school children in the parish schools will be given a celebratory gift to commemorate the occasion. Individual community groups are arranging their own street parties and other events which will be promulgated on social media outlets. Breage Parish Council would like to take this opportunity to thank the many organisations and individuals who so generously give up their time to make the parish the pleasant place it is to live in and so welcoming for our visitors. On a personal note, I would like to thank my councillor colleagues for their enthusiasm and support over what has been a difficult year for us all. Our Clerk and Financial Responsible Officer, Mrs Carol Macleod, has managed to keep the office and services running throughout and Mrs Sarah Orpin has kept the parish rooms clean and safe during this difficult period. The continued support of the contractors and sub- contractors who have kept the technical and maintenance operations of the parish in good working order is very much appreciated. Finally in closing, thank you to the Parishioners for your support in enabling Breage Parish Council to deliver these community services.

4. FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2021/2022

The Chairman gave explanation of the report, a copy of which all those present had received.

The Clerk is the Responsible Finance Officer. She and Cllrs Carver (Chairman), Roberts, Thomas and Wyvern Batt were the Members of the Finance and General Purposes (F&GP) Committee 2021/2. Payments and other accounts matters were checked by a Member of the F&GP Committee before being presented to the Council each month. Bank Reconciliations are also checked. The Council's Internal Auditor was Mrs Barbara Goraus. The External Audit will be carried out by PKF Littlejohn.

Statement of Accounts 2021/2022

Opening Balance		
Balance at Bank	95,556.77	
Cash in Hand	150.00	
Salaries		25,891.49
National Insurance Employer		2,053.70
Pension Employer		811.54
Travel Expenses		72.77
Audit Charges		621.60
Insurance		1,216.53
Office consumables and goods		1,580.95
Advertising & Website		1,550.00
Solicitors		
Election/Referendum Provision		255.00
Electricity Parish Rooms		1,493.48
Telephone/Mobile/Broadband		1,991.55
Water Parish Rooms		54.78
Maint/Repairs/Renewals Parish Rooms		878.85
Notice boards/Benches/Signs/Fences/Ph		1,495.54
CIL community payments		100.00

28/22

Praa Sands/Praa Green		1,077.00	
Contracts - Footpaths		4,639.64	
South West Coastal Path		2,114.76	
Miscellaneous expend.		75.00	
Amenity Areas		794.34	
Grants s137		250.00	
Grants		3,345.96	
Subscriptions		356.61	
Contracts Grass & Hedge Cutting		4,760.00	
Queen's Platinum Jubilee costs		624.76	
Streetlights electricity		418.57	
Streetlights repairs & maintenance		3,508.00	
Playground & Leisure Equipment		2,928.99	
Lengthsman work completed		10,188.00	
Loan Repayment Streetlight upgrade		5,472.14	
Covid-19 expenses		1,221.37	
Enhanced LMP		6,455.00	
Precept	85,000.00		
Council Tax Support Grant	1,560.72		
General Admin	37.00	40.00	
Grants and Donations	750.00		
Footpaths LMP grant	4,112.41		
South West Coastal Path grant	2,178.41		
Bank Interest	11.03		
Misc. Income	1,368.30		
Lengthsman Scheme	14,000.00		
CIL	3,171.43		
NDP money out		1,000.00	
Queens' Platinum Jubilee donations	450.00		
Cemetery costs		4,655.82	
Cemetery maintenance Capital works		25,443.89	
War memorials LPA Act 1923 LGA 1948		130.00	
Cemetery fees interments	2,800.00		
Donations Cemetery/closed graveyards	200.00		
Ashton Field costs		677.50	
Ashton Snooker Club Zionist Chapel		920.88	
VAT	14,571.49	13,762.16	
		130,210.79	136,283.17

**Closing balance Receipts and Payments as
at 31 March 2022** **89,634.39**

Bank Accounts: 89,484.39

Cash in hand **150.00**

89,634.39

The closing balance at 31 March 2022 shows a decrease of £6,072.39 compared to the previous year. Receipts for 2021/2022 decreased by £8,627.92 and Payments increased by £27,138.57.

Cemetery fees decreased as there were fewer interments; Admin by a small amount, no Covid grant this year when there was £10,000 last year; Precept remained the same but the Council Tax Support grant was further reduced this year; there was an increase in VAT reclaims.

There were Jubilee expenses, a new item, small increases on insurance and Parish Rooms costs, increases in footpath and grass cutting; Removal of 10 Streetlights that Cornwall Council would not adopt £3,508.00; Enhanced LMP, new this year £6,455.00; Cemetery maintenance costs increase for further work £10,497.89; Cemetery and play area costs increased. No Toilet's costs this year.

Grant payments increased this year by 1,195.96 and were awarded to community groups as follows: £500 to Ashton Village Committee towards renewal and repair of electricity boxes for Christmas lights; £500 to Breage Silver Band towards repairs and updates of instruments; £500 to Breage Field Committee towards support for short term plans and to act as match funding; £500 to Breage Snooker and Social Club towards replacement seating in snooker room; £500 to Carleen Village Hall towards disabled car park fencing needing replacement; £500 to Godolphin Cross Community Association towards signage/notice board; the Royal British Legion was supported by the purchase of wreaths for Remembrance Sunday services,

£100 and Breage Band was awarded a £50 grant for playing at the Remembrance Service; £50 to Breage Parochial Church Council towards the cost of the maintenance of the Village clock; £100 to Cruse Bereavement Services towards support services for Breage Parishioners an additional £300 was held in reserve for emergencies.

Fixed reserves at 31 March 2022 were £33,941.60. Expected receipts for 2022/23 are £117,131.90 based on budget figures and expected payments £157,372.14.

After the accounts had been examined by an Accounts Team Councillor, Cllr Nikki Roberts, they were passed to the Internal Auditor, Mrs Barbara Goraus. The Annual Internal Audit Report 2021/22 was completed on 21 April 2022 and signed by Mrs Goraus who is thanked for auditing the accounts and the Breage Field Committee's Accounts this year.

There were no questions for the RFO.

5. COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS FROM ELECTORS

A Parishioner from Trescowe, who was brought up in the Parish had no particular comments. The Parishioner and their family have cleared and kept a permissive footpath clear near their home for some 35 years. Concern was expressed about the strimming that is carried out alongside the stream that often results in debris flying into the stream and blocking the drains, causing flooding. The Chairman will ask the Contractor to knock on the Parishioner's door.

It was asked if the PC has a contingency plan in place should there be a royal death. The Chairman assured them that a contingency plan is in order and the Churchwardens and Canon Miller are also involved.

The Chairman asked if there were any further plans for a defibrillator at Trescowe. It was suggested that the telephone kiosk could be used for that. The Clerk had recently received details of costings from Primary Care Supplies where prices start at £715 + VAT. The Parishioner was encouraged to contact neighbours to see if people there are interested. Training can be provided by the Parish Council but the defibrillator could not be supplied by the Council.

The Chairman thanked the Parishioner for attending.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 6.55 p.m.

