

Boyton Parish Council

Minutes of Boyton Parish Annual Meeting held on Monday 18th March 2019 at 7.30pm in the Parish Church Hall

- Present** The Chair, Cllr Stanbury welcomed Cllrs Paynter, Bennett, Strout, Law, Smith, Willis, Blaney and Davey. Sally Neems Parish Clerk. Six members of the public
- 1. Apologies for Absence**
None
 - 2. Minutes of Meeting**
The minutes of the meeting **Monday 19th March 2018** had previously been agreed and uploaded to the website
 - 3. Opening Remarks**
The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting
 - 4. Cornwall Councillor's Report (Adam Paynter)**
The past year has been a fairly uneventful year with regards to Cornwall Councils intervention with Boyton.
Highways have had many challenges with issues regarding resurfacing, patching, potholes etc however it is felt that the work that has been completed will continue to benefit Cornwall over the next few years. There was also funding provided for local communities - £50,000 per year, which has been proved to be very positive with local communities having their say.
Generally, it is felt that Cornwall Council is reasonably strong financially, with a 4-year sustainable budget. The plans to extend the Doctors surgery is due to start within the near future. Delays have occurred due to the complexity of the scheme however work is due to start fairly soon, with additional parking being obtained on Launceston collage site.
Following concerns raised regarding the town centre and shops closing, Cllr Paynter advised that this is a nationwide issue, with towns up and down the country struggling. A review has started of towns today, what can be done, how are towns due to change and how they can adapt– it is generally understood that it will be impossible to reverse internet shopping and large supermarkets / estates drawing people out of the town centre however it is felt that Launceston is in a strong position, with the majority of banks still within the town centre. Cornwall Council are unable to alter the business rates as this is set by the Government however, they do try to manage car park charges to encourage people in, with reduced rates where they can, however there is not one solution. It was also noted that Pennygillam Industrial Park was previously only used for Industrial businesses however now has retail shops within it. Cllr Paynter acknowledged this is true however with empty units on the Industrial park, people have been pushing for change of use.
Cllr Paynter confirmed that there is currently council housing being built in Launceston however there are no plans within the village at the present time. The Government have lifted the borrowing cap on the 10,000 council houses that are currently owned and therefore Cornwall Council are able to borrow against existing properties for social housing. More housing is required, not just due to the number of people moving to Cornwall but also how society lives – more single households, less multi generation living etc. Cornwall Council are doing what they can to future proof doctors, schools and infrastructure to assist with this additional housing.
The 60,000 square foot site which was previously due to be the Morrisons site still has no firm plans in place. It was thought that Aldi's may consider the site however as a rule, the Aldi stores are generally much smaller, usually 20,000 square foot so there may be potential for additional housing or more business units. Cllr Paynter is unsure what the exact plans are on this site however confirmed that any changes will need to go back to planning.
It was felt that the St Pirans Day Parade held in Launceston was extremely successful, bringing many people into the town centre and Cornwall Council will look to continue promoting the town with future events to bring both residents and tourists back to the town centre.

5. Parish Council's Report (Martin Stanbury)

The Council have met 11 times in the previous twelve months and along with normal business, the Council has dealt with 11 planning applications.

The Council has spent considerable time discussing Highway issues and in particular traffic speed through the village. As we look to the future, it appears that in the next year, solutions to this issue will be found with considerable investment from Cornwall Council planned, both the north and south end of the village. The Council organised a litter pick last April around the village and everyone was surprised at the amount of litter collected in the allotted time.

The Parish Council acted as lead for the commemorations of the end of World War I and I would like to that everyone who helped organise and the Parishioners who turned out in large numbers.

I would like to thank Sally for the efficient and cheerful way she has handled the work of the Clerk and my fellow Councillors for their commitment and support during the last 12 months.

6. Presentation of the Parish Cup

This year the Parish Cup is awarded to Ruth Allin. Ruth is the main organist and plays most weeks, including for funerals and weddings. She helps at every coffee morning and community lunches. She also acts as the Chapels Pastoral Visitor. The cup will be engraved and presented to Ruth.

7. Reports from Parish Organisations

Boyton Methodist Church (Lorraine Sluggett)

Boyton Methodist Church continues to meet most Sunday mornings of the year with the majority of services being at 11am. We have 9 children attending the Sunday School, ranging in ages from two to eleven years.

Our annual Harvest Festival took place in October, we had a Christening in the Autumn and we held a Christingle Service in December.

We continue to host Thursday morning Coffee Mornings in conjunction with the Church, with ours being held on the first and third Thursday of each month. As well as the Coffee Mornings, the community have supported other events we have held including a soup and sweet lunch.

With the demise of community organisations such as the WI and Garden Club the building has not been used as much as in previous years, however Boyton Primary School continue to use it for their Summer and Christmas productions. There was further training for the use of the community defibrillator at the beginning of December. A couple of film afternoons also took place in the Autumn. We shall be celebrating 130 years anniversary in April with a special service on 7th April and a concert later on in July. The chapel's aim remains to be a place open to all members of the community through a range of activities.

Boyton Church (Tim Smith)

We have been in a so-called interregnum since 1 July 2017 when the Reverend Kenneth Wakefield retired as our priest after a long illness. This is the period before a new priest is appointed when the administration of the parish is the responsibility of the churchwardens, in our case, Pauline Frost and Tim Smith. In practice, they have received a huge amount of support from our retired priest, the Reverend Andrew Wilson. We now know that the interregnum will come to an end later this year. Our new priest is the Reverend Peter Knight who is presently the rector of St George's Anglican Church, Tunis. He and his wife Christine are very much looking forward to returning to England and coming to live in Launceston. During the interregnum, we have carried on with our normal rota of Sunday services and have organised several popular fund-raising events. Our small community continues to maintain the fabric of our lovely Grade 1 listed Church of the Holy Name (for which the insurance alone costs £2,000 a year) and send our contribution to the Diocese of Truro for our share of the priesthood, a further £6,000 a year. Thus, it is that we depend upon and thank God for the goodwill of the wider community in Boyton in supporting our fund-raising activities.

Boyton Church Hall (Tim Smith)

The Church Hall, expertly managed by Gerd Willetts, has continued to host many community organisations including Boyton Parish Council. The Church Hall committee has been looking into the possibility of demolishing the toilet block which was inherited from the Parish Council some years ago and replacing it with a modern facility which would include a disabled toilet. The committee has obtained estimates for the cost of this work and has concluded that the cost – about £40,000 - is beyond the means of our small community. The committee hopes to obtain a grant to replace the three windows at the front of the building. Once this work has been done, it will turn its attention to the possibility of

refurbishing the toilet block rather than replacing it.

Boyton Solar and Wind Farm Community Fund Grant Panel (Jenny Smith)

The Grants Panel of the Boyton Solar and Wind Farms Community Fund meets twice a year to consider applications for grants. The fund is administered by the Cornwall Community Foundation on behalf of Boyton Parish Council. CCF assess grant applications, manage our accounts and liaise with our developer donors.

The Grants Panel includes up to three Boyton Parish Councillors and members of the community. Currently the Chairman is Cllr Jenny Smith, (also acting Secretary). Other members are: Rachel Ellacott, Cllr Mervyn Law, Ian Rocks, Darren Ruby, Phil Strout, Richard Stanbury and Gerd Willetts. Two new members of the panel were co-opted this year, Cllr Bernadette Davey and David Cooke.

There was only one application for grant funds in 2018-19, from the Boyton Methodist Graveyard Committee. At our April meeting we approved a grant of £2,100 for the rebuilding of the Boyton Methodist Cemetery wall which had previously been demolished as it was unsafe. The Autumn meeting was cancelled as there were no applications for grants to consider.

The next deadline for submission of grant applications to CCF is 29th March for consideration at the Grants Panel meeting on 30th April.

The Cornwall Community Foundation has been active on our behalf, invoicing our renewable energy donors and chasing overdue payments. The Bennacott turbine was sold on again last year. The new owners, Longspur, should have paid over £3000 (index-linked) in November 2018 but are still being chased for the money. CCF will invoice Bluefield shortly and KSSPV in July 2019 and Longspur again in November 2019. The current fund balance is £24,731.05.

We are most grateful for the services of Cornwall Community Foundation to help us manage and invest our Boyton Solar and Wind Farm Community Fund.

Ladies Skittles (Vanessa Stanbury)

Boyton Ladies Skittles are having another scintillating season. The A team have 31 points and the B team are top of the division with 54 points. On aggregate we have 85 points. We are having to reschedule one game this year because of the snow and are in the process of playing the cup games at Holsworthy. Ann Polhill of the B team is holding the top score on the home alley of 91 at the moment.

8. Litter Pick

This years Litter Pick has been arranged for Saturday 13th April 2019 starting at 10.30am. It will be the same format as last year, and posters advertising the event will be displayed on the noticeboards and website.

9. Traffic Monitoring / Proposal

A speed survey test was completed outside Dorset Farm, for 8 days, which demonstrated an issue with speeding both heading into and out of the village (please see full report on the website). Highways propose rumble strips / dragons' teeth at the Welcome to Boyton sign, and repainting the slow sign which has disappeared. They will also install a mobile warning sign which will appear in the village every 3-4 months – they have found this more effective than a permanent sign which is often ignored once gotten used to. They are also installing flashing 20mph signs either side of the school.

10. Youth Club

Whilst the Youth Club was mentioned, there were no responses from the public

11. Parent and Child Yoga

An instructor has been lined up for both Parent and Child Yoga and Adult Yoga. It was agreed that she can advertise on both the noticeboards and websites, and anyone interested can contact her directly.

12. Any Other Business

None

This meeting closed at 8.25pm