**Minutes** **of the Annual Parish Meeting** held on Monday 08 April, 2019, at 6.30pm in the Enterprise Centre, Vogue, St Day.

**Present:** Cllrs. C Bell, C Jones, D Moerel, G Nankivell, K Everett and R Ryder

Cllr. M Kaczmarek CC

Clerk S. Moore

1. **Apologies - None**

1. **Confirmation of the Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Monday 09 April, 2018.**

**RESOLVED** that the Minutes be confirmed as a true and correct record of the proceedings and signed by the Chairman.

1. **Report by the Chairman on the activities of the Parish Council during the year 2018/19.**

The Chairman provided a report which is attached to these Minutes.

1. **Report by Cornwall Councillor on activities during the year 2018/19.**

Cllr Kaczmarek provided a report which is attached to these Minutes.

**5. Report by the Clerk on the details of the audit for the financial year 2017/18.**

The Clerk reported that the accounts had been inspected and signed off by the District Audit with no actions.

**6. Statement of accounts for the financial year 2018/19.**

The Clerk read out an analysis of accounts showing a balance of £49,781.62 (with £200 cheque (number 1432) un-cashed by 31/03/19)  **RESOLVED** to accept the statement of accounts.

**7. Public discussion.**

No member of the public was present.

The meeting closed at 06.45pm.

**Chairman’s Report** The make-up of the Parish Council has changed somewhat since the last Report, Councillors John Newcombe and Roy Gill tendered their resignations for personal reasons and have been replaced by Councillors Karl Everett and Rebecca Ryder, we thank John and Roy for their contribution and welcome Karl and Rebecca to the Council. We also have a new Parish Clerk – Sarah Moore – taking over from Steve Edwards in October 2018 after his 33 year stint! Sarah works from home and the new Parish Office in the Enterprise Centre Tuesdays.

Many aspects relevant to the Parish have been covered in Mark Kaczmarek's (our Cornwall Councillor) very comprehensive Annual Report, enabling this to be a shorter submission than usual. Our thanks to Councillor Kaczmarek for his continued support for issues affecting the Parish.

**Most notable Events have been:**

Remembrance Sunday, the best turn-out in the memory of many in good weather with the youngsters from the St Day Football Club participating by reading out the Roll of Honour. Activities organised to commemorate the celebrations on hearing of the Armistice in 1918 with the Banner made by many contributors and Lanterns produced by children from the St Day and Carharrack School and Day-light Group rounded off the day.

The Christmas Celebrations in Market Square were also a success with the participation of the School Choir and an earlier start – the free mulled wine to add to the mince pies may also have been an incentive! We thank the St Day and Carharrack Sliver Band for their support and well as the Day-light Choir.

The Christmas Lights were installed by a new team with advice from some of the old hands and despite the very high winds (and a bin lorry) causing some sections to fail they were replaced as soon as possible given the poor weather conditions.

Minor Works completed some tasks round the area which included clearing the old aerial tramway supports at the bottom of Telegraph Hill, more activities are scheduled now the weather improves and days get longer.

New Parish Notice Boards were sited at Gwennap Pit, The Star Inn and Fox and Hounds to ensure information is provided to the outlying areas of the Parish. The Notice Board for Market Square is to be replaced.

Mobile Speed indicator Signs have been purchased and located at various points with a reduction in vehicle speed apparent at Vogue and on the B3298. An Automated External Defibrillator has been obtained and sited at the Fox and Hounds Public House, Scorrier with training given to volunteers in both Scorrier and St Day.

The Clock Tower Illumination is proving to be significantly more expensive then anticipated and a grant application to the United Downs Geothermal Fund has been withdrawn as it was unlikely to be approved. Alternative sources of funding for this project are being considered.

Speedwatch volunteers continue to be very active and, after many representations, a site agreed on the B3298 for independent sessions to be conducted (without police presence).

The Old Church Community Interest Company have taken over responsibility for the building and plans to turn it into a summer art events centre are in progress, the Parish Council in accordance with Parishioners wishes from a survey has directed donated funds to this initiative.

Four Litter Picks round St Day have taken place. Dog fouling continues to be a major issue and the Parish Council is working with the relevant department of Cornwall Council to see how more effective methods of identifying and prosecuting irresponsible owners can be introduced.

Approval for the use of funds to install an Activity Trail in St Day Rugby Field has been given by Cornwall Council. We are also investigating the provision of a Zip Wire.

A number of Planning Applications have been received and commented upon and certain infringements reported. The construction of nine dwellings behind Telegraph Street is almost complete.

The Neighbourhood Development Plan continues to be progressed with the Open Spaces and Economy and Employment Working Groups nearing completion of their draft reports. Transport is in the position that the most of the work has been completed with the draft report to be produced. Housing – as the most complex of the groups is less advanced.

The Parish Council is pressing interested parties to address the mining subsidence adjacent to Telegraph Street.

**Cornwall Councillor's Report Geothermal Energy**. The sky line at United Downs has state of the art drilling rig which will be drilling 4.5km wells into the ground , and will be the first UK deep geothermal energy producer .  The aim of the £18m project is to demonstrate the potential of the geothermal resource in the UK to produce electricity and renewable heat. The plant will supply up to 3 mega watts of electricity which is enough to power 3,000 homes. Geothermal Engineering Ltd has been busy arranging open days for local residents and the parish councils, they will also be working with local schools and colleges.

Cornwall Council is supporting and providing match funding for deep geothermal exploration projects like this pilot one at United Downs to help unlock the huge potential and create a new industry with huge export potential, not just for Cornwall but for the national economy.

**Local Government Electoral Review**. The government has decided that in 2021 the number of Cornwall Councillors will be reduced from 123 to 87. This reduction will require new electoral divisions and an increase of around 1500 additional electorate for each councillor.  Cornwall Council has had to draw up new electoral divisions, currently St Day is in the Mining Villages Carharrack, Gwennap and St Day electoral division. Strong objections were submitted by myself and all three parish councils against splitting these historic and closely connected parishes, unfortunately the government did not listen. The new electoral division in 2021 will see St Day and Carharrack linked to the Mount Ambrose , Treskerby and Roseland Gardens parts of Redruth.

**The Household Waste Recycling Centre** at United Downs is scheduled to be closed in 2 years time and I have been campaigning for many years to keep it open. Cornwall Council is upgrading the Household Waste Recycling Centre at Pool and when the works are complete they will be closing the one that is at United Downs.

I have been approached by many people concerned about this proposed closure as they feel that it is far more convenient to have the one at United Downs serving the area that to drive all of the way to Pool which has long traffic queues already .

My concerns are that the one at Pool will not be well used by people in the Mining Villages area and there will be an increase in fly tipping if the closure goes ahead.

I will be meeting the Cornwall Cabinet member for Waste and senior Cornwall Council officials to see if there is any way they will support my request to keep the United Downs Site open.

**This is latest update relating to the HWRC**. Cornwall Energy Recovery Ltd (CERL) are applying for planning permission to extend the life of the United Mines HWRC by a further 4 years. Currently Planning Permission PA14/08286 states that the HWRC should cease its use by the 31st December 2019. CERL are proposing to extend this permission to ensure that the HWRC can operate until at least the 31st December 2023 providing an additional 4 years of service. It is anticipated that the application will be submitted in April 2019 and once validated by Cornwall Council will take approximately 13 weeks to be determined, which should mean a decision will be made in July/August 2019.

**St Day Feast .**Feast daywas extremely well attended and it is great to see that unlike many village schools pupil numbers at the school has continued to rise. It was an extremely hot day and special thanks must be given to the members of the Carharrack and St Day Silver Band and to the many volunteers for all of their hard work.

**Cornwall Council Civic Awards**. I was delighted to have nominated St Day's long serving Parish Clerk Steve Edwards for the Cornwall Council Civic Award. Steve retires this summer after serving over 33 years as clerk to St Day Parish Council he is probably the longest serving clerk in Cornwall. During this time Steve has dedicated himself to many of the Mining Regeneration projects in the village, he has worked tirelessly to obtain funding for the St Day town clock which has now been handed over to the village from Cornwall Council. Steve is a member of the Mills Trust in St Day which provides housing for many people locally, he is also very proactive on getting land set aside for a new doctors surgery. I have worked alongside Steve for over 18 years  and I was extremely proud to have been with Steve and his wife Sue when he was presented with his award at County Hall.

**Unity Woods**  Many users of this very popular public area have been outraged after large areas of trees in this much-loved woodland were suddenly cut down, leaving what some have described as “a scene of devastation". Unity Woods, in the Chacewater, St Day and Scorrier area, is an expanse of land owned by Tregothnan Estate that has for decades proved popular with walkers, horse riders, mountain bikers and nature lovers who flock to take in glorious bluebell blossoms each spring.

I recently visited the area to meet with a group of worried users of Unity Woods, which is part of the Cornwall and West Devon World Heritage Site and is an area of natural beauty that also contains underground mine workings. The felling was contracted out to a local individual for the production of firewood. The result of these works has seen great chunks of this much-loved Historic woodland area totally devastated in appearance  and emotions have, quite understandably, been running high.

I and the local parish councils will continue to keep a close eye on what is happening in Unity Woods ,Cornwall has few wild woodland spaces left. This is an ancient woodland with vulnerable wildlife species that will be disturbed by the cutting but we don't even know all that's there because there was no wildlife survey before the chainsaws were started up.

“Tregothnan Estate has claimed its commitment to biodiversity but clearing Unity Wood within three or five years will not do this. We totally accept that coppicing can be good for wildlife but the advice we've had is that it needs to be sensitively done.”

**Radio Therapy / Sunrise Centre**  NHS England had put out to consultation proposals to withdraw some specialist cancer treatments currently being provided here in Cornwall and locating them in either Plymouth or Bristol. I like many others here in Cornwall strongly objected, we helped with the fund raising to buy the specialist equipment which is used by our highly skilled NHS staff at the Sunrise Centre, these cancer treatments must remain here in Cornwall. Over 11,000 people "the vast majority being from Cornwall" objected to NHS England's proposals to centralise these cancer treatment services. This huge public outcry has resulted in  NHS England giving confirmation that we will not see these treatments being moved out of Cornwall. I would like to thank everyone that wrote in to support Cornwall's NHS staff and the excellent work they do here in Cornwall.

**Proposed Police Merger**. Devon and Cornwall Police are in discussions with Dorset police to see if by merging it would save money and increase the amount of police officers. I am strongly opposed to this merger. Alison Hernandez the Police and Crime Commission for Cornwall, Devon and the Isles of Scilly has changed her mind and has now spoken out against the merger and it will now thankfully not happen. This proposed merger would have seen an increase in the council tax to match Dorset's precept which is £18 a year more than we currently pay. Cornwall came off worse when it merged many years ago with Devon and it will in my opinion loose out again if this merger had taken place with Dorset. Cornwall Council had written to Devon and Cornwall Police voicing the concerns and objections raised by many Cornwall Councillors.

**Community Chest Funding.** This was allocated evenly between the Parishes, with St Day receiving funding for the Community Mini Bus, the Armistice Day event and the Scarecrow competition (which unfortunately could not be judged, due to extreme weather and gales) - but will be postponed to Harvest Festival 2019.