**Chairman's Annual Report - 2019/20**

This report is written under the unusual circumstances which follow the Government requirements that Annual Parish Meetings cannot take place due to the Coronavirus restrictions. The Report instead is posted on the Parish Notice Boards and available on the Parish Council website.

Whilst not falling within the period required to be covered from April 2019 to March 2020 the passing of our colleague and dear friend Geoff Nankivell this month cannot go without comment.

Geoff has been for many years been one of the main focuses of St Day life, known by all and a friend to most, nothing was too much trouble for Geoff. Always with a smile and helpful ear most of his actions for the community, many individuals and his generosity of spirit went unsung, he will be sorely missed leaving a great void in our community.

The thoughts and prayers of all the Parish Council are sent to Diane and his family.

The makeup of the Parish Council changed over the year with the resignation of Rebecca Ryder, who continues to be active in working on behalf of the Community. Her place on the Council has been filled by Carl Lamb who has lived in St Day since 2015 and brings with him great experience from a previous role as St Ives Town Centre BID manager.

The 2018/19 Accounts have been audited and signed off as correct.

The accounts for this year will be posted at a later date as will confirmation and signature of the 2019 Annual Report.

The most notable events over the year have been:

**Feast** – good weather prevailed and was made more notable by interviews with Residents by Michael Portillo as part of the BBC Railway Journeys programme, The Star Inn provided the venue for the Charity Beer Festival. Thanks to the Feast Committee for yet another successful set of celebrations over the week.

**Picnic-in-the-Park –** organised by Rebecca Ryder and our Parish Clerk Sarah Moore with the help of many volunteers, a fine day and well attended.

**Market Square –** installation of a new Parish Notice Board, planters were located,  populated and tended by our local schoolchildren. A finger post directing to our local WCs and the Enterprise Centre was placed on the lamp standard. Two volunteers from Cornwall Council staff painted the interior of the War Memorial, which has had the leaking roof repaired.

**Clock Tower** – illumination improvements have been contracted out, the installation has been delayed due to current circumstances.

**Remembrance Sunday** – fine weather and a good attendance again supported by the St Day AFC, condolences are extended at the loss of their President Dave Searle this March. Meeting to agree format of 2020 event to be held.

**Christmas** – the Xmas Lights Committee again illuminated St Day with the ability to extend to other areas due to successful fund-raising.

Two carol events were held, the Market Square activities relocated to Trinity Church due to weather but the performance round St Day by the Carharrack and St Day Silver band went ahead as scheduled. Meeting to organise 2020 celebrations to be held.

**St Day and Carharrack School** – the latest Ofsted report gave the school a 'good' rating which is a testament to the hard work by the head teacher, staff and pupils.

**Litter Picks** – four were held over the year, dog fouling remains a persistent problem and glow-in-the-dark stickers funded by a Cornwall Council grant have been placed to remind owners of their responsibilities.

The Parish Council funds a weekly litter pick by a contractor round St Day.

**Road Safety** – thanks to our local Cornwall Councillor action is being taken by Highways to improve the junction at Greenbank.

Speed Watch continued to operate and, in conjunction with the Speed Indicator Signs, has successfully reduced vehicle speeds on the B3298 and Vogue to Redruth roads.

Cornwall Highways conducted major works to reduce the flooding at Pink Moors/Tolgullow.

Following the Public Meeting in September 2019 and evidence provided relating to the B3298 Cornwall Council is in the process of a project to improve the Telegraph Hill/B3298 junction and the Bunts Lane Crossing. The Parish Council has offered to support this with additional funding to achieve the most appropriate road layout alternative.

Agreement has been reached with Cornwall High Ways that posts for mounting Speed Indicator Devices near the B3298 Scorrier Crossing will be installed.

Thanks to the persistence of a local resident Cornwall Council have swept the surface of Vogue Hill to remove chippings and will asses the road state to see if further work is required.

Our local schoolchildren produced a range of posters for one to be selected as road signs warning motorists of the play area at the St Day Playing Field.

**St Day Playing Field –** an activity trail was installed with funds from the S106 monies generated by the Mineral Way development, warning signs relating to safe crossing of the B3298 were sited.

The toilet block, which was unusable, was refurbished however vandalism has meant it has to remain locked except for events.

Agreement has been reached with Cornwall Council that St Day Parish take over a long-term lease on this public space, this devolution brings with it a six-figure sum to improve the existing facilities and add more sports-related activities to the area. Meetings will be held with all those local organisations who have an interest in developing the site.

Our Tree Wardens Tim Price and Rebecca Ryder planted over 70 trees round the periphery of the field, an event which was meant to involve all the community be had to be cancelled due to the Coronavirus restrictions.

**Climate Change –** the Parish Council declared a Climate Emergency for the Parish, a group was subsequently set up to produce a plan for the Parish on how we can contribute to reduce the effect and is supported by the Parish Council.

**St Day Old Church –** after the refurbishment of all the window-frames and installation of an electrical supply the formal opening was held over three days in February. This well-attended event marked the inauguration of this valuable asset back into the Parish as an arts and performance centre. The hard work by the members of the Old Church CIC is to be commended.

**Section 137 Funds –** these are monies set aside by the Parish Council to fund both local and Cornwall-based initiatives which benefit our local residents. These range from local charities to Cornwall Air Ambulance, a total of £3500 was distributed over the year.

**Community bus** – this asset provided by the Youth and Sports Association has been used by our local school and social clubs, two trips to ASDA Penryn were arranged by the Parish Council and more are planned.

**Public Rights of Way** - the Parish Council operates clearance of footpaths through a contractor who cuts more frequently than would Cornwall Council, part-funding of this is provided by Cornwall Council. Discussions on environmentally-friendly weed killing round on road verges is on-going.

**Parish Newsletter** – is funded by the Parish Council with four editions each year and is delivered to every household in the Parish, due to the current situation no May newsletter will be published.

**Burial Ground and Churchyard –** The Parish Council funds cutting of the closed Churchyard, tailings were spread round the footpath junction by the Old Church to improve access and spoil spread on top of graves in the far corner was removed.

A contract has been issued to create a small memorial area in one corner of the burial ground.

**Coronavirus** – this pandemic has resulted in a major disruption to our lives, many important events and regular gatherings by local social clubs and our churches been cancelled, our pubs are shut and it is a difficult time for us all. The St Day Facebook pages are being used to publicise information on support which is available locally and from both Cornwall Council and the Government for individuals and our local businesses. Our local stores which can remain open have risen magnificently to the challenge and thanks are due to their hard work and dedication. Support avenues for those in need have been set up by volunteers with our grateful thanks. The way in which our Parishioners have responded both to the call for social distancing and helping each other during this crisis is to be applauded, just as we do every Thursday at 8pm to acknowledge the work all those in the front line from NHS staff to our refuse collectors.