



## **The Annual Parish Meeting of St Dennis Parish Council Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2025**

Those present: - Cllr Clarke (Chairman), Cllr Burnett (Vice Chair), Cllr Kelsey, Cllr A Griffin, Cllr J Griffin, Lynn Clarke- Clerk, Tamsyn Moore – Senior Office Administrator, Jessica Griffiths - Office Administrator, PCSO Ali Relf, and two additional PCSO's, two representatives from Cornish Lithium, Cornwall Cllr Dick Cole, and 3 members of the public representing various groups from the community.

### **1. Introduction and Welcome**

Cllr J Clarke (Chairman) welcomed and thanked those present for attending.

### **2. Apologies**

Cllr Edmunds.

### **3. The presentation of the Good Citizen Award 2024 - 2025.**

Liz and Steve Bradbury could not be present to accept the award but provided an acceptance speech which was read by Cllr Clarke.

### **4. To approve Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on the 18<sup>th</sup> April 2024**

The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on the 18<sup>th</sup> April 2024 were approved. All in favour.

### **5. Short Report from Cornwall Councillor Mr Dick Cole**

CC Cole presented a written report a copy can be found using this [link](#).

CC Cole briefly outlined a few additional points as below:

Funding secured over the past year for the purchase of the ClayTAWC building.

Securing a Local Lettings Plan for St Dennis and St Enoder.

CC Cole advised that a recent Planning application for a Solar Farm at Trecice is currently being sent to Committee for determination.

Cllr Clarke thanked CC Cole for his assistance to the Parish Council over the past year and congratulated CC Cole on being re-elected as Cornwall Councillor for St Denis and St Enoder Electoral Division.

## **6. A report from the Police on crime statistics over the past year.**

PCSO Alison Relf gave the following report:

The St Austell Neighbourhood team currently comprises of 1 Police Sergeant (PS) known as a Neighbourhood Team Leader (NTL) 5 Police Officers known as Neighbourhood Beat Managers (MBM), 4 Police Community Support Officers (PCSO) and 1 Tri-Service Safety Officer (TSSO).

The Neighbourhood Inspector responsible for the St Austell area is currently Inspector Simon Andrews.

PC Steph Tan, PC Danielle Moore Dunstan, PC Yasmin Vokes, PCSO Alison Relf and PCSO Steve Tibbles are the neighbourhood officers responsible for the parishes outside of St Austell. They are assisted by TSSO Lewis Rosewell currently operating from St Dennis Fire Station.

There have been a number of changes to the neighbourhood team over the past 12 months. PS Ian Chambers, the former NTL, was successful in being promoted to inspector. His replacement PS Martin Easter has recently joined the team following 5 years as a Custody Sergeant based in Newquay. Prior to this Martin was a Patrol Officer based out of St Austell for 9 years.

The team now have 3 new PCSO's who joined in April and are currently undergoing a period of tutorship prior to being deployed into the community. There is the intention that two of the PCSO's will be deployed to parishes outside of St Austell.

We are currently waiting for information from the Police and Crime Commissioner in regard to funding for additional NBM'S.

The team also works closely with Cornwall Council Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) Team and the ASB housing teams working for the various social housing associations with housing stock in the area to deal with ASB and low-level crime.

### **St Dennis Crime Information from March 2024 – March 2025**

A total of 150 crimes were reported during this period broken down as shown below.

Violence & sexual offences	90
Other crimes	31
Criminal damage & arson	21
Theft crimes	3
Burglary	3
Robbery	2

### **St Dennis ASB information from March 2024 – March 2025**

There was a total of 69 ASB reports recorded during this period. Please note that some of these may include neighbour disputes which are not necessarily ASB but are reported as such.

## **7. A report from grant recipients for 2024 – 2025**

A written report was provided from:

- The over 70's Christmas Lunch.
- The Craft Club.
- The Pitch.
- The Carnival Committee.
- The Community Fireworks Committee.
- St Dennis Parish Committee.

These were read to those present and contained information on how the grant has been utilised all of the above expressing thanks for the donations received.

## **8. Invitation to the public to raise any matters of interest or concerns.**

No matters were raised by members of the public.

Cllr A Griffin raised concerns reported to her and it was agreed that this would be discussed further with the police.

## **9. Chairman's Annual Report**

At the recent elections only 6 Parish Councillors completed and submitted their forms – therefore all 6 were duly elected to form the new Parish Council for the next 4 years. We have 11 seats allocated to St Dennis so therefore we are hoping that more residents will show an interest to go through the co-option process to fill the 5 seats and become Councillors.

As you can imagine with 5 seats vacant the current Councillors are having to work harder to complete the work which comes forward.

You will shortly be hearing reports from all of our Parish Council Committees which will update you on some of the items we have been working on over the last year.

The item that has kept us very busy and has cost you the Council tax payers has been the criminal damage caused by person or persons unknown.

This has included:-

The destruction of an aluminium sign by the skate park costing in the region of £400,  
The intentional damage to works which had just been carried out to repair the bank by the skatepark,

Removal of a sign at Freda's Triangle, deserted bicycles,

Scooters and clothing in the playing field, and the damage to Perspex sheets in the bus shelters.

There are too many to list here this evening

This all cost us, the tax payers, a lot of money every year.

On road and inconsiderate parking is always at the forefront – the Parish council are constantly reporting issues to the Police and County Highways – we will continue this work. A lot of the problems are created by people purchasing houses without off road parking – I have no idea how we overcome that.

The Parish Council are still working, with solicitors, to complete the purchase of the land at Dunstan Close. Hopefully this will be concluded soon and we will be able to clear the area and plant trees etc for public benefit.

I wish to thank our Parish Clerk – Lynn and our two administrators - Tamsyn and Jess for the sterling work they carry out on a day to day basis to keep the Parish working. I cannot forget our 3 part time maintenance workers, Brian, David and Alfie who play a big role in keeping the village tidy, also maintaining the cemetery and playing field and cutting back the footpaths. Without those chaps the village would be in a horrid mess. Also our thanks go to our Cornwall Councillor Dick Cole for the massive support he gives to us.

## **8. Short Reports from the Committees (Planning, Cemetery, Playing Field and Education Grants)**

### **Community Grants 2024 - 2025**

Applications received: 9 applications received in 2024-25, which included funds towards the running of the art group, costs towards the community fireworks display, contribution to support St Denys Craft Club, a Darts Tournament for the under 18's, a grant towards the cost of the insurance for the Carnival Committee. A donation to St Dennis Parish Committee to assist with the D-Day celebration event. A contribution towards the over 70's Christmas lunch. As well as an annual donation to the Cornwall Air Ambulance we also donated this year £100 to the Chestnut Appeal for men's health. A total of £2232.66 was awarded under section 137 and £600 under other powers.

Awarded for the year: £2832.66

### **Cemetery 2024-2025**

Interments Garden of rest:	7
Interments Grave space:	17
Plots Purchased:	16
EROB Transfers	15

Income: £14260.00

Expenditure excluding wages: £9714.54

Memorial testing undertaken and an additional bin installed within the Cemetery grounds.

### **Amenities including footpaths**

Income: £1953.00

Expenditure: £8905.71

Which includes the £1066.29 for the Christmas tree lighting event. £2500 for patching and lining work in Trelavour Square and an additional grit bin installed in Grose Meadows. In addition to this we have a new memorial bench that has been donated by a member of the public and the Parish Council have ordered but not paid for or installed 3 new benches to replace the wooden benches in the parish.

A grant has been sourced for the installation of mobile speed signage project. Unfortunately, due to contractor delays this has not been completed as we would have hoped in 24 – 25. We do hope these signs, when installed, will reduce speeding within the area. The Parish Council will be able to better monitor vehicle speeds within the Parish and provide evidence of hot spots for further action. The reports from the speed monitoring scheme will be available on our website.

### **Public Toilets**

Expenditure: £16426.67

£10405.04 of this is for the refurbishment of the second toilet which is now open for public use.

### **Playing Field**

General expenditure: £7292.26  
Income from PC £9120.00  
Bank Balance PFT £ 9657.53

This includes repairs to the slide, gate repairs, replacement the large basket swing, replacement of a platform on the multi play unit and the wildlife survey that has been undertaken to establish the viability of the dog walking area. Other projects undertaken include bird boxes and bug boxes, tree planting, tree removal, surface repairs to the play area. Work that has been commissioned but not yet undertaken Bank repair Penny Darn Clearance, and reduction of tree height throughout the playing field scheduled for after the nesting season.

### **Education Grants**

Applications received: 23  
Applications approved: 20  
Refused or withdrawn: 3  
Total awarded: £15012.79  
Total awarded to date: £123858.98  
Administration costs £ 167.10  
Bank Balance as of 31<sup>st</sup> March: £90175.03

11 additional applications approved in 23-24 were paid and are included within the figures above.

### **Planning**

Applications received: 13  
Agreed: 10 1 of these was supported with conditions.  
Objected to: 2  
One application was withdrawn.

### **Financial**

Total Income (excluding The St Dennis Playing Fields): £216,185  
Total Expenditure: £167,771  
Bank Balances at 31 March 2025:

Current: £187,511.88  
 Saver: £124,582.87  
 Education Current £34,630.39  
 Education Saver £55,544.64  
 Unity Current: £9,909.10  
 Unity Saver: £72,792.78  
 Petty Cash: £49.12  
 Cash in Hand: £180.00  
 Total: £485,200.78

Further information on the Parish Council finances are included within our Annual Report which can be found [HERE](#).

### **Ear Marked Reserves Year End 2024-2025**

Excluding Playing Field Trust	Opening		2024/25		Closing
	Balances	Additions	Releases	Re-alloc.	Balances
	31/03/2024				at 31/03/25
<b>EARMARKED RESERVES</b>					
Play equipment & Fencing	13,920	3,000			16,920
Office Equipment	2,765	500			3,265
Open Spaces- Provision of Seats	4,085	1,000			5,085
Cemetery- Headstone Safety Inspec	4,502				4,502
Cemetery Headstones Remedial Work	6,070				6,070
Cemetery Enhancement	8,993				8,993
Trelavour Sq Tarmac	3,843		-2,500	2,000	3,343
St Dennis Toilets	15,774	1,000	-10,405		6,369
Weed Control	1,000				1,000
Neighbourhood Plan	5,398				5,398
Community Benefit Fund	32,452			-5,000	27,452
Notice Board	2,400				2,400
Village Enhancements	10,390				10,390
Emergency Plan	1,500				1,500
Cemetery Wall Repairs	386			-386	0
Election Exp	8,245				8,245
Tree work	5,350				5,350
Cemetery Land	73,550	4,000			77,550
CCTV	1,178	500			1,678
Education Bursaries	80,418	23,155	-17,039		86,534
Emergency Funds	2,000				2,000
Training	1,600				1,600
Dunstan Close Land	11,500	14,913		-5,000	21,413
Dog Walking Area				10,386	10,386
Bus Shelters	1,000	3,000			4,000
CIL Funding	13,895			-2,000	11,895
Mobile Speed Signage		10,640			10,640
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>312,214</b>	<b>61,708</b>	<b>-29,944</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>343,978</b>

	Opening	24-25			Closing
	Balances	Receipt	Payments	EMRs	Balances
	at 01.04.24				at 31.03.25
<b>GENERAL FUND</b>					
Opening Balance	106,308				124,571
Receipts	199,182	216,185			216,185
Payments	-178,928		-167,770		-167,770
Additions to EMRs	-36,326			-61,708	-61,708
Releases from EMRs	34,335			29,944	29,944
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>124,571</b>	<b>216,185</b>	<b>-167,770</b>	<b>-31,764</b>	<b>141,222</b>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<b>436,785</b>				<b>485,200</b>

**Meeting closed at 7.30pm**