

PL24 Community Association (PL24CA) Minutes Committee Meeting held on 14.04.25. via video

Present:, Judy Brereton, Sandra Butler, Ryan Chamberlain, Jenny Moore, Alison White, Eve Winterbottom

Apologies:

June Anderson, Dawn Surl, Tamsin Chapman-Gunner

Committee Meeting Minutes are first agreed and approved by email and then uploaded onto the PL24 Community Association website.

Item	Discussion notes	Who? Action? By when?
1.	Minutes from the last meeting held on 06.01.25 were approved by email and are now on the website.	
2.	<p>Matters Arising and Information Update</p> <p>a)Bids for external funding Our appeal for volunteers to help with planning projects and external funding bids has resulted in 4 offers of assistance, from local residents Bob, and Tamsin (who is rejoining the PL24CA committee as well, having moved back into the area); and Denise and Tony who are frequent visitors to the area.</p> <p>Par Track Friendly Benches Denise and Tony suggested this project and Bob has helped with the design and costings. There will be 3 benches forming an open rectangle on a concrete base adjoining the tarmac path overlooking Par Track at the Moorland Rd. end. There will be space on the hard surface to join in the conversation for those with pushchairs, using wheelchairs or mobility scooters and bicycles. The plaques on the benches will read: A friendly bench for those who want to chat. Donated by PL24 Community Association. The aim is to promote positive physical and mental health and wellbeing by offering everyone the opportunity to socialise easily with others in a pleasant, outdoors environment. The bid is supported by both Par Track and the NHS Healthy Living Co-ordinator and a bid, drafted by Denise, has been submitted to a potential funder.</p> <p>Equipment Store update As reported in the January Minutes, the Friends of St Andrews Wetlands Reserve, GrowStBlazey, St Blaise Feast and Fete along with PL24 Community Association are seeking to buy and install an equipment store which the 4 groups will share. Alison has asked the following organisations to consider making a contribution to this initiative: St Blazey Town Council, Tywardreath and Par Parish Council (TPPC) and Imerys/British Lithium. In March, St Blazey TC said that they could not consider the request until at least 80% of their Town Councillors have been elected, and suggested we try again after the May elections. Alison responded to further questions about the project from TPPC and PL24CA is delighted to report that TPPC is kick-starting this project with a donation of £500.00. Alison</p>	

	<p>is also delighted to report that Imerys has just confirmed that they are willing to donate £1,000.00 too, so we are well on our way to our target. It was agreed that Alison should approach the newly formed St Blaise TC again after the elections have taken place. All the groups are also looking out for other funding opportunities.</p> <p>Benches for Penarwyn Green and Old Roselyon Field Alison's recent bid for the benches was not successful but she will continue to look for other opportunities.</p> <p>Bench and planter on verge at Par Station Bus Stop Alison put in a bid to GWR who has awarded us funding in the past for benches and the information/walking route/map board. GWR has recently confirmed that they will be granting us the totality of the amount requested. Alison will contact both Cornwall Council who owns the land, and TPPC who agreed to accept onward responsibility for the new, recycled plastic bench which is guaranteed for 25-years. Judy and John E will gather together volunteers, including some from the Community Garden Team, to prepare the site; and work will start on this as soon as the donation comes through from GWR.</p> <p>b) New Website Proposal PL24CA has recognised for a while now that our SiteBuilder website is no longer appropriate; and yet it is absolutely vital, as it is evidence for potential external funders of our aims and achievements. The main concern with SiteBuilder is that subscription costs are rising and that we are currently tied in, because the content cannot be transferred easily to a new website. Bob has offered to work with John E and Alison on researching the options, as Bob has experience of managing various websites and working with a range of resources and website providers. The website will be relatively simple and we will be able to edit and develop it as we wish i.e. if we do use an agency for the initial build, we will make sure that we are not tied into the agency long-term. Above all, the new website will have a content management system which would allow for an easier transfer to another provider at any time, if this proved necessary. At the moment, we are entirely dependent on SiteBuilder and this does not seem sensible not least as we would be in a very difficult position if it goes bust. Alison is starting to work with another volunteer, Jo, on ensuring that all the poems and photos are in a format which will allow them to be uploaded onto the new website once it is set up.</p>	<p>Alison St Blaise TC ASAP</p> <p>Alison on- going</p> <p>Alison and Judy ASAP</p> <p>Various volunteers on- going</p>
3.	The Proposal to co-opt Tamsin Chapman-Gunner as a committee member was carried unanimously.	
4.	<p>Treasurer Report</p> <p>Transactions since last Committee / Working Group meeting on 10.03.25</p> <p>Opening Current Account Balance (10.03.25): £2,225.33 Income received:</p>	

	<p>All income relates to the advertiser payments for the PL24 magazine spring edition. There are still o/s invoices for the spring edition amounting to £372 to be collected.</p> <p>Payments made: During the period, the only expense was the bank's £4.25 service fee.</p> <p>Closing Current Account Balance (14.04.25): £3,672.08</p> <p>Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial year end is 31st August. • We are holding £6,060.71 (reserve in an immediate access savings account attracting 1% interest payable monthly - rate due to reduce shortly). The necessity for maintaining our reserve is due to the ongoing costs to which we are committed including • liability insurance for public events (including St Blaise Feast & Fete) • Cornwall Plastic Pollution Coalition membership (via CWT) • software for magazine page-setting (Sedja) • video conferencing subscription (Zoom) • Web hosting and domain name subscription (Sitebuilder) • sundry items e.g. high viz vests for litter picking, magazine boxes for distribution, mobile phone credit, labels for Morsbags, plaques for donated benches, volunteer get-togethers • printing costs for 4 editions of the magazine per year (Pegasus - which we currently manage to cover via paid advertising) • last year these costs totalled £6500 • Since having researched alternate banking to try and avoid monthly service fees and deciding Santander may offer the best option, we have now seen their announcement of the closure of their St Austell branch! <p>The introduction of bank charges by Lloyds is unwelcome news. However, Ryan said that he felt that due diligence had been carried out by Eve, who has investigated various alternatives, and it was generally agreed that little would be achieved by moving bank accounts at the moment, given that other banks may well follow Lloyds' lead.</p>	
5.	<p>Polmear Community Orchard</p> <p>Judy reported on a workshop she had attended on pruning fruit trees. It was very helpful and following this, Judy and husband Phil have carried out an initial pruning of the apple trees in the orchard. Judy has also been in touch with someone in Lostwithiel who is willing to come and look at the trees when they are in leaf. The aim will be to check that efficient pollinating will be achieved with the current varieties.</p> <p>Judy is continuing to liaise with Cormac re: the mowing and PL24CA can continue to help maintain the orchard – as volunteer capacity allows – under the Cormac Volunteer Scheme pending the orchard's devolution to Tywardreath and Par Parish Council (TPPC). At this point, a decision will be taken as to whether we continue helping to</p>	<p>Judy Alison on-going</p>

	<p>maintain the orchard. If so, the Risk Assessment will need to be modified by Alison; and TPPC will need to make arrangements for the disposal of the rubbish and the provision of any tools which may be needed, as Cormac does this currently for Cornwall Council.</p> <p>It was noted that TPPC is setting up a working group to look at what will be required after devolution and might ask some individuals to volunteer. If asked, volunteers for PL24CA could of course join in a personal capacity, but we will not be seeking any representation on the working group given that we cannot make any long-term commitment to helping maintain the orchard. Of course, Judy and others would be in a position to give suggestions as to what is necessary if TPPC requests this.</p>	
6.	<p>Litter Picking</p> <p>Sandra said that the number of volunteers at the last litter pick had picked up and it was good to see some new faces. The next litter pick will be at the Burrows Centre on Easter Sunday. Sandra also reported that she had been for a walk around the Middleway Coop area – including along the footpath to Polgrean Place - where the latest litter pick was held. Sandra was disappointed to find that the rubbish along by the stream that she had reported to Cornwall Council hadn't been removed. It was quite dispiriting to walk around this area not least when compared with the newly refurbished Trail Blazer Park. A discussion followed as to whether PL24CA might be able to do anything to help improve this area.</p>	Various members of the committee on-going
7.	<p>St Blaise Feast and Fete – new committee</p> <p>Ryan informed the committee that Jenny (Moore) has stepped down from the committee. Colin Parrock is now Chair; Anthony Billings is Vice-Chair; Linzi is Secretary; and Ryan is Treasurer. It is hoped to organise various events at other times of the year including for fund-raising.</p>	
8.	<p>AOB</p> <p>Lack of footpath</p> <p>A local resident has raised concerns about the lack of a footpath between Par Docks and the car park at Par Market World. Unfortunately, there is little we can do as a voluntary group. The advice was to contact St Blaise TC and the Cornwall Councillor for this area along with the Community Partnership Meeting: https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/people-and-communities/community-area-partnerships/cornwall-south-kemeneth-kernow-soth/</p> <p>River Water Quality Project</p> <p>Emmeline Hardisty (https://www.instagram.com/rootandrivercreative/profilecard/) has contacted PL24CA about a river water quality project which she is undertaking. Alison attended a Climate and Environment Alliance meeting at which a short extract was shown of Emmeline's work which ranges from stories to films to pictures. The film was excellent and Alison has offered Emmeline the opportunity to send in a contribution for PL24 Magazine and Ryan has said he will share Facebook posts for her.</p>	

Date of next meeting: Monday 16th June 2025 at 6.30pm

Location: by Zoom