

# St Buryan, Lamorna & Paul Parish Council

## St Buryan, Lamorna and Paul Parish Council Annual Report 2022/23 (May 2022 to April 2023 inclusive)

Parish Council monthly meetings continue to be split between St Buryan Village Hall (eight meetings) and Lamorna Village Hall (four meetings), so we are able to provide better access for the public if they wish to attend our meetings. Parish Councillors are also available to talk to members of the community once a month at St Buryan Village Market.

### Planning

A total of 27 planning applications were brought before the Parish Council this financial year. We made 20 recommendations to Cornwall Council for approval, 2 recommendations to approve with conditions and we objected to 5. Our opinions were agreed with in the vast majority of decisions made by Cornwall Council, who have the final say on all planning matters. In the rare instances that us the Parish Council and Cornwall Council were not aligned on an application we were able to provide further feedback prior to their final decision. The feedback includes an option to recommend for Committee consideration which we took on one occasion.

### Parish Council donations from the S137 grant fund

Local groups or organisations can make a written application to the Parish Council requesting funding that has a direct benefit for the area or for some of all of the residents. Details on how to apply can be found on the Parish Council website [stburyanlamornapaul-pc.gov.uk](http://stburyanlamornapaul-pc.gov.uk).

The Parish Council gave the following donations during the period May 2022 to April 2023 inclusive:

- £250 for St Buryan Men's Football Club
- £300 for St Buryan Ladies Football Club
- £350 for St Buryan Cricket Club
- £200 for St Buryan School books
- £250 for St Buryan School to repair steps at the bottom of the school field
- £400 for the Community Picnic to be held on May 6<sup>th</sup> 2023 to celebrate the coronation of King Charles III
- £238 for training on how to use the defibrillator located on the front wall of the Lamorna Wink
- £46 for Royal British Legion

### Our Priorities

#### 1. Transform the St Buryan Playground

The Parish Council recognised that with the significant increase in housing numbers (and children) the playground no longer provided a high quality outdoor recreational space and therefore embarked on a project to transform the playground to provide a safe and stimulating area that promotes good health in children and also provides a welcoming area for parents to come together and socially interact.

The Parish Council has worked with Community House, Sanctuary Housing/Classic Builders and more recently with Cornwall Council to fund improvements to the St Buryan playground area that have taken place in the following phases:

#### **Phase 1**

A 'No Dogs Allowed' play area was created by having green bow top fencing (supplied by Sanctuary Housing and installed by Classic Builders).

#### **Phase 2**

The Parish Council and Community House placed orders for new playground equipment with South West Play based in Newlyn.

Community House funded one new basket swing and two new baby swings on the existing double steel frame; the yellow slide to be moved to the amphitheatre with a new decking platform take off area; reclaimed sleepers to be set into the bank with a pull up rope.

The Parish Council funded the new Single Tower with plastic slide, Burma bridge and climbing wall.

#### **Phase 3**

The Parish Council submitted an Expression of Interest to Cornwall Council asking for monies out of their Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) fund. The CIL fund was heavily oversubscribed with 124 Expressions of Interest requesting over £6.6m of support from the £500,000 budget. The Parish Council were invited to submit a full application and are delighted to have been awarded £20,000 from the CIL fund to purchase more equipment and landscape the play area.

To assure users of the playground that reasonable precautions have been taken to avoid injury, the Parish Council appointed South West Playground Safety Inspections to do an Annual Inspection in February 2023. The St Buryan playground was given an overall risk assessment of "**Low Risk**" with a **score of 10** on the assessors Risk Matrix, meaning there are no major issues to urgently address. However there are a few areas of the playground requiring maintenance and cleaning and this will take place over the coming months. Parish Councillors are also now performing monthly visual checks of the playground.

This priority was delivered.

### **2. Reduce the speed of traffic through St Buryan Village**

Data from the Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS) shows that on average only 63% of drivers keep within the 30mph speed limit. Statistics from the Department for Transport give a pedestrian survival rate upon collision with a moving vehicle as 95% at 20mph; 55% at 30mph and 15% at 40mph. There is evidence of 40+% reduction in collision rates in areas where 20mph has been introduced and hence why Cornwall Council are looking at making 20mph the default speed limit for all villages.

Three Parish Councillors met with Highways in October 2022 to discuss ways to reduce speeding through St Buryan village and some good ideas were generated during the walkabout.

Highways are in the process of arranging another meeting with Parish Councillors to discuss in more detail the ideas generated with a Highways Designer, so that cost estimates can be generated for road improvements that are viable in practice and within budget.

This priority is ongoing and focus will continue in 2023/24

### **3. Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) questionnaire and community led Steering Group**

The Parish Council designed and distributed 1000 questionnaire leaflets by hand to households in the parish as well as putting it on the Parish Council website.

The aim of the questionnaire was to:

- give residents information about what an NDP is and how it is produced.
- gauge the level of interest the Parish has for producing an NDP.
- hear from those in the community who would be interested in being a member of a Steering Group.

The NDP questionnaire received a low overall parish response rate of less than 10%. Typically if a parish has interest in producing an NDP the response rate would be at least 20% (St Just had 39% of residents returning their questionnaire).

Nevertheless the questionnaire did bring forward a sufficient number of talented and enthusiastic people in the parish who want to form a Steering Group and produce an NDP, so on balance the Parish Council voted to support an NDP being produced. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Londis, St Buryan Inn, Lamorna Pottery and all those who helped us distribute and collect questionnaires for this purpose.

The Steering Group that has John Wilkin as Chair, Ian Groves as Treasurer and Kevin Wyre as Secretary will now engage with the community as they start to produce the Neighbourhood Development Plan.

This priority was delivered.

In addition to the above three priorities, the Parish Council:

- Reported the parking issues at Parc an Cady to Live West who are accountable for parking there
- Contacted Sanctuary Houses who agreed to provide additional resource to improve landscaping around Meadow Rise and are deciding whether they are willing to have a dog waste bin sited in Meadow Rise
- Presented Jubilee mugs to the Children of St Buryan Academy on 6<sup>th</sup> June 2022.
- Purchased a new bench for the cemetery
- Repaired broken bench at Crows-an-Wra
- Agreed to trial councillor attendance at St Buryan Farmers' Market each month
- Facilitated design, content and distribution of Neighbourhood Development questionnaires
- Bid for the purchase of Lot3 land for sale near Newlyn Road (bid unsuccessful)
- Put an application form for an S137 grant on the Parish Council website.
- Agreed to buy Christmas trees for St Buryan and Lamorna from Tregothnan again.

The Parish Council is also trying to clarify whether the current responsibility for clearing of footpaths will change from being the Parish Council should Natural England take on land as part of a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) since a designation of SSSI means the public no longer have an automatic right of access.

Councillor Sian Kettlewell resigned in Jan 2023. The Parish Council would like to thank Sian for her contribution, especially to the Children's Day during the St Buryan Feast celebrations in May 2022. David Jeffery has more recently resigned; we extend thanks to him for his forty years' service.

Pamela Thurstans was coopted to replace Sian and we are currently in the process of appointing a replacement for David Jeffery. Thanks also to Kate Pinknett, clerk since 2021, who has moved onto pastures new. We wish her well in her new position and hope to appoint a replacement clerk soon.

Additional Information -

A total of 31 members of the public attended the twelve PC meetings.

Councillor Actual attendance over the year was 80.1% of the maximum possible - noting that for 100% attendance all Councillors & Clerk would have attended every monthly meeting.

The precept for 2023/24 was agreed at 3%.