

## DOBWALLS AND TREWIDLAND ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

**Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of Dobwalls and Trewidland Parish held in the Sunday Schoolroom, Methodist Chapel, Dobwalls on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2016, commencing at 7.35pm.**

**Present:** Councillors J Dunn, M Mackie, T Kitto, D Finch and H Francis

**In Attendance:** Mrs L Coles (Parish Clerk), Cllr Mike George (Cornwall Council)

There were 8 members of the public present.

Cllr Dunn, Vice Chairman of the Parish Council, took the Chair as the Chairman, Cllr Scott, had to leave the meeting.

**Item 1. Apologies:** Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr M Morford., Cllr Scott, Cllr Mills, (Parish Council) and Cllr Seeva (Cornwall Council)

**Item 2. Welcome by the Chair.**

Cllr Dunn welcomed everyone to the Annual Parish Meeting for Dobwalls and Trewidland Parish.

**Item 3. Casual Vacancies on the Parish Council** – there are currently three vacancies on the Parish Council and the Clerk gave a short presentation on what it means to be a Parish Councillor and the criteria that has to be met. The Parish Council exists as the most localised form of government and is there to represent its residents and electors. Everybody is a valuable member of the community, you don't have to be highly educated, and the Clerk highlighted the fact that the more diverse the background of councillors, with the different life skills that each brings to the table, the broader the debate and Councils can make better informed decisions. There will be Local Council Elections in May 2017 and the Clerk urged anyone who wishes to have a go and see what it is like to be a Parish Councillor to come forward now and be co-opted, with the option of not standing for election in May next year if they find that it is not for them.

**Item 4. Presentations by invited Local Groups.**

Tim Gray, Head Teacher at Dobwalls Primary School gave a presentation. The school is very active in promoting a different style of learning, building learning power. There is to be a big event on the 10<sup>th</sup> June to celebrate the Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday and the whole community is invited. Each class will be performing a different decade. Tim Gray is keen to get members of the community involved with the school. There has been some canvassing of the children and parents regarding the proposed skate park at Honey Meadow and, it would seem from the responses, the consensus is very much in favour of having a skate park, rather than an alternative. Letters of support were handed to the Clerk for the file. Cllr Finch asked if there had been any improvement in the parking outside the school. There has not and the school has been in touch with Wainhomes about the extension to the school car park but there has been no progress to date. Cllr George will contact Craig Taylor at Cornwall Council tomorrow. There is a regular item in the school newsletter reminding parents about the parking problems but the school has no resource to police it.

Stephen Huggett, Trewidland Community Group, spoke about how the group was formed and its aims. The Trewidland Village Hall is reaching the end of its life and the group is in the throes of putting together a feasibility study for building a new hall. It is possible for community groups to get funding and the TCG is consulting with the public, using questionnaires, to provide funders with the evidence of need. People are extremely positive and are keen to have more community activity and a new village hall. Many funders match fund and Mr Huggett spoke about the Solar Farm money, which he said the TCG is custodian of.

Matt Thornhill, Dobwalls Football Club, said that the season has just finished. The first team has not won a game since last October but has just appointed a new manager; the second team has won promotion to a higher league. The ladies' team has folded but it is hoped to start up again. The junior section has had a good season and there could be two more junior teams for next season, taking the total up to five teams. The Parish Council was thanked for its support of the planned extension to the clubhouse, and the Club has progressed to stage 3 of the funding application for this project. The Club has two key projects in sight for the future; the first, to install high netting at the Lantoom end to protect neighbouring properties and prevent the loss of footballs; the second, to develop an all-weather surface with lights for training use, which will save the Club at least £1000 per year. Cllr George said that he would be happy to support an application by the club to the Community Chest Grant. Finally, it has been a challenging season and the AGM will be held on 22<sup>nd</sup> June at 7.30pm. The Football Club is always looking for supporters and volunteers.

Dobwalls United Church, Linda Feek said that a Mother and Toddler Group had been started and there is Messy Church every month. Linda has met lads on the path with skateboards and they will be very disappointed if the skate park at Honey Meadow did not proceed. Cllr Dunn said that one of the main skateboarders in the village had said that they had now moved on to BMX bikes and so the Parish Council had been exploring the possibility of a different use but, in light of the statistics provided by the school, this will be discussed again at the next Parish Council meeting. A discussion followed around the site of the skate park and its use by older children and the play areas in the village. A member of the public asked where can the children play football? Matt Thornhill said that the Football Club had experienced some damage to its facilities by children playing football, unauthorised, on its pitches.

Trewidland History Group – there is always a good display of information in the old shop. In Trewidland the children have to ride bikes and play football in the road and it was asked if anything could be done to changes this. Cllr Francis suggested looking into the leasing of the green space, which is a part of the graveyard that is not being used. The Clerk will open a discussion with the Methodist Circuit about this. Clerk

**Item 5 Public Open Forum**

It was asked what thought has been given to the affect that all the new housing development has on doctors' surgeries, hospitals, dentists and schools. Cllr Dunn said that this is a question that is asked many times and with the size of the village now there is a need for a doctors' surgery and a dentist. Cllr George said that there is a massive housing need across the country and the more Communities that have a Neighbourhood Development Plan, the more they can say where those houses will go. The Cornwall Local Plan is currently with the Inspectorate but it could still come back and say that more housing provision has to be met by Cornwall. A District Hospital is badly needed in this area.

The Parish Council was asked about the use of the Memorial Hall for a Youth Club. Cllr Finch suggested that the committee is approached again. An article will be put in the Villager Magazine to see if there is a need for a Youth Club.

**Item 6 Close**

There being no further business the Chairman thanked all those who attended and closed this meeting at 8.30pm.

Signed.....Chairman, Dobwalls and Trewidland Parish Council

Date.....

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