

Minutes of the ANNUAL
LUXULYAN PARISH MEETING

Luxulyan Memorial Institute
6.00 pm, Thursday, 12th May 2016

Chaired by: Parish Council Chairman, George Haywood

Present: 11 electors of the parish and Tasha Davis, Community Link Officer for the St Blazey, Fowey & Lostwithiel area of which Luxulyan Parish is a member.

Apologies: R Keam, R James, Toni Olssen, PCSO N Merrikin

- 1) Minutes from the previous Luxulyan Parish Meeting were **approved** (proposed Mr J Satterthwaite, 2nd Mrs M Linfoot).
- 2) **Chairman's Report.** The Chairman of the Parish Council read his report (attached).
- 3) **Reports from organisations in the Parish.** Reports were read out at the meeting and are attached in full:
 - a) Footpaths Committee. Roger Smith presented the report on behalf of Roger James, chairman. Highlights include:
 - Footpath 10 (Outer Savath to the boundary of Roche Parish) is closed, but the closure may not now be renewed and Cornwall Council will have to decide its future. There is opposition to permanent closure
 - Footpath 14 through Beswetherick Fields has not been properly adjusted as per the agreement with the developer. There seems to be confusion as to its new official route.
 - b) Over 50s Club. The Chairman read out this report from Mr R Keam.
 - c) Luxulyan Living Churchyard Group. Roger Smith presented the report.
 - d) Cornwall Archaeological Society – Luxulyan Area. Roger Smith presented the report.
 - e) Luxulyan Memorial Institute. Nick Legard presented the report.
- 4) **Electors' participation.** No issues were raised.
- 5) **Date of the next Annual Parish Meeting.** Thursday 11th May 2017.

The meeting ended at 6.22 pm.

N Legard left the meeting. A short intermission was held with tea and coffee served. After the intermission the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council began.

Mrs C Wilson, Clerk to Luxulyan Parish Council

3 June 2016

Chairman's Report 2015/16

First of all I would like to thank my fellow councillors and the Parish Clerk for their support, dedication, enthusiasm and efforts through the past year. During the year, three elected Councillors have resigned and two new councillors have been co-opted. Currently we now have five elected Councillors, four co-opted Councillors and one vacancy.

In the twelve month period since May 2015 there have been 12 regular Parish Council meetings, three 'extra-ordinary meetings and two site visits regarding Planning applications. There have also been various sub-committee meetings as and when required.

During this period, our Ward Councillor, Simon Rix, attended one Meeting, and submitted one written report. There has been a Police representative in attendance three times and written reports submitted 11 times. Future police involvement will be one attendance a year and a nominated Councillor will attend regular Police Liaison Group meetings which have recently been set up but not yet started. We have also offered financial support to ensure that a police presence remains in St Blazey.

The Parish Council website has had 1,695 hits to date. Whilst it is not obligatory for a Council of with our financial turnover to adopt the Transparency Code, we have chosen to do so and significant work has been carried out on the website in order to comply with the Transparency Code regulations. The website also provides local information, useful links and general information regarding the Parish. All Agendas and Minutes are posted and Council Policies are either already on the website or in the process of being made available. Accounts are now published on-line including Budget v Payments figures.

Twenty two Planning Applications have come before the Council. One was withdrawn before a decision was made, two are still awaiting a decision and 19 have been decided. In 18 of those decisions, Cornwall Council were in agreement with our recommendations, the one exception was called in to Cornwall Council Planning Committee where, despite support from our Ward Councillor, Simon Rix, the application was still refused.

The Village play area has had the external fence replaced, a new Swing set has been provided, and the equipment is currently being refurbished. A litter bin has been acquired but has yet to be positioned.

A Defibrillator has been purchased from Council funds and will be installed on the outside of the Luxulyan Memorial Institute; a donation towards this has also come from the Community Fund available to Ward Councillor Simon Rix. Training will be provided.

Maintenance of the Bus Stop area is now out of Council Funds and there was also a planting scheme to brighten the area; it is sad to see that some mindless vandals have already destroyed some of the plants. Ongoing plans for improving the appearance of the Village also include a scheduled Litter Pick and a review of other proposals being presented by local residents.

We continue to provide financial support to Granite Towers and have given £300 in other grants. The formal Grant Awarding Policy will be available on the website once ratified.

Budget versus Payments for 2015/16 year has been managed with a small draw on reserves. The budget for 2016/17 has been set and we are delighted to announce that there will be no increase in the precept.

The Parish Council has decided to proceed with a Neighbourhood Plan; a Steering Group has been set up, initial meetings have taken place and an Open Day is being planned for the 9th of July. Public involvement will be essential.

With more powers being devolved from Cornwall Council, it has been, and will continue to be challenging. Once again my thanks go to all my fellow Councillors and our clerk Christine, for the amount of time and effort they commit to the Council, and without whom the task of being Chairman would certainly be that much harder. My thanks also to our Vice Chair, Michaela Linfoot, for her invaluable support over the year.

Best wishes to you all for the coming year.

LUXULYAN FOOTPATHS COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE PARISH MEETING ON THURSDAY 12TH MAY 2016

This committee is chaired by Roger James and comprises three other members of the public, as well as the Parish Council representative, Jack Satterthwaite, who replaced David Olford after he retired from the Council.

Although a full survey has not been made so far this year, most paths are considered to be in good condition. The oversight of the Footpaths Committee combined with the active encouragement of Luxulyan Parish Council and the hard work of Andy Hoskin and Anthony Maddams, mean that walking in the parish is usually problem-free.

Of the 18 paths in the parish, seven paths are unsatisfactory for part or, rarely, all of their length: FP 6 (the Dark Lane section between Bodwen and Minorca Lane); FP8 (Minorca Lane to Higher Menadue); FP10 (Outer Savath to the boundary with Roche parish); FP 14 (St Cyriac to Bridges); FP13 (Saints' Way, Atwell to Tredinnick); and FPs 16 and 17 (Saints' Way from Luxulyan to the road east of Little Prideaux).

Bob Fraser of the Ramblers' Association investigated FP10 (Outer Savath to the boundary with Roche parish), which is officially closed, but considered it to be too expensive an undertaking for its REACT group to reinstate. He advised that the closure order cannot be renewed again, which means that the long-term status of the path must be faced by Cornwall Council. The Footpath Committee has £1100 available for the reinstatement of this path. The Footpath Committee (and, probably, the Ramblers' Association) would be opposed to its permanent closure.

Flooding has put Dark Lane (FP6) out of use over the winter. Bob Fraser visited this recently to see if the Ramblers' Association could help. In his opinion, the drainage has been blocked, partly by the silting of a drainage pipe but mainly because the level of the field to the west of the path appears to have been raised, thus preventing water from draining away. A report will be made to Cornwall Council initially to see if they can deal with the problem. Added to this problem, persistent fly tipping by the stile makes the area rather unpleasant.

A member of the public reported concern a problem where the Bissa river had eroded a small section of path (FP8 Minorca Lane to Higher Menadue), making it difficult to use when the river is high. Bob Fraser suggested that the removal of a tree might be sufficient to allow the path to be sufficiently wide to use at all times.

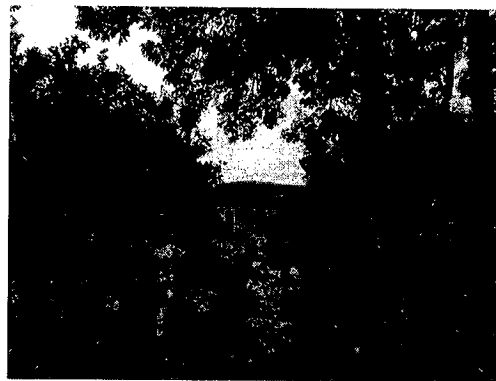
FP 14 (St Cyriac to Bridges) peters out in the unfinished housing development, leaving the walker who does not know the area stranded. The developer has yet to complete the necessary modification of this path.

The Saints' Way is not the responsibility of the Parish Council but it appears that Cornwall Council lacks the funding to maintain it to the expected, gold, standard. To be fair, CORMAC acted very swiftly to deal with fallen trees last year but the route through the parish is unclear and occasionally difficult. Interestingly, a member of the team managing the HLF recently expressed shock at the deep mud along the Saints' Way between Luxulyan and the valley. It is hoped to encourage walking between the village and the Valley.

Thanks are due to Christine Wilson, the Parish Clerk, for investigating the possibility of insuring guided-walks around the parish. The insurance policy of the Parish Council will provide cover, so it is up to the Footpaths Committee to take this further. Encouraging more people to take advantage of the path network in the parish would lead to a variety of benefits.



FP13: The Saints' Way near Tredinnick. Two days before, trees fell in a storm but CORMAC were quick to re-open the path.



FP7 near Trevellion with Helman Tor in the background



Stepping stones on FP4 near Lockengate



Stile on FP16 linking the Saints' Way and the Valley

COUNCILLOR R. KEAM

~~Restormel Borough Council~~

LOSTWITHIEL

01726 850327



Rosevale
Rosemelling
Luxulyan
PL30 5EQ

Report to the P.C. re the Over 50's Club.

The Club was formed almost 30 years ago & although numbers have varied it has provided exceptional interest for members through the years. In the early days we had days out such as bus trips etc & entertainment at the Village Hall & now we just meet on the 1st & 3rd Wednesday of each month for a meal & a matter at the Pub.

There we enjoy excellent meals & have a monthly raffle & as a result £5.00 has been set aside for the new community bus. The Parish Council has helped us over many years with a donation towards our Xmas lunch & this has been greatly appreciated as it is the highlight of the year for those who live on their own.

We have 22 members at the moment but look forward to welcoming new faces in the future.

Ralph Keam
(Chairman)

**LUXULYAN LIVING CHURCHYARD GROUP
REPORT FOR LUXULYAN ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 12 MAY 2016**

Living Churchyards are managed for the benefit of people and wildlife. Our group comprises 5 volunteers led by Toni Olssen. It operates with the encouragement of the parochial church council but has no formal links with the church. It carries out work on the first Wednesday morning of each month. The group tries to keep tombstones free of vegetation and to clear pathways for visitors. No pesticides are used and cuttings are either left on the ground or placed on a dead hedge to give cover for wildlife.

Most of the group's work is behind the church in the lower part of the churchyard, with CORMAC visiting twice a year to trim the higher part. Last summer, there was a delay in CORMAC's first visit, so that the area between the church and the road looked unkempt, which concerned some local residents. This is not part of the churchyard normally looked after by our group. Nonetheless, we attempted to cut back the worst of the growth using hand tools. It should be added that CORMAC has always done its best to work with us and this was just an unfortunate incident for which they should not be blamed.

As part of the twinning link between the former Restormel area of Cornwall and Dithmarschen in North West Germany, the 25th annual Twinning Exchange Week included a visit to Luxulyan Church to see the joint United Nations -Restormel Twinning Association Peace Tree. The tree was planted jointly by Dithmarschen Police Officer Frank Greutz and the late Fred Carne in 1995 to commemorate 50 years of peace between the two nations.

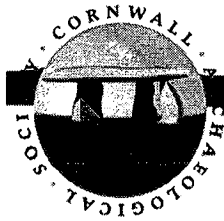
The parish council, a few years ago, contributed money to pay for a door to be fitted to the sexton's hut, which would permit us to lock tools away. Thanks to Robin and Sarah Stephenson a door has now been fitted and the hut will soon be in use.



The sexton's hut



Spring flowers



Registered charity: 1055654

President: Nicholas Johnson MBE, MA, BSc, FSA, CIfA

Secretary: Sophie Meyer, Royal Cornwall Museum, River Street, Truro, Cornwall, TR1 2SJ.
Tel: 01872 272205 (ext 250) E-mail: secretary@cornisharchaeology.org.uk

REPORT FOR ANNUAL PARISH MEETING, 12TH MAY 2016

Cornwall Archaeological Society (<http://www.cornisharchaeology.org.uk/>) has a network of volunteer Area Representatives who represent each parish in Cornwall.

The tasks of Area Representatives are to refer items of archaeological interest to the notice of the Society, and local professionals, so that their significance can be assessed; and to ensure that Scheduled Monuments are regularly inspected.

Luxulyan has a wealth of archaeological features from Neolithic to Modern Times. Within the parish there are 7 Scheduled Monuments:

- Innis Downs earthwork (a Neolithic henge) Heritage at Risk Register 2015: Generally satisfactory but with significant localised problems. Trend: Declining
- Wayside Cross at Lockengate (Medieval)
- Prideaux camp (an Iron Age hillfort)
- Round barrow on Innis Downs (Bronze Age)
- St Cyor's Well House (Medieval)
- Wayside Cross in Luxulyan Churchyard (Medieval)
- Combined viaduct and aqueduct called Treffry Viaduct Post-Medieval) Heritage at Risk Register 2015: Poor

Each has been inspected and brief reports submitted to Historic England and to Cornwall Council's Strategic Historic Environment Service. It should be noted that not all features of importance have been scheduled, listed or even recorded on the Historic Environment Record.

The successful bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund made by Cornwall Council and Cornwall Heritage Trust means that there is a good chance of a grant of about £3.4 million being made available for the repair and future conservation of both the Viaduct and other archaeological features in the Valley (many of which are actually in Lanlivery parish). World Heritage Status (acquired 10 years ago) affords some protection but not necessarily the funds needed for proper conservation. For example, the Charlestown Leat, which begins in Luxulyan Parish, and is part of WHS Area 8, along with Luxulyan Valley (and Fowey Consols mine in Tywardreath), is in a very poor condition.

It is hoped that the current clearance of scrub on Treskilling Downs will not only reveal the medieval field system but also permit genuine open access. The work has been monitored and brought to the attention of archaeologists at Cornwall Council.

Tregonning medieval cross was being engulfed by scrub and tree growth, but this has been cleared, so it is again visible to walkers on the Saints' Way. Similar problems affect the henge at Innis Downs and the Iron Age hillfort at Prideaux.

Luxulyan Parish Council's decision to create a Neighbourhood plan is excellent news for the historic environment of the parish. In recent years, Cornwall Council has reduced its heritage advice service by 75%. The ability of the Council to resist or reduce the effects of development on our archaeological heritage is under extreme pressure. It is very important that threats to archaeological features and the landscape are watched closely. Furthermore, members of the public are encouraged to provide local information so that the Historic Environment Record, which is far from complete, can be made more comprehensive. If a feature is not on this record, it does not exist in planning terms.

Anyone interested in researching local archaeology is recommended to make use of Cornwall Council's excellent online mapping website:

<http://www.cornwall.gov.uk/community-and-living/mapping/> The website
<http://www.historic-cornwall.org.uk/flyingpast/> has a huge amount of information about Cornish archaeology.

Members of the public who wish to provide, or request, information about the archaeology of the parish, are welcome to contact the CAS Area Representative:

Roger Smith, Fieldhaven, 18 St Sulien, Luxulyan, Bodmin, Cornwall, PL30 5EB.
Telephone: 01726 850792. E-mail: rogsmith1066@gmail.com.



Tregonning Cross after vegetation clearance

**Entrance to the henge
at Innis Downs:**

This Neolithic henge monument (c. 2800-2000 BC), was re-used as a medieval plen-an-gwary (playing place) and as a temporary camp during the English Civil War (1642-1649). It is a Scheduled Monument.



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