



**Morwenstow Parish Council**

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## Morwenstow Annual Parish Meeting

**Draft Minutes** of the Annual Parish Meeting; held on Wednesday 24 May 2023 at 7.00pm, at Morwenstow Community Centre.

1. Jonathan Hobbs – Parish Council Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for their attendance and contributions to the Parish.

The meeting was attended by: Cllrs. J Hobbs (Chair), J Phipps, K Boundy, C Myers, G Worden, K Jones, J Payne, N Steer, Cornwall Cllr. S Tilbey, S Rosser (Clerk), Ian & Lyn Mason, Darryl Probet & Emma Griffin of North Kernow Housing, Ann Furse & Shirley Merchant of Stratton League of Friends, David & Elaine Miles, Jayne Steer, Jenny Vanstone, Colin & Judith Ingram, & David Savage.

2. Apologies for absence were received from: Kingsley Bryant, Bridget Inch, Rose Heard, Richard Bence, Richard Savage & Jeff Cherrington.

3. The Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Wednesday 25 May 2022, were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

4. Ian Mason of North Kernow Housing addressed the floor with a presentation (available as a separate document). There were 19 households seeking accommodation in November 2022, plus unregistered households that can be unquantifiable. There are 5 directors/trustees of NKH, all have a belief in common - to provide community housing. A grant of £70,000.00 was received from the Community Levelling Up fund to help this project move forward. We hope that there is an appetite in each Parish, to help to get things started.

CHAT's groups will be formed and rooted in each Parish. We are looking for 5 – 7 members per parish and would like a member of the Parish Council to be on the team with this. Looking to start these groups late June/early July. This is an information gathering exercise, there could be available sites for new build home plans etc. We will be requesting that community lead housing policies are adopted.

Questions were asked from the floor:

How would you fund this? Cornwall Council Land Trust is a registered provider, meaning they can draw funds from Homes England.

Who needs these houses? The 19 households have different age demographics – 5 households are people over the age of 50. 1 & 2 bedroom properties are the most needed. Everyone has a local connection already.

What do you call a sustainable community? Social sustainability; where people look after each other, as different age groups and so on.

Further comments:

- The Parish Council encourage parents to register their children on the housing list when they turn 18.
- Really good to know this project exists.
- 10% of the housing stock in this Parish is not yet built.
- Removal of agricultural occupancy restrictions does remove housing stock for food production.

Cornwall Cllr. Tilbey added that he'd been in talks with the Cabinet member for Housing to see if land purchases could be aided.

The Chairman thanked Ian & Emma for their time and presentation.

5. Ann Furse & Shirley Merchant from The League of Friends at Stratton Hospital gave an address to the floor:

The League of Friends of Stratton Hospital is a Charity, registered with the Charity Commission in April 1970. We have a website and a Facebook page now if you wish to keep track of our activities.

Stratton Hospital, one of the oldest community hospitals in the UK was founded in 1866 and has undergone many changes since then. In 2012 it was completely modernised, and now offers 17 inpatient beds of which some are allocated for Devon patients,

As you all probably know, the charity supports the hospital and community healthcare in Bude-Stratton area, we provide facilities and equipment that are not funded by the NHS and our aim is to maintain and improve the services at the hospital.

In 2010 Candy Baker MBE (Chair) launched an £1m appeal to help with the refurbishment of the upgrade and re-build of our hospital, at this time I was working at the hospital and quite honestly, I thought Candy was mad, but I offered my services to help with fundraising where needed. Candy retired as Chair in 2019, Ray Hockin took over and the Stratton Hospital Development Fund target was finally reached, Ray and Candy knew we were close to achieving the target but sadly both passed away before.

Our League runs many different services to make patients' lives better. Here's an overview of the things we do:

Current project: The League are currently involved in tidying up the garden at the rear of the hospital and to make it a 'haven' for staff to take their breaks, weather permitting. This is particularly important to help the wellbeing of each member of staff who work tirelessly to keep our patients safe and to provide a healthy environment to care. This outside area is also used for the patients and visitors to be able to sit and relax, listen to the birdsong, and enjoy the peaceful outdoor setting with the fresh air and enjoy the beautiful spring/summer flowers.

Future projects: The League are working with FLEET (Front Line Emergency Equipment Trust) to provide Lucas 3 equipment, this is a device which extends the reach of care by maintaining chest compressions during transport, this project was put on hold during the pandemic, we are currently awaiting approval to go ahead with this project.

Out of hours: Overnight cover – currently we have clinical cover 6 days a week in the MIU Dept for out of hours patients, unfortunately Friday nights are not covered now.

A Cross Border meeting has been arranged next month with NHS management - David Parsons, Shorne Tilbey and Nicky Chopak to discuss the overnight service at Stratton and research how the 111 service for Devon and Cornwall patients triage their patients because some Devon patients may be referred on to Barnstaple when they live closer to Stratton.

Fundraising:

The League comprises of 13 Trustees of which four are current staff members.

Over the last 12 months we have purchased:

Digital X-Ray Machine

Hover Jack

First Responder 4x4 vehicle (match funded)

Minor Injuries Pharmacy Fridge – Band 6 staff are now able to prescribe medication

Cordless Phone for patient use

Patio Set for patient and visitor use made of recycled plastic

Christmas gifts for patients

Staff Christmas Party

We have a team of volunteers who collect at the Pendeen Car Boot sale every Sunday and Chris Heard is a great supporter, this is our main fundraiser.

The staff at the hospital have an Annual Summer Fete to fundraise on the day, all proceeds go to the League of Friends as a way of saying thank you.

If you would like to support our Charity, you can become a member, the annual membership is £5.

Questions were asked by the floor: Have you approached Stratton Young Farmers to assist with the garden project – details to be passed on.

How many people use the out of hours service? Very varied, there are always 2 staff allocated. Work is being carried out with David Parsons, C. Cllr. Tilbey and Ann Furse to progress info.

Are you struggling with staff? Yes, there are always understaffing issues. There are 17 beds, agency and flexi staff are called upon. Stratton Hospital provides rehab facilities and palliative care. Bed blocking can be an issue as there isn't enough care facilities out there to allow people to go home.

Further comments: There is work going on with 111 as sometimes cross border issues arise. A patient in Holsworthy could be sent to NDDH rather than Stratton – just because of their address. There are cross-border health meetings taking place but this has been slow progress for many reasons.

The ladies were thanked for their presentation and the excellent work that they carry out – it is clear to see that the League of Friends are a massive help to both the staff and Stratton Hospital.

#### 6. Address from Cornwall Councillor: Shorne Tilbey:

Having spent 15 years wanting to be a Cornwall Councillor – I am pleased to say this is my third year as Cornwall Councillor for Stratton, Kilkhampton & Morwenstow, now including parts of Poughill, Crooklets & Flexbury. There are many varied issues within this role to address. The housing authority (private company) in Kilkhampton have not been looking after their residents – issues have arisen with damp created by air source heat pumps that weren't functioning correctly and structural damage has been an issue. With intervention – these issues have now been addressed.

I am a member of three different panels: the two Cornwall Council led panels are - Overview & Scrutiny Committee for Children & Families and Health & Adult Social Care. The former relates to the younger members of society and the latter looks at what is happening from a CC & NHS perspective.

Also being a member of the Devon & Cornwall Crime Panel. This is where we scrutinise and hold Alison Hernandez & William Kerr to account.

These different issues tie in together, hospitals & transport often go together, there can be issues with patients attending appointments. I went on some buses to see what is needed to help the situation. It is mainly the older generation that struggle with this.

The first Bude & Camelford Community Area Partnership meeting will be held on 12<sup>th</sup> June. I am grateful that the Bude area was aligned with Camelford, rather than Launceston as there are more similarities between the two.

There will be a meeting to link with schools such as Budehaven to work together more. The Haven (CC funded) has recently had a change of management. A question was raised as to whether this is still open. Another report from a recent meeting had suggested that it isn't – C. Cllr. Tilbey agreed to find out and come back to the Council. C.Cllr. Tilbey also highlighted the Community Chest Fund that is available for funding.

#### 7. Reports from Community groups and organisations:

##### **BADMINTON:**

Sadly, badminton hasn't started up again mainly due to age, other interests and someone to organise it, but the equipment is still being used by people hiring the Court for themselves which is good to see.

##### **MENS INSTITUTE:**

This year saw the completion of the new toilet for the hall with money from various grants etc.

Snooker- our team came runners up in the league and winners of one of the cups.

Skittles- had an enjoyable season finishing mid table for one team but 4 more points would have given us a position in the top four.

Hopefully next year we will be able to get a team together, but it is getting harder each year.

##### **MORWENSTOW COMMUNITY CENTRE:**

MCC has had a good year with usage and events. Two big joyful events Jubilee and Coronation which brought together a lot of our community old and new, some which haven't used our facility before. It was lovely to see with the hall beautifully decorated and enjoyed by over 100 people each time. The 2 events

were put on jointly between ourselves and Parish Council which was good to see, and worked well.

Also, this year we took on the organising of the Senior Citizens party with the help of the W.I. with food and entertainment with everyone enjoying themselves. Big Breakfast and Ceilidh were also 2 other big events which went well and fully supported.

The two long standing clubs at MCC, Badminton and Bowls have now finished but have now been replaced with Judo which is full from kids to adults, yoga which seems to be well attended and play and stay. The pantomime may also go-ahead next year.

After 7 years Colin stood down after doing an excellent job and a new chair was chosen. Time will tell if the new chair is up to the job, enough on that subject!

We were also left a large sum of money by Walter Littlejohns which will help and benefit the people of the parish for a good many years to come. Our next project for here is Solar Panels which we will hopefully do this year.

Our next event is the Open Gardens of Morwenstow with cream tea on the 11th June, donations only for this event.

#### **MORWENSTOW SOCIETY:**

*PRESERVING THE PAST AND THE PRESENT FOR THE FUTURE*

'The Phoenix rising from the Ashes' best describes the Morwenstow Society this past season. With membership rising from eight to thirty, a big thank you must go to all the new members who have supported us to get the Society up and running again following Covid.

We can now report that our recent season has been a great success with a mix of presentations ranging from 'The History of Cleave – from Farm to Listening Station', 'The Cornish Droll Tellers' and 'The History of the Beachy Lighthouses' to a couple of Workshops where members had the 'hands on' opportunity to help with archiving of some of the newly acquired treasures. Hopefully these workshops will continue and go some way to helping the Society to meet its aim of 'Preserving the past and the present for the future'. Our new season will begin again on 1 September 2023 with a new and interesting programme, a mix of speakers and workshops.

Please contact me or email [morsoc2@gmail.com](mailto:morsoc2@gmail.com) for more information.

#### **WOMENS INSTITUTE:**

We are a small group these days with just 10 members at present.

22/23 saw a varied programme covering topics such as gardening and crafts plus a couple of outings. This year is looking good too with a new programme of speakers etc.

Several members attended the Group Meeting held at Bude WI and we hosted the Group Carol Service at Shop Chapel last December.

We did a little fund-raising last week by holding a Pre-loved Sale at the Institute and following a successful autumn show last year, we are staging our Mini October Show again this year.

We'd love to see any ladies interested in joining our merry little band – you'd be most welcome.

#### **MORWENSTOW METHODIST CHURCH (SHOP CHAPEL)**

Shop Chapel continue to meet most Sundays at 11 o'clock, often led by the Merrytones - who practise on Saturdays and take part in most services. Through the year, we also hold our regular 'special' services at Harvest and Christmas etc. Our pastoral leader has continued to keep in touch with, and to support, our members, friends and neighbours.

Our monthly lunches continue with a short break during the summer. A group of volunteers, led by Rob Leighfield, serve around 40 of our older neighbours and regular supporters from other parishes, who enjoy the lunch and, equally, the opportunity to meet with others in a warm, inviting space. This term, everyone was thrilled to have a group of Year 6 children from St Mark's join us again, along with a member of staff

who gives up their lunch break to accompany the children. Due to the popularity of and support for lunches, so far this year we have been able to donate over £600 to Bude Food Bank, the DEC fund for Pakistan and Shelterbox. In addition, we are delighted to support the Stay & Play group who meet in the Community Centre – we are very grateful to Sally McGuinness for providing this important service for our local toddlers with their parents and, in some cases, grandparents.

This has helped us to maintain links with the children of the parish. We also continue to gift Christmas books to St Mark's, the Pre-school and Stay & Play. This year, we were delighted to welcome the children of St Mark's, along with some of their parents, to a special Easter service. This was led by Michelle Hogarth, our Circuit lay worker, and all the children took part in hymns, readings and prayers.

Whether you choose to join us for a regular Sunday service, a lunch or at one of our special occasions you will be sure of a warm welcome.

#### **WOODFORD CHAPEL:**

We have been promoting love and care for the community. The community garden project sees 25 people growing together and making friends. Produce is given to members of Woodford. A community food larder has been established at the Chapel for the Woodford and wider community. People both give and take as and when needed. Toothbrushes and toothpaste are the most popular item. The Co-Op in Kilkhampton help this with donating food nearing its end date. Bible study and the coffee and prayer group continue monthly. We have some ambitious plans to better serve the community, I am not able to reveal these just yet. We continue to meet weekly on a Sunday morning for our service.

#### **REV TERESA FOLLAND:**

*Please see next page.*

## Rector's Report – 2022

As I sat down to write this report to review 2022 and what my priorities are for 2023, I was struck by how much more life is getting back to 'pre-Covid' normal.

A lot of what I say will be repeated within your individual reports, but I feel it is important to let each of the churches have a flavour of what is going on around the Benefice, just so that you know how much we are serving our communities and perhaps you may wish to join in with some of what is happening.

I have to begin by saying THANK YOU to all of you who contribute to the life of these churches and without whom, I would be at a loss. Our retired priests, Revd Doug Adams, Revd David Daley (as invited preacher), Revd Pam Kemp & Rev Richard Ward-Smith; our Readers, Mark Sinden & Tim Symonds; our Local Worship Leaders, Val Barker & Sheila Waring, Richard Painter & Shorne Tilbey, Annemary Davis & Sandy Cheshire. The Church wardens & Office holders, the PCC members, Organists, Bell ringers, flower arrangers and those who faithfully keep our churches clean; those who tend our churchyards and those who serve refreshments, all so much a part of the life of our churches.

As I review the year, it seems to have been dominated by our Royal Family. First, we remembered and celebrated Her majesty Queen Elizabeth II ascension to the throne in February followed by her Platinum Jubilee celebrations in June. Then with great sadness the nation mourned her death on 8<sup>th</sup> September. Kilkhampton PCC was due to meet that evening, but instead we held an impromptu service an hour later which was attended by 50 people. The mourning continued for 10 days and my thanks go to the bellringers in particular who played such an important role during that period and to those responsible for the appropriate raising and lowering of flags. My thanks also to all those who lead our worship so appropriately during that period and to the churchwardens who made sure our churches were available for the people in our communities to pray and to write messages of condolence.

We also quickly responded to the ascension of King Charles III, hailing him as our new King and making the necessary amendments to the Book of Common Prayer, prayers for the royal family.

Next I move on to the 'ordinary' yet extraordinary work within our Benefice. In 2022 we married 21 couples and here I give my thanks to Dee Wynne-Morter (Wedding Administrator) who helped me to keep my sanity by ensuring every detail was attended to & all the legalities adhered to, so that we priests could simply get on with preparing and marrying the couples. What a joy those weddings were.

2022 saw increasing work with children, through schools, as Open the Book started up again, and three of the churches, Launcells, Poughill & Stratton pooled resources to work with Stratton Primary school. There is a strong connection being built with St Andrews which is being used for Harvest & Christmas services, Experience Christmas, Experience Easter and half termly visits for curriculum work. The school is also engaging with the church in Care for Creation work, including the building of a magnificent bug hotel. St Marks at Morwenstow

also attended Experience Easter at Shop chapel which people from both the church and chapel ran. The Patronal Festival was also a real joy after two years of not being able to hold a full service in the church. Children, parents and teachers all dressed up to tell the story of John the Baptist in true Open the Book style.

Poughill continue their excellent Children's work through Socks, Pants!!?! & Sunday Club, extending it to occasional meals for the whole family.

During Lent there was a series of Sermons on relationships across the Benefice, which was supplemented by midweek Bible Studies on the same topic. In 2023 there will be a series following Pentecost on Acts 2.42, which I'm looking forward to.

through Christians Together in Bude and Stratton, an enormous amount of work takes place and with which, our churches make a huge contribution. This includes Transforming Lives for Good, Street & Prayer Pastors, the Good Friday Walk of Witness, which this year was a walk of peace for Ukraine. Also the continuing work of the Foodbank, which has extended to include Christians Against Poverty, the warm rooms, in response to the Cost of Living Crisis, and not forgetting the Free Family Fun Festival. CTBS meets regularly and also has separate leaders meetings and prayer meetings.

The lives of our churches has also included flower festivals, fayres, lent lunches, pet services, blessing of the sea, gift days & Remembrance services.

Our pastoral care has included funerals, baptisms, Home communions for those no longer able to come to church and for those in nursing homes. 2022 also included a focused time on discussing Living in Love & Faith, and I thank all of you who participated in this important discussion.

We continue to focus on safeguarding and Creation Care with people championing both within our individual churches.

I feel so very privileged to serve you as priest and thank you for all your support and encouragement during 2022.

My focus for 2023 is to employ a Benefice Administrator so that I may focus on my calling as your priest. I also wish to enable more lay ministry, through identifying, training and commissioning more Local Worship Leaders; taking first steps towards local ministers through Sens Kernewick and working closely with members of the Deanery to put the On the Way Deanery plan into action. This includes employing a Deanery Missioner, deepening our personal faith journeys through prayer, discipleship & welcome. And increasing our work with families and children.

I look forward to reporting to you again in 2023.

Yours in Christ,

Teresa

Reverent Teresa Folland

### **MORWENSTOW PATRONAL FESTIVAL:**

This years festival will take place on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> June. This festival has been happening since before records were kept. It used to be much bigger, it is now somewhat diluted. We hope for it to busier with it being on a Saturday. It could have a knock on a affect with the children who will not ordinarily be at school. It will follow the previous format. The new headmistress of St. Marks is very on board with the usual festivities. As the Martyn room is now residential it has become unavailable for this event. A marquee has become a requirement; this is being lent to us by Kilkhampton on this occasion. Other events taking place for the festival will be Friday night Pasty, Pint & Poetry. A craft fayre is new for this year and will be held in the marquee 12 – 5 on the Saturday.

**MORWENSTOW UNITED CHARITIES:**

The MUC dates back to the 1600's. In the last year we have helped to provide three defibrillators to the Hamlets of Gooseham, Crosstown & Woolley. We were able to put £2,000 towards this along with the match funding that was raised. We hope to contribute to a defibrillator for Woodford; if the money is raised to match fund our donation. We also helped the Senior Citizen Party with a donation towards this.

**PANTOMIME CLUB:**

At a recent meeting there were 4 new members interested. Another meeting is to be held in 3 weeks' time – hopefully more people will show an interest in this. There is a new Facebook page for the club, please like it and share it. If you like to act, sing or be daft – please come along. We hope to put on a production for February 2024 if enough interest is shown.

**PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY:**

The PROW in Morwenstow are extensive, including the lesser used footpaths. The more footfall that they receive – the more we are responsible for looking after them. We receive almost £4,000 a year from Cornwall Council to help to maintain them. We feel that it is important that this money is spent wisely and locally, with local contractors. We have a good relationship with the contractors that we use; and more importantly – they do a very good job. Sometimes we receive complaints about footpaths, usually unfounded.

Whilst no formal reports were received from Morwenstow Football Club or St. Marks Primary School – we understand that both are doing well. The Short Mat Bowls Club are currently in 'hibernation'.

**8. Chairman's annual report:**

Much has happened in the last year in our Parish. We have been proud to participate in the celebrations for our late Queen's Jubilee, along with King Charles III Coronation. We were able to supply lapel pins to the Parishioners to mark the occasion, along with mugs for Children of the Parish. We have invested in a new Union Flag to be flown here at the Parish Playing Fields. We had a protocol of events to follow and adhere to - following the sad death of our Queen.

Duckpool Toilets have reopened, in conjunction with The National Trust and Kilkhampton Parish Council. We embarked on an ambitious journey with our Health & Well Being Project. I can now officially tell you that we have been awarded funding to install the Outdoor Fitness Equipment, along with the Tommy Tractor for younger children. Despite our first funding bid being unsuccessful for the H & WB Project – we had a very good application for funding and it was down to the wire on the very last day. We have just had a noise report carried out for the project, to accompany the planning application.

We have continued to look after the legal and financial responsibilities of the Parish along with the publication of the Hamlets.

We awarded 5 Freeman/Women of the Parish at the Senior Citizens Meal at Christmas. This was well received, making a huge difference to the recipients. There was also the award of two Chairmans Gonks - arranged by Cornwall Councillor Tilbey.

**9. Open Forum: No questions were asked.**

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 2055.