

No. 117 October / November 2022



# THE POUNDSTOCK PACKET



KERNOW BYS VYKEN!



## God save the King!

Parish Council Chairman Cllr Bob Gavin read the proclamation of the accession of King Charles III to the people of Poundstock, from the steps of St Winwaloe's Church in the early evening of Sunday 11 September 2022. Afterwards, St Winwaloe's bellringers rang several celebratory West Country call changes, including the aptly named Queens and Kings.

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## Look to the Stars?

Well, it's been quite a couple of months, hasn't it? The death of a much-loved monarch who seemed to have been there for ever, a new king, a new prime minister and cabinet, continuing war in Europe, rocketing prices, the plummeting pound – no wonder there's a sense of worry and insecurity, to put it mildly.

I must admit I was beginning to wonder 'What next?' But then I read Bill's Sky at Night column and, as always, I was struck by how much international cooperation there is on these huge projects, and what incredible results we can achieve when we work together. Perhaps, after all, there is hope for us yet!

Liz

## Contributions

We always welcome input from our readers. If you want to send us an article or local information, contact us at [poundstockpacket@gmail.com](mailto:poundstockpacket@gmail.com) or ring the editor, Liz Jones, on 079040 88779. **The deadline for our next edition is 20 November 2022.**

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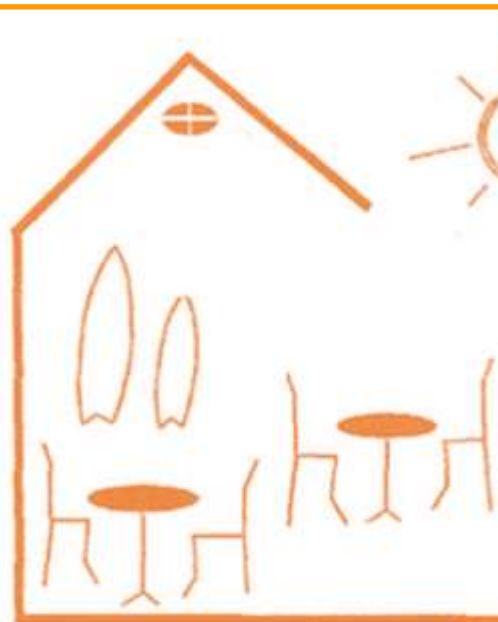
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## Around the Parish ...

### **Crematorium application**

The application is now planned to be heard on 13 October. See p. 7.

### **Poundstock Neighbourhood Plan Questionnaire**

Make sure you have told the committee what you think before the new deadline of 14 October. See p. 41.

### **Packet meeting**

The next meeting for everyone who cares about the Packet is Thursday 10 November at Cornish Coasts, 4 pm. Please come: we really need your ideas and opinions, and any help you're able to offer would be fantastic.

### **Missing plaque – the west churchyard gate**

The plaque on the west churchyard gate, which was made by Phil Marshall in memory of his parents, has disappeared. If anyone finds it or has any idea where it may be, please would you let Mr Marshall know or contact him via the Packet. Despite searches it may be somewhere in the undergrowth near the gate, so please keep an eye out if you're walking in that area. We would love it to be back where it belongs.

### **Appeal for help – Balston's of Poundstock**

My name is Philip Cross from Romsey in Hampshire. I am a life-long bus enthusiast with a specialist interest in rural bus companies serving local communities in Cornwall. I am currently working on a hobby retirement project to research the history of small independent bus and coach operators in North Cornwall. Between 1959 and 1974 a minibus company trading as J.M. Balston originally operated from Middle Penleat and in 1963 moved to Sunnyside. Do any readers have personal memories of the company and its services to the local community, e.g. did they know the owners, travel to and from school, social/church outings, shopping and any memorable moments, etc., using the company's minibuses? I have very little information on the company other than new minibuses seem to be purchased every two or three years so I would love to hear from anyone who could help me out with my project. I can be contacted by e-mail: [philip.russell.cross@googlemail.com](mailto:philip.russell.cross@googlemail.com) [or via the Packet].

Thank you in anticipation.

*Philip Cross*

### **Jubilee Club**

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# A Burning Issue; Opinions and Update

*The Packet received this letter In response to Cllr Stephen Blake's article in Packet 116:*

VERY disappointed to read in this month's Packet that the crematorium is likely to go ahead. What happened for planning officer Helen Blacklock to change her mind and Councillor Chopak apparently drifting in the wind? This goes against the majority of local people's wishes. Is there money or arm twisting involved for this to happen? The whole idea is ludicrous. This area is not the place for this to be built. The sensible place would be in a triangle between Holsworthy, Launceston and Okehampton. That would cover a very large area covering a large population where people have to travel a big distance for Barnstaple or Bodmin.

Who thinks that their idea of a day out would be to go to Widemouth/ Poundstock, they've got a crematorium there?

I am fed up with these U-turns, starting at the bottom with local government to the top at Westminster. They are not supporting the wishes of the majority.

*Jenny Shobbrook, Widemouth*

## **Committee hearing news**

According to the website [Stopthecrematorium.org](http://Stopthecrematorium.org), the application was originally pencilled in to be heard on 16 June 2022. At the last minute it was then pulled in favour of a Technical Briefing on 21 July with the Hearing to be held on 11 August. However, it was then announced at the Technical Briefing that it was not definitely going to be heard on 11 August, finally being listed to be heard on 15 September.

However, Cornwall Council issued this statement on 13 September::

*It has been decided to defer planning application PA21/01480 from the forthcoming Agenda of the Strategic Planning Committee to be held on 15 September 2022 due to the sensitivities surrounding the specific nature of the proposed development and the sad passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. The application will instead proceed to be targeted towards the next meeting of the Strategic Planning Committee on 13 October 2022.*

Stop the Crematorium.org said: 'Residents and Parish Councillors are extremely disappointed and concerned as to how this application is being managed by Cornwall Council. It is obviously hoped that the "targeted" date of 13 October for the hearing does indeed proceed.'

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## Churches



Churches across the country marked the passing of HM Queen Elizabeth II in many ways, including by tolling a bell at noon on Friday 9 September. St Winwaloe's was no exception. Ringers pictured here are Barry Smith, Hilary Kenny and Sue Burrows (and Buster). On the following Sunday, the full band rang several West Country call changes to mark the proclamation of the accession of HM King Charles III; Barry, Hilary and Sue were joined by Brian Marshall, Paul Brooks and Liz Jones (no dogs this time).

If anyone is interested in learning the ancient and fascinating art of ringing, just come along on a Tuesday evening at 7.15 to find out more. All ages welcome.

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# Kids' page

A few jokes for you-know-when. Don't die laughing ...

Are monsters any good at maths?

No, unless you Count Dracula.

Knock knock  
Who's there?

Why do witches wear name tags?

To tell which witch is which!

Ash  
Ash who?  
Bless you!

Knock knock  
Who's there?  
Voodoo  
Voodoo who?



What's a ghost's favourite food?  
Spook-etti!

Voodoo you think you are,  
asking all these questions?

Why don't zombies eat clowns?  
Because they taste funny!

How do vampires begin their  
letters?

Tomb it may concern ...

Knock knock  
Who's there?

Avery  
Avery who?

A very scary ghost – RUN!

What 's a skeleton's favourite  
instrument?

A trombone!

Why was the skeleton afraid  
of everything?

He had no guts!





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# Helios

Someone once asked me. "What is the nearest star to Earth?"

I answered with smug satisfaction. 'Alpha Proxima Centauri'. I added the *Proxima* bit just to show off.

And they said, 'WRONG! The answer is the sun.'

And, of course, they were right, and I felt about so high.



The sun is the cause of everything – I mean *everything* ... every single event – big or small – on earth. Even the meteorite which destroyed the dinosaurs was attracted into our solar system by the sun.

The sun gives light which grows plants which we eat – directly or indirectly. The light is caused by the sun doing weird things to hydrogen. It manages to join two atoms of hydrogen. The result is helium and a tiny pulse of light. The light travels really fast, and some comes to Earth where the plants soak it up and grow.

The Ancient Greeks called the sun Helios. Helios was a god who drove his golden chariot across the sky during the day. He gives his name to lots of plants: *Helianthus* is the glorious sunflower: *Heliotrope* turns its head towards the sun.

And, of course, *helium*, which is not a flower.

Hundreds of years ago, Copernicus – an astronomer – worked out that the sun was the centre of the solar system. He called the system *heliocentric*. Galileo went on to strengthen Copernicus' heliocentric system, but the Church refused to accept his idea. The Church made him recant, but this did not really stop the new belief from becoming accepted: the sun *is* the centre of the solar system.

*Sol* is the Latin for the sun. It gives us *solstice* when the sun reaches its highest point (June 21st) and lowest (December 21st); it gives us *solarium*, a sun room; and *parasol*; and, of course, *solar*.

We have passed the summer solstice now and await, perhaps sadly, the winter solstice.



Picture courtesy of Unsplash

*Christopher Asbury*

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At the end of July there was a jamboree (a large scout and guide camp) at Stithian's Showground. Some of our Guides spent the week camping on site, having fun and adventures including playing Kernopoly, a version of Monopoly using public transport to visit various locations in Cornwall.

As part of the jamboree there was a special day where Brownies and Cubs could visit, so Louise and a mum set off from Wainhouse Corner at 8 in the morning, both with a car of excited girls ready to experience what a jamboree is like. When we arrived we had not got very far before we saw the Guides from Jacobstow, so we said a quick hello while they were eating their breakfast and then went to register that we were there. The Brownies were all given a special necker to remember the day by. There was a short opening ceremony where we were welcomed to the jamboree and told what to expect for the day, and off we went to the adrenaline zone where we spent the morning doing archery, a slip and slide and on the trampoline. For lunch we went to the Guides' camping area, where the contents of one of the tents were all over the ground after a leak in the middle of the night.

After lunch we spent some pocket money in the onsite shop and enjoyed a magic show. Then it was back to the adrenaline zone for more fun, this time on the pedal cars, assault course and axe throwing! After the fun-packed day it was time to head for home, before which we were given some badges (either to sewn on uniform/camp blanket or to be added to the pile to await sewing!). We made it back to Wainhouse at around 6pm, and I'm sure everyone slept very well that night (Louise certainly did!).

*Louise Cowling*



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The summer months for the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts were certainly busy. In June four Scouts took part in the 'Coast 2 Coast' walk from Portreath to Maenporth Beach, a super effort walking for a total of 13 hours 19 minutes. Following this six Cubs took part in the 'Cub Challenge', a 16-mile walk based at Stithians

showground over two days. All three groups took part in a sponsored bike ride at East Roose Farm, raising funds for the new hut. The term was filled with walks, visits to the beach, games and, as always, our final evening involved a slippery slope and river run.

At the end of July nine Scouts participated in the Kernow Jamboree, a week-long camp based at Stithians showground jam-packed with activities and evening entertainment, and a super week was had by all. Twelve Cubs visited the Jamboree site during the week for a day filled with different activities. Akela (Daphne) was presented with her Chief Scout's 40 Year Service Award and Bar to the Silver Acorn for her distinguished service to Scouting, by the North Cornwall District Commissioner, Rob Watson.

Now our attention is turning to the autumn term, with another varied programme of activities, also including our AGM on Monday 3 October and a Remembrance Service at St Genny's.

On Sunday 4 September our Tractor Road Run was held, with the splendid sight of 17 tractors. Luckily the weather stayed dry. Refreshments were served halfway round, at Braywood Farm, and the run finished at the Wainhouse pub for a carvery. In total £571 was raised, all going towards the Scout hut.



I am delighted to say apart from the guttering the outside of the hut is complete and looks fantastic, sitting well within its surroundings. The main hall floor area is now insulated and chipboarded. First fix electrics are near completion. Our next task is to insulate the walls ready for plasterboarding.

Forthcoming fundraising events:

Josie's Dog Show, Saturday 15 October, 2.30pm at the hut (address Grattons Farm, Rosecare, EX23 0BE)

Fireworks evening, Tuesday 1 November, 6.30pm at Braywood Farm

Christmas Carol/Draw evening, Monday 5 December, 6.30pm at the hut

*Jill Cole, Treasurer*

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# Garden Diary

I've had some disappointing results with the vegetable garden this year, including several batches of runner beans refusing to germinate, but some successes with indoor plants—geraniums, orchids and citrus. With their vibrant flowers and fragrant foliage, pelargoniums are long-standing favourites, both indoors and out. Grown outside as bedding plants, they are often thrown away at the end of the season, but they are true perennials and with care can last years. I used to lift them each year and wrap the roots in damp newspaper, stored somewhere dry and dark, but I now grow deep blood red zonal pelargoniums (which we like to call geraniums) all year round in my conservatory. They get a lot of attention in spring when I generally get them ready for the coming season by feeding and repotting, and again in the autumn when they get a general tidy up, removing dead leaves and flower stems.

Like all Mediterranean plants they'll survive drought with ease, but not frost, so if you grow them outdoors bring them indoors before temperatures drop. I'm not exactly brilliant at helping houseplants survive, but geraniums are such an easy, undemanding plant to grow. I take cuttings in spring or autumn, just poking three or four healthy green shoots into a 3" pot and they'll be rooted within a month.



A couple of years ago I bought a lemon tree. I knew I'd have to keep it in the conservatory except for a few months in mid-summer, and I knew I had to be careful about watering and feeding it. The instructions were to try to imitate conditions in southern Europe where rainfall is often sparse – so I let the little tree dry out completely. Then, trying to emulate the occasional summer storm, I drenched it. Within a week all the leaves and baby lemons



fell off in shock and I feared I'd killed it. Luckily the lemon tree and I have now developed a much more understanding relationship – despite the advice, I now do not let it dry out completely and have never tried to drown it again. It gets a weak citrus feed every week and just enough of a drink to stop it being thirsty. And when I counted yesterday, it was bearing nine baby lemons. Gin and tonic anyone? The slice of lemon is part of your five-a-day.

*Pat Thorne*



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Poundstock's two pop-up libraries, in St Winwaloe's and Our Lady and St Anne's, are available when the churches are open (currently only on service days at St Winwaloe's, but all day, every day for Our Lady and St Anne's).

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The following are accurate to the best of our knowledge, but check before you go (contact details below or p. 21).

## Scouts and Guides

Cubs: Monday 6.30–8.0 pm (01288 352786)

Guides: Monday, Jacobstow parish hall

Scouts: Tuesday 6.30–8.0 pm

Beavers: Wednesday 6.0–8.0 pm (07855 001284)

Rainbows, Brownies and Guides: ring Louise on 078 1798 5661.

## Marhamchurch WI

Marhamchurch Methodist Hall, 2.30 pm, second Tuesday of the month (note change of time to afternoon).

## Jacobstow WI

Jacobstow Parish Hall, 7.30 pm, second Thursday of the month.

## Juliotter Garden Club

Otterham and St Juliot Hall, 7.30 pm, fourth Tuesday of the month.

## Launcells/Bude Dog Training/Agility

Puppies, pet dog training, problem dogs, clicker training, socialisation.

Classes for all ages and abilities. All profits to charity. Further details from 01566 86500 or 01288 321922.

## Bude Bridge Club

Tuesday and Friday evenings, Wednesday afternoons, in the Parkhouse Centre. Details from [www.bridgewebs.com/Bude](http://www.bridgewebs.com/Bude) or ring 01237 471111.

## Poundstock Guildhouse

You can hire the Guildhouse for events from meetings to parties and wedding receptions. Call 01288 341537 or visit [www.poundstockguildhouse.co.uk](http://www.poundstockguildhouse.co.uk).

# Diary Dates

## October

5 and every Wednesday Poundstock Gildhouse open 10–4, free

13 Hearing of proposed crematorium application, see p. 7

13 Jacobstow WI, 'Medical Detection Dogs', 7.30 pm

25 Juliotter Garden Club, 'Roses', 7.30 pm

29/30 Poundstock Craft Fair and Pumpkin Festival, see p. 35

## November

10 Packet meeting, Cornish Coasts, 4 pm, see p. 5

10 Jacobstow WI, local author Jane Holland

11 Stratton Secondary Modern School Reunion, see p. 35

13 Remembrance Sunday; Morning Prayer at St Winwaloe's, including Act of Remembrance in the Lady Chapel, 9.30; Parish Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial, Vicarage Lane, 11.00.

22 Juliotter Garden Club, 'Heritage Apples', with tasting, 7.30 pm

## FREE ADVERTISING FOR LOCAL EVENTS

The Packet will always advertise local community and charity events free of charge. As circumstances allow meetings and events to take place, we all hope to get back to a more normal pattern of life with a lot more going on. But we don't 'just know' what's happening – you have to tell us!

Our deadline for the December and January edition is 20 November.

## **DON'T FORGET: TELL THE PACKET!**

## Defibrillators in the parish

**Widemouth Bay:** next to the Summerhouse (by the church, Leverlake Road); near the top of Long Park Drive by the entrance to Pencarra and Bellair, just below the junction with Edith Walk; at the back of the public toilets just above Widemouth beach. The RNLI lifeguards also have a defibrillator, available at their hut above the beach when they are on duty.

**Treskinnick Cross:** just off the A39, in the old phone box.

# Poundstock Parish Council

[www.poundstock-pc.gov.uk](http://www.poundstock-pc.gov.uk)

<i>Chairman</i> Robert Gavin	robert.gavin@poundstock-pc.gov.uk
<i>Vice Chair</i> Gemma Watton	gemma.watton@poundstock-pc.gov.uk
<i>Councillors</i>	
Stephen Blake	stephen.blake@poundstock-pc.gov.uk
Michelle Carter	michelle.carter@poundstock-pc.gov.uk
Max Faulkner	max.faulkner@poundstock-pc.gov.uk
Brian Furse	brian.furse@poundstock-pc.gov.uk
Eric Harris	eric.harris@poundstock-pc.gov.uk
Steve Haynes	steve.haynes@poundstock-pc.gov.uk
Pamela Idelson	pamela.idelson@poundstock-pc.gov.uk
Tom O'Sullivan	tom.osullivan@poundstock-pc.gov.uk
<i>Parish clerk</i> Lynn Pluess	07768 100 560 clerk@poundstock-pc.gov.uk

The parish council website carries agendas, full minutes and other documents, as well as information about the Neighbourhood Development Plan and the parish cemetery. Council meeting day is changing; please check with the clerk beforehand.

## Benefice Services for October

- 2 Harvest Festival, Bude 9.30; Pet Service, WSM 11.15; Harvest Songs of Praise, Marhamchurch 6 pm
- 3 Harvest Festival, Whitstone 7 pm
- 5, 19 HC, Bude 10.00
- 9 **MP, Poundstock 9.30**; HC, Marhamchurch 9.30 and Whitstone 11.15; EP, WSM 6 pm
- 12, 26 HC, Widemouth Bay 10.00
- 16 HC, Bude 9.30; MP, Week St Mary 11.15; HC, Marhamchurch 11.15
- 23 **HC, Poundstock 9.30**; MP, Whitstone 9.30 and WSM 10.00; HC, Bude 11.15
- 30 United Benefice service, place to be arranged, 10.00

*EP Evensong; FS Family Service; HC Holy Communion: MP Morning Prayer; unless otherwise stated times are a.m. Full service details are posted in the church porch as soon as available.*

**You will be really welcome at any service.**

At Poundstock we always enjoy a coffee or tea and a chat in the Gildhouse after the service. Just come along.

*The service plan for November will be posted in the church porch as soon as it is available.*





## Jacobstow WI

The sun shone for us at the Holsworthy & Stratton Show in August and we enjoyed our day showcasing what today's WI is all about.

With Bude, Marhamchurch and Week St Mary Bonaventures Wis, our marquee was filled with colourful displays and several crafting tables for visitors to have a go at making bookmarks and sewn felt flowers, which proved very popular. Our theme was Campaigns and Resolutions so we had plenty of material to choose from since the first campaign in 1917 and it generated a lot of interest from the public.

In continuation of our campaigning, the WI has joined with other organisations to support the 'Warm This Winter' campaign, which is calling upon the Government to urgently support UK households in fuel poverty and to plan for cleaner, greener and cheaper forms of energy. To learn more about the campaign, visit: [www.warmthiswinter.org.uk](http://www.warmthiswinter.org.uk)

In September we had an interesting talk about the Fishermen's Mission, established in 1881 and the only charity to offer help and support to working and retired fishermen and their families.



Looking ahead, in October we'll be hearing from the Medical Detection Dogs charity on 13<sup>th</sup> and celebrating our 84<sup>th</sup> Birthday on 23<sup>rd</sup>. Local author Jane Holland will be sharing her experiences as a writer at our meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> November.

The WI shared the nation's sorrow upon the death of Her Majesty the Queen in September, not only as our beloved monarch but also as a WI member. Her Majesty served as a proud member of Sandringham WI since 1943 when she was Princess Elizabeth.



New members are always welcome – to find out more, come along to a meeting or give Jill Baker a call on 01840 239829.

*Jill Baker.*



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What a wonderful summer term and summer holiday we have all experienced this year, with such glorious weather. At the end of the summer term we said goodbye to our Year 6 of 2022 leavers. We will miss them greatly but are certain that they will grab every opportunity which comes their way and make new friends. Goodbye, Year 6 2022!

During the summer, we finalised some essential groundworks and building changes for the next step on our journey as a school. We have grown from a part-time nursery with three classes to a five-class school this year and a full-time, oversubscribed nursery, testament to the hard work, dedication, care and compassion shown by all of our staff. We have welcomed five new members of staff, four new children into our older classes and fifteen children into our reception year group. We are excited to have a new classroom, a refurbished staffroom, office areas and library, new cloakroom area and toilets for our KS1 children, a refreshed layout for our nursery and reception class, new soft-pour surfaces for our youngest children in their outdoor learning, a new Forest School shelter, some enhanced site security measures, more play equipment to boost fitness and healthy activity, a sensory garden, an enhanced polytunnel and gardening area and, last but not least, a bespoke area for our Art, DT, Music and PSHCE work. I am extremely grateful to all of the staff for their tireless pursuit to be the best we can be and their commitment and energy. We cannot wait to see how our children make best use of these areas.

We now join the wider trust family of Learning Academy Partnership South West (LAPSW) as the founding member of our local Cornwall Hub. This is an exciting new step for our school, as we move into a growing trust family of schools spreading from the Paignton and Torquay areas into West Devon and now Cornwall. We are all excited to be part of this new adventure There will be some changes, but we will strive to retain what makes Jacobstow Community Academy such a special place. Our phone number, website and social media links currently remain the same, but our email address is now [jacobstow@lapsw.org](mailto:jacobstow@lapsw.org).



*Mikaela Rofe, Head teacher*

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# Our Night Sky in October

Jupiter and Saturn will be rising in the east as soon as the sun sets, while Mars will follow much later at about 10pm. All three will be prominent throughout the night, and will be joined by Taurus and Orion after midnight. Welcome to the winter constellations!

The USA is going back to the Moon for scientific discovery, economic benefits and inspiration for a new generation of explorers: the Artemis Generation, aiming to build a global alliance and explore deep space for the benefit of all. Artemis I, formerly Exploration Mission-1, will be the first integrated flight test of NASA's Deep Space Exploration Systems: the Orion spacecraft, Space Launch System (SLS) rocket, with the newly upgraded Exploration Ground Systems at Kennedy Space Center in Cape Canaveral, Florida.

The primary goal of the mission is to assure a safe crew module entry, descent, splashdown and recovery. Besides sending Orion around the Moon, SLS will carry ten small satellites that will perform their own science and technology investigations. The first in a series of increasingly complex missions, Artemis I will provide a foundation for human deep space exploration and demonstrate our commitment and capability to extend human existence to the Moon and beyond prior to the first flight with crew on Artemis II. The spacecraft will launch on the most powerful rocket in the world and fly farther than any spacecraft built for humans. It will travel 280,000 miles from Earth, far beyond the Moon, over a four- to six-week mission, staying in space longer than any ship for astronauts has done without docking to a space station and returning home faster and hotter than ever before.

If it is successful, Artemis II will take a different trajectory and test Orion's critical systems with humans aboard. The SLS rocket will evolve from a capability of sending more than 26 metric tons to the Moon, to one of at least 45 metric tons. Orion, SLS and the Kennedy ground systems will be able to meet the most challenging crew and cargo mission needs in deep space.

Future exploration missions with crew aboard Orion will assemble and dock with a gateway, which will be used for deep-space operations including missions to and on the Moon with decreasing reliance on the Earth, extending human exploration farther into the solar system than ever before.

I will keep you informed about this exciting mission to eventually set up a moon base at the Moon's South Pole.

*Bill Turnill*

*Bill wrote this before the first attempts to launch Artemis 1, which had to be called off for technical reasons. Hopefully, later attempts will be successful.*



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## From the Parish Council Chairman



It was with great sadness that I, like you in the parish, received the news that our Queen passed away on Thursday 8 September 2022.

I personally wanted to recognise her great service to our country, and her governance over the United Kingdom, Commonwealth and Realms, which has been exemplary.

She was a model of kindness and stability to us, which was a great attribute and endeared her to a nation that loved her.

Her Majesty governed using her strong Christian principles, and stood fast to those her entire life: a life of service.

This country has lost a monarch who truly understood how to manage her role, and was, I believe, this country's greatest Ambassador. Her oath of service to this role truly was honoured.

I, like almost all of you, have grown up only knowing this Queen and felt a great sadness and loss over the passing of someone I swore an oath to and served for 32 years. Like the rest of the nation I will miss her greatly.

We now move into a new era with our new king, Charles III.

I offer my condolences to him and his family at this sad time, on behalf of myself and in my capacity of Chairman of Poundstock Parish Council, and now pledge my allegiance to him as our new king.

God save the King.

Thank you to all those that attended the proclamation of King Charles III on Sunday 11 September at St Winwaloe's Church. Your presence was very much appreciated.

As you will be aware, the crematorium planning application has now been moved to 13 October. This is a provisional date now, and not yet fixed. I would also like to emphasise that your Parish Council are still working hard for you, in relation to the projects that we currently have, the Parish Hall and Widemouth Bay toilets to name two. And you will have seen the cards coming through your letter boxes, regarding the Parish Hall and need. I would urge you all to fill them in and return them.

*Robert Gavin*



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## We Will Remember Them: hmcs *Regina*

Every year, on Remembrance Sunday, a small ceremony takes place at the Canadian graves in Poundstock Churchyard, commemorating the bravery of the crew of HMCS *Regina*. Many parishioners will have heard of the graves, but do you know the story behind them?



The *Regina* was a Canadian corvette (a small warship), built in 1941 to escort the convoys of ships struggling to avoid mines, U-boats and air attack. In March 1944, after distinguished service off North Africa, she joined the England and Western Approaches Command in the build-up to D-Day.

In early August 1944, she was the sole escort to a convoy of ten ships in the Bristol Channel, clearing mines ahead of them in a zig-zag pattern. At about 21.30, eight miles from Trevose Head, there was an explosion and a mayday message: one of the ships in the convoy, the USS *Ezra Weston*, perhaps straying outside the cleared area, reported that she had hit a mine. Together with another ship from the convoy, HM LCT 644, the *Regina* hastened to the scene. The *Ezra Weston* was clearly in a bad way and within an hour the crew had been safely transferred to the LCT. Meanwhile it was decided to tow the *Ezra Weston* into shallower water. Ropes were attached and the LCT had just begun to take the strain when, at 22.48, there was another explosion: the *Regina* had suffered a catastrophic blast. She reared up and in less than half a minute she sank, stem first. Of her crew, 66 were saved but 30 were lost. It is thought that only five bodies were ever found, of whom three, washed up on the North Cornish coast, rest in Poundstock churchyard: Able Seaman Thomas Malone (22), Stoker Alfred Dawson (32) and Stoker William Cramp (42).

It was only some years later, when German war records became available, that the real reason for the sinking emerged. It was not a mine at all: the *Regina* had been torpedoed by U-boat *U-667*. Had this been realised at the time, the *Regina's* master would have acted very differently.

The wrecks of the *Regina* and the *Ezra Weston* lie in about 200ft of water north of Trevose Head. *U-667* struck a mine and sank in the Bay of Biscay less than three weeks after the attack on the convoy; all her crew were lost. So many losses, so much sadness: we must never forget the horrors of war.

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## Ordinary meeting, 26 July 2022

**Present:** Cllrs Robert Gavin (Chair), Stephen Blake, Michelle Carter, Max Faulkner, Brian Furse, Eric Harris, Tom O'Sullivan, Gemma Watton (Vice-Chair) and the Clerk. Apologies: Cllr Steve Haynes.

**Casual vacancy:** resolved that Michelle Carter be co-opted to the Council.

**Public participation:** a member of the public said that PROW 533/31 to Wanson now has steps but no handrail and is quite overgrown. PROW 533/8 Lower Penhalt and 533/15 are also overgrown. Cllr Idelson said trimming will be done this week; a handrail is scheduled to be installed by Cornwall Council.

**Planning matters:** PA22/04424, land east of Nettlefox Farm, conversion of disused barn to family dwelling; object as inappropriate in an isolated rural location. PA22/06162, Widemouth Bay Caravan Park, replace permanently sited touring caravans with 149 holiday lodges; object because of lack of reports and concerns re impact on AONB, AGLV and Heritage Coast area.

**Agenda items: (b) Bangors Methodist Hall:** the Parish Council's letter has been acknowledged but a full response may take some time.

**(c) Update on public toilets in Widemouth:** the showers are in a poor state. Cornwall Council will provide costs to replace and/or relocate them inside.

**(d) Proposed crematorium, PA21/01480:** the technical briefing held on 21 July 2022 was frustrating and disappointing because key questions were unanswered, statistics did not apply locally and the business plan and planning officer's report were still not available. Members of the public implored the Council to act swiftly to stop the crematorium. Resolved to instruct Kris Mitra to return to Cornwall Council on these points, cost £750 plus VAT.

**Poundstock Ward Member's report:** there is an increase in the number of motorhomes and caravans parking overnight in the car parks; parking enforcement have agreed to visit more frequently and have issued tickets.

**Meeting closed:** 21.13.

## Extraordinary meeting, 16 July 2022

**Present:** Cllrs Robert Gavin (Chair), Stephen Blake, Max Faulkner, Brian Furse, Eric Harris, Steve Hayne, Tom O'Sullivan, Gemma Watton (Vice-Chair) and the Clerk. Apologies: Cllr Michelle Carter.

**Public participation:** Members of the public spoke about the appeal to the notice of enforcement on land at Swelle. Cllr Chopak advised that the public are entitled to provide additional information to Cornwall Council. Concerns were read over the continuing trend towards commercialisation and industrial development around the parish and the Sand Park camp site near the Bay View Hotel, which although in Marhamchurch impacts (*continued on p. 39*)



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## Excerpts from Parish Council Minutes, continued

significantly on the residents of Widemouth Bay.

**Planning applications:** PA22/06874, Swallows Nest, Crescent Close, Widemouth Bay EX23 0AE, demolition of detached garage and construction of a single-storey rear and side extension, patio area at rear and new swimming pool; resolved to make no objection. PA22/07000, Sunnymead, Combe Lane, Widemouth Bay, construction of dwelling; no objection.

**Agenda items: (a) Crematorium planning application:** resolved to instruct Kris Mitra to engage Paul Hunt of Howes Percival Solicitors with an upper limit of £1,440.00 (inc. VAT) to write to Cornwall Council and the Strategic Planning Committee members regarding the possibility of a judicial review, and to request Kris Mitra write direct to the Chairman of the Strategic Planning Committee to request a teams meeting so that he may give a presentation for and on behalf of the Parish Council.

**(b) CCTV drainage survey of public toilets in Widemouth Bay:** resolved that Drainology be engaged to carry this out.

**(c) Proposal to establish a Mayor of Cornwall:** the Parish Council believes that the way Cornwall is governed is extremely important to residents and notes the emerging proposals for a possible change to a powerful Mayor of Cornwall with their own staff, budget and choice of cabinet. The Council believes this should only be implemented if the people of Cornwall support it and calls on Cornwall Council to ensure that there is a referendum of all voters in Cornwall.

**Meeting closed:** 20.36.

### Extraordinary meeting, 25 August 2022

Present: Cllrs Robert Gavin (Chair), Stephen Blake, Max Faulkner, Eric Harris, Steve Haynes, Pamela Idelson, Tom O'Sullivan, Gemma Watton and the Clerk.  
Apologies: Cllrs Michelle Carter, Brian Furse.

**Agenda items:** (a) Cornwall Council's Enforcement Notice EN21/00052 Section 174 Appeal, land east of Swelle Cottages: in response to serious concerns voiced by residents it was resolved to write a strongly worded letter to the Planning Inspectorate as a matter of urgency supporting Cornwall Council's Enforcement Notice.

**(b) The campsite in Widemouth Bay:** resolved that the Parish Council write to Cornwall Council Enforcement regarding the temporary pop-up camp site at Sand Parks, first contacting Marhamchurch Parish Council on this matter.

(d) Date of the Council's ordinary meeting: resolved to move the date to the last Thursday in the month.

**Meeting closed:** 19.45.



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## **Deadline Extended for Poundstock Neighbourhood Plan Questionnaire**

A big thank you to those of you who have completed our questionnaire. The response has been fantastic, far better than we achieved with the recent housing needs survey. In light of this we are extending the deadline for closing the questionnaire to midnight on 14th October in the hope that even more of you will complete the survey.

One or two of you have asked how more than one person in a household can complete the questionnaire as, once completed, it is not possible for a second person to take the survey using the same electronic device. The answer is that the survey can be taken using another computer, tablet or smart phone even if in the same home using the same router. Alternatively you can ask for a hard copy of the questionnaire to be delivered to you and complete that.

Please call one of the following if you need a hard copy of the questionnaire:

Nicky Vereker on 01288 361530

Phyllis Ward on 01288 361593

Steve Haynes on 07834 461090

The questionnaire can be accessed by typing the following address into your browser: [www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/NDPoundstock](http://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/NDPoundstock).

Alternatively you can access the survey via our page on the parish council website: [www.poundstock-pc.gov.uk/neighbourhood-plan](http://www.poundstock-pc.gov.uk/neighbourhood-plan).

### **Poundstock Neighbourhood Plan Committee**

Chairman: Matthew Blows

Vice Chair: Brenda Alison

Secretary: Lyn Smith

Members: Sara Beckett, Stephen Blake, Robert Gavin, Robbie Pearce, Barry Rogers, Nicky Vereker, Phyllis Ward

Contact: email [ndp-sg@poundstock-pc.gov.uk](mailto:ndp-sg@poundstock-pc.gov.uk)

or by post to St Marwenne, Combe Lane, Widemouth Bay, EX23 0AA

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