



THE POUNDSTOCK PACKET



KERNOW BYS VYKEN!

As you can see from these 'then' and 'now' pictures, we need a new garland in the Gildhouse. The old one, which is more than six years old, is really looking its age and definitely needs replacing. We are asking all local gardeners: please would you be kind enough to grow for us? We need any flowers, leaves, seed pods or fruits that can be dried and will last. If you will have hydrangea flowers this summer, they can be cut and dried and last beautifully. We can provide seed; contact Gail or Jen or anyone on the committee.

We won't be making the garland until the autumn but need to be thinking about this now.

Contact Gail Morwood 01288 341537 or Jen Spettigue 01288 361525 or email website@poundstockgildhouse.co.uk.



2016 ...



and 2023

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Looking ahead

Spring is a great time to look ahead, and of course it's an especially good time to think about your garden. This year, when you're wondering what to grow, consider finding space for something for the Gildhouse garland.

Peter and Joyce Marfleet created the first garland many years ago, inspired by Cotehele and using hydrangeas from their own garden. Most recently, in 2016 a concerted community effort saw a group of gardeners contributing a wide range of material, from dried flowers to preserved leaves and seedheads, producing a glorious garland.

But nothing lasts for ever and it's now high time for a new one. This is a real community effort that brings pleasure to everyone coming into the Gildhouse. Please, do help if you can.

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 or ring the editor, Liz Jones, on 079040 88779. **The deadline for our next edition is 20 March 2023.**

We do not necessarily endorse the views expressed by individual contributors and while we do our best to make sure all information is accurate, we can't accept any responsibility for errors. We reserve the right to edit items submitted and decide on what is suitable for publication. If you wish to copy or reuse any of our content, please contact the editor or article author for permission.

Advertising and Distribution

Advertising in the Packet currently costs from £35 a year (six issues), depending on the size of ad you choose. This includes delivery direct to all the homes in the parish – currently over 550. For more information please contact Karen Probets via poundstockpacket@gmail.com or Jen Spettigue, 36 St Marwenne Close, Marhamchurch (01288 361525),

We do our best to deliver to everyone in the parish, but if you know of anyone who has been missed please let us know. For those who live elsewhere, copies are available at the Beach House and Wainhouse Country Stores, on our website (poundstockpacket.org.uk) or by post; please contact us for details.

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Around the Parish ...

Widemouth Residents

Widemouth Residents held a very successful early Christmas party at the Black Rock Cafe. We enjoyed a warm welcome with the cafe festively decorated and delicious food.

An added bonus was the raffle making enough money to fund the new pads and battery to keep the defibrillator at the church ready for action!

Many thanks to the Black Rock Cafe, and all who came and donated prizes and money for the raffle.

Nicky Vereker

Disappearing street furniture

Anyone who has travelled between Widemouth and Millook will know (and probably dread) Bridwell Corner, particularly in icy weather. A year or two ago, the Parish Council bought and installed a salt bin at the corner to try to make things safer for anyone using this very steep, sharp bend, but recently it has unaccountably disappeared. At about the same time, the toad sign between the A39 and the Gildhouse has also vanished, and no one seems to know what has happened to either. It's hard to believe that someone has seen fit to steal them: the whole point of both is to increase safety on our roads, and who can argue with that? It would be nice to think there is a reasonable explanation and that they will be quickly reinstalled. Please, if you have any idea what has happened to them, contact the Parish Council or the Highways department of Cornwall Council. And meanwhile, take care.

Planning matters

Cornwall Council's Planning Department has now published its decision relating to a crematorium on land east of the A39 near Swelle Cottages, together with the conditions that will be imposed. Planning applications have also been received regarding the Sandparks camp site in Madeira Drive, Widemouth Bay (actually in Marhamchurch parish but recently discussed by Poundstock Parish Council following concerns from members of the public) and the Old Tearoom in Millook. Details of all these, and other planning applications, can be found in the online planning register on the Council website (reference numbers are PA21/01480, PA22/11432 and PA22/10135 respectively).

Jubilee Club

The next outing of the Jubilee Club is to Caerhayes Castle and Spring Garden on Monday 13 March. The magnolias should be wonderful! Further information from Diana Halls on 01840 261366 or Tina Martin on 01840 230182.

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Walking for Hull!

Three Poundstock residents are raising money to help represent Cornwall in the international choir competition Interkultur, being held for the first time in the UK in April, in Hull.

Jack, Tom and CC Knight are part of Cornwall Youth Choirs, a singing group with members aged up to 18 from all over Cornwall, from St Just to Saltash to Poundstock. The choir have gone from strength to strength, with their rendition of 'Cornwall My Home' going viral during lockdown and then singing at the Youth Proms at the Royal Albert Hall.



Jack says, 'The highlight for me so far was singing on BBC Radio Cornwall for their Christmas Concert, it was magical singing in Truro Cathedral with Camborne Town Band. Singing has always been a part of the Cornish identity and I'm very proud to represent my county.'

'We would love for the choir to be part of the competition. It's a once in a lifetime opportunity but to attend each choir member needs to raise £340, with the total cost of the trip being in the region of £20,000. My brother, sister and I are doing a sponsored walk to raise money. We are walking the distance to Hull, a total of 419 miles. So far in 2023, together we have already walked an incredible 138 miles. If you see us on the coast path do come and say hi!'

'We will be very grateful for any assistance any Poundstock residents or businesses can offer us. If anyone would like to sponsor us on our walk please get in touch at SponsorOurChoir@proton.me or 01288 361042.'

Have a listen to us singing 'Cornwall My Home' online at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r1doM6_M42M.

And to see us perform live, Cornwall Youth Choir will be singing in concert with The Boscastle Buoys at 7pm on 25 March 2023 at Otterham and St Juliot Hall. We shall be singing some Cornish favourites and all proceeds go towards the Hull trip. (See page 41.)

And if any young people are interested in finding out more about the choir we would love to hear from you.

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Churches

We are part of the Bude Coast and Country Benefice of Stratton Deanery. The rector is Revd David Barnes (01288 341670, d.barnes645@outlook.com).

ST WINWALOE'S is Poundstock's parish church. It dates from the fourteenth century. For many years it was known as St Neot's, until its original dedication was restored in the 1970s. Services are held on the second and fourth Sundays of the month at 9.30 am, other services by arrangement with the rector. Contact: Liz Jones (PCC secretary): 079040 088779 or jones@maves.co.uk



OUR LADY AND ST ANNE'S, Widemouth Bay, is one of the smallest churches in the country. It was originally a private chapel in a local garden and was moved to its present site in 1940. In its garden is the Summerhouse, used for many local gatherings and events. Holy Communion is celebrated in the church here every other Wednesday at 10 am, alternating with St Michael's, Bude.



Contact: Judy MacDonald (churchwarden): 01288 362254.

February Services

- 1 **HC, WB 10.00**
- 5 HC, Bude 9.30; FS, Week St Mary 10.00; EP, Marhamchurch 4 pm
- 8 HC, Bude 10.00
- 12 **MP, Poundstock 9.30**; HC, Marhamchurch 9.30 and Whitstone 11.15; EP, Week St Mary 6 pm
- 15 **HC, WB 10.00**
- 19 HC, Bude 9.30 and Week St Mary 11.15; MP Marhamchurch 9.30;
- 22 Ash Wednesday: HC and Ashes, Bude 10.00, WSM 7 pm
- 26 **HC, Poundstock 9.30**, Marhamchurch 9.30, Bude 11.15; MP, Whitstone 9.30, WSM 10.00

EP Evening Prayer; FS Family Service; HC Holy Communion; MP Morning Prayer; times are a.m. unless otherwise stated.

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. If you're not a churchgoer or can't make the service but would like a bit of company, you'll be more than welcome. Just come along.

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Welcome back to school and to 2023! I can't believe that we have already started the new year and are back at school. Christmas seems a long way off – although we managed to pack so much into the last two weeks. A huge thank you to everyone who was able to support our Christmas events in one way or another. Our Christmas plays were well supported – I know so many parents spoke with pride about their children performing in the nativity, or singing a solo during our Christmas Concert. It was lovely to see so many at our Celebration Assembly and 'so long farewell' to Mrs Sheridan and Mrs Stokes. I know they were so appreciative of all the time, care, well wishes and kindness.

We currently have been unable to appoint a full-time class teacher to work in Saturn, so are very grateful to Mrs Meynell, who is a supply teacher working with our Year 4 class currently.

Our hall roof has finally been repaired externally (fingers crossed it has been more successful than the last quick fix) and the hall has also now been redecorated internally. It has made such a difference to the look, feel and usability of our hall. We are now going to follow up with Cornwall LA the installation of boards to help the acoustics of our hall, which are quite extreme with echoes! This will really help our children across all different uses of the hall to minimise noise and increase focus and enjoyment.

Our children have been enjoying their football sessions this half term with Plymouth Argyle Football Club and their Relax and Grow Sessions with Sophie Adey. It has been wonderful to see the children engage so enthusiastically with these sessions.

Mikaela Rofe, head teacher





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J. M. Balsdon: A Query Answered

Readers may remember an appeal in Packet 117 from Mr Philip Cross, asking for information about the bus company trading as J. M. Balsdon after the Second World War. He has since been in touch to say how delighted he was to receive this reply from Mr Michael Balsdon:

My parents, John and Rosemary Balsdon, bought Middle Penlean just after WW2, and set up a car-hire service, and made the back field a summer campsite. The initial hirings were probably for shopping, but he was put on a list for taking people to hospital appointments, usually to Plymouth.

When buying a minibus in the 50s he had a contract for taking pupils to Jacobstow School (primary) – I was one of them – two runs, one from the north, one from the south. He also collected school lunches from St Gennys School to take to Jacobstow (which didn't have a kitchen) – he did this for twenty years.

He added a second minibus to the fleet to take on extra business, I can't recall any other contract he had – but he could provide trips out to local concerts, teams to occasional sporting events, to evening dinners or taking backpackers to local resorts.

I gained a PSV licence at 18 and although I was away at college for three years and then teaching in Hampshire I still returned at holiday times. My father employed three people over the years to help him at busy times. When he sold the minibuses he kept on the car-hire business for several years afterwards, having several regular customers.

On one Jacobstow School educational outing, the headmaster, John Cuthill (grandfather of BBC South's Jon Cuthill) made a cine-film of the event, which included an excerpt where the children had to get out and push the minibus. This caused great amusement when shown, especially when he played it in reverse.

For a few summers around the late 60s the author Nikolai Tolstoy brought a group of London scouts to Okehampton station where they were transported by minibus to a farm in Morwenstow. When bored, they hired us to take them for a day out in North Devon.

On a snowy morning in 70s the minibus failed to take a grip leaving Sunnyside and my mother broke her wrist in trying to give a push.

On taking a village group for a dinner at the Bush Inn in Morwenstow, a stone punctured the petrol tank at Kilkhampton. I brought a relief minibus to the scene, where the fire service were hosing down the road.

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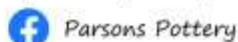
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Mr Balsdon also sent this article from *Home and Country*, the WI magazine, dated November 1959:

How we got our bus

Here, in her own words, is the story of how one member, Mrs Rosemary Balsdon of Jacobstow WI, Cornwall, followed up the theme of the 1956 resolution on Rural Transport.

* * * * *

“As a delegate to the Albert Hall in June 1956, I heard the Minister of Transport urge us to ‘get back to the equivalent of the carrier’s cart’, and promise that he would consider granting Public Service Vehicle (P.S.V.) licences for small 12-seater buses. As my husband and I operate a Car Hire business in the country, I returned home full of the idea.

We studied the book *The Village Bus* provided by H.M. Stationery Office and made many and varied enquiries, without any results – no firms were manufacturing any such vehicle that would pass the P.S.V. standard and requirements.

It was not until the end of 1958 that we, at last, found a firm that was bringing out a 12-seater bus that suited our needs, and even then we had to wait seven months before it was delivered. Now, three years from hearing Mr Harold Watkinson’s speech in the Albert Hall on ‘Rural Transport’, we have got our P.S.V. 12-seater bus in operation, having passed the P.S.V. Driving Test and been granted a licence. I believe this is one of the first of its kind in Cornwall.”



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Greater Spotted Woodpeckers have arrived! With their spring-loaded necks and shock absorbers to protect the brain. They prefer dead wood – the sound resonates and goes further.

They smash into wood seven times a second, all to attract the opposite sex; I used to teach pupils like that. They machine-gun the trees, and they get a mate. Insects live under the bark of dead (Dutch Elm) trees and the drumming drives them to distraction. Stunned and stupefied, they crawl out, and the woodpecker picks them off like a sniper.

The life-cycle of elms has changed since the disease came from Canada in the 1920s. Carried by beetles, it killed about 40 per cent of our elms. A stronger strain hit in the 70s. The insects live under the bark where they drill tunnels between the bark and the wood; they carry a fungus which grows under the bark; the fungus poisons the area and steadily kills the elm.

Young elms have thin bark, so the insects can't get in. When they reach about 10 metres (that's 30 feet to you and me) the bark thickens, the insects come; the disease starts; and the woodpeckers arrive.

Oh, I nearly forgot to say how I first came across woodpeckers. My father poured me a tiny glassful and called it 'Lucozade for grown-ups'. The cider came in big brown bottles and it was delicious... still is.

Christopher Asbury





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Coronavirus test and trace hotline	119
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Parish clerk: Lynn Pluess	0776 8100 560
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Cornwall Council	0300 1234 100
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National Childline	0800 1111
Police – non-emergency	101
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Bude Food Bank	01288 448748
Citizens Advice (Phone advice line, operates 10–4, Monday–Friday)	03 444 111 444
CCS helpline/Age UK Cornwall	01872 266383
Floodline	0845 988 1188
Western Power (power cuts)	0800 678 3105
PCC Secretary, Poundstock: Liz Jones	079040 88779
Jacobstow WI: Mrs J. Baker	01840 239829
Marhamchurch WI: Mrs P. Hazeldine	01288 682193
Poundstock Skittles: Pam Gilhespy	01288 361570
Poundstock Ringers	079040 88779
Juliotter Garden Club	01566 781559 or 01840 261237
Rebel Cinema	01288 361442

Local Organisations

Libraries

Bude Library is currently open 10.00–4.00 Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 10.00–1.00 Saturdays. Reserve books by phone (0300 1234 1111) or online at capitadiscovery.co.uk/cornwall/login.

Poundstock's two pop-up libraries, in St Winwaloe's and Our Lady and St Anne's, are available when the churches are open (all day, every day). A wide choice of books can be borrowed or bought, with all proceeds going to charity.

Poundstock Post Office

Still based in the old shop at Cornish Coasts Caravan and Camping Park on the A39. Open Mondays and Thursdays, 9.00–1.00 (ask at the new shop). 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 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.

Diary Dates

February

9 Jacobstow WI, 'The landscape and wildlife of Bodmin Moor', 7.30

13-17 Half term

17, 18 *Pirates of the Curry Bean*, panto at the Crackington Institute, details and tickets from Crackington Village Shop

22 Ash Wednesday

24, 25 *Treasure Island*, panto at the Bray, Marhamchurch, see p. 17

28 Juliotter Garden Club, 'Pruning techniques & taking cuttings', 7.30

March

4 Bude Concert Orchestra musical evening, 7.30, see p. 31

9 Jacobstow WI, AGM, 7.30

13 Jubilee Club trip to Caerhayes Castle and Spring Garden, see p. 5

25 Cornwall Youth Choir and Boscastle Buoys concert, Otterham and St Juliot Hall, 7 pm, see p. 41

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 April and May edition is 20 March.

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

Chairman Stephen Blake stephen.blake@poundstock-pc.gov.uk

Vice-chair Steve Haynes steve.haynes@poundstock-pc.gov.uk

Councillors

Michelle Carter michelle.carter@poundstock-pc.gov.uk

Max Faulkner max.faulkner@poundstock-pc.gov.uk

Eric Harris eric.harris@poundstock-pc.gov.uk

Pamela Idelson pamela.idelson@poundstock-pc.gov.uk

Tom O'Sullivan tom.osullivan@poundstock-pc.gov.uk

Three vacancies. For details of how to apply to be co-opted to the Parish Council, please see the website or contact the Clerk

Parish clerk Lynn Pluess clerk@poundstock-pc.gov.uk
07768 100 560

The parish council website carries agendas, full minutes and other documents, as well as information about the Neighbourhood Development Plan and the parish cemetery. At present, council meetings take place at 7 pm on the last Thursday evening of each month at Poundstock Gildhouse.



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

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

Jacobstow WI

We held a crafting morning at the end of November with members making foliage and floral table decorations and glass painted tea light holders ready for Christmas. We had great fun making some

beautiful decorations and enjoyed crafting together.

We rounded off the year with our Christmas party, when we enjoyed a musical evening, with a cappella group More Harmony from Wadebridge starting things off with festive songs and carols. The ladies then joined us for mulled juices and seasonal eats, followed by everyone carol singing together. We finished off with our traditional Secret Santa gifts.

This year we had also pledged to bring Christmas foodstuffs and gifts for the Bude Food Bank, and we collected a large box of contributions to donate to their Christmas appeal.

For our first meeting of 2023, we welcomed Jenny Westaway to talk about the history of Wroes department store, which began with a small clothing store in the Strand in 1919. Jenny shared many funny stories from her life and work with the company, and brought items of ladies' clothing from across the decades from her personal collection; we had a most enjoyable evening.

Our next meeting on 9 February will be a talk about the landscape and wildlife of Bodmin Moor and our AGM will be held on 9 March.

Jacobstow WI was formed in 1938, making 2023 its 85th year and so we have some special events planned to celebrate.

If you are interested in being part of today's modern WI, why not come along to one of our meetings? or give Jill a call on 01840 239829 to find out more.

Jill Baker





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Cornwall has over 300 different care establishments plus other care providers including a network of Personal Assistants supporting individuals. The work of Proud to Care Cornwall is guided by the workforce needs of this large and diverse sector. We have a dual focus – the first is public facing to raise the profile of jobs and careers in adult social care and encourage people to find employment in the sector, and secondly to provide information and support to adult social care employers. Areas of work include Recruitment and Retention, Learning and Development and the Wellbeing of the workforce.

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Our Night Sky in February and March

February

Venus will be setting in the west at about 19.15, followed by Jupiter at 21.15. Mars meanwhile will continue to dominate the southern sky during the night, setting in the north west about 3am. It has been a brilliant object during the past months since it has been at its closest to Earth; its eclipse by the Moon in December was an amazing sight for those lucky enough to see it. It will begin to fade as it continues on its orbit round the Sun, which means that at its most distant it will be about 130 million miles from Earth, as opposed to the 40 million or so it has been recently.

The successful December mission of Artemis round the Moon, with an accurate splashdown after re-entering the atmosphere at 25,000 mph, was an amazing effort, and it provided scientists with a wealth of data from the sensors on the dummies that were on board. Providing the dummies 'survived' the adventure and an actual astronaut would not have succumbed to the multitude of forces experienced, the next Artemis mission should have live astronauts aboard, who will orbit the Moon before returning to Earth. If that is successful, Artemis 3 should have a crew that will land on the Moon and carry out preliminary investigations for setting up a permanent base. All this in preparation for a mission to Mars some time in the distant future; however, it is not beyond the realms of possibility that a future Mars explorer has already been born. We live in exciting times, and I hope to be able to tell you about some of them in future articles

March

Jupiter will be setting in the south west at about 7pm, while Venus remains bright in the south western sky until she sets at about 9pm. Mars will be high in the sky above Orion, but becoming visibly fainter compared with its brilliance during the autumn, as it moves further away from Earth. It will set in the north west about 2am. Saturn has now moved to the morning sky, but is still lost in the brightening dawn sky.

Meanwhile, NASA's Mars Perseverance rover recovered two new samples from the Martian surface on 2 and 6 December last year. But unlike the 15 rock cores collected to date, these newest samples came from a pile of wind-blown sand and dust similar to but smaller than a dune. Now contained in special metal collection tubes, one of these two samples *[continued on p. 31]*



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Our Night Sky, continued

will be considered for deposit on the Martian surface some time this month as part of the Mars Sample Return campaign. Scientists want to study Martian samples with powerful lab equipment on Earth to search for signs of ancient microbial life and to better understand the processes that have shaped the surface of Mars. Most of the samples will be rock; however, researchers also want to examine regolith – broken rock and dust – not only because of what it can teach us about geological processes and the environment on Mars, but also to mitigate some of the challenges astronauts will face on the Red Planet. Regolith can affect everything from spacesuits to solar panels, so it's just as interesting to engineers as it is to astronauts.

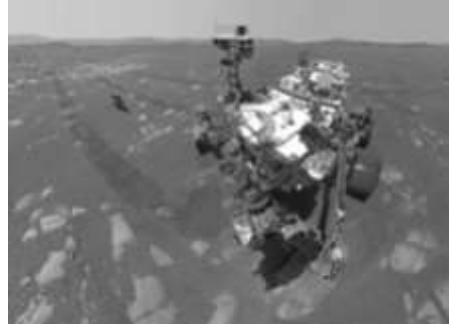


Image: NASA

Bill Turnill

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Following the success of the questionnaire, we have moved to the next stage in producing a Neighbourhood Development Plan for the parish. Set out below is our suggested *Vision and Objectives*. This is based on what you have told us matters to you.

The wording is a draft and subject to your comments, so please let us know what you think by emailing us at NDP-SG@poundstock-pc.gov.uk or by writing to the NDP c/o Poundstock Parish Council, Trevoulter Barton, Poundstock, Bude, Cornwall EX23 0DH.

The next stage will be to organise an event in the early Spring to present your feedback on the *Vision and Objectives* and to present indicative policies that will be designed to make the objectives effective. Following that we will prepare a draft neighbourhood plan for you to consider.

Remember, this is your Neighbourhood Development Plan and requires your input as we go through the various stages required before a final referendum on the finished Plan.

Poundstock NDP Steering Group

VISION

The distinctive landscape character of Poundstock will be maintained, preserving the surrounding rural, agricultural and coastal landscapes. New housing should meet local needs only, respect the environment and have adequate infrastructure to support it.

OBJECTIVES

Objective 1 Housing: to ensure that any housing development that takes place within the Parish meets local housing needs.

Objective 2 Drainage: to support development which has adequate and sustainable drainage and sewerage within the Parish.

Objective 3 Design: to ensure that the design of new buildings within the Parish, and of modifications and extensions to existing buildings, are appropriate in the context of surrounding buildings and respect the local, rural (including coastal) character of landscapes.

(Continued on p. 35.)

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Neighbourhood Development Plan, continued

Objective 4 Landscape: to ensure that the Parish maintains the distinct identity of settlements and hamlets, avoiding further coalescence between them.

Objective 5 Natural Environment and Biodiversity: to protect and enhance the outstanding natural beauty of landscapes, including coastal areas, both within and without the SSSI (Sites of Special Scientific Interest) and AONB (Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty) and to ensure that development across all parts of the Parish supports not only the conservation of biodiversity but also net biodiversity gain.

Objective 6 Historic Landscape: to safeguard heritage assets, historic landscapes and their setting across the Parish for current and future generations.

Objective 7 Economy and Business: to support sustainable businesses that are appropriate within the rural landscape of the Parish.

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There is no charge for tea and coffee (but if you want to make a donation, feel free).

So if you fancy getting out of the house, meeting friends or simply just reading a book, chilling and admiring the view from our stunning clifftop location, then we would love to meet you. There's always staff around if you fancy a chat but we are just as happy to leave you in companionable silence.

We have been running since October 2022 and can be found on

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Community Hall I Update (abridged)

The Hall Committee was set up at the January Council 2022 meeting and since has considered in detail all options for the establishment of a community hall. The Parish Council (PC) decided not to pursue the open market purchase of Bangors Hall as not consistent with PC Financial Regulations.

As the sale at the time fell through, in June the PC resolved to again attempt negotiations with the Methodist Circuit. We were conscious of the very strong attachment many parishioners feel towards the building. In response the Circuit informed us that they would 'need to take advice from the circuit's solicitor and from the legal officer at the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes', adding 'a response may take some time'. The next we knew was when the auction was advertised. This sort of sale is not open to the PC.

The committee also considered the 'offer' from Cornwall Council [CC] land at Treskinnick Cross. Initially we were told this would be offered to us for £1. Some of us also recall a suggestion it would come with planning permission. When they eventually responded to our request for the terms of any transfer in writing it turned out that what was envisaged was not a devolution for £1 but rather a 'land swap': the old parish hall site in return for the Treskinnick site.

At our September meeting the committee rejected the 'offer' but said 'we would be favourable to considering any alternative reasonable ideas [CC] may wish to suggest'. There was no response from CC. We followed up with a resolution at our October meeting to enquire if CC would consider a sale of the land to PPC. CC said they would 'keep [us] posted at the earliest'; two months later we've heard no more. Meanwhile the committee carried out a community engagement exercise to gauge feeling towards a community hall. This indicated a clear desire for Poundstock to have its own hall.

One of the facilities many respondents wish to see is a children's play area. Bearing this in mind and also the fact the old hall site is so close to the A39, the committee reluctantly agreed it would not be suitable and recommended to Full Council that the site be sold and the proceeds used to fund a new facility.

To ensure the maximum possible return, the committee agreed the cost of obtaining outline planning permission for the demolition of the old hall and its replacement with up to two houses was justified. It would appear to be in the region of but possibly less than £300.

Looking to the future, it is very encouraging that this week [15 December 2022] it has transpired that two potential sites adjacent to Bangors may be available to us, subject to negotiations. The mood music is very favourable!



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Present: Cllrs Stephen Blake, Michelle Carter, Max Faulkner, Eric Harris, Steve Haynes, Tom O'Sullivan; the Clerk; County Councillor Nicky Chopak; sixteen members of the public. **Apologies:** Cllr Pamela Idelson.

Election of officers/appointment to portfolios: the chair and vice-chair have both resigned. Stephen Blake was elected chair for the remainder of the municipal year, and Steve Haynes vice-chair. Appointment to portfolios: highways (two), deferred; planning, Tom O'Sullivan stood down, Michelle Carter appointed; WB toilets, car park and beach, Max Faulkner reappointed.

Public participation: members of the public spoke at length on the meeting of 17 November regarding the decision to approve planning permission for a crematorium on land west of the A39 (see item 11(c) below).

Community Hall Committee: resolved to act in accordance with the committee's decision to make an application for outline planning permission to demolish the old parish hall and replace with up to two houses.

Planning matters: PA22/08082, land east of 1 The Mallows, Marine Drive, WB, proposed one-storey, two-bedroomed house; resolved to object on the grounds of overdevelopment, inappropriate location, inadequate parking and concerns about the infrastructure.

11(a) Widemouth Bay toilets: additional works agreed at a cost of £1,540.

11(b) Rubbish and dog waste bins in Bude Meadows and Wanson laybys: sites to be identified so costs for emptying the bins can be given.

11(c) Planning decision regarding a crematorium: members of the public were invited to participate. After a lengthy discussion, resolved: (i) to find a solicitor and ask for an estimate of the stages and costs of a judicial review; (ii) the Chair to write to Principal Development Officer Helen Blacklock to ask when the decision will be published; (iii) a letter be sent to Marhamchurch PC thanking them for their support; (iv) the PC to explore producing a letter of no confidence in the planning processes of CC and pursuing a complaint against officers and others; (v) the PC to write to CC re Cornwall Councillor Peter Labroy speaking for Bude and Stratton TC without their authorisation.

Bude Community Network Highways Scheme: resolved to resubmit an expression of interest for a limit of 20 mph through Bangors Green, and a second application for a public footpath from Poundstock to Swelle Cottages.

Poundstock Ward Member's Report: Cllr Nicky Chopak confirmed the CC grant of £1500 per year for the next three years towards the public toilets.

Meeting closed at 20.52.



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