



Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting

4 March 2021, 7pm via Zoom

In attendance: Cllrs R Rotchell, Shaw, Hewlett, Ackroyd-Johnson, Bond, Burgis, Coombes, Elford, Scawn

1. Introduction and Welcome by the Mayor, Cllr Rob Rotchell
2. To approve the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 7th March 2019

Unanimously approved

3. Annual Report on Town Council Business by the Mayor, Cllr Rob Rotchell

Last year like no other. Challenges and need to adapt. Thank you to Town Clerk and Deputy Town Clerk for getting CTC set up on Zoom to ensure meetings were not only held but available for the public to watch. The amount of interaction has increased. Good engagement from the public. Hoping to keep some kind of virtual meetings going.

Summary of work undertaken/events by CTC:

- Cemetery at Lanteglos open.
- Ancient lime tree in Tregoodwell will be adopted.
- Broadwood Path up to Trefrew Road has been replaced.
- Wallgate on Gents WC replaced.
- Old Cattle Market Skatepark, including Youth Shelter and lights in the Youth centre.
- Cllr L Rathbone left. Tribute paid to Lauren for the work done. Sad to see her go.
- Elections. Mindful that there will be elections for both CC and CTC in early May. All councillors will stand down and stand again. Packs will be available online. Pandemic has impacted usual processes. Contact Town clerk to find out where to get pack.
- Looking at Phase 2 OCM

- New place shaping group formed to discuss possibilities of what will Camelford look like post bypass.
- Bypass
- Medical centre – working with surgery on a new facility
- Heating and lighting in the Library completed.
- Planted trees in the park.
- Allotments 5 more created to help with the waiting list.
- Sad year for Events as all cancelled. Camelford in Bloom, Pumpkins on Parade, Scarecrow festival and socially distanced Remembrance Sunday were only events held.
- Honoured Citizens (this evening during Annual Parish Meeting)
- Looking to install more car charging points in Churchfield and Clease car parks.
- Riverbank work.
- Zip wire replaced.
- 29 planning applications. Less than half in a usual year.
- Grants given throughout year Camelford Hall, Friends of Lanteglos Church, Leisure Centre, Christmas Lights, Brownies & Guides St Breward, iSight Cornwall, Marie Curie, Cornwall Air Ambulance, Cornwall Hospice Care.
- Financially astute and will end the financial year in a good position.

4. Presentation from Pippa Drummond - Cornwall Council, Family Hub Coordinator, North Cornwall, Camelford Family Hub

Shared a powerpoint presentation. Early Help Team managed by Locality Manager – Amanda Smith for East Cornwall. Responsible for family hubs across the area. Family co-ordinator Pippa Drummond. Wide range of workers ranging from youth, parenting and community links.

Connects families to a wide range of help before they reach crisis. Pandemic has had a massive impact.

Family Hub supports pre-birth to 19 and up to 24 for additional needs. Family Hub offer being developed to offer both universal and targeted help.

Moved into building on SJS site from Primary School. Gave service examples including money matters, family information, early help, maternity, wellbeing and counselling. Also education, employment and training.

A lot more referrals coming through. Bodmin highest. Camelford second highest. Good links with schools. Reasons for service request behavioural issues/concerns. Second, parenting concerns.

Priority age groups 12-18 – not surprising. Pushing for early referrals to get help early.

Feedback has been excellent. Showed examples. Outlined East Cornwall Early Help Team.

PCSO Dodds keen for COVID to be over to continue working with each other. Cllr Rotchell thanked Pippa for her work.

5. Report from Camelford Police

COVID dominated policing. Domestic incidents up. Community speedwatch suspended. 4-5 COVID breaches a day. Most holiday lets or second homes there for lawful reasons.

Pastoral care at SJS - concerned about welfare of children as usually in regular contact. Expecting to be busy from 8 March onwards. Apart from safeguarding, beat teams dealing with crime and antisocial behaviour. Currently 2 addresses causing concern. 1 resident in court Friday 12th for criminal behaviour order. A second house being progressed up antisocial behaviour escalation ladder. Will either comply and stop causing issues or if re-start causing issues, will be dealt with. Important to report antisocial behaviour. All reports to 101.

Cllr Hewlett asked about G7. How do you think that will affect the policing in Camelford area? A: No. It won't have a major effect. Every police officer has had leave cancelled during that time. Cllr Rotchell added that the policing bill for G7 will not cost the tax-payer anything. Funded from central pot.

Cllr Bond asked if there could be more patrols in Enfield park in the evening. Weed smoking an issue. PCSO asked Cllr Bond to contact separately to give details.

6. To receive reports from organisations that have been in receipt of Town Council Grants:

Debbie Henshaw from Air Ambulance

Huge thank you for CTC support. Privilege to work for the Air Ambulance. Father required the service following an accident. Have over 800 missions per year 365 days a year. 19 hrs a day. Incredible different types of missions – medical, hospital transfers, trauma, cardiac emergencies, neuro, road traffic accidents etc. Received a grant to work with blood banks so blood on board which making a huge difference. Cllr Rotchell asked how COVID affected the service. A: Because in lockdown at home and no events, fundraising not been done. As a charity had to close all shops. Huge impact. Working from home cannot do face to face. Response not diminished. Decreased major trauma (reduce of traffic on roads) but difference is increase in cardiac, respiratory and because in own homes, mental health and more suicides and attempted suicides.

Cllr Rotchell thanked Debbie for coming along and pass thanks to crew and support team for the work done.

Carole Theobald – iSight Cornwall

Chief Executive. Provide practical and emotional support 365 to blind and partially blind. Oldest charity in Cornwall. Thanked CTC for donation of £100. Grant has helped 6 residents in Camelford. 1st project befriending service – able to match 2 residents with a helper. Both matches worked out and continues. 2nd project – Living Needs – provide smaller equipment for those who need it, important as people's ability to get out, so able to provide 4 residents with a talking clock, talking books or specialist magnifier for reading

etc. Wider impact – the funds provide reassurance and family members and neighbours of people supported are very grateful. Only 1 of the 6 people helped with this grant has family. It is always made sure that everyone involved knows where the grant money comes from.

Cllr Rotchell thanked her for coming along and talking to us and for the work they are doing. It has given us a greater appreciation of the work you do.

7. Honoured Citizens Awards

Rob Rotchell spoke about last Honoured Citizens Award 4 years ago. Pete Hicks, Graham Ferguson, Jane Moore, John Praoline, John Gilbert and of course Philip Lessels. Briefly mention 2 people who are no longer with us – Alan Pollard and Andy Bond. Sadly no longer with us, but part of conversations when looking to make this year's awards. Alan Pollard was a teacher at SJS and a councillor and familiar figure at town events for recording videos for Camelford.org website. Andy Bond was a significant part in maintaining wildlife area of Enfield Park. He catalogued birds and species in a park. As a mark of respect, constructed a bird hide in the Park in memory of him.

Cllr Rotchell then read out citations for each Honoured Citizen before a video of the presentation was shown:

- **Brian Lush**

I have proudly nominated Brian because for almost 35 years he has been involved with just about every voluntary body that works for the good of our town.

I first met him in 1987 when he was a Governor for the primary school where he gave his time regularly so that trips off of the school site could happen. Trips in the sunshine to the river or the park would not have happened without people like him giving their time.

In 1995 Brian was first elected to the Town Council where he served continuously for 18 years - 6 of which he was Mayor for. Brian represented the town well as Mayor both in his mannerism and commitment attending events of interest to Camelford all over Cornwall and Devon.

His interpretation of how to be town Mayor has had a lasting impact on the role which has been continued by those that followed. Cllrs Rotchell, Shaw, have all covered vast amounts of miles championing Camelford as Mayor, making our town heard to any forum or body that make decisions that impact us all.

Brian has been chair of Clease/Camelford Hall, a member of CAR, town forum, Bodmin Moor parishes network, pop inn, British Legion, and the Town Band.

We thank Brian Lush for all he has done and continues to do.
Nominated by Cllr Aaron Scawn

- **Charles and Francis Bennett**

Chas and his brother Francis have been taking care of the town clock above the library on a voluntary basis for many, many years.

This involves them organizing the servicing of the clock and any associated upkeep. Visiting twice a year to ensure the correct time is kept when the clocks go forward and back. They are also both on hand if (on the rare occasion) the clock stops!!

They are always friendly and chatty with the Town Hall staff and it is truly fascinating to hear the stories of the clock from over the years.

I feel it is important to recognize their voluntary work taking care of such a valuable town asset and to let them know how much it is appreciated – thank you both!!

They are both prominent in the town, Chas helping with the care of the football field at Camelford Football Club & Francis has been the Chairman of the Town trust for many years & is an active member of the Methodist Church.

Nominated by Bronwen Hockerday – CTC Librarian

- **John & Mary Pearce**

Lanteglos Church would be a tragic distant memory had it not been for the phenomenal efforts of a great team of dedicated parishioners including John and Mary Pearce who are a very active part of that group. If ever you get the chance it is worth looking at the Friends of Lanteglos Church website to see just how much work was done (and maybe leave a small donation) as well as some of the fascinating discoveries.

In addition to the church they have collated a vast amount of history of Camelford and made every effort to make this available for all to see.

Several town bodies (such as the Council, Town Trust, Church and various others) have all benefitted from their drive to source funds often from unexpected sources.

Mary has a long connection with Camelford being one of many generations born here. She volunteers as the church warden with energy, knowledge and care.

Amongst some of John's other contributions he has been a member of CAR, Walkers are Welcome, Town Team, Town Trust, Town Council (serving as deputy mayor) and Clease/Camelford Hall chair. As councillor John was very passionate about the park and involving young people with town affairs setting up the youth council in conjunction with SJS school.

Camelford is fortunate and grateful for their continued influence. Thank you to John and Mary.

Nominated by Cllr Aaron Scawn

- **Peggy Ellison**

Peggy has lived in Camelford for over 20 years and is best known for her work with Brownies and Rainbows, and her time as a dinner lady for Camelford Primary School. She has raised over £15,000 for Brownies and Rainbows, together with fund raising for the school – an amazing achievement and has added so much value to these groups by enabling trips and outings for the girls and added valuable resources. Her enthusiasm, commitment and creativity is second to none.

Peggy has also supported Camelford Town Council's events such as the Senior Citizens Christmas Lunch (which involves making over 50 Christmas dinners and puddings), Mayor's Afternoon Tea, as well the annual Bingo event during Four Days of Fun. For many of our senior citizens, the Christmas Lunch is the highlight of their year. Nothing is ever too much trouble for Peggy who thrives on making people feel welcome to Camelford, valued and special. Indeed, the Deputy Clerk

remembers her first time in Camelford, having moved hundreds of miles, and getting the best hug and welcome ever.

Peggy is also a keen gardener and is a well-known member up at Camelford Town Council's community allotment gardens. Not only is her allotment an award-winning allotment (Camelford in Bloom), but she has gone further in order to support other "green" allotment tenants by sourcing a community shed for all allotment holders to borrow equipment.

It feels wholly appropriate to recognise Peggy's unfailing contribution to make Camelford a better place to live, and whilst she will not like the attention this award gives, I hope it goes some way to expressing how valued and special she is. Thank you Peggy

Nominated by Amanda Lash, Deputy Town Clerk

- **Andy Shaw**

Tricky. Nominations for these awards come from the Town Council and Events Working Group so keeping it quiet was difficult! Andy has been a Town Councillor since 1984 with just a 1-year break. Service of 36 years. He has been Town Mayor and several times Deputy Mayor and a great support to me. Former member of Town Forum, Tree Warden (secured saplings from a grant), working on team creating Camelford Cemetery. Knowledge and expertise vital when discussing issues involving Enfield Park. A staunch representative of people of Camelford and regularly reminds CTC of our responsibility to spend their money wisely. His pragmatic no nonsense approach and happy to make his voice heard when he disagrees with our direction of travel. His understanding of planning policy is extensive and second to none and proves invaluable when making planning decisions particularly if they are detrimental to the town. He is a member of the Camelford Place Shaping Group who are starting work on developing proposals for Camelford Bypass. Like me, Andy wasn't born here but we both have a common passion for doing all we can to make Camelford a better place to live. Andy is a worthy winner of this award and I am honoured to call him a colleague and a friend.

Cllr Shaw spoke. It came as a great surprise to be nominated. It has been an honour and privilege to serve the community. I have lived in Camelford for 48 years. Out of so much I have done and been part of, have worked with great councillors, public and clerks and proud of the legacy we have. Proudest part of my existence in this is when we formulated Camelot Country and built 14 affordable houses for local people to rent and purchase and it was 10 years of hard work. Now we have just finished the NDP but I do feel a great debt of gratitude to members of the NDP team to get where we are. It has been an honour and a privilege and thank you for this award. It will be treasured.

Continued with reports from organisations that have been in receipt of Town Council Grants:

- **Lynda Thomas, Marie Curie**

Huge thank you to CTC for donating to Marie Curie emergency appeal. Our 33 nurses (who cover whole of Cornwall) have been busier than ever. Lots of challenges. PPE was a huge issue but now sorted with help from Spar. Nurses have worked and showed tremendous bravery and 3,000 helped who wish to remain at home and eased pressure on NHS. Been on front line providing help and care support to patients – not just cancer, and give family much needed support and respite. Will make a huge difference. Field of Hope in Camelford that Council helped plant should be coming into bloom. Reminder of Spring and brings us hope every year. Thank you so much. Cllr Rotchell said Field of Hope is coming into bloom. Andy Shaw helped plant field of Hope in 90s, very proud to be a part of it. Cllr Rotchell thanked her for joining the meeting and for the work that they do.

- **Jill Jeffs Guides and Brownies**

Thank you very much for the money. Over the last year, we have all learnt to Zoom. Does cost money. Unfortunately most many girls but those who we have retained, they have said how important it has been to them for their mental health. Really have needed that contact. Lots enormous amount in subs. £26 per term. Third to hut, third to annual census and third for activities, all the leaders, not one live in St Breward and none charge for expenses. £100 will help the girls which is most important thing. We have children from 5 parishes and 2 towns. Very popular but because it is a village. Thank you for your support. It means a lot. Cllr Rotchell thanked Jill for the work she is doing. Lockdown has had a huge impact. Work really important. Being a scout and guide sets you on a path that hopefully you stay on for rest of life. Values etc. Jill also said, at Nottingham Uni – those who had stronger mental health stability were scouts and guides in their youth.

- **John Pearce – Camelford Hall and Lanteglos Church**

Camelford Hall – toilets. Managed to keep open during pandemic. Very fortunate to have Peggy who was honoured earlier on who helps maintain toilets. Had to close 2 of them and use just disabled toilet. Because CTC involved in running toilets will know how expensive to maintain. Major cost so very grateful for the contribution. Essential. Managed to some extra things by putting easily washable panels around walls and also electric hand driers. Working in right direction. Very grateful for contribution.

Lanteglos Church Bells – Was a big restoration of over £60k plus VAT. Now identified people (Taylors) who are going to look after the bells and maintain them. Based in Loughborough – bells travelling to get

sorted. The bell foundry is biggest and oldest in Europe and only one in this country that does big church bells so very fortunate to get their support and involvement. In terms of raising money, half way there and Taylors are booked in for mid-September. Keen to involve young people in the whole process. Been in touch with schools to encourage them to have a go at bell ringing. Getting a dumb bell, like ringing a bell but can't be broken (which apparently is easily done). In addition, electronic bell simulator which links in and makes it sound like a bell. This is something that is special because the bells at Lanteglos were test peg for first test for electronic bell ringing machine. Very proud. Steadily looking for grants and very appreciative to the Town Council for support.

Cllr Rotchell – Thank you for all the work you do. Lanteglos very special place and tragic if did not go through the transformation. Was there for Christmas Eve celebration. Great to see that it is a place for people to go for many years to come. Thank you both personally and the rest of the people working with you. Tremendous piece of work. If we can be of assistance, let us know.

- **Jonathan Holt – Camelford Leisure Centre**

Thank CTC for continuing support of the leisure centre. Amazing as now been open 8 years. Latest grant spent on renewing the cold water system. Whilst in lockdown, M&M been in to replace the pressure vessels. Also upgrading wet side toilets and showers as well. Hopefully by time re-open April 12 everything will be in good working order. In a stronger position now than we were back then. Amazing support from our members during lockdown and over half have continued with subscriptions so been able to keep all 15 staff on. Quite a large employer for this area. Many working during lockdown repainting and making the centre look smart and welcoming for the opening. Extremely grateful to CTC for supporting us so well over the past 8 years.

Cllr Rotchell on behalf of CTC well done. It was tough from the beginning to keep going and especially during COVID. That is why this year we felt it important to increase the grant. Thank you for the work that is being done and pass thanks to the staff at the leisure centre as much appreciated. If we can be of assistance, let us know.

John Praoline – Christmas Lights

Thanks for invite and for the support not only this year but previous years. With the funds from CTC alongside other fundraising, money been spent on all the tools to fabricate own signs at a considerable cost saving. Moving towards park as main area and working with different events. Money is vital to maintain and tread water. Money is

appreciated. Every year purchase core materials needed. Can now start making more extravagant displays and in house repairs. Workshops at Tregeth given for free. Lights key to the Town.

Cllr Rotchell thanked Vegas plus the team who work on the lights. The time energy and effort people put in is commendable. Thank you to all who work with you. We are going to have conversations soon on what we can expect for the Winter Festival 2021. All being well, will be a big celebration and a central part of that will be the Christmas Lights.

Presentation from Heidi Clemo, Census Engagement Manager - Unfortunately was not able to attend. Was going to explain the process. Will be able to complete online but can be done paper.

8. To invite the public to raise any matters of interest. Note: Those who have written in with prior notice that they would like to speak will be heard first.

None

9. Closing Comments by the Mayor, Cllr Rotchell

Thanked everyone for taking part. Would support an extension to legislation to continue to have virtual meetings. Ideal would be to hold face to face meetings but also to look at ways to share the proceedings in a virtual way. More people engaging with CTC on a virtual platform. Hybrid of face to face with a virtual component. Cllr Rotchell thanked everyone. If anyone needs help, please get in touch.