



**CAMELFORD PARISH**  
**Annual Parish Meeting**  
**Tuesday 12 March 2024**

In attendance Cllrs Rotchell, Coombes, Shaw, Burgis, Thomson, Ginger, Scawn, Bond

Apologies: Cllrs Grigg, Hewlett, Elford

3 Members of the public

1. **Introduction and Welcome by the Mayor, Cllr Rob Rotchell**- Welcomed all to the Annual Parish meeting and outlined the purpose of the meeting – a meeting of reflection of the last years efforts, we invite those people who have received grants from us to speak also- **noted** no written requests to speak have been received, and no questions have been submitted by the public.
2. **To approve the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2023**- Approved. **Proposed:** Cllr Thomson **Seconded:** Cllr Burgis (unanimous)
3. **Annual Report on Town Council Business from committee chairs:**
  - a. **Strategic development by the Mayor, Cllr Rob Rotchell** - Summary of the work of the strategic committee. The remit of this committee is to advise the town council on future events which may impact the town council and the town council and prepare proposals to mitigate such events. We have advised the council on principle issues for the past year:
    - Application for the shared prosperity fund- Camelford Hall regeneration project.
    - Business engagement
    - Clease Car park
    - Budget for 2024/2025
    - The emergency plan
    - EV charger upgrade in Churchfield – currently underway.
    - Supermarket proposal
    - Environmental Policy

Chair's Signature.....

Dated.....

- Bypass
- Revisions to councils future business plan
- Revisions to this committee's plan

**b. Annual Report from CTC Committee Chairs,**

**Estates and Properties, Cllr Shaw-** Gave personal thank grounds staff and volunteers for their hard to keeping the town looking clean and tidy, gardening program has been a great success, they continue to work hard despite weather, this year the pond has been cleared of weeds and overgrowth, along with the Leat to allow more water to flow through. We planted London Plane tree to recognise John Gilbert's many years of service to Camelford. We plan to replace bench slats and purchase security fence for the Skate Park to prevent children climbing over. The new ride on mower is saving time in grass cutting, and saving money on sub-contractors, community gardens almost all taken, a little bit of work to be done but mostly in good order- allotment usage is good. Several apple trees due to be planted- waiting for better weather- Riverside bridge needs some work and fencing around play area will need replacing. Churchfield Car park having replacement electric chargers- there will be a total of 4.

**c. Events- Cllr Ginger**

Start by giving thanks to the lights committee for their hard work on the winter festival. This year we saw our usual calendar of events which were all really successful, in addition to that we had the Kings coronation which had to be moved due to the weather but still a success- we gave out mugs and had cake. Four days of fun and music in the park was still successful, our winter festival was possibly the biggest we've ever had- great turn out of around 1500 people, lights committee striving for bigger and better- thank you again to them for their hard work. Same calendar planned for this year, will be published soon, starting with Easter, additional event for D day 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary there are plans for an event on the 6<sup>th</sup> June- Noted that all events are dependent on man power- so volunteers are welcome.

**d. Staffing and Finance Cllr Coombes**

Address staffing first as we have seen many changes in the last few months. DB joined our Grounds team early last year as John Gilbert retired after 17 years with us- he did a great job and we wish him well in his retirement- JB joined as deputy clerk, settled in well. New library admin been with us three weeks and settling in well - Esther left after 7 years- many thanks to her for her hard work - LM started as clerk settling in well. Financial- Doing well, spent 88% of financial budget- 6 weeks until end of year. Our biggest spend are salaries and accommodation- takes a lot of money but the staff are

essential to run the office, lots of things cost money- we do our best to make sure we don't spend over the budget, there's a list of things we would like to have but can't always afford. Thanks to everyone that continues to work towards keeping in that budget. Historically we've never overspent. Cllr Rotchell noted that all accounts, including income and expenditure are published on CTC website and are available to view at any time.

Cllr Rotchell thanks committee members for their work.

**4 Brief report from Barry Jordan (Not present- sent apologies) Read by Cllr Rotchell**

Noted that it's been a busy year- The Community Area Partnership is now up and running and has been giving parish Cllrs chance to have a voice. The main problems Cornwall Council face are funding- adult social care and children/families take a huge ding- child to school fees are in excessive of 8 million pounds a year- trying to reduce this, the council and public need to address this, there must be a better way. Planning is also a major issue for all parishes; over 15000 applications a year are dealt with by Cornwall Council. Our residents have a right to a voice. I've had a lot of anger directed at me recently, mainly due to the geo thermal power plant at Tregath and second is the repowering of the wind farm at Northcott. I have to remain neutral but have been accused of taking sides. Pothole road surfaces are on-going issues- larger vehicles are damaging infrastructure-budgets do not keep up with demand. I've very positive about the bypass for Camelford. CLUP funding of over £103,000 approved for leisure centre and the old bank approval for almost £94,000- this is funded from the government and is very welcome.

**5 To receive reports from organisations that have been in receipt of Town Council Grants: PCC Lanteglos grass cutting, Camelford Leisure Centre, Camelford Stingers**

- a. Leisure centre – Patrick Lucas & Peter Hamilton-Tooley- Every year we apply for grant from the town council, which we are very grateful for- gave thanks. This year used money to install new door with remote entry system for fitness suite. It is now installed but has taken some time to get right- Currently being tested by a few members. We have attained Grant money to build fitness studio- once this is up and running we will be able to introduce unmanned working hours for members of public for the gym. They will have access from 5am – 11pm at night, this will add an hour and a half each side of the usual opening times. Great for unsociable hours workers. Leisure centres getting most use it's ever had-currently have 760 members- capturing more than 10% of the parishioners. Long may it continue- if everyone uses us we will continue to be there. Cllr Rotchell noted the new grant- will be funding the build of the new fitness studio- pre fab building, currently have no access to sports hall curing the day as school use this- so the studio will enable day

time classes, some money will go towards kitting out the studio with spin bikes, currently we are the only leisure centre in county without a spin studio- studio will be a multipurpose space for conference and staff training- building work due to start on Monday coming. 12 week build. Matched funding from leisure centre of £60k. Cllr Rotchell congratulated Patrick and Pete for their great work and success.

b. **Camelford Stingers: Not Present.**

c. **PCC Lanteglos grass cutting- Not Present.**

d. **Christmas lights committee- Kacey Smeeth** – Achieved a much bigger light display last year- entire lights team have been working hard to raise money along with grant we received from town council- gave thanks, purchased new displays, upgraded fixtures on infrastructures- replaced worn festoons, revamped old displays- we do however always struggle with install, maintenance and take down- working on that, along with fundraising. Received great support from Camelford town council and we have great plans for this year- cllr Rotchell gave thanks,

**6. 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.**  
No prior written requests- no further public present.

### **Close**

Please note that the minutes of the last Annual Parish Meeting held on 02<sup>nd</sup> March 2023 are available to view on the Camelford Town Council website.

**Meeting closed 7.20pm.**

Chair's Signature.....

Dated.....