



# FOWEY TOWN COUNCIL

## ANNUAL REPORT 2011/2012

Welcome again to the Annual Report, which has been produced by your Town Council to try to keep you informed about the work of the Council and any significant issues affecting Fowey. This Report has been distributed to all households in the parish and is also available on the Fowey Town Council website [www.foweytowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.foweytowncouncil.gov.uk) or via email by request to me, the Town Clerk, at [sallyvincent957@btinternet.com](mailto:sallyvincent957@btinternet.com). Any appropriate feedback is welcomed, particularly suggestions for additional items for inclusion in the next Report.

**Sally Vincent, Town Clerk**

### YOUR COUNCILLORS 2011/2012

#### **Cllr Mrs Katherine Alexander**

**Lankelly House, Lankelly Lane, PL23 1HN**

**01726 833839**

Katherine has been a member of the Environment Committee, Asset Committee and the Planning Committee. She will continue in these positions during 2012/2013

Katherine can be contacted at [lankelly@uwclub.net](mailto:lankelly@uwclub.net)

#### **Cllr John Berryman**

**Penhale Farm, PL23 1JU**

**01726 833754**

John is the Mayor of Fowey and has just completed his second term of office. He is the Chairman of the Fowey Assets Committee and, as Mayor, he is also an *ex officio* member of all the Town Council committees.

John can be contacted at [john@penhale-fowey.co.uk](mailto:john@penhale-fowey.co.uk).

#### **Cllr Mrs Anne Boosey**

**26, Polvillion Road, PL23 1HF**

**01726 833793**

Anne is the Deputy Mayor of Fowey and during the last twelve months she has served as the Chairman of the Planning Committee and as a member of the Finance Committee. She will continue to serve on these Committees during 2012/2013.

Anne can be contacted at [anneboosey@btinternet.com](mailto:anneboosey@btinternet.com).

**Cllr Arthur Baker** (resigned from the council during the year)

**Cllr Mrs Ruth Finlay**

**47, Vicarage Meadow, PL23 1EA**

**01726 832762**

Ruth has been a member of the Environment Committee and will continue in that role during 2012/2013.

Ruth can be contacted at [ruthfinlay@live.co.uk](mailto:ruthfinlay@live.co.uk)

**Cllr Mrs Sherlee Gudmunsen**

**Place Lodge, Passage Lane, PL23 1JS**

**01726 834847**

Sherlee has been the Chairman of the Town Hall Committee and is also a member of the Planning Committee. She will continue on both Committees during 2012/2013.

Sherlee can be contacted at [sherleegud@gmail.com](mailto:sherleegud@gmail.com)

**Cllr Norman Mason**

**The Nest, Lankelly Lane, PL23 1HN**

**01726 832280**

Norman has been the Chairman of the Finance Committee and will continue to serve on the Committee during 2012/2013..

Norman can be contacted at [norm.c.mason@googlemail.com](mailto:norm.c.mason@googlemail.com).

**Cllr Kate Sutherland (*joined the council in April 2011*)**

**19, Polvillion Road, PL23 1HF**

**01726 832269**

Kate can be contacted at [katesutherland@hotmail.com](mailto:katesutherland@hotmail.com) and will serve on the Planning Committee during 2012/2013.

**Cllr Mrs Jane Vincent**

**18, Station Road, PL23 1DF**

**01726 832365**

Jane has been the Chairman of the Environment Committee and is also a member of the Town Hall Committee and the Planning Committee. During 2012/2013 Jane will serve on the Environment Committee and the Town Hall Committee.

Jane can be contacted at [antony.vincent18@btinternet.com](mailto:antony.vincent18@btinternet.com)

**Cllr Tony Vincent**

**18, Station Road, PL23 1DF**

**01726 832365**

Tony has been a member of the Fowey Assets Committee and the Town Hall Committee. He will continue to serve on both Committees during 2012/2013.

Tony can be contacted at [antony.vincent18@btinternet.com](mailto:antony.vincent18@btinternet.com)

**Cllr David Willmore** will be joining the council for 2012/2013.

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COUNCIL 2011/2012**

I would like to open this report by stating that it has been a pleasure and privilege to lead this Council for the last 12 months, and as it appears for the next 12 as well.

My thanks go to all the committee Chairmen for their hard work during the year and to all the Councillors. We welcomed a new Councillor this year - Kate Sutherland - I hope she enjoys

her spell with the council. Do not forget, however, that there will be elections next year in May 2013.

Special thanks to our Clerk, Sally, for the many hours she devotes to the work of the Council. This year I accepted the resignation from the council of Cllr Arthur Baker, which was brought about by Arthur's frustration with Cornwall Council; we wish him well in his retirement from Council duties.

The transfer of Town Hall/ Town Quay was completed by 31<sup>st</sup> March this year. 'At last' we all cry, especially Sally!

Your Council, as many of you are aware, is in the process of applying for the transfer of the Allotments and the 1 acre Meadow back to its fold, this request can now be finalised as CC stated that it would only deal with 1 request at a time from a local authority. We also intend to apply to Cornwall Council for the return of other assets lost in the various transfers of administration.

There would appear to be within the town and the various local organisations involved a willingness for Fowey to manage more of its own resources and your Council will help in any way it can and will certainly move this along if it is feasible. We are currently in discussion with CC with regard to the management of the Public Conveniences and possibly the car parks.

The management of the Du Maurier Festival has now passed from this Council to an independent Board of Trustees.

Traffic. After a successful use of a traffic manager during the busy period last year, the Chamber and Council have decided to do the same this year.

**John Berryman, Mayor of Fowey**

#### **REPORT OF THE FOWEY ASSETS COMMITTEE 2011/2012**

Having recovered the freehold of the Town Hall and Town Quay the Council can now commit to the recovery of other assets.

The application for the allotments and the 1 acre meadow sits with Cornwall Council and must be re activated as Cornwall Council put it on hold as they would only deal with one transfer at a time from any Town or Parish Council.

CC also seem keen to transfer Squires Field across to us but a business case has yet to be drawn up - next job for the asset committee.

**John Berryman, Chairman Fowey Assets Committee.**

#### **REPORT OF THE TOWN HALL COMMITTEE 2011/2012**

Meetings are generally held on Fridays when necessary. These meetings have a set agenda and are open to the public. These meetings are held according to the Councils standing orders and code of conduct.

One of the main items is to find ways of generating finance for the Council. i.e. parties, weddings, craft fairs, theatrical and other entertainment and meetings. The rules and regulations for hiring the hall are displayed in the hall and given to each client when hiring or using the Hall. We have a budget which covers staff wages, cleaning materials and replacements, safety checks of electrical appliances radiators and heating units, smoke alarms and fire extinguishers.

The next budget must include money for the overhaul or replacement of the central heating boiler and radiators which were installed in the mid1980s.

We endeavour to have the stair carpet cleaned every six months, and it needs to be done immediately mainly due to the water soaking in from the wall. Window cleaning is once a month. Incidental expenditure and purchases (miscellaneous requirements.) is budgeted at £800.00

During the year, we have lost both our caretaker and cleaner, but Mrs G Bailey has tendered successfully for running both jobs including cover for sickness and holidays.

During the winter, the state of the front wall was giving cause for concern, as the historic wall was soaked with water leaking from the gutters. These were cleared, but the wall may need to be re-plastered along the staircase, and the gutters and downpipes checked and replaced where necessary. Much of the cement rendering is inappropriate and will need replacement.

During the year, we have lost Councillor Arthur Baker due to his resignation from the Committee. We thank him for his hard work and wish him a happy retirement. We co-opted Mrs Leslie McCartney onto the Committee.

The Town Hall and Town Quay was returned to the Council, and we have to find a way to finance it. We have discussed the instalment of a licenced bar which could be hired for Town Hall functions, with an appropriate Licencee.

The Town Hall belongs to the people of Fowey, and we hope that the People of Fowey show an interest in its function and its running, coming to meetings to share views and ideas. So please use the Town Hall and work with us to make it a success.

**Sherlee Gudmunsen, Chairman Town Hall Committee**

#### **REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE 2011/2012**

I am bitterly disappointed that Cornwall Council forced FTC to spend so much money on solicitors' fees to secure the transfer of the Town Hall and Town Quay. However, I am delighted that the deal has now been finalized and the asset back in the ownership of Fowey. I confirm that the 2011/2012 accounts have been prepared by the Town Clerk and adopted by FTC. Copies are available on application to the Town Clerk in accordance with audit regulations and as advertised on the FTC Notice Board.

#### **SUMMARY INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st March 2012**

Notes	INCOME	2010/2011	2011/2012
		£	£
12a	Precept	32570.00	37500.00
12b	Bank Interest	17.39	12.56
	Town Hall letting fees	7204.41	8647.97
15	Old Grammar School Gardens donations	1327.74	1245.88
8	Grants	2265.86	3442.83
	Other income	8105.97	8700.67
	<b>SUB TOTAL</b>	<b>51491.37</b>	<b>59549.91</b>

13	Beale "Special Fund"	2.80	0.39
	<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>51494.17</b>	<b>59550.30</b>
<b>ex-VAT EXPENDITURE</b>			
12c	General Administration: Audit Fee, Room Hire.	365.00	500.00
	Salaries	16647.48	17219.86
	Insurance	2755.62	2582.86
	General	2454.88	3746.31
	<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>	<b>22222.98</b>	<b>24049.03</b>
6	S.137 Payments	1300.00	2280.00
1a	Capital	17000.00	300.00
	Town Hall:		
	Non-recurring	2014.46	0.00
	Running costs	4912.36	5591.00
15	Old G.S. Gardens:		
	Non-recurring	0.00	2339.44
	Running costs	1940.22	3012.18
	Other Environment / Maintenance	4434.23	4001.00
	Miscellaneous less vat adj	5659.46	22409.32
	<b>SUB TOTAL</b>	<b>59483.71</b>	<b>63981.97</b>
13	Beale "Special Fund"	5000.00	0.00
12d	<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>64483.71</b>	<b>63981.97</b>
	<b>SURPLUS (DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR</b>	<b>-12989.54</b>	<b>-4431.67</b>
	The SURPLUS (DEFICIT) excluding Beale	<b>-7992.34</b>	<b>-4431.28</b>

**Norman Mason, Chairman Finance Committee**

#### **REPORT OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE 2011/2012**

As usual, it has been a busy year for the Planning Committee, not only in the increased quantity of plans put before us, but the more complex issues that some of them raised - and I can only think that next year will make this one look like a walk in the park!

I have been very concerned over the months with the numbers of applications that we do not pass, for both good planning reasons and for local reasons, that have subsequently gone through on officer delegation. In this brave new localism climate I thought that local views, if valid, were given a good deal of consideration. Apparently I was wrong, and the few that have gone through to the Cornwall Council planning committee we have invariably lost!! Maybe our best friends won't tell us, or something. I am pretty sure that the Planning Committee are so afraid of any decision going to appeal that they vary rarely dissent from officer recommendation, which is sometimes not the most democratic way to go. The Neighbourhood Agenda has been much talked about, and it should be. But for a small place like Fowey, again we had conflicting advice. Firstly, find £26,000 and go for it, and

then, no you are too small. Current thinking is that this might be a good proposition if two or three parishes join together and attack it that way and I can see the sense in that. There is also the Core Strategy in its draft stage - perhaps some of you went to Lostwithiel or somewhere else to look at the exhibition that Cornwall Council put on. Fowey was barely mentioned but it will make quite a difference to us if this goes through in the draft version. I have very much condensed these two issues, but just to show that it has been a busy year! Perhaps our County Councillor could give her views on both of these subjects; Fowey News would be a good forum for this.

It would be good to see more people attending our planning meetings. Always on the 3rd Wednesday of the month, directly before the Town Council meeting, the times do vary but can be found either on our web page or on the notice-board outside the Town Hall

**Anne Boosey, Chairman Planning Committee**

#### **REPORT OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE 2011/2012**

During the year, we had to renew the lease on the Old Grammar School Garden. The garden has finally been cleared of the most persistent laurel bushes and assorted ivy and honeysuckle. The garden has really been opened up. During this period, a rainwater butt was discovered in the former jungle. The metal steps had to be replaced last November, and the garden has continued to prove popular, with people coming to eat their lunches and read their papers. We have said goodbye to our former gardener and wish him well with his new Alpaca business.

This year we have a new gardener Mr Roger White. An experienced Gardener, and an old boy of Fowey Grammar School, he runs his own gardening business with his son, and Lectures on Gardening. We feel lucky to have gained his valuable services.

His plan in the lower part of the Garden is to have English herbaceous planting with perennials and annuals. The plants for both beds come to £50.00, and he is bringing on the seeds in his glasshouses, which is an improvement on the £200.00 I was quoted last year. The only other expense so far is the cost of compost, and small incidentals.

Due to the growth of saplings from the side of the cliff, we have engaged an experienced Tree Surgeon to cut them down. His team will be using ropes and other safety gear due to the precipitous and crumbling nature of the cliff. It will be reflected in the price.

Mr and Mrs Flowerdew and neighbours have very kindly sponsored the painting of the front (street) wall of the Old Grammar School Garden, for which we thank them most sincerely.

Piggy Lane triangle and hydrangea row have suffered from drought over the year, but this year the plants will be watered and fed. Budget permitting, more daffodils and other bulbs will be planted this year.

Sadly we have had to say farewell to our grass cutting and weed clearing Contractor, but we are well pleased with the new crew who have already cut and weeded since the beginning of this month. The Committee have met with both the Contractor and the Gardener and have, we hope, built up a good relationship and communication system with both.

Councillor Tony Vincent and I went to Truro for a day training course on the differing aspects of gardening and on "Cornwall in Bloom". We heard from the lecturers all about working at the side of a highway, safety rules, and signage, publicity, and a particularly interesting half hour from the St. Issey team who in one year won gold for their "St. Issey in Bloom." We were also taken to the land under the viaduct to see how wet and muddy water meadows are

being turned into a large wild garden with great thought being given to public access, with attention paid not only to the public, but to birds and wildlife

In conclusion I would like to thank the Committee - Councillors Alexander, Findlay and Tony Vincent for their support and hard work during the year. I would also like to thank Sally Vincent for her efforts to keep me on the straight and narrow during the year, and for her constant help.

**Jane Vincent, Chairman Environment Committee**

**AND FINALLY**

Remember that meetings of the town council are held in the Town Hall and are advertised on our notice board and on our website [www.foweytowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.foweytowncouncil.gov.uk). Minutes are also published on the website and on the Town Hall notice board as soon as is practicable after meetings. At every meeting there is an agenda item for public participation and this is actively encouraged. Please support your councillors by letting them know what you think about any aspect of life in Fowey – your input is crucial if they are to make the right decisions for the town. Alternatively, I can be contacted by telephone on 01208 871159, by post at Colcerrow Farm, Par, PL24 2RZ or by email at [sallyvincent957@btinternet.com](mailto:sallyvincent957@btinternet.com).

**Sally Vincent, Town Clerk**

  
QUALITY TOWN  
COUNCIL