



FOWEY TOWN COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT 2009/2010

Welcome again to the Annual Report, which has been produced by your Town Council to try to keep you better 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 or via email by request to me, the Town Clerk, at 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

Cllr Mrs Katherine Alexander

Lankelly House, Lankelly Lane, PL23 1HN

01725 833839

Katherine has recently joined the Council and attended her first meeting in April 2010.

Katherine can be contacted at lankelly@uwclub.net

Cllr Mrs Anne Boosey

26, Polvillion Road, PL23 1HF

01726 833793

Anne is the Mayor of Fowey and has just completed her third term of office. During the last twelve months she has served as a member of the planning committee and the Town Hall committee and, as Mayor, she is also an *ex officio* member of all the Town Council committees.

Anne can be contacted at anne.boosey@tiscali.co.uk.

Cllr John Berryman

Penhale Farm, PL23 1JU

01726 833425

John is the Deputy Mayor of Fowey and has just completed his third term of office. He is the Chairman of the Fowey Assets Committee and serves on the Planning Committee, the Environment Committee and the Finance Committee.


QUALITY TOWN

COUNCIL

John can be contacted at john@penhale-fowey.co.uk.

Cllr Arthur Baker

7, Hanson Drive, PL23 1ET

01726 833384

Arthur is a member of the Environment Committee and the Fowey Assets Committee and he is the Council's Webmaster with responsibility for inputting data on the Fowey Town Council website.

Arthur can be contacted at arthur.baker@virgin.net.

Cllr Mrs Ruth Finlay

Vicarage Meadow, PL23

01726 832762

Ruth joined the Council during the year and is a member of the Environment Committee.

Ruth can be contacted at ruthfinlay@live.co.uk

Cllr Mrs Sherlee Gudmunsen

Place Lodge, Passage Lane, PL23 1JS

01726 834847

Sherlee is the Chairman of the Town Hall Committee and also a member of the Planning Committee.

Cllr Norman Mason

The Nest, Lankelly Lane, PL23 1HN

01726 832280

Norman is the Chairman of the Finance Committee.

Norman can be contacted at norm.c.mason@googlemail.com.

Cllr Jason Penprase

Rosemullion, Lankelly Lane, PL23 1HN

01726 832600

Jason is the Chairman of the Planning Committee and also a member of the Town Hall Committee and the Finance Committee.

Jason can be contacted at j_penprase@hotmail.com.

Cllr Mrs Jane Vincent

**18, Station Road, PL23 1DF
832365**

01726

Jane is the Chairman of the Environment Committee and is also a member of the Town Hall Committee and the Planning Committee.

Jane can be contacted at antony.vincent18@btinternet.com

Cllr Tony Vincent

**18, Station Road, PL23 1DF
832365**

01726

Tony is a member of the Fowey Assets Committee and the Town Hall Committee.

Tony can be contacted at antony.vincent18@btinternet.com



MAYORS REPORT 2009/2010

To start on a positive note, the Council was very pleased to welcome two new members during the year, Cllr. Ruth Finlay and Cllr. Katherine Alexander. We therefore had to 'lose' two former councillors, Tony Dando who moved to Yeovilton to be nearer his family and Marilyn Wellman who felt that her health problems were too great to allow her to continue on the Council. We wish them both well, and thank them for all the work they did during their time on the Council.

You will, I am sure, have noticed that the Town Hall and Town Quay are still in the ownership of Cornwall Council! We find it as incredible as you do, but life goes on. The work that we have put in to getting things to this stage is incredible - done mainly I must say by our Town Clerk, who I think has got to the stage of tearing her hair out. The transfer was not helped by the officers we were dealing with suddenly leaving Cornwall Council - this happened twice and I think is about to happen for a third time. So someone comes in, knowing very little about the background and is on a sharp learning curve, and the project goes backwards a few steps. But we are at the stage of solicitors talking to one another, we have had surveys done, and we are just dotting the "i's" and crossing the "t's" on the survey. The other hold-up at the moment is that S.W. Water appear never to have had a lease for their control panel room! No, I couldn't believe it either when I heard.

I am sure that Cllr. Penprase will go into greater detail, but the funding for the new equipment on Squires Field is now in place, and so very soon that will be up and running. 12 years ago I was instrumental in getting what is there now up and running, but this only finally happened just after my year of office came to an end, so perhaps there is a message here somewhere!

I have tried very hard to get some sort of traffic management plan in place, but with no success. You may remember that last year it was decided to get a member of the Forum, the Chamber of Commerce and the Town Council together to try to come up with ideas. We had a couple of meetings, but then the season got going and it was a very busy time for us all. But this is not dead and we will continue to try to find an answer. Well, the answer is clear, two words TRAFFIC WARDENS, and the reasons for abolishing them is, in my opinion, total government rubbish.

I have very much enjoyed my three years as your Mayor, and I know that Cllr. Berryman will take over the role with confidence.

We are a small Council, often fighting over our weight, but getting results that many larger council's would envy. This year alone we have achieved Quality Council status which sets a very high standard to live up to and I don't think is fully appreciated.

Please tell us when we do well, not just when we do badly - praise is good! And remember we have a monthly surgery in the Library, 1st Thursday in the month, 10.00am for an hour, so PLEASE visit us there.

Anne Boosey, Mayor of Fowey



REPORT OF THE FOWEY ASSET COMMITTEE 2009/2010

Another year has gone and we do not seem to have achieved very much, not without trying I might add. However, the transfer of Town Hall and Town Quay is progressing.

As to further asset return, FTC formally asked Cornwall Council to consider the return of Squires Field, and car park, Alldays Field, Rosehill Store, Parade Park and the Allotments but C.C. has now put all asset return on hold until it has formulated an agreed Return Procedure (whatever that means) - so I am afraid we wait.

John Berryman, Chairman Fowey Assets Committee.

REPORT OF THE TOWN HALL COMMITTEE 2009/2010

Town Hall meetings are now normally held every three months on the first Friday of the month. We changed from monthly meetings as they were not really necessary and decided that additional meetings could always be arranged to discuss any urgent business. The meetings are advertised and the public is welcome to attend and ask questions during the first 15 minutes.

Town Hall bookings continue to improve and clients seem to be happy with the venue. To make things easier we are separating the Caretaker/Cleaner positions and we will be advertising for a new Cleaner. The Hall is currently being redecorated and the work should be finished in a week or two.

We are still waiting for the ownership of the Hall and the quay to be transferred back to Fowey and a survey has been undertaken prior to the handover. When the complex once again belongs to the town there will be big changes in the budget and the running of both the quay and the Hall; both will have to be financially viable and I am sure that with everybody working together it will be possible.

Mrs Sherlee Gudmunsen, Chairman Town Hall Committee

REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE 2009/2010

I am pleased to announce that the council has come in under budget in an era of financial cutbacks and doom & gloom. However, it must be emphasised that this is purely because monies earmarked for legal fees associated with the transfer of Town Hall/Town Quay have not been called upon because the transfer has not progressed as quickly as we had hoped. However, I expect 2010/2010 to be an expensive year for the council due to the extra commitments associated with the both the transfer and the ownership. Below is our summary income and expenditure report for 2009/2010, the detail of which will be submitted to the District Auditor. We also hold reserves for such things as election expenses, Squires Field play equipment, Town Hall disabled access and refurbishment, St Catherines' Castle lights and the Old Grammar School garden. Complete copies of our accounts can be obtained from the Town Clerk for a nominal fee and are available on our website.

Norman Mason, Chairman Finance Committee

INCOME	2008/2009	2009/2010
	£	£
Precept	26445.00	28495.00
Bank Interest	730.03	17.89

Town Hall letting fees		6960.40	5099.47
Old Grammar School Gardens donations		1203.43	1625.38
Grants		3197.50	4841.05
Other income		4935.95	2476.68
SUB TOTAL		43472.31	42555.47
Beale "Special Fund"		97.28	2.89
TOTAL INCOME		43569.59	42558.36
EXPENDITURE			
General Administration: Audit Fee, Room Hire.		347.00	345.00
Salaries		14540.28	14976.14
Insurance		2310.95	2356.35
General		2711.66	2662.34
SUB-TOTAL		19909.89	20339.83
S.137 Payments		1800.00	1580.00
Capital		1045.16	1412.88
Town Hall:	Non-recurring	911.72	3758.35
	Running costs	3782.71	2453.09
Old G.S. Gardens:	Non-recurring	355.89	729.85
	Running costs	390.00	358.97
Other Environment / Maintenance		4565.48	4732.44
Miscellaneous		5384.72	2750.64
SUB TOTAL		38145.57	38116.05
Beale "Special Fund"		0.00	0.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		38145.57	38116.05
SURPLUS (DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR		5424.02	4442.31
	The SURPLUS (DEFICIT) <i>excluding</i>		
<i>Beale</i>		5326.74	4439.42

REPORT OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE 2009/2010

Once again we have had a busy year within the planning committee. On average we consider ten to twelve applications each month. This can be very time consuming and although we try, it is often not possible for committee members to visit every application.



Thankfully not all the applications require onsite visits, though we do try to get to visit the more complicated cases.

I am pleased to say that dialogue has improved this year. Good communication and dialogue between interested parties is key to ensure a better planning process as well as reducing administration. Our working dialogue with Cornwall Council although not perfect has improved ten-fold and I believe we are definitely 'working with' instead of 'working against' each other!

Dialogue between Applicants and the Town Council has also improved. We value and appreciate applicants that attend planning meetings with extra drawings, pictures and even models! That said we also value members of the public with concerns about certain applications, as there are always two or more sides to a story!

In short, the more information we have helps the sub committee's decision making process and whilst we cannot guarantee all sides will be happy we would have been better informed.

Keeping with the dialogue theme, I was concerned that the recent application for six affordable and tenanted homes at Langurtho Rd did not have the level of consultation with neighbours that we were led to believe.

The planning committee have stated that they would require evidence of proper consultation with neighbours and interested parties. The key objective to determine whether a genuine 'local' need was identified. If such a need were deemed to exist the planning committee would in principle favour any such scheme.

I wait with interest to see Cornwall Council's reaction to un-authorized signage. A-boards have already begun to spring up, as the season gets under way. At least they have communicated their intentions we wait and see if this is backed up with actions.

Finally I would like to thank my fellow planning committee members on their hard work and commitment over the last twelve months and look forward to more interesting times ahead!

Jason Penprase, Chairman Planning Committee

REPORT OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE 2009/2010

During 2009, we lost Councillor Tony Dando who resigned as he was leaving the area, but Councillor Ruth Finlay has joined the Committee. We would like to record our thanks to Councillor Dando for his hard work and enthusiasm while serving on the Committee.

During the year 2009, it was decided that our gardening commitments in the Old Grammar School Gardens, the Piggy Lane Triangle and to the hydrangeas planted at the side of Hanson Drive would be better cared for by a professional gardener rather than by the existing method of employing a person to do occasional weeding and brush clearing and depending on Councillor Arthur Baker to water and care for the hydrangeas. It went to tender and we now have a professional gardener who will care, plan, plant, weed and water the areas mentioned. We hope that an improvement will be seen this year. The steps into the Grammar School Garden have been repaired and the seats maintained. The vandalism to the Old Grammar School Gardens has been made good.

Grass cutting still continues in the designated areas, but we wish to bring to the attention of the Council, the total lack of grass cutting in the area around Wainhomes. The Wainhomes Company has utterly failed in its responsibility to mow this area, and we would like to ask

the Council to ask Councillor Bain to bring the matter to the urgent attention of the Legal Department of Cornwall Council.

Since the Budget at the end of 2009 we have been given more responsibility by Cornwall Council for Footpaths, almost doubling the number needing to be maintained. We may therefore need to discuss it with the Finance Committee, as our annual expenditure will have to increase. We expect to find that increased funding will come with the increased responsibility.

Footpaths and rights of way will require extra work. The Parade for example from the Bridge to Polvillion Road has been traversed by tractor, which has left it in a sticky mess. It must be mentioned here that our commitment to the Parade is the pathway of 1.5 metres wide and we are awaiting Councillor Bain's report to establish the precise ownership of the Parade boundaries.

We would like to consult with Cornwall Council on the work needed to bring Love Lane up to the required standard as a bridleway before we enter into any work.

We have asked Cornwall Council to include the top end of the Cinder track in routine maintenance at extra cost.

Footpath 19 from Parade to Rashleigh Lane is ploughed, and will have to be reinstated, and the Committee will see that the pathway is "walked" All other paths have been walked this year.

Footpath 4, which is now on our list, goes down from Penventinue Lane through Lanherriot/Colvithik wood to the top of Bodmin Pill and thence to Golant and this track has been used by heavy vehicles. The Town Clerk is checking the legality of this.

The Council is supporting the request of the St Sampson Parish Council in their wish to clear an anomaly in the path from Torfrey to Penventinue Road. The Path is U6143, and the middle bit of the track to Lanherriot Farm has no number even though it is a continuation of the path running north to Torfrey and South to Penventinue Road. It may have been a mistake in classification. The track is well known and well used, and we hope that this section will be included in pathway U6143.

The St Catherine's Lights have been a preoccupation of Councillors Tony Dando and Arthur Baker for a number of years, but now with the invention of good LED lights and solar panels, it looks as though we can see our way to having the Castle lit up in the foreseeable future.

As chairman of the Environment Committee, I would like to make a brief comment on the state of the far end of the Town Quay, where rubbish was piled up for at least three weeks and most of it on the furthest of the public benches.

Also, as Chairman of the Environment Committee, I cannot finish this report without thanking our Secretary Arthur Baker for his tireless work and total commitment to the Committee and to the Town of Fowey

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. 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 872450, by post at Colcerrow Farm, Par, PL24 2RZ or by email at sallyvincent957@btinternet.com.

Sally Vincent, Town Clerk