



FOWEY TOWN COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT 2012/2013

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 via the Fowey News 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 2012/2013

Cllr Mrs Katherine Alexander

Lankelly House, Lankelly Lane, PL23 1HN

01726 833839

Katherine has been a member of the Environment Committee, the Asset Committee and the Planning Committee and she is also one of our Neighbourhood Plan representatives.

Katherine will continue as a Councillor following the elections in May 2013.

Katherine can be contacted at alexander.katherine@yahoo.co.uk

Cllr John Berryman

Penhale Farm, PL23 1JU

01726 833754

John is the Mayor of Fowey and has just completed his third 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. He will continue as a Councillor following the elections in May 2013

John can be contacted at 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 as a Councillor following the elections in May 2013.

Anne can be contacted at anneboosey@btinternet.com.

Cllr Mrs Ruth Finlay

47, Vicarage Meadow, PL23 1EA

01726 832762

Ruth has been a member of the Environment Committee and will continue as a Councillor following the election in May 2013.

Ruth can be contacted at 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 as a Councillor following the elections in May 2013.

Sherlee can be contacted at sherleegud@gmail.com

Cllr Norman Mason

The Nest, Lankelly Lane, PL23 1HN

01726 832280

Norman has been the Chairman of the Finance Committee. He did not stand for re-election in May 2013 and will retire from the Council on 2nd May.

Cllr Kate Sutherland

Retired from the council during the year.

Cllr Mrs Jane Vincent

Jane has been the Chairman of the Environment Committee and is also a member of the Town Hall Committee and the Planning Committee. Jane did not stand for re-election in May 2013 and will retire from the Council on 2nd May

Cllr Tony Vincent

Tony has been a member of the Fowey Assets Committee and the Town Hall Committee. Tony did not stand for re-election in May 2013 and will retire from the Council on 2nd May

Cllr David Willmore

01726 834811

4, South Street, PL23 1AR

David has been a member of the Planning Committee and will continue as a Councillor following the elections in May 2013.

David can be contacted at d@willmore.eclipse.co.uk

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COUNCIL 2012/2013

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. I admit however, at times it has been hard work but still rewarding when you see the Council's plans coming to a satisfactory conclusion and very frustrating when the opposite happens.

My thanks go to all the committee chairs for their hard work during the year and to all the Cllrs. We welcomed a new Cllr this year, David Wilmore, I hope he enjoys his spell with the council, and this year we also lost a Cllr, Cllr Kate Sutherland.

Special thanks to our Clerk, Sally for the many hours she devotes to the work and the smooth running of the Council.

Fowey Town Council properly acquired the freehold ownership of the Town Hall and the Town Quay 12 months ago and since then we have been getting to grips with the many different aspects associated with owning and running the properties. We, as a council, are proud to have assumed ownership on behalf of the community and we are committed to investing in both the hall and the quay. At our last Council meeting we voted to transfer £10,000.00 to a special fund, it was on our insistence that the provision of this fund be included in the transfer agreement. We can add to this fund each year, thus building up a capital reserve to meet any future unforeseen problems. All permits, licenses and leases for this year will be as last year with NO changes. In due course we will obviously need to consult with the public about the future of both facilities but, for the moment we intend to preserve the status quo.

Your Council, as many of you are aware, has been offered the return of two previously owned assets, firstly the Allotments and the 1 acre Meadow. We intend to accept this freehold transfer and the intention is to set-up more allotments to satisfy the very local demand. The second is the return, freehold, of Squire's Field and the adjoining parking area. This poses a major problem as a considerable annual cost would be incurred for maintenance of the field, pavilion and the newly equipped play area, also the surface of the parking area. A total annual cost in the region of £7,000 - £9000 would not seem excessive. The asset at the moment has no earning capability, other than a small income from the pavilion (once every 4 years on voting days)

The other service Cornwall Council has offered us is the ownership and continued provision of the public conveniences. We have been offered the freehold of three toilet blocks, Readymoney and the two car park toilets. The toilets at Polkerris are leasehold with 135 years to run. The freehold of the Town Quay toilet block is ours, but CC lease them from us, with, 4 years to run on its lease. There will be an open discussion following our annual reports to enable your Council to gauge the public views on these transfers.

It has been an eventful year with more to come for the new Council following the elections on May 2nd. For those Cllrs not seeking re-election may I take this opportunity to thank you for all your work and commitment in helping with the running of Fowey Town Council.

John Berryman, Mayor of Fowey

REPORT OF THE FOWEY ASSETS COMMITTEE 2012/2013

The assets committee has not met this year as we now have the freehold ownership of the Town Hall and Town Quay and the offer of Squires Field and the allotments and Parade Park. As these are major decisions they must be made by full council. Alldays Field will be next on our request list but at present Cornwall Council is only interested in offloading public conveniences.

John Berryman, Chairman Fowey Assets Committee

REPORT OF THE TOWN HALL COMMITTEE 2012/2013

Town Hall meetings are held when required with details posted on the notice board outside the Hall. Members of the general public are invited to attend and address the Committee about matters associated with the Hall during the first 15 minutes. As you know FTC now owns the Hall and over the next year will be undertaking repairs and renovations in the building.

Bookings continue to improve and clients include members of the public, various organisations, Troy Players, craft fairs, wedding receptions, meetings and other entertainment. Hiring rates and Terms and Conditions of Hire are supplied when bookings are made.

We have a new Caretaker, Miss Caroline Lewis, who is doing an excellent job. We have an annual budget for the Hall, which covers general running costs, staff wages, window cleaning, carpet cleaning and safety checks on appliances including the central heating boiler, radiators, fire extinguishers and alarms.

The Town Hall now belongs to the people of Fowey and we hope residents and businesses will show an interest in what goes on in the Hall. As I have already said, anyone can attend meetings and share their views and ideas. Please help FTC by using the Hall and work with us to make it a success.

Sherlee Gudmunsen, Chairman Town Hall Committee

REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE 2012/2013

FTC now has control of the Town Hall and Town Quay and parishioners can look forward to benefitting from future investment in the properties with any surplus income being kept in Fowey. We have agreed to set up a 'sinking fund' with an initial £10,000 to be deposited in it as a buffer against future unforeseen expenditure required and this will be added to each financial year. The annual accounts will be available for public inspection in due course and will identify this new fund. I thank my fellow members for their dedication and hard work – all unpaid and often criticized – which, unlike some other council's, has put FTC in a stable and secure financial position to move forward.

Norman Mason, Chairman Finance Committee

REPORT OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE 2012/2013

Once again a busy and very frustrating year, with the dreaded Wainhomes development being rather a landmark. In spite of strenuous efforts by the Town Council and a dedicated band of local people, not to mention our own Cornwall Cllr and the Cornwall Cllr from Tywardreath, this was passed by one vote in a mockery of a planning meeting. We couldn't see the point of a judicial review at a cost of thousands of pounds, so once again 'localism' was proved to be the farce that it undoubtedly is. I can get quite heated on this subject!! Although we all know that a supermarket is in the offing, at the moment the Planning Committee have had no plans to deliberate on, and of course, that being the case, I cannot comment apart from the fact that I understand it is at the pre-planning stage - which you all know

I am not quite sure where the wind turbine application is at the moment, I understand that there are some revisions to it and it is with the County Council Planners at the moment. But I am sure we will find out in due time.

Other than that, we have had our usual busy year with household applications, some we thought were fine and some we didn't. But the final say, you will all be surprised to know, lies

with the Planning Department at County Hall, but at least they take our views on board and more often than not agree with them. I am very pleased that the Stationmasters House appears to be going ahead; we were very supportive of this, and I am very surprised that it is not a listed building. You will be re-assured that the original and all subsequent plans made provision for the bats, but unfortunately not for comments from the conservation officer - but all has been sorted and I think the finished refurbishment will please people and be a great asset to Fowey. I was very pleased that the architects were in touch with Fowey Planning Committee all along the line, it does make life a bit easier.

I would like to thank the members of the planning committee for their support and help over the past year, and to welcome Cllr Willmore on to it. Common sense is a much undervalued asset

Anne Boosey, Chairman Planning Committee

REPORT OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE 2012/2013

I would first like to thank the members of this Committee for their dedication and hard work. The gardener, Mr Roger White, and the contractors for hedge cutting, weeding and mowing have also played their part with regular invoices, which made our treasurer happy, and we have received no complaints to my knowledge, about their work.

I would also like to thank the Eden Project for their gift of 100 potted daffodils and tulips. Thank you Councillor Alexander for securing them for us.

The Old Grammar School Gardens and the Piggy Lane Triangle have been maintained in spite of wind rain and frost by Mr Roger White. We have received so many compliments on his work and his planting I can see that the public loves what he is doing. During June of 2012, Mr Stables cleared the seedlings and brambles from the cliff edge. It was a dangerous job that took two days. The men had to wear safety harness, and use ropes to complete the task. We originally thought that we would set up a contingency fund for this to happen every three or so years, but the plants grew back so quickly that Mr White has purchased the required tools to maintain the cliff edge and keep the brambles, hebes and seedling trees under control.

The Lanhydrock Garden Services have maintained the grass cutting, strimming and weed control

We have also assisted the Committee of Fowey in Bloom by taking over the flower boxes at Piggy Lane, and some of their pruning.

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 871159, by post at Colcerrow Farm, Par, PL24 2RZ or by email at sallyvincent957@btinternet.com.

Sally Vincent, Town Clerk

