

## **Linkinhorne Parish Council**

### **Annual Parish Meeting**

#### **Minutes of the Meeting held Monday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2023 at 7.00pm at The Crosslink Centre, Upton Cross.**

##### **Minutes**

##### **Present at the Meeting were:**

Verity Groom (Site Manager, Orchard Park, ELC), Simon Hordley (Vice-Chair Rilla Mill Village Hall), Ali Humphreys (Recycling for Charity), Brian Norris (Chair of Trustees, Linkinhorne Parish Hall), Michelene Norris (Church Warden, Linkinhorne Parish) and one member of the public.

Clr Hearn (Chairman), Clr Wallis (Vice Chairman), Clr Beech, Clr Corfield, Clr Hordley, Clr Martin.

##### **1) Apologies received from the following invitees:**

Steve Edser (PCSO), Sue Morton (Secretary to Linkinhorne Women's Institute).

##### **2) Minutes of the Meeting of Monday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2022:**

The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on the 11<sup>th</sup> April 2022 were confirmed as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

##### **3) Chairman's report:**

The Chairman introduced himself and Councillor colleagues, and welcomed those present to the Linkinhorne Parish Annual Meeting which represented an opportunity for electors to come together, to find out about and discuss parish matters. It was not a Council Meeting but the parish meeting for electors of the parish.

It was hoped the Parish meeting would be both helpful and interesting, it would be followed by a meeting of the Parish Council at which electors were welcome to stay and observe.

The Parish Council continued to provide a range of services to the parish, from providing the parish burial ground, to the provision and maintenance of children's play areas in Upton Cross and Rilla Mill and the Jubilee Field.

The Council also provided public conveniences in Minions and Upton Cross, the parish allotments at Rilla Mill and bus shelters. Linkinhorne was a small Council, but one that did a lot to provide and support basic but essential services to support and enhance the quality of life for the residents of, and visitors to, the parish. It also continued to assist a range of local organisations through grants which benefited the work of bodies supporting parishioners.

A regular part of its role was to represent the community by responding to consultations on matters such as local planning applications to Cornwall Council (which took planning decisions), as well as now having in place the parishes own local plan – the Linkinhorne Parish Neighbourhood Development Plan.

In 2022 the Council and community both celebrated the Platinum Jubilee of the late Queen Elizabeth, and commemorated her passing and the accession of the new King. It was heartening that with the help of Upton Cross Primary School the trees planted to commemorate Queen Elizabeth were now in situ.

The Council and community had also lost a long serving Councillor and friend of the parish with the passing of Mike Todd.

Looking forward there were both some local and wider opportunities and challenges. The Parish Council had six vacancies amongst its allocated thirteen. The Chairman expressed his thanks and appreciation to the Vice Chairman, current Councillors and Clerk for their diligence and hard work in keeping Council services running. But more Councillors were needed to help, and all present were requested to consider if they, or someone they knew, who would like to put something back into the parish, might be interested in putting their name forward. The Clerk could provide information on the process.

The Council continued to try and find a plot of land which could be used as an extension to the parish burial ground, and it was also recognised that there was a level of uncertainty around the future of the allotment lease which was outside of the Councils control. More widely there could be changes in the Duchy as Cornwall Council sought support for an elected Mayor for the County, and a tier 3 devolution deal from government.

Throughout the Council continued to do its best to deliver relevant and value for money services for the Parish that contributed to making it a place where people chose to live, work and visit.

On a personal note the Chairman took the opportunity to express his appreciation to Councillor Colleagues for the the privilege, and the pleasure, of serving as Chairman of the parish, which was so close to his heart. In conclusion, and on behalf of the parish, the Chairman thanked all those individuals, groups and organisations who worked in so many different ways to improve the life of the community.

#### **4) Other reports:**

Simon Hordley (Vice chair – Rilla Mill Village Hall)

Following the 2021/22 covid hiatus, events were almost back into full swing at the Village Hall.

The Bowling, Archive Group, Little Links, Pilates, weekly Post Office, Pop Up & Play and various dancing groups had all returned back to the hall, full time. Our only "Covid Casualty" had been the weekly Whist Drive.

As usual, we held the July Duck Race and at the end of October, the Bonfire & Fireworks. I know I say this every year but the economic viability of this event is very fragile. Poor weather at the end of October could mean the difference between a small profit and a huge loss! Luckily last year again, it was the former rather than the latter. However, we have had to increase our Hall hire charges by £1.00 owing to energy costs. Hopefully this will suffice but we cannot rule out further increases.

Also over the last twelve months, the hall has enjoyed hosting several Sterts rehearsals and ballet lessons. New over this period, we have held coffee mornings and fiercely competitive Smite

tournaments against Golberdon Village Hall. A new event was the Family Bingo, such a success it will be repeated in May. June saw us celebrating the Queens Jubilee with a Big Lunch in Parson's Meadow.

Also in June we submitted an application for a grant from the Callington "Lion's Den" competition and were awarded £450.00 toward constructing a sheltered area next to the children's' play area in Parson's Meadow. Hopefully we can raise the rest in time to build for the summer.

Forthcoming this year: we have a Beetle Drive next month, more Family Bingo in May and new for this year, "Pig Racing" in June.

On May 6th, we are putting on Coronation celebrations in the Hall, where we will also be selecting our Carnival Queen. This is also the Village Hall's 60th anniversary so expect plenty of memories to be on exhibition here. And of course, the Bonfire and fireworks at the end of October.

So, as I have already let the Kitty out of the bag, the big news is that on 29th July as well as Duck Race, we are reviving the Linkinhorne Carnival!

We now have a public Wi-Fi network in the hall, which is "password free" for anyone using the facility. And finally, if you haven't already bought your tickets, the pantomime Dick Rillaton is on at the hall: 24th, 25th and 26th March... Oh yes it is.

Verity Groom (Site Manager, Orchard Park ELC)

A quick overview was given by Verity to state that ELC was the Ecological Land Co-op, the aim being to provide bio diversity in the landscapes. There are three gifted plots of land that vary between four and nine acres near Rilla Mill. The potential proprietors must have a business plan, there was a bore hole being installed. A communal barn would house solar panels and the process was ongoing. The permissive path would remain open other than for one day a year which was in keeping with legislation.

Sue Morton (Secretary Linkinhorne Women's institute)

Apologies for not attending the Parish Council Meeting on Monday. Linkinhorne WI celebrated its 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary last year. We planted a tree in the Jubilee Field to commemorate this event and the late Queen Elizabeth's Platinum Jubilee. We are grateful to the Council for permission to do this and hope that the tree will grow and thrive.

Our membership has also grown and we hope, too, to thrive and reach our 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary. To achieve this we try to embrace the changes taking place in the modern world to encourage all women of our community to feel they can also become WI members and enjoy the activities and company of the like minded people.

We look forward to our new programme of events which starts in May following our AGM and appointment of a new president next month. With all best wishes.

Brian Norris (Chair of Trustees, Linkinhorne Parish Hall)

The Parish Hall is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) with the objective of providing a village hall for the use of the inhabitants of the Parish of Linkinhorne for meetings, lectures, classes, and other forms of recreation and leisure-time activities. The use of the hall has steadily increased following a period of closure during COVID lockdowns and bookings have now exceeded pre pandemic levels.

The hall continues to host a Post Office and Micro Library in the John Bartlett meeting room, the latter staffed by volunteers from the community. The hall trustees run a weekly 'Craft and Chatter', 'Drop In Café' (during school term time) and a monthly coffee morning. In autumn 2022 these were advertised as 'Warm Spaces' with the view of opening the hall as a 'Warm Space' at other times if there was a demand. This possibility has not been actioned so far due to minimal response. Further details of activities and services at the Parish Hall can be found in the Link magazine and on the hall notice boards.

Following the resurfacing of the car park in 2021 the trustees have had parking spaces, including two for the disabled, marked out in the front car park. Other outside work has included a new fence between the playing field and hall car park and the installation of bollards along the front of the car park. Grants towards these projects from the Community Chest and Parish Council have been applied for.

The trustees continue to permit the hall car park to be used for school staff parking, school drop off and pick up and for users of the playing field. It has been necessary, however, to manage access to the hall car park so that hall hirers have first call on car parking at busy times. The installation of the bollards is to facilitate this.

The hall trustees wish to thank all those who help in the task of running and maintaining the Parish Hall.

Micheline Norris (Church Warden, Linkinhorne Parish)

Both St Melor's and St Paul's have been busy since reopening after the COVID closures. The churches are open to the public every day and are collecting points for Liskeard and Looe Foodbank and at St Paul's – Ukraine.

Weddings have been hosted in both churches in the past year. We have welcomed Gaynor Sutton who joined the team of Lay Readers. Condolence books were available at both churches for the community to use after the death of Queen Elizabeth II.

St Melor's hold a said Morning Prayer service twice a week, as well as a Sunday service. Easter Services, the Carols Service and Christmas Eve Communion were well attended.

St Paul's has an All-Age Service on the first of the month, and Messy Church is on the 3rd Sunday of the month held at Rilla Mill Retreat Centre. Revd Jo Smart (Methodist Launceston Circuit) left in July and in November we welcome Revd Dr John Haley.

The church was able to give the school leavers a gift consisting of a NIV Bible and the Scripture Unions leaflet 'It's your Move'. The school was able to hold their Harvest Service in church as COVID

restrictions had been lifted. Thank you to all the community who knitted/crocheted the poppies on display at St Paul's entrance for Remembrance Day.

'Experience Christmas' was held at St Paul's in the beginning of December, when the school, in age groups, came into church to discover the story of Jesus' birth. We welcomed our Cluster Pioneer Families Worker, Katie Stevenson as one of our helpers. The Celebration of Christingles and Crib Service on Christmas Eve, was well attended, and many took part in developing the Nativity Scene.

There is an 'Open the Book' team which visits the local school, fortnightly during term time. In April, Kim Gilbert, a member of St Paul's, bravely walked from Land's End to John O'Groats, raising money for Tear Fund. We do congratulate her on the immense task.

The Pastoral Team is available for visiting and collection of prescriptions. Visiting Eldon House, for singing and Communion has not resumed due to the ongoing COVID risks. Wednesday Lunches or Community Lunches as it was first known, ran for 9 years but stopped because of COVID. They have not resumed as there doesn't seem to be a need at the moment.

We are part of the Callington Cluster, which includes, St Sampson's at South Hill, Stoke Climland's and St Mary's, Callington. Revd Dr Joe Lannon is the present Rector and there is a Cluster Administrator – Rebecca Giles. The Cluster, with other churches in the Deanery, are involved in 'On the Way', which is a process of enabling churches to become more 'fruitful' and 'sustainable', as there has been a decline within the Church of England.

We continue working with others to extend God's Kingdom in Linkinhorne and share the love of Jesus with those we meet.

Ali Humphreys (Recycling for Charity)

The Recycling for Charity project has been collecting your rubbish since 2019.

The initial Blue wheelie Bin at Upton Cross hall car park soon became 2 Blue Bins, and are now monitored by Ursula and her team, who also promote the project at the hall Thursday Drop In sessions and through The Link magazine. We Thank everyone for your support.

To date our project has raised over £8800 for our main charity Kicks Count and saved many tonnes from being incinerated, items our council can't recycle. TerraCycle process the empty biscuits, snacks, bread and cheese packets, used toothpaste tubes, toothbrushes, makeup, trigger sprays and much much more to be made into plastic garden furniture.

To find out more... Drop In and speak to Ursula, or leave a message in the Blue Bins. Find our Recycling Guide on our web page at [www.south-hill.co.uk/charity-recycling](http://www.south-hill.co.uk/charity-recycling) and start recycling more. Thank you.

Councillor Martin (trustee of the Roberts and Jeffery Foundation)

Councillor Martin gave a brief overview in her capacity as a trustee of the Roberts and Jeffery Foundation stating that they still had income within the foundation. This was a three hundred year old charity that provided educational opportunities for children. The eligibility criteria included funding contributions to any children of secondary school age in and around the parish, or primary

school age if they lived within the parish. Any educational opportunities were considered including uniform and school trips.

**5) Questions, comments and suggestions:**

None.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance. For any other matters that were not raised the Clerk was contactable by email or phone.

**6) Meeting closed: 7.30pm**