

ST DOMINIC PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of St Dominic Parish Council held at St Dominick Village Hall on Wednesday 18th May 2022

Present: Councillors: D Fry (Chair), A Cox (Vice Chair), J Wenmoth, S Shannon, D Potter, 7G Wilkins and K Heslop.

In Attendance: J Candy (Parish Clerk) and 14 members of the public present.

Item No		Action By
1	Apologies. There were no apologies from Parish Councillors. Mrs M Behennah, rep from the Line Dancers, gave apologies.	
2	Minutes and Matters Arising The Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 2 nd June 2021 which were approved and signed at the Parish Council Meeting held on the 9 th June 2021 were noted. There were no matters arising.	
3	Report from the former Chairman of the Parish Council in 2021-2022 Cllr D Potter thanked all organisations and volunteers for the work which they had carried out, particularly the litter pickers and others who continue to keep the parish tidy, and bus shelter artists. The Defibrillators were now both working, and the recent training day had been oversubscribed, and may be repeated. The refurbished Cast Iron Fingerpost had been installed at Ashton, the wooden finger post at Hunters Oak was being refurbished. An application to register Stockwall Lane as a Public Right of Way had been made, it will take some time to be added to the Definitive Map. The building sites at The Meadows and Sunningdale were progressing slowly. The small play area by St Dominick School had now been legally transferred to the school, to facilitate Early Years expansion, the slide and climbing frame were to be removed imminently. He stated that a Neighbourhood Development Group had started work, please support them going forward. A new Play Tractor had been installed in Lovells, and a Notice Board with sections for the Parish Council, Community and Parish Hall. He thanked all the Councillors for their support over the year, and wished the new Chair, Cllr Fry, well. Cllr Fry, Chair, gave an outline of future work	

	<p>Both the Neighbourhood Development Plan and Emergency Plan needed volunteers to come forward to progress.</p> <p>Plans for the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee Celebrations were well in hand, as we would hear later. The Parish Council were donating a Jubilee Medallion to all children under 11 years of age.</p> <p>The Parish Council had 3 vacancies, if you want to make a difference ask him afterwards about how to join.</p>																																							
4	<p>Reports from Village Groups and Organizations</p> <table><tr><td></td><td>Represented Groups</td></tr><tr><td>1</td><td>St Dominic Tuesday Club</td></tr><tr><td>2</td><td>St Dominic Snooker Club</td></tr><tr><td>3</td><td>St Dominic Church</td></tr><tr><td>4</td><td>St Dominic W.I</td></tr><tr><td>5</td><td>Friends of St Dominic Church</td></tr><tr><td>6</td><td>Tamar AONB</td></tr><tr><td>7</td><td>St Dominic Slimming Club</td></tr><tr><td>8</td><td>St Dominic Handbell Ringers</td></tr><tr><td>9</td><td>St Dominic Methodist Chapel</td></tr><tr><td>10</td><td>St Dominic Parish Hall Committee</td></tr><tr><td>11</td><td>St Dominic Hobbies Group</td></tr><tr><td>12</td><td>St Dominic Litterati</td></tr><tr><td>13</td><td>The National Trust</td></tr><tr><td>14</td><td>The Autumn Show</td></tr><tr><td>15</td><td>St Dominic Festivities Group</td></tr><tr><td>16</td><td>Neighbourhood Watch</td></tr><tr><td>17</td><td>St Dominick Community Shop</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>Received Reports can be viewed at the foot of these Minutes</td></tr></table>		Represented Groups	1	St Dominic Tuesday Club	2	St Dominic Snooker Club	3	St Dominic Church	4	St Dominic W.I	5	Friends of St Dominic Church	6	Tamar AONB	7	St Dominic Slimming Club	8	St Dominic Handbell Ringers	9	St Dominic Methodist Chapel	10	St Dominic Parish Hall Committee	11	St Dominic Hobbies Group	12	St Dominic Litterati	13	The National Trust	14	The Autumn Show	15	St Dominic Festivities Group	16	Neighbourhood Watch	17	St Dominick Community Shop		Received Reports can be viewed at the foot of these Minutes	
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5	<p>Public Open Forum</p> <p>There were no comments from the public after the presentations.</p>																																							

There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting at 9.15pm

Signed.....Chairman

Dated.....

Copies of all Minutes of Parish Council Meetings can be viewed and downloaded from the website: www.stdominicpc.org.uk

Annual Parish Meeting reports for 18.5.2022

St Dominic Parish Hall

Building work on the new toilets had been delayed, due to capacity with the preferred contractor.

Carbon Dioxide monitors had been installed to help ensure that the correct amount of ventilation was achieved to reduce spread of all infections. We have also upgraded the fire alarm.

Various support grants from Cornwall Council have kept us financially viable during the pandemic.

Things were gradually getting back to normal with regular bookings, and the return of the Plant Sale and Pasty and Pud events

Charmian Saunders, Chair.

St Dominica Church

The Church was under severe pressure to reform, they now had 3 vicars to cover an area previously served by 6, but still 39 buildings to be maintained, with a dwindling congregation. However services were still being held, albeit some in a new format.

Rev. Painter

Parochial Church Council

If you were the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of a middle-sized company looking for new premises, what would be important? Optimum size? Comfort, for employees and visitors? Energy efficiency? Accessibility? Easy to maintain? A homeowner seeking to move might have a similar list.

So, if they were offered premises which were: way oversize, uncomfortable, monumentally energy inefficient, I wonder how eager they would be to grab this amazing piece of real estate!

You've probably realised by now that these undesirable features describe your local church! In which case, none of these matters are now important. What is important is the history of the building, wrapped up with the national and local cultural story ever since AD 689 when St Dominica and St Indract came to these shores. A significant place in the life events of the local community. A place of tranquillity and prayer. An open and public space in a world which is increasingly dominated by private and corporate ownership. A place of memories. A place of astonishingly beautiful architecture.

For hundreds of years the Church of England has used this building as the focus for faith and pastoral care. People would come for life events; baptisms, weddings and funerals. They came to mark the seasons, to express joy and grief. If the community maintained the fabric of the building, it would be there to meet the individual needs when the time came. This has changed: a shrinking number of people come, yet the wider community has mainly withdrawn from

maintaining the life and fabric of the building. Further, congregations find them in a place that is oversize, uncomfortable and expensive to heat. And from time to time it requires eye-watering amounts of money for repairs and maintenance. The suggested amounts is 1% of the capital cost annually (some £20,000, each year).

In addition they must fund running costs and pay the clergy. But even applying for grants takes effort and energy. Managing a roof project takes effort and skill. And the congregation is getting smaller and more tired. Over time the whole business is becoming more unsustainable. In 10 years, what size will our congregations be, and who will undertake the fundraising?

Our churches need to be sustainable and fruitful. The local church is not a historic building preservation society, but a community dedicated to spreading the Good News of Jesus; our buildings, however lovely, are a distraction from that.

Truro Diocese asked each Deanery, in our case the group of local Churches from Callington to Torpoint, to come up with a plan to make the Church become more fruitful and sustainable; the proposal, yet to be ratified, is to have 3 hubs with satellites, each with a stipendiary clergy supported by lay ministry and other, paid, staff. This has been put together in a prayerful manner to enable us to grow and to become more sustainable for the future. St Dominic PCC is well aware of the proposal and is discussing how the building could be used in the future and welcomes suggestions and support from all in the Parish.

Some in the community won't care - and aren't interested in where we worship, even though it is the founding heart of the village. Many more, I suspect, will. Many in the parish are keen to help fundraise to preserve the building. Sadly we need more than this now – we need new people to be involved in supporting the fabric of the building, to organise and run the events and fund-raisers, to oversee the works that need doing. The fabric and life of the community can only be maintained by a sufficient gathering of people to share the load of making it all happen. Without that, be assured, in time our buildings will close.

St Dominick Jubilee Celebrations

Various groups were organizing different events over the weekend, the culmination will be the Cream Tea on the Saturday and Big Lunch with free Hog Roast, bar, and games for children and adults organized by St Dominick School in Lovells on the Sunday.

Charmian Saunders, Chair of Jubilee Celebrations

Tamar AONB

Like everywhere else in the country, things were slowly getting back to normal, the Tamar Valley Centre will soon be open part time.

The main project being pursued was "Farming in Protected Landscapes", which was providing various funding streams.

Giant Hogweed and Himalayan Balsam were being controlled, but a constant threat.

Val Darwall, Tamar AONB

National Trust

It is 25 years since the Trust started to manage Cothele, with many events returning after Covid, but visitor numbers, and income, reduced.

The project to rebuild Morden Weir was being progressed. The wetland recreation at Haye farm was progressing well.

There were currently 4 properties on the estate which were being refurbished.

Tuesday Club

The Club members kept in contact over the pandemic, and now meet with speakers on subjects like the Mercy Ships and Marie Curie.

As membership is only £1, plus £3 per meeting, it is affordable and open to all.

St Dominick Autumn Show

This year the annual show will be held on 10th September here in the Parish Hall as usual. We have missed the show for two years, so we're all a bit unsure about how it's going to go but we will be working hard between now and September to make sure everyone enters as usual.

There will be the usual classes, 108 of them covering flowers, fruit, cookery veg, photography, handicraft and art, you can be sure that if you enter something we will find a class to enter it in. All except the person who wanted a class for musical composition, which was beyond me!

The school usually have a good entry so it's worth coming along to see what they've done and support them.

All entries are free and it costs about £250 to put the show on, so we absolutely rely on you all coming for a cup of tea and buying a raffle prize to

keep this event running as it has for over 50 years now. To cut down on some costs we now have a Facebook page and an email address stdomautumnshow@gmail.com, hopefully we can get some entries on line and not print as many schedules, but there will still be enough available for those who want them.

You are sure to see me around the village so feel free to catch me and ask questions if you haven't entered before.

Lorna Potter

The Snooker Club

Membership stands at 40-50, with recent successes including the Cornwall Championship. The Snooker room will be open over the Jubilee, new members are always welcome.

St Dominick Community Shop

The shop was continuing to trade successfully, with plans being developed for an extension. Thanks to all the volunteers, shareholders and supporters

St Dominick Litterati

Litter picks were being planned in the run up to the Jubilee Weekend. There were always a variety of routes planned to suit all ages and abilities.

Line Dancing

The Line Dancing Group have been at the St.Dominick Parish Hall for a number of years.

We are a friendly group, who enjoy our dancing every Tuesday evening.

Our members keep coming each week from as far as Bere Alston and St Cleer.

If anyone is interested in joining us they would be very welcome.

Mary Behennah

ST. DOMINICK NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH REPORT 2022

The pandemic continued to limit our activity over the past year, although we were obviously able to communicate through the internet. In the first twelve months of the pandemic, three suspicious incidents in the village were reported to me and were investigated by the Police. In the past twelve months no incidents were reported to me from the village until last week, when the theft of a chicken coop from outside a house in Halton Quay was

reported. I have received reports of attempted phone and internet scams from members of the village though and other co-ordinators have as well. We have passed warnings on to our local members through the internet and also through the St. Dominick Neighbourhood Watch and St. Dominick Chat pages on Facebook.

We continue to receive alerts from the Police and the Neighbourhood Alert Team about missing persons in Cornwall and requests for witnesses to road accidents, although none of these have been in the village or in close proximity. Nevertheless, we have passed these on to our local members if they concern people within about twenty miles of St. Dominick.

I have recently removed two Neighbourhood Watch signs, which were hanging precariously from telegraph poles. Most of our signs were posted about twenty years ago and are showing their age, so we are currently seeking to replace them.

Having not met for two years we are finally meeting again next Wednesday at the Methodist Church Hall at 7.30 p.m. and are seeking new co-ordinators to give a fuller coverage to the village. A co-ordinator's job is not at all onerous. All it requires is maintaining contact with your near neighbours and providing them with information about any crime concerns in the area. All the suspicions reported to me and other co-ordinators are passed on to the Police, who have responded in every case. However, it is always best for the actual witness of a suspicious incident to report it themselves (while informing us for the benefit of the wider neighbourhood), as their account is a first-hand one and will necessarily be most accurate. Everyone knows to ring 999 if they witness a crime or an emergency, but are sometimes more reluctant to contact the Police about suspicions, not least because it can take a long time to get through on the 101 number for non-emergencies, but they can also contact the Police online at 101@dc.police.uk

Methodist Church

Services continue to take place, with a United Service planned for the Jubilee.

The WI

Meetings had been held using a variety of formats, including Zoom and in person, both outdoors in gardens and in the church.

The group celebrated its 75th Anniversary last summer.

Anne Foweraker

Hobbies Club

This was in its 13th year and was continuing to flourish, meeting twice a month, with particular demand for the Christmas Party.

Festivities Group

This group was continuing to raise funds for the Christmas Tree, carols and mince pies, and Easter Egg hunt.