

Crowan Parish Council

At the Council's Annual Meeting on 9th May 2013 it was resolved to appoint me Cllr. Sandra Muriel as Chair and Cllr Geoff Henwood as Vice-Chair. In June, Cllr Adrian Ward was appointed as Vice-Chair of our Amenities Committee, Cllr David Smith was appointed as Chair of the Public Rights of Way Committee and Alex Brown of Praze has been co-opted to the Parish Council. All Councillors and their contact details are on our web-site www.crowan.org.uk or on our notice boards. There is one vacant seat in the Leedstown ward, if anyone is interested please contact our clerk Mrs G Thomson on 01726 882145 or you would like to dip your toes in the water first, then please come to one of our monthly meetings to observe first.

Our contractor has completed the first cut on our Gold footpaths and is starting the second phase of our cutting regime, vastly ahead of last year thanks to the dry weather. The Amenities committee are replacing some of the play equipment at Leedstown and are looking at the possibility of some play equipment for Praze, of course this will require some grant funding but Parish Council have agreed to make a contribution. We are proceeding with the purchase of the Leedstown Football Field from Cornwall Council.

The Affordable Housing development at Leedstown is an important issue and Ocean Housing have submitted a pre-app for the proposed site in Leedstown. Although we are not normally consulted at this stage, Parish Council commented on their concerns regarding the drainage and emphasised that Affordable Housing must be for local people. Cornwall Council's Principal Development Officer Mr Jody Jeffery would suggest that any person interested in housing, particularly shared ownership, should contact either Ocean Housing on 01726 874387 or Cornwall Housing on 0300 1234 161 and can assure everyone that shared ownership is nothing like timeshare. Ocean Housing have explained to me that the 'shared ownership scheme' means that initially a buyer could start by owning 25%-75% and in time could buy outright ownership. Crowan Parish Council did it's own Affordable Housing Survey in 2011 and I would urge all the people who responded as interested, to ensure they have registered their necessary paperwork, if this site goes ahead local people in the Parish have the first opportunity, before it is opened up to neighbouring Parishes.

I attended a meeting regarding the proposed solar farm at St. Erth on a site which is on Crowan Parish boundary. Like many proposed solar/wind farm developments there are many positive points but for the immediate neighbours it would be an unwelcome change. This particular development is keen to more than preserve the wildlife, it plans to develop a meadow site which will become a habitat for bats, mice, badgers and many plants. The developer is also planning to establish a Community Trust with a sum of money each year from the profits which would benefit projects in the affected Parish Councils.

Since my last article regarding dog-owner/s putting their dog waste down the drains in Trethannas Garden, Praze, Cornwall Council have installed another bin for dog waste /ordinary waste at the top of Trethannas Gardens. There are new warning notices of the fines and penalties if anyone is seen not disposing of their dog waste correctly and the dog warden is patrolling Praze regularly, this is all aimed at a better community for everyone as dog waste is a health hazard, so far the feedback has been positive and I would like to thank everyone for their efforts.

PCSO Paul Whitford, our new police representative sends us a report every month with details of crimes reported and if applicable, updates; when he is able he joins us for our monthly Parish meetings for feedback. This month he particularly would like to warn Parishioners about thieves attempting to abstract fuel from tanks and vehicles and recommends we are more aware. There has also been some fly tipping issues. Crime preventing advice can be given by contacting Police on 101; we have put up posters on the notice-boards with advice how to protect your property.

This is the season of fetes, village shows, rallies and carnivals and I hope that the weather is kind to us at weekends when we look to enjoy these local events. So far this year the weather has been better than last so keep an eye on local announcements; so much work goes into arranging these events for your enjoyment and money is raised for excellent local causes and charities. It is also a wonderful opportunity to meet friends we only bump into once or twice a year at these events. This publication that we all enjoy reading is a fine up-to-date schedule of some of the many events happening, not just in Crowan Parish but in

neighbouring ones that do not require a long journey to enjoy. I hope your deck chairs and picnic rugs will have a lot of use this summer and you have a summer reminiscent of 'the olde days'.

Best wishes, Sandra Muriel

Chair, Crowan Parish Council