



## TREBETHERICK RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

### Minutes of TRA Annual General Meeting held at the Perceval Institute Thursday 6th April 2023 at 6.30 pm

The formal meeting was preceded by a 'drinks and nibbles hour' to give plenty of time for everyone to socialise. This was welcomed by all after 3 years of remote meetings or no meetings at all!

A total of 61 members and guests attended the meeting. Many thanks to Mary-Anne Smith, Susie Hoddell and Clare Beard for their help with the refreshments and registration of attendees.

#### 1. Chairman's welcome and thanks

The new Chair, Simon Smith, welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the other members of the Committee, and explained their various roles. He then thanked Endellion Sharpe for her sterling work as Chairman since 2017 and was pleased to announce that she intends to remain on the Committee, with a particular interest in the history of the area and imparting local news via the newsletter. It was Endellion who suggested a summer party in 2017 as a means for members to meet and get to know each other and later reminded the meeting that not only has the event been a great success and there has been a summer party every year since then. A bouquet of flowers was then presented to Endellion who said that it had been a great privilege to serve as Chairman and a great joy to meet and get to know so many members of the TRA.

#### 2. Apologies for absence

Matthew Byrne, who has resigned as secretary. In his absence, he was thanked for his longstanding contribution to the Committee.

Henry Herzberg, Committee member and CIC chair due to illness.

Carol Mould, CC representative

#### 3. Approval of Minutes of AGM 2022

The minutes of the 2022 AGM were approved - proposed and seconded by TRA members.

#### 4. Chairman's address

The Chair explained that the TRA committee is entirely voluntary and meets four times a year in person or by Zoom. It is a relaxed committee and its aims are entirely to inform the members and provide a means of communication via the quarterly newsletter and the website. We also organise an AGM and Beach Clean at Easter, and the Summer party. This is normally in August (26<sup>th</sup> August this year)

We are looking for some new members and the Chair asked for anyone interested to speak to him or other Committee members after the meeting or to email us: [TRAenquiries2022@gmail.com](mailto:TRAenquiries2022@gmail.com)

The TRA has a Constitution which is being updated. It will retain the important rules that are appropriate for an organisation of this type. The existing constitution is available on the website and anyone who has any suggested amendments is asked to email them to us.

The updated website is now live and members are encouraged to refer to it and send any comments or questions via the enquiries email above.

The website address is [www.trebetherick.org.uk](http://www.trebetherick.org.uk)

## 5. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer, Michael Somers presented the TRA Accounts.

TRA membership currently stands at 263 – six of whom have recently joined after a leafleting campaign – thanks to those Committee members who helped with this task. Membership income came to £4,500 and additional donations of £190 were gratefully received.

Expenditure included £5,842 for the installation of ten oak signposts around the local area, a defibrillator that has been installed on the wall of the Daymer Beach Café, £200 donation to the Stepper Point Coastwatch for the purchase of an additional webcam, £200 donation to support the Polzeath Beach Ranger and £3,000 to the Daymer Bay CIC.

2022 ended up with accumulated negative reserves of £111 as against the previous year's positive of £8,288. Not surprisingly, the bank balance fell from £13k to £3k but, with the 2023 subscriptions received, we are back up to £7,725. We do have a small number of non-paid-up members. Please contact Michael if you are one of them: [m.somers113@gmail.com](mailto:m.somers113@gmail.com)

The annual accounts were approved – proposed by Jonathan Armstrong and seconded by Katya Drummond.

A donation of £3000 to the Daymer Bay CIC for this year (2023) was approved – proposed by Charlotte Obolensky and seconded by Jenny Oaten

## 6. Defibrillator, Beach Clean and Art Show

Gus Grand is organising a defibrillator training session with Duchy Defibrillators at the Daymer Bay Café on Easter Saturday at 10am.

Clare Beard is running the Daymer Bay Beach and footpath clean-up on Easter Saturday at 10am. She hopes to hold another Art Show with the help of Patricia Glasswell next Easter.

## 7. Polzeath Beach Ranger

Andy Stewart presented his report, highlighting the following issues:

- A winter education programme has been discussed with private schools in the hope that bad behaviour will result in meaningful consequences for the perpetrators and their parents.
- The carpark has been made smaller by Cormac and Cornwall Council because due to the changing sand levels, the river was passing through the carpark making it unusable and dangerous. Since the work was done, the course of the river has changed again and continues to pass through the outer edge of the carpark!
- It is highly likely that the beach car park will cease to exist within a few years because we cannot continue to battle with nature to keep it usable as a carpark. The right thing to do is allow the sand levels to continue to rise and start to dune. This will then offer Polzeath some protection from rising tides and storm surge events.
- Coronation Gardens will NOT become a car park as there is plenty of alternative parking on Tristram. It is likely that Cornwall Council will seek to introduce concessions in the area of Coronation Gardens to make up the shortfall in parking revenue. This will ideally be tastefully done, with open gardens and maybe a shop and/or visitors centre with new toilets etc, but this has yet to be discussed and remains a long-term plan.

#### 8. Update on Daymer Bay public conveniences and CIC

Michael Somers gave an update on the Community Interest Company (CIC), which operates the toilets, on behalf of Henry Herzberg and thanked his son, Joe Herzberg, for the day-to-day running of the toilets. He was delighted to announce that Sian Flynn, whose house is on the Greenaway, has agreed to join the CIC as a director.

The 23/24 Budget anticipates an income from door charges at £10,000.

Regrettably, and in spite of the open-door alarm that goes off with a message cajoling the door to be closed and ends with a loud klaxon like a submarine crash diving, users will cheat – but it would be worse without that alarm. We receive regular donations from the Beach Shop and Car Park as well as from the TRA which amount to £9,000. Our anticipated income is £19,000 for 23/24.

- .. We expect there to be continuing problems with vandalism to the doors, the toilets and the security cameras. Running costs are budgeted to be £25,000 and we therefore expect a deficiency of around £6,000. This will have to be covered by other sources.

With that in mind, Michael attended last week's meeting of the Parish Council to ask them for a donation of £3,000 from funds their accounts are showing as surplus. They currently do not contribute to us, but they do fund the Polzeath public toilets, which we Council Tax payers therefore also pay for!

We await the PC decision.

## 9. Police Report

Sgt Lee Holley, who now heads up the Bodmin and Wadebridge Neighbourhood Policing Teams, introduced himself. His policy has been to integrate the two teams so that they can deal more effectively whenever or wherever problems arise, such as a recent spike in drug-related crimes in Bodmin or anti-social behaviour on Polzeath Beach in the summer. Crime in our area is very low compared to the rest of Cornwall.

## 10. Proposed Parking Restrictions

Jonathan Beard gave a summary of the long-running battle with the Parish Council and Cornwall Council (Cormac) regarding the proposed parking restrictions along the main road through Trebetherick Village. These proposals for double yellow lines along both sides of the road were made without any apparent justification and without any meaningful consultation with the Trebetherick residents. Numerous letters of objection have been sent by residents and local businesses to Cormac and the Parish Council. Jonathan recently wrote another letter summarising our objections to the amended proposals, including an increase in speeding vehicles and the adverse effect on local businesses, but thus far we appear to have been largely ignored. Jonathan has asked for an update on the situation from Oliver Jones, Cornwall Council Highways Officer.

He urged anyone concerned about the proposed parking restrictions write to our local Cornwall Council representative, MP or the Cormac Highways Officer. The relevant addresses are noted at the bottom of these minutes.

## 11. Beach Erosion and Dredging

Des Hobson reported that it has been reported that, each year in the region of 200,000 tons of sand has been extracted from the Camel Estuary and sold by the company that owns and operates the dredger. This generates a potential annual income of £75,000 for Padstow Harbour Commissioners (PHC) for landing rights. Although the company are ceasing operations due to rising fuel costs, we understand PHC are planning to purchase the dredger to continue the operation despite the local fishermen saying that dredging maybe unnecessary.

PHC do not agree that the dredging is responsible for the 3.3 metre drop in sand depth on Daymer Beach in the last 5 years and the recent loss of the fence (for the second time) protecting the dunes, which have retreated another 2 metres.

The only good news is that the 'Making Space for Sand' project, funded by DEFRA, is looking at 40 sites in Cornwall and 4 of these are in the Camel Estuary but the bad news is that the environmental strategy will probably be 'Managed Re-alignment', which means allowing beach and dune erosion to continue.

Des urged those concerned about the erosion of the beach and dunes to write to the PHC about the dredging and the Duchy of Cornwall, who own the foreshore. The relevant addresses are noted at the bottom of these minutes.

## 12. Trebetherick Stores:

Jonathan and Judith Armstrong announced that they planned to reopen Trebetherick Stores by the end of May. The stores will be run by Flo and Chris, who already run Flo's Kitchen in Polzeath. The Armstrongs plan to rent out the flat above the shop to a local tenant rather than as a holiday let. Everyone present was very appreciative of their efforts.

## 13. AOB

Dave Hall gave a short presentation about his recent charitable trip to deliver a vehicle and supplies to Ukraine. He thanks John Smith, who runs the Old Forge Garage in St Minver, and residents for their generous help and contributions. The full report can be viewed on his Facebook page.

The meeting finished at 8pm.

## Appendix 1

Useful email addresses for members to use as required:

Carol Mould our local Cornwall Councillor [cllr.carol.mould@cornwall.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.carol.mould@cornwall.gov.uk)  
Scott Mann our local MP [scott.mann.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:scott.mann.mp@parliament.uk)  
Padstow Harbour Commissioners [padstowharbour@btconnect.com](mailto:padstowharbour@btconnect.com)  
The Duchy [western@duchyofcornwall.org](mailto:western@duchyofcornwall.org)

## Appendix 2

Current TRA Committee members and responsibilities:

Simon Smith	Chair and Summer Party
Jonathan Beard	Co-chair, minutes, footpaths and roads
Michael Somers	Treasurer and membership secretary
Henry Herzberg	CIC chair
Clare Beard	Website and Art exhibition
Susie Hoddell	Enquiries
Des Hobson	Environment local ecology
Gus Grand	Environment local matters
Endellion Sharpe	Newsletter and local history and events

Please note that the position of secretary is vacant