

## **Chairman's report 2019 St Hilary Parish Council.**

Another year gone and the time has flown by as usual, but looking back over the year it has thankfully passed without any major issues.

We have had the debate over the merger of our police force, with Dorset Police force which was rejected after much debate and conflicting opinions, but I feel rejecting the merger was the right decision.

Another issue over which we as a Parish had no real say was the GDPR issue relating to data protection. The resulting regulations, in an attempt to satisfy everyone's agenda has resulted in some protocols seeming to conflict with common sense if not logic, however we strive to comply in this "PC" world in which we live.

More local matters arising over the last twelve months in which the Parish Council can play a role, include issues with the likes of;

Rosudgeon car boot sale parking and traffic control, after much discussion and various bodies becoming involved, including Highways, police, and Cornwall Council, a meeting with all parties has resulted in actions being taken to try to educate car boot customers to use the ample car parking provided. Only time will tell if this resolves the issues but the painting of yellow lines being placed in Prussia Road remains an option as a last resort.

Relubbus Bridge has also been subjected to several impacts over the past year and this is believed to be a result of tractor equipment hitting the cap stones when pulling out after waiting for oncoming traffic to clear. Plans to paint the Bus Stop space on the road to prevent cars parking too close to the bridge so tractors will not be stopping so near the bridge will hopefully rectify this problem.

The council have made contributions to St Hilary Church for the restoration of the bell tower and the maintenance of the church bells which have been sent off for repairs. The last time this was carried out was in 1898, a testament to the quality of workmanship in the past, a far cry from the "throw away, single use" practices of today.

Footpaths and bridleways, we are currently assessing all of these and endeavouring to note any which may have fallen from the register over the years. Notifying Cornwall Council of these will ensure they maintain their status and recognition.

The Neighbourhood Plan is apparently still progressing, but as yet after nearly four years we still have no draft proposal or any significant documentation as to how it is evolving. In January 2019 at a NP meeting the decision was taken to employ a project manager in I Howells, she was reported to be making good progress and Councillor Behrens stated in February that a draft plan should be ready soon. We hope that a draft will be ready in the very near future as there will undoubtedly be much debate and inevitable variations to be discussed and agreed prior to the Parish Council ratifying the proposed plan, and it is only another eleven years before this plan will need to be revised.

The next task for the Parish Council is to formulate an Emergency Plan. This is to put procedures in place so that in the event of a local emergency, be it fire, flood or meteor strike, an appropriate response will be activated to ensure that Parishioners are safeguarded and assisted where required with the maximum efficiency and effectiveness.

In conclusion, I would like to thank all councillors for their support over the past year and The Clerk for his support and font of knowledge, on which I have relied on many occasions.

Brian Baker

Chairman 2018 - 2019