

St Martin-by-Looe



News



Spring 2021

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St Martin-by-Looe Parish Council.
Delivered FREE throughout the Parish.

stmartinpc1@btinternet.com

www.stmartinbylooe.org.uk

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The magazine is printed quarterly and has a circulation of 350 copies which are delivered throughout the Parish.

Contributions

We always welcome contributions from people living in the Parish. If you would like to air your views on a particular subject or have a photograph or piece of artwork for the front cover please get in touch with The Clerk.

Statutory Disclaimer

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Parish Council Update



Welcome to the Spring 2021 Edition

Twelve months ago I used this article to wish for better weather after a stormy winter, well the weather played ball but that's all! What a year! At least there is hope of returning to some form of normality soon. I've been lucky to have had my jab at Pensilva, who I must say, did an amazing job and I believe the other centres all offered a similarly great service.

In this issue there are a couple of history articles, news about the elections and becoming a Parish Councillor, tips on keeping the garden birds healthy (and some for yourself!). Our best wishes to Dave Keeble who has been unwell, we hope you get better soon. The next is due July.

Planning applications received for consideration

Removal of dilapidated outbuilding and garage and construction of new side extension to form new sun lounge, utility room, boot room and additional bathroom with studio room above. Manager, at Penhale, St Martins: Non material amendment to lease refer to change the layout, to reduce the size of twelve of the consented twin lodges and to confirm the re-orientation of the three installed units (Application PA17/05024 dated 30th August 2017 relates), at Tregoad Holiday Park, St Martins.



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- 9TH – 10TH JULY – HAMPTON COURT & KEW GARDENS
- 8TH AUG – GATCOMBE FESTIVAL OF EVENTING
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Parish Council Update



Planning applications received for consideration cont:

Retention of facility block at Penvith Barns Road from Junction South Of Polborder To The Lodge St Martins: Change of land use from utility land to domestic and erection of timber carport and timber shed, at Pethick Farm, Bucklawren Road, No Man's Land.

Holland Road, Footpath Scheme

Hopefully by the time this magazine is printed the scheme should be well underway. The Parish Council have received a grant of £144 from The Community Chest Grant fund to start the landscaping scheme, further fundraising will be required to complete the job. A group of volunteers will be required to come up with a plan and do the work which is hoped will create a beautiful entrance to the estate. If you can help please contact Councillor Powley.

New Website

Our thanks go to Mr. Nigel Cummings who has worked his magic and has created a new website for the Parish Council. This was needed because of the disgraceful closure of the free community websites, currently run by BT, during a global pandemic when online communication was more important than ever! Our new website goes live early March 2021 and can be found at www.stmartinbylooepec@org.uk take a look it's great.



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Parish Council Update



2021/2022 Precept

The precept for £12,849.72 has been submitted to Cornwall Council Clerk.

Covid 19 and the community

The pandemic is a long way from over, but in the coming months we may soon be able to resume some form of normal life; we would like to thank the residents for being so kind and caring during these difficult times.

Parish Council Meetings

Parish Council Meetings Monthly meetings would normally take place at the Memorial Hall, No Man's Land at 7.30pm on the first Thursdays of each month, during the current pandemic and until further notice the meetings take place by Zoom, please check notice boards or our website for dates. Requests to speak during Public Participation need to be made to the Clerk 48 hours in advance and instructions of how to join a meeting will be provided on request, this can be by Zoom video or telephone. Contact details on page two. Next scheduled Zoom meetings are on :
March 4th, April 1st, May 13th (Annual Parish Meeting 7.15pm) 2021.

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Recycling - a little reminder

Reducing the amount of things we own and the amount of rubbish we produce means less goes in the bin! There are simple things we can all do to help cut down on waste. For example: not buying more food than we need, buying things with less packaging, and reusing household items and furniture.

However, sometimes things have no further use and have reached the end of their usable life. At which point, it's time to **recycle them!**

You should have 3 bags and one box.

- **Red bag for plastics and metals:** Drinks cans, food tins, aerosols, clean aluminium foil, plastic bottles, plastic pots, tubs and trays. Please remember to rinse and squash your materials before recycling them. You can leave lids and labels on your bottles.
- **Orange bag for cardboard and brown paper:** Brown, white and grey cardboard, brown paper, coloured paper, wrapping paper (not shiny), greetings cards. Please remove all staples, sticky tape and plastic bags. If you have extra cardboard, please flat pack it, tie it up with string and put it out beside your recycling. It is not yet possible to put cartons and paper cups into your orange bag to be recycled.
- **Blue bag for paper:** Newspapers, magazines, BT and Thompson phone directories, Yellow Pages, catalogues, brochures, junk mail, white office paper, white envelopes (including window envelopes), shredded paper - put it in a tied bag.
- **Black box:** Glass bottles and jars. No broken glass, please. Textiles. Clean dry clothing, shoes, towels and sheets (no duvets or pillows). Put them in a plastic bag to keep them clean and dry. Put the bag on top of your black recycling box.

If you don't already use your kerbside recycling service, now is a great time to get started! You can order containers to be delivered to your home free of charge by either visiting www.cornwall.gov.uk/recycling or calling **0300 123 4141**. If you are already using your kerbside service, but often find yourself unsure, we're here to help:

If in doubt? Look at up! Find out what you can recycle and which container it goes in using our A-Z search of recycling specific to Cornwall:

www.cornwall.gov.uk/recycling/#a-z



Cornwall Council committed to delivering Covid-safe elections

On Thursday, May 6, elections are due to be held for Cornwall Council, numerous Town and Parish Councils, and the Devon and Cornwall Police Crime Commissioner.

Cornwall Council is putting arrangements in place to ensure polling stations are safe places to vote. Voters can expect many of the measures they've become used to over recent months, such as the use of hand sanitiser, floor markings and face coverings.

Residents can also vote by post or by nominating another individual to vote for them.

Cornwall Council's Chief Executive and Acting Returning Officer Kate Kennally said: "For many months our teams have been preparing to deliver covid-safe elections on May 6.

"We are closely following the advice from the government and are working with our Public Health colleagues to ensure that the people of Cornwall can exercise their right to vote safely and allow their voices to be heard."

Cornwall Council is recruiting poll clerks and counting staff. All staff will be provided with the appropriate personal protective equipment and additional covid-safe training will also be given.

Poll clerks are paid £175 for the day along with £15 for online training. Count staff are paid £10 per hour for a daytime count and £15 per hour overnight. You can apply online.

To vote in these elections, anyone who is not registered or has recently moved must have registered by midnight on Monday, April 19. People must re-register if they've changed address, name or nationality.

If you are already registered, you do not need to apply again unless your circumstances have recently changed.

Further information about registering to vote can be found on the Electoral Commission website.

Any decision to postpone the polls would be for the UK Government to make and be subject to parliamentary approval.



What is a Parish Council and why become a Parish Councillor

What is a Parish Council?

A parish council is a local authority that makes decisions on behalf of the people in the parish. It is the level government closest to the community, with the district authority (Calderdale MBC) above it in the hierarchy.

As it is the authority closest to the people, parish councils are invariably the first place people will go with concerns or ideas. For this reason they are a vital part of any community.

Why become a Parish Councillor?

If you've never been to a parish council meeting before, you may be forgiven for thinking that parish councillors are a group of (probably older) people who meet now and then in a draughty village hall. If, however, you live in a community where something 'big' has happened, you'll know that when people in the community need support and guidance, it is sometimes the parish council that is turned to.

By becoming a parish councillor you become someone your community will look to for help, guidance and support ? a community leader with the power to influence decisions for the benefit of the people you serve. Seeing your community change for the better, as a result of decisions you have helped make, is something that can give you a sense of achievement and pride.

What decisions do Parish Councils make?

Parish councils make all kinds of decisions on issues that affect the local community. Probably the most common topics that parish councils get involved with are planning matters (they are statutory consultees), crime prevention, managing open spaces and campaigning for and delivering better services and facilities.

It's true to say that on their own, parish councils have limited powers to make decisions. But they do have the ability to negotiate with, and the power to influence, those other organisations that do make the final decisions (such as the borough council, health authorities, police etc).

In this respect parish councils are extremely powerful. The organisations that make the final decisions know that a parish council gives the best reflection of how a community feels about something, and its views will be taken seriously.

How much time does it take up?

Councils usually meet once a month for the council meeting, to which members of the public are also invited. Meetings may last two or three

What is a Parish Council and why become a Parish Councillor

hours, depending on the agenda set for the meeting to discuss. Some councils have committees to deal with specific subjects, such as environmental issues. In addition to the regular meetings, councillors are required to attend other meetings representing the council. ? for example acting as a representative on an outside body, community activities or helping develop a new project for the community. Such meetings won't happen every day, so it's not going to take over your life.

How long does a parish councillor serve for?

Once elected, parish councillors sit on the council for a maximum of four years, and this is an election year. If they then want to stay in the post they can stand for re-election.

Am I eligible to be a Parish Councillor?

To stand for election on a parish council, you must:

- be a UK or commonwealth citizen, or;
- be a citizen of the Republic of Ireland, or;
- be a citizen of another Member state of the European Union;
- be a least 18 years old.

have access to the internet and email. As meetings can take place virtually and all documents are emailed to you. (St Martins PC only).

To be eligible to stand for an election for a particular parish, you must:

- be an elector of the parish, or;
- for the whole of the previous 12 months have occupied (as owner or tenant) land or other premises in the parish, or;
- during the previous 12 months have worked in the parish (as your principal or only place of work), or;
- for the whole of the previous 12 months lived in the parish or within three miles of the parish boundary.

You don't have to be connected to a political party.

If you do become a parish councillor you will have to sign up to the Code of Conduct.

What powers do parish councils have?

They have a wide range of powers which essentially related to local matters, such as looking after community buildings, open space, allotments, play areas, street lighting, bus shelters, car parks and much more. The council also has the power to raise money through taxation, the precept. The precept is the parish council's share of the council tax. The precept demand goes to the billing authority, the district council, which collects the tax for the parish council.

What is a Parish Council and why become a Parish Councillor

Parish Duties

St Martin by Looe Parish Council has 7 Councillors who stand for election every four years. The duties and functions of a parish council are many and varied.

The Council meets monthly and considers planning applications and any other matters referred to it by local residents, Cornwall Council and by central government. All meetings are open to the public and there is a Public question time before the start of the meeting at which members of the public can raise concerns and ask questions. There is also an annual meeting which all parishioners are invited to attend. All meetings are advertised on the council notice boards, website and social media. Residents can bring to the attention of the parish council anything that concerns them, either directly or through the clerk. If matters raised are not the responsibility of the council, the clerk can bring them to the attention of the proper authority.

This year is election year so act now if you wish to be considered as a Parish councillor, Close of nominations to stand to be a Councillor closes at 4pm on Thursday 8 April 2021. For more information or to request a nomination pack please contact the elections team:

Telephone 01209 614373

Email: voter.registration@cornwall.gov.uk



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Top tips for keeping your garden birds healthy

Good hygiene is particularly important during the spring and summer months. The warmer weather can make food go off quicker, and can provide ideal conditions for harmful bacteria. Monitor your food supply carefully. If the food takes days to clear, reduce the amount of food you're offering.



Use a bird table or hanging feeders. A ground feeding tray is preferable to putting food directly on the ground because it's easier to keep clean. Food on the ground should all be eaten before nightfall. Rats are attracted to leftover food and often carry diseases, which can affect birds or humans.

Keep your bird tables and surrounding areas clean and free from droppings or mouldy food, which can provide breeding grounds for parasites and bacteria. Try to avoid accumulating large amounts of droppings. Clean and wash your bird table and hanging feeders regularly (ideally, using a 5% disinfectant solution), and move feeding stations to a new area every month to prevent droppings accumulating underneath.



Water containers should be rinsed out daily, especially during the warmer months, and allowed to dry out before fresh water is added. Droppings can accumulate in bird baths.

Personal hygiene is also important. Don't bring your feeders into your house to clean them - do it outside, using sep

arate utensils. Wear gloves when cleaning feeders and bird tables, and particularly if you need to handle a sick or a dead bird in your garden. Always wash your hands when you've finished.



Flooding at Looe - A brief history

Medieval documents, old maps, forgotten language, the maritime map and some Googling have revealed a lot about Looe's lost landscape beneath the ever-encroaching tide.

When the Romans arrived there were rolling hills and steep valleys between the Rannies and Rame. Mean low water was beyond the narrow peninsular that ran west to Port an Leder (Nadler), the landing place by the cliff. There was a hill-fort on the high point - now the island. The river ran into a deep pool (Logh) to the east of the hill fort and there was probably a natural bar across the valley at some point - rather like Loe Bar today. Today's Hannafore looked over a fertile valley drained by a stream which joined the big river at Mid Main (ternent in Latin) - the rock where the two rivers meet. A deep-water channel allowed shipping to sail inland as far as the shore below the Monkey Sanctuary, (with the route heading North), at Trefrome.

The Royal manor of Pendrym had acquired lands running across to Trerulefoot. It must have been of significant strategic and economic importance. We know it had a Celtic tide mill in an estuary beyond Millendreath. There were salt-workings, charcoal pits, smelting, managed woodland and fish-traps. Settlements, Cornish 'rounds', were thriving with an early church. Anglo-Saxons were colonising the area under the Norman Edward the Confessor.

This caused a confusion of language at the time and the fortunes of Pendrym were fading. The king gave the manors of Bucklawren, Bodiga and Bonalyva to finance a religious house in Launceston (later the Priory) but kept Trefrome which was fortified at the beach-head (but didn't keep the Normans out!)

The Domesday Book shows that Pendrym was much bigger than the modern Parish of St Martins by Looe. The 5 fathom line on the OS shows the extent of the erosion - well over a mile, several manors. There was a landing place (Port) by the logh; one by the cliff (Leder); one in the sand-dunes (Tewyn) and a little port (byhan) **when people spoke Cornish!** As Looe isn't mentioned in Domesday, these were probably falling prey to the relentless march of the tide and the local geology with its crumbling cliffs. Settlements retreated.

Port Looe rebuilt its hamlet with a village green on the site of the manor barton. A breach in the cliffs at Port Nadler was spanned by a bridge until the situation worsened and swamped the old Hendra which was rebuilt

Flooding at Looe - A brief history

up the hill, Hendersick, the dry farm! The little port was accommodated in the valley up-river and retained its name, Porthbyhan. Portuan in the dunes still has a road going to it, but has sunk! Other coastal settlements took similar action. Porthallow in Talland, Penhale and probably Strudicks. Seaton lost its 'Town'.

In 1139 there was a road from Porthbyhan to Mid Main and the water of Looe. In 1220 Lucy Russel builds her forever chapel between the crumbling cliff and the weir - nowhere near the sea! But there is unrest! Men from the local communities of Lymm and Loman want to relocate. There is a problem with seals, floods, dwindling dunes and inadequate sea-defences. They want breakwaters, new town boundaries above sea-level. The Medieval solution was to move inland, build a new town with borough status, burgage plots, Guildhall - cash in on the improved revenues! And so East Looe and Shutta were created, still here 800years later.

Within the next 70years, Looe island became "sea-girt" but the tide had still not started to run up the river valley. You could still walk to the island. A court case in 1290 gives a hysterical account of pilgrims being wrecked en route to the chapel! A cynic might read between the lines and think that some early entrepreneur had sold the land to Glastonbury when it became 'remote' - a holy pig in a poke!

In 1314 Otto de Bodrugan leased back the Land of Bodfus from Bucklawren under the care of Roger Knight. The marine map shows Knights Errant Patch and Sherbettery Rocks - Old English describing Roger Knight's **hill by a fast-flowing river** and the **barrel factory**. (Bodfus? The House of Barrels in Norman-French).

It was a hundred years before the tide came up the river and a bridge was built. In 1500 there were still villages below the bridge. In 1650 several property owners were collecting rents from houses still in the Old Town. Thomas Bond retells yarns about "the Island" to the south east of the beach in his 1800 history. Sherbettery Rocks were still there on the Victorian OS map and Black Rock at Millendreath had a field on top. The VR postbox at the Monkey Sanctuary was on the main road to Looe! The Signal Station at Penhale was on top of the hill.

The tide comes in and the cliffs crumble! The lesson from History? Move up the valley and up the hill! You'll be good for the next 800years!

Article by Jenny Walllis.



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John said 'There is so much walking information on the web but it is difficult to find. Walking in Cornwall (part of the Walking in England suite of websites (www.walkinginengland.co.uk) – one for each county in England) has brought it together in one place so whether you are walking from home, or away on holiday, you will be able to find a walk suitable for you'.

With walks from half a mile to twelve miles plus long, and a note of suitability for pushchairs and wheelchairs, everyone can find a walk to enjoy. So home or away, check out the websites and get walking!

John Harris

www.walkinginengland.co.uk email: john@walkinginengland.co.uk

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History Snippet - A Tale of Trelawny

By Jenny Wallis

It was the new school year, 1949, and the headmaster had painted an outline of Cornwall on the hall wall. During the year he filled in the rivers, towns, myths, news - he was Cornish! We learnt 'The Song of the Western Men'.

Friday afternoon was always hymn practice, just the pianist and Mr Teague. The tradition in St Columb was for the boys to harmonise lustily while the girls simpered a lady-like lip-synch. The whole village was there! No Sec. Mods. yet. Magic! 'And shall Trelawny live?'———

The headmaster pointed out that the writer of the song was **not very bright**. You didn't have to go over the **Severn** to get to London. Fast forward seventy years and I picked up Baring Gould's 1875 biography of the man who wrote our Cornish anthem, Parson Robert Hawker, whose hut still stands on the cliffs of Morwenstow.

Robert Hawker went to Liskeard Grammar School and would have learnt the history of Bishop Trelawny who was born in Pelynt. He is notorious for having a pet pig, wearing a yellow poncho, ex-communicating a cat and eating opium. He was the rector of Morwenstow for 41 years. In this time he founded the modern **Harvest Festival Service** and established the **right of drowned sailors** to be buried in holy ground. He championed the poor, promoted animal welfare and gave shelter to all in distress - including a tortoise washed up on the shore. One story touched my heart.

The Phoenix from St Ives was lost with all hands on the rocky coast. Rev. Hawker sent a mail to alert the town to the tragedy. The brother of the ship's mate came to find his corpse. Eventually the search paid off when



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History Snippet - A Tale of Trelawny

By Jenny Wallis

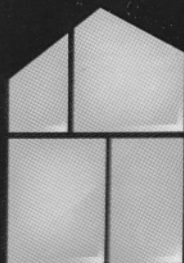
he recognised a shoe still attached to a leg protruding from a 15cwt rock on the low-tide line.

Rev.Hawker mobilised the parishioners to bring bars, pickaxes and ropes to the moonlit beach at low water - but in vain. Undaunted he sent to Bude to canal- makers for windlasses, chains. A-frames and drills. They drilled two holes in the rock to attach a Lewis-wedge and ring. This hoisted up the rock, secured by its own weight, to enable the 40 volunteers to free the body and beat the rising tide.

“Up to our startled view and to the sudden lights, came forth the altered, ghastly, flattened semblance of a man.”

The body was put in a coffin for the tortuous climb up the dark cliff. Parson Hawker led the way, carrying a cross and singing psalms. Half-way up they saw a vessel had come-to in the bay, watching with night -glasses. The crew were in the rigging, and three hearty cheers rang out in appreciation for the heroic deed.

The Song of the Western Men as published in 1875 clearly says that the **Exe** is no stay! It's been changed! Parson Hawker has been given a bad press! He was an amazing Cornishman - from Devon - who master-minded the Trelawny Shout!



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Easter chocolate bark - Recipe

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Ingredients

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- 2 x 90g packs mini chocolate eggs
- 1 heaped tsp freeze-dried raspberry pieces
– or you could use crystallised petals



Method

1. Break the chocolate into a large heatproof bowl. Bring a pan of water to a simmer, then sit the bowl on top. The water must not touch the bottom of the bowl. Let the chocolate slowly melt, stirring now and again with a spatula. For best results, temper your chocolate.
2. Meanwhile, lightly grease then line a 23 x 33cm roasting tin or baking tray with parchment. Put three-quarters of the mini eggs into a food bag and bash them with a rolling pin until broken up a little.
3. When the chocolate is smooth, pour it into the tin. Tip the tin from side to side to let the chocolate find the corners and level out. Scatter with the smashed and whole mini eggs, followed by the freeze-dried raspberry pieces. Leave to set, then remove from the parchment and snap into shards, ready to pack in boxes or bags.



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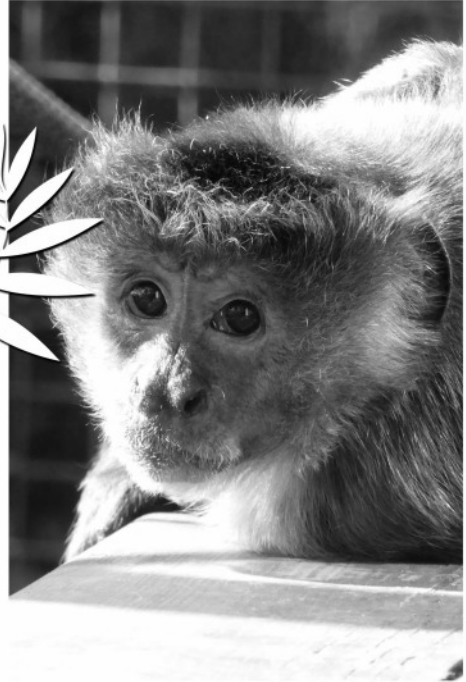
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Explore your local community with our interactive maps.

Residents can find out more about walking and cycling routes in their local area with a series of maps aimed at helping us to stay active and explore our communities. Produced by Cornwall Council, in partnership with Sustrans, the maps highlight traffic free cycle routes and shared paths and also give an indication of how long it will take to walk or cycle.

Maps are available for Bodmin; Camborne, Pool, Redruth & Illogan; Falmouth; Hayle, St Erth & St Ives; St Austell, St Blazey & Par; & Truro. (*See link on stmartinbylooe.org.uk*)

Councillor Geoff Brown, Cornwall Council cabinet portfolio holder for transport, said: "With lockdown curtailing trips further afield, the active travel maps are a good reminder that there can be lots to explore from our own doorstep.

"Not taking the car for that local journey not only has obvious health benefits but also improves air quality."

Dave Davies, Sustrans active travel officer, said; "These maps provide a great way to plan our journeys more actively. It'll be useful for people planning their journeys, to schools, colleges and workplaces when the Covid restrictions are lifted. I would like to thank the communities involved for their support and local knowledge in creating our active travel maps."

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