REDRUTH TOWN COUNCIL



CONSEL AN DRE RESRUDH

Annual Report for the Council Year 2014/2015

The Chambers Penryn Street Redruth TR15 2SP

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to Redruth Town Council's Annual Report for 2014-2015 Municipal Year.

It is Redruth Town Council policy to be open and informative. In light of this not only do we publish this report, it is also available to download on our website www.redruth-tc.gov.uk. As are minutes of all Town Council meetings and other documents which may interest you. Furthermore, we are on Facebook - www.facebook.com/RedruthTown.

Summer is coming and it is my second year as Town Mayor with the continuing support of Cllr Henry Biscoe as my Deputy. My first year has seen many new councillors and a few familiar faces' return. It is great to have new ideas and fresh opinions', however having experience is also very important, and this new fusion is excellent for the council and the town.

The town is facing new opportunities and as always a few challenges.

Work is blazing ahead on the site of the former Redruth Brewery. Most of the demolition work has been completed; the site now cleared, and the public realm work is well underway. This is destined to be a phoenix rising from the brewery and establishing a vitally important centre of Cornish history in the world's most Cornish town.

The new centre at Krowji has been completed and is due to be opened shortly. This gives yet another valuable space for up and coming creative businesses.

The town's annual festivals go from strength to strength and attract crowds not from only Redruth or England but also international visitors. These festivals are the envy of lots of other towns, and only take place through the hard dedicated work of a small group of volunteers and the work of Lara, our Community Project Officer, and Barbara our Tourism and Events Assistant.

Redruth not only leads the way in its festivals which help the town centre remain the heart of our community but we also have the only Youth Council in Cornwall. These young people help to advise the council on youth issues as well as helping the community. They also held a hustling's during the previous general election, which was attended by all the political parties. The candidates were very impressed by the youth councillors. As well as it giving the opportunity for the councillors to raise issues that they were concerned about, it also gave them the opportunity of a taste of politics up close. If you know someone who may be interested in joining the Youth Council please let us know, as all youngsters between the ages of 10 and 18 are welcome.

There are many changes due to happen in the next few years with Cornwall council's plans for devolution and the proposed budget cuts. These will include many new opportunities as well as a few challenges, but I know as a team, Redruth Town Council is capable of dealing with these and will in fact thrive on the challenges.

We will endeavour as always to do our upmost for the citizens of Redruth. As always we are thankful for the support of our superb community and a lot of our successes are down to the hard work of the staff and councillors, so I would like to thank them all.

We hope that you find this Annual Report informative and we would also appreciate any feedback that you would like to make.

Councillor Will Tremayne Town Mayor of Redruth 2014-2015

GENERAL INFORMATION THE YEAR UNDER REVIEW FULL COUNCIL

Our Council Year began in May with Councillor Will Tremayne being elected as the Town Mayor, with Councillor Henry Biscoe elected as the Deputy Town Mayor.

Following the reluctance of people to stand for the council during the previous twelve months we commenced the year with only 12 of our 14 seats filled. Regretfully, soon after our Annual General Meeting, Ian Clarke also resigned taking us down to 11 seats. Following a concerted effort to recruit new members, Mike Chappell and Nuno De Freitas were co-opted onto the Council in June and Alison Biscoe co-opted in September bringing us back to a full complement of 14 members for the first time since prior to the local council elections in May 2013. Unfortunately that was not the last of the upheaval surrounding members as in October, John Hayward, who had moved away from the county resigned, and then in November Peter Weeks also tendered his resignation. These were replaced by Barbara Ellenbroek at a by-election held in February and Laura Eyre at a by-election held in March. It is now hoped that we can retain a settled, enthusiastic and dedicated membership through to the local council elections in May 2017 and beyond.

Although the majority of the Council's work is carried out in committee, the Council meetings are nonetheless busy. During the year we have given support wherever possible to the Cornwall Council local members and they have supported us with a very good attendance at our Council and Committee meetings, and have taken up matters on our behalf where appropriate. Furthermore, we have established a very good working relationship with Charlotte Caldwell, Cornwall Council's Community Network Manager (now known as Community Link Officer) which has enabled us to develop our working partnership. She has given members updates on her work within the Redruth parish with written reports, and always endeavours to attend our meetings to answer questions missing only one throughout the course of the year.

We have also continued to be actively working with Cornwall Council to develop the former brewery site as a location for the new "Kresen Kernow", a new combined records office and Cornish Studies Library. The work is moving forward at a pace with site demolition, clearance almost complete and very soon the public realm works will be completed. There is still much work to do, but hope that you agree that this "blot on the landscape" of our town will very soon be much forgotten.

We reluctantly had to stop the monitoring of the CCTV system in the town early in the year as Cornwall Council ceased to fund the operational side of the system as their leases came to an end. Nevertheless, in partnership with seven other Town Councils in the west of Cornwall, we are working towards running the complete system on our own, with monitoring being provided by the Cornwall Fire & Rescue Service (CFRS) at their new Control Centre in Tolvaddon. Regretfully the documentation and contracts involved in setting up such a scheme has taken longer than anticipated as with the completion of the CFRS Control Centre. Nevertheless, we can see light at the end of the tunnel and hope to be able to go "live" again in the very near future and make a contribution towards a safer environment in which to socialise and work.

We continue to have discussions with Cornwall Council about the use and charges in the town car parks (Council-owned) and hopefully in the future will be able to have parking where the charges are lowered. We hope that this will be successful and enable better usage of the car parks. Furthermore, we have hopefully prevented the loss of some car parking space by voicing our concerns to the proposed location of housing on some of these sites.

We continue to have an excellent working relationship with our Neighbourhood Police team and support the work they carry out throughout the parish, despite their numbers decreasing. We have raised these issues at the highest level possible when the Police & Crime Commissioner for Devon & Cornwall, Mr Tony Hogg, was a guest speaker at our Council meeting in April. Though not receiving regular reports from the police due to

resource issues we are now part of a new Police Liaison Group having input and working in partnership with our local Sector team. Similarly, we were also briefed on the work of the local Street Pastors here in Redruth, by Deacon Helen Bamber and apprised of the valuable work they carry out in the town during unsociable hours.

The Minutes of all Council and committee meetings are available for inspection at the Council offices, or by downloading from our website (www.redruth-tc.gov.uk). More importantly, members of the public are reminded that there is a 15-minute period at each of the monthly Council meetings where you are free to speak to the Council about matters relating to the parish, and we encourage you to make use of this opportunity.

COMMITTEES

With the creation of a new Audit & Accounting Governance Committee during the year, there are now four main Committees of the Council with each hopefully consisting of at least eight members. Reports on the activities of each of the committees follow:

AMENITIES COMMITTEE

Chairman – Councillor Deborah Reeve Vice-Chairman – Councillor Tony Nicholls

The Amenities Committee consisted of the following Councillors:

Councillor Alison Biscoe (since October 2014)

Councillor Henry Biscoe

Councillor Judy Davidson

Councillor Barbara Ellenbroek (since February 2015)

Councillor Tony Nicholls

Councillor Deborah Reeve

Councillor Ian Thomas

Councillor Nick Thomas

Councillor Will Tremayne

The Amenities Committee is responsible for the Council Building; all Public Footpaths (in consultation with Cornwall Council); Coach Lane Allotments; all Parks & Play areas (in consultation with Cornwall Council); the management of St Rumon's Gardens; the Town Clock; Bus Shelters and Public Seats, and devolution and transfer of assets from Cornwall Council.

Once again this year the committee was responsible for providing the Floral Displays in the town, and we hope you were as pleased with them as we were. We continued our involvement in the Cornwall Council Local Maintenance Partnership whereby the Town Council receives a financial contribution towards the maintenance of the footpaths within We have had continuing discussions with Cornwall Council concerning the the parish. transfer of assets and services to the Town Council where we believe the community will be better served, but frustrations abound at the time that these transfers, often initiated by Cornwall Council are taking. That said we finally secured a 125 year lease on St Rumon's Gardens, which in fairness has been under the Town Council management and maintenance since its inception back in the early 2000's, and we have assumed responsibility for weed control within the parish since Cornwall Council's decision to withdraw the service from all but the essential areas of the town. We finally secured a 25 year lease of the former Gweal-an-Top school which is the home of an adventure playground run by the Friends of Gweal-an-Top. We have continued our discussions with Cornwall Council about our aim to bring a Skatepark, BMX track and Multi-Use Games area into the town, and are hopeful that this will come to fruition in the coming years but have again come up against a frustrating and long winded transfer. We continue work on a Community Emergency Plan for the parish which will enable assistance during any major incidents which might well affect us at some time in the future.

We continue to support the Redruth Amateur Growers Association who manage the Coach Lane allotments on behalf of the Council, and are pleased to see they continue to reap the benefits of their work in improving facilities and services to the site – we hope that the

allotments at Raymond Road will shortly be passed on a freehold to the Town Council and would look to run these in a similar vein.

AUDIT & ACCOUNTING GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

Chairman – Councillor Mike Eddowes Vice-Chairman – Councillor Deborah Reeve

The Audit & Accounting Governance Committee consisted of the following Councillors:

Councillor Henry Biscoe Councillor Mike Chappell Councillor Mrs Judy Davidson Councillor Michael Eddowes Councillor Deborah Reeve Councillor Will Tremayne

The Audit & Accounting Governance Committee was set up in July 2014 with responsibilities for monitoring the Council's spending, balances and budgets throughout the financial year by regular checks and trusted information; approving the accounting statements prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Accounts and Audit Regulations and proper practices; ensuring that an adequate system of internal control is maintained, including measures designed to prevent and detect fraud and corruption and reviewed its effectiveness through a comprehensive review of procedures and regular checks of our activities throughout the year; and ensuring that there are no matters of actual or potential non-compliance with laws, regulations and proper practices that could have a significant financial effect on the ability of the Council to conduct its business or on its finances.

Since its creation, the committee have carried out internal checks on a regular basis; received and acted upon reports from the independent internal auditor; reviewed the Risk assessment of Financial Management along with the Council's insurance policy; and recommended approval of the end of year accounts to Council.

FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

Chairman - Councillor Judy Davidson Vice-Chairman - Councillor Will Tremayne

The Finance & General Purposes Committee consisted of the following Councillors:

Councillor Stephen Barnes

Councillor Henry Biscoe Councillor Judy Davidson

Councillor Nuno De Freitas (since July 2014)

Councillor Michael Eddowes

Councillor Barbara Ellenbroek (since February 2015)

Councillor John Hayward (until October 2014)

Councillor Deborah Reeve

Councillor Ian Thomas

Councillor Will Tremayne

Councillor Peter Weeks (until November 2014)

The General Purposes Committee is responsible for all matters relating to our employees; all matters relating to policy and the general administration of the Council; overview of the towns festivities; tourism.

The committee was once again responsible for the town festivals of Murdoch Day, Redruth Mining & Pasty Festival, and St Piran's Festival. All led by our newly appointed Community Projects Officer, Lara Hill, these festivals go from strength to strength and showcase the town in a positive way. Each of the festivals was very successful in their own way and we will continue to build on these over the coming years. Indeed, we will be adding the Christmas Lights and Events in this forthcoming year.

We have been involved in various consultations with Cornwall Council which will hopefully pave the way for a greater liaison between to two tiers of local government.

We again ran our Tourist Information Point in the Cornwall Centre for the summer month's period, and it once again prove a valuable asset for the promotion of the town with all sorts of enquires.

The committee continues its efforts in developing the Council's work which demonstrates that our practices and procedures accord with national guidelines and reinforces our commitment to providing the best possible service to and with the community. The committee also authorised its annual financial support to the Redruth Christmas Events, Redruth Fun Day and Christmas Goodwill projects.

The committee were responsible for the following grants to local organisations:

Redruth Christmas Lights & Events	£6000	Kowethas A Y Kernewek	£100
Redruth Fun Day	£600	Redruth Cricket Club	£2000
Christmas Goodwill	£975	Redruth RBL	£100
Pond Lane Residents Association	£400	Redruth Story Group	£130
Tough Dough	£500	Redruth 2000	£250
Inland Art Festival	£500	Marshals for Cornwall	£250
Cornwall Animal Hospital	£400	Cornwall International Male	£200
St Euny Church	£500	Voice Choir Festival	£200

PLANNING COMMITTEE

Chairman – Councillor Henry Biscoe Vice-Chairman – Councillor Tony Nicholls

The Planning Committee consisted of the following Councillors:

Councillor Stephen Barnes

Councillor Alison Biscoe (since September 2014)

Councillor Henry Biscoe

Councillor Mike Chappell (since July 2014)

Councillor Barbara Ellenbroek (since February 2015)

Councillor Laura Eyre (since March 2015)

Councillor John Hayward (resigned October 2014)

Councillor Tony Nicholls

Councillor Nick Thomas

Councillor Will Tremayne

The Planning Committee meets twice a month and considers all planning applications for the Redruth Parish area. The Town Council is not the planning authority (that is Cornwall Council) but is a 'statutory consultee'; that is the Town Council is consulted on planning issues within the parish boundaries. The policy of Redruth Town Council on planning is that the Committee considers all plans, those considered to be contentious will be visited by a Member of the Planning Committee to ascertain the views of the local residents and neighbours and a verbal report made at the Planning Committee Meeting. A recommendation will be made and voted upon. This recommendation is submitted to Cornwall Council as the Town Council's consultation response. Members of the public can attend these Committee meetings.

During the year the Planning Committee considered some 170 planning applications, the decisions of which were forwarded to Cornwall Council as recommendations. The committee received a number of notices regarding road closures due to highway maintenance in the parish of Redruth throughout the year. They have also been addressing issues with the historic built environment of the town. A large part of the committees work has been in adapting to the changes within the planning guidance and regulations. A lot of work is now carried out in pre-application discussions with potential applicants, with the committee trying to give informed views prior to discussing the application for real. We have looked at a Neighbourhood Plan, which may commence this

coming year and are getting used to the National Planning Policy Framework. Further consultation has been carried out with Cornwall Council concerning the protocol that their Planning & Regeneration Service has with local councils.

The committee has wherever possible continued its proactive stance in respect of planning enforcement, within the area of the parish and continue to press for resolution.

ATTENDANCE RECORDS

The following is a summary of the attendances of Members at Meetings of the Council and its Committees during the Council Year 2014-2015:

	Council	Amenities	A&AG	GP	Planning
No of Meetings	13	6	4	6	23
R S Barnes	12			4	19
Mrs A Biscoe	7(8)	4(4)			15(15)
H Biscoe	12	6	4	4	23
M Chappell	9(10)		4		20(21)
I Clarke	2(2)				
Mrs J Davidson	11	4	4	5	
N De Freitas	10(10)			4(5)	
M E Eddowes	10		2	5	
Mrs B Ellenbroek	3(3)	2(2)		1(1)	5(6)
Ms L Eyre	2(2)				3(3)
J Hayward	0(4)			1(3)	0(7)
T Nicholls	11	6			17
Ms D Reeve	13	6	4	5	
I Thomas	11	6		5	
N Thomas	10	6			21
W Tremayne	13	4	4	5	21
P Weeks	3(6)			0(3)	

Note: Bracketed numbers show number of meetings could have attended due to changes in-year.

COUNCIL FINANCES

Set out below is a summary of the Council's Income and Expenditure for the Financial Year 2014–2015:

INCOME		EXPENDITURE	
Precept	289465	General Administration	156466
Council Tax Support Grant	50713	Grants & Donations	21335
Interest	992	Events	22187
Floral Displays	3766	Capital Expenditure	8016
Tenancies	5835	Running Costs	29628
Events	4301	Floral Displays	15159
Other Income	5985	Other Payments	37486
	361057		290277

Members of the public can view the Annual Return of the Councils Accounts for the year ended $31^{\rm st}$ March 2015 on the Council's website or contact the office.

STATISTICS AND INFORMATION

The Council administers a 'second tier authority', and is a parish within the Cornwall Council (Unitary Authority) area.

The newly established County of Cornwall Wards of Redruth (North), Redruth (Central), and Redruth (South) came into effect at the local council elections held in May 2013 and within those wards the following numbers have been designated to represent the town - Redruth North (5 Members), Central (4), and South (5).

In the year under review:

Redruth (North) was represented by:-

Councillor Stephen Barnes

Councillor Ms Laura Eyre (from 2nd March 2015)

Councillor Nick Thomas Councillor Ian Thomas Councillor Will Tremavne

Councillor Peter Weeks (until 24th November 2014)

Redruth (Central) was represented by:-

Councillor Henry Biscoe

Councillor Nuno De Freitas (from 30th June 2014)

Councillor Michael Eddowes Councillor Deborah Reeve

Redruth (South) was represented by:-

Councillor Mrs Alison Biscoe (from 29th September 2014)

Councillor Mike Chappell (from 30th June 2014)

Councillor Ian Clarke (until 22nd May 2014)

Councillor Mrs Judy Davidson

Councillor Mrs Barbara Ellenbroek (from 5th February 2015)

Councillor John Hayward (until 27th October 2014)

Councillor Tony Nicholls

There are approximately 14020 people residing within the boundary of this Council of which 10809 are registered electors.

The Precept from Cornwall Council for the fiscal year 2014-15 was £289465, which was supplemented by a Council Tax Support Grant of £50703. This equates to a sum of approximately £81.24 per household within the year of the Town Council, and showed an increase of £13.48 year on year for a 'D' Band equivalent property. This money is allocated by Cornwall Council in the Council Tax and is then passed to the Town Council on demand. The Precept for the previous fiscal year was in the sum of £237813, with a Council Tax Support Grant of £56517.

ABOUT MEMBERS

For the period of this report:

Councillors Michael Eddowes (Redruth Central ED) and Ian Thomas (Redruth South ED) are elected Members of Cornwall Council.

REDRUTH TOWN COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE BODIES

Councillor	Outside Body
Stephen Barnes	Redruth North Partnership; Redruth Community Centre
Henry Biscoe	Redruth Chamber of Commerce; Redruth Twinning Association; Mineral Point Twinning Association

Mrs Judy Davidson	Redruth Chamber of Commerce; Mineral Point Twinning Association; Redruth Youth Centre Management Committee; Archive Working Group; Plain-an-Gwarry Play Area
Michael Eddowes	Redruth North Partnership
John Hayward	CALC; LLCC; Redruth 2000 (Murdoch House)
Tony Nicholls	Healthy Redruth
Ian Thomas	Redruth North Partnership; Archive Working Group
Nick Thomas	Redruth Twinning Association
Will Tremayne	W Cornwall CCTV Working Group; Mineral Tramways Partnership

REDRUTH YOUTH COUNCIL

Formed in November 2012, Redruth Youth Council currently has 12 Youth Councillors, aged between 9 and 15 years. They meet on a monthly basis usually after school hours on a Thursday.

Their meetings are wide ad varied and cover a number of topics – hopefully all relevant to the youth of today. Examples of this are discussions about presenting on Redruth Radio a dedicated weekly show; discussions to do with Gypsy, Roma, and Traveller history month; services provided by Cornwall Council and what was important to young people; with Hilary Guthrie of Cascade Theatre Group regarding productions around Redruth; and invited by the Kernow Music Foundation to train and hold a radio broadcast; and in April they took part in Library Consultation and are currently planning a 'peaceful protest' in conjunction with Town Mayor.

Activities included being involved in the Redruth Mining & Pasty Festival where they sold donated bric-a-brac items on stall; held a tombola and raffle; and baked goods within St Rumon's Gardens. They also held a talent competition, threw sponges at the Mayor, raising a total of £184.94, of which £64.72 was donated to Whizz Kids and the remainder retained in funds for Youth Council projects. In September some of them attended an activity weekend at Great Potheridge, Devon which proved to be a great team building weekend and they participated in abseiling, climbing wall, coasteering, and canoeing.

Having previously carried out a survey to establish suitability of equipment they saw in December the installation of play equipment on Plain-an-Gwarry Play Area, having applied successfully and received £10,000 from Section 106 funds earmarked for Redruth. Further surveys have been carried out on other Redruth parks to establish equipment condition.

Perhaps the highlight of the year was when they invited all the local Prospective Parliamentary Candidates in the General Election to hustings where they put questions relating to youth matters before Harry Blakeley (UKIP), Michael Foster (Labour), William Haslam (Conservative representing George Eustice), Loveday Jenkin (Mebyon Kernow) and Geoff Garbett (Green Party). This proved highly successful and the candidates themselves were impressed by the questions and knowledge of the Youth Councillor.

CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL

1985/1986	J. Ham MBE
1986/1987	R. S. Barnes
1987/1988	C. C. Hailey
1988/1989	C. Lawrence

1989/1990	T. J. Bray
1990/1991	C. Lawrence
1991/1992	M. Mullins
1992/1993	Mrs A. J. Palmer
1993/1994	Mrs W. Lawrence
1994/1995	Mrs E. Wilkinson
1995/1996	Mrs E. Wilkinson

TOWN MAYOR OF REDRUTH

1996/1997	M. S. Eddowes
1997/1998	C. Lawrence
1998/1999	C. Lawrence
1999/2000	D. L. Pascoe
2000/2001	D. L. Pascoe
2001/2002	K. Old
2002/2003	Mrs S. Fowler
2003/2004	Mrs S. Fowler
2004/2005	K.R. Dinham
2005/2006	J.T. Hayward
2006/2007	J.T. Hayward
2007/2008	J.T. Hayward
2008/2009	Mrs B. R. Ellenbroek
2009/2010	Mrs B. R. Ellenbroek
2010/2011	I. Thomas
2011/2012	I. Thomas
2012/2013	Mrs J. M. Davidson
2013/2014	Mrs J. M. Davidson MBE
2014-2015	W. P. Tremayne

CLERKS TO THE TOWN COUNCIL

1985-1988	W. A. Skewes
1988	V. A. I. Blackmore
1988-1989	M. C. Rowe
1989-1996	D. Pullen
1996-Present	P. B. Bennett

YOUR TOWN COUNCILLORS 2015 - 2016

REDRUTH (NORTH) WARD				
Cllr Stephen Barnes	`Fal', Clinton Close, REDRUTH, TR15 2LR	01209 212558		
Cllr Ian Thomas	`Southview', Wheal Mary, REDRUTH, TR16 4BX	01209 213751		
Cllr Nick Thomas	12A Trewirgie Vean, The Shambles, REDRUTH, TR15 2RR	01209 314399		
Cllr Will Tremayne (TOWN MAYOR)	13 North Street, REDRUTH TR15 1HJ	01209 314330		
Clir Ms Laura Eyre	Higher Pennance Farm, Pennance Lane Lanner, REDRUTH TR16 5TL	01209 215187		
	REDRUTH (CENTRAL) WARD			
Cllr Henry Biscoe (DEPUTY TOWN MAYOR)	29 Treliske Road, Roseland Gardens, REDRUTH, TR15 1QE	01209 212991		
Cllr Mike Eddowes	2 Roseland Gardens, REDRUTH, TR15 1PU	01209 215074		
Cllr Ms Deborah Reeve	3 Basset Street, REDRUTH TR15 2EA	01209 213807		
Cllr Nuno De Freitas	The Spot Cafe, 92 Fore Street, REDRUTH TR15 2BP	07454021655		
	REDRUTH (SOUTH) WARD			
Cllr Mrs Alison Biscoe	29 Treliske Road, Roseland Gardens, REDRUTH, TR15 1QE	01209 212991		
Cllr Mike Chappell	3 Edwards Apartments, Gweal Pawl, REDRUTH TR15 3AE	07460987597		
Cllr Mrs Judy Davidson	2 Trevenner Mews, REDRUTH, TR15 1JW	01209 217179		
Cllr Mrs Barbara Ellenbroek	83A Clinton Road, REDRUTH TR15 2LT	01209 314422		
Cllr Tony Nicholls	Flat 28, Chyventon House, Forth Noweth, REDRUTH TR15 1AU	01209 212731		

Council Officers			
Town Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer	Mr Peter Bennett The Chambers, Penryn Street, Redruth, TR15 2SP Email: admin@redruth-tc.gov.uk	01209 210038	
Office Administration	Mrs Bev Borman The Chambers, Penryn Street, Redruth, TR15 2SP Email: admin@redruth-tc.gov.uk	01209 210038	
Community Projects Manager	Mrs Lara Hill The Chambers, Penryn Street, Redruth, TR15 2SP Email: cpm@redruth-tc.gov.uk	01209 210038	
Tourist Information &	Mrs Barbara Barnes The Chambers, Penryn Street, Redruth, TR15 2SP Email: visit@redruth-tc.gov.uk	01209 210038	
Events Assistant	During Tourist Office opening, June – September: The Cornwall Centre, Alma Place, Redruth, TR15 2AT	01209 216760	