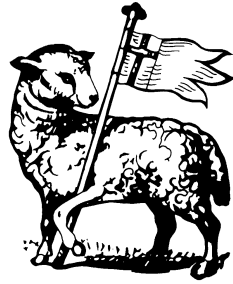


REDRUTH TOWN COUNCIL



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Annual Report for the Council Year 2013/2014

**The Chambers
Penryn Street
Redruth
TR15 2SP**

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to Redruth Town Council's Annual Report for 2013-2014 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 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.

Our Council hold regular monthly surgeries at the Library within the Town so that everyone within our community can raise issues with Town Councillors. Those issues may be local concerns and problems or ideas on improving the town's infrastructure and environment. All matters raised are presented, anonymously, if you so wish, to Full Council at the earliest opportunity for wider discussion. The schedule of these surgeries is available on the town notice boards, on our website and advertised in the local press. Members of the public are welcome to come in, no appointment being necessary.

My two year term of office has come to a close on a high note with the news that the paperwork is in place for the transfer of the land for the Kresen Kernow building, the funding is secured for the Flood Relief works and demolition is scheduled to start early in July. A dream comes true at last!

The new Mayor is Cllr. Will Tremayne and his deputy is Cllr. Henry Biscoe both are looking forward to guiding the Town through the exciting changes and challenges ahead.

This year saw the resignation of Mr. Lee Dunkley, our Town Development Manager in January, and the selection of Mrs. Lara Hill to a new post – Community Project Manager to succeed him. She will be helping us plan our four annual Festivals as well as any other events that arise.

The St Piran's Festival attracted big crowds and was generally acknowledged to be a great success. Once again the Grand Bard attended and the atmosphere was amazing. Our Youth Council young people conducted a public survey to check out the views of people attending and even managed to get George Eustice M.P. to complete one for us. The young councillors will be running various events in St. Rumon's Gardens for the Pasty Festival on the 14th September, so please go along and support them!

This last year also saw the selection of Redruth School as the venue to take over the running track from the Leisure Centre when it is demolished. This will be a great addition to the Town's facilities and will increase footfall, particularly when then hold prestigious races which attract large crowds.

Another exciting project for the Town has been the start of work on a one million pound extension to the facilities at Krowji. It will also see a new access road being built to replace the difficult and narrow existing lane. This will see the popular arts and crafts centre, workshops and cafe being developed, making this major attraction for the artistic community in West Cornwall and an asset to the town.

These successes could not or would not have been achieved without the dedication and hard work of all the Town Council personnel, the Town Councillors and indeed the support of the local community. I would like to say a personal huge "Thank You" to everyone for their efforts and contributions to the achievements of 2013-2014.

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

Councillor Judy Davidson MBE
Mayor of Redruth 2013-2014.

GENERAL INFORMATION
THE YEAR UNDER REVIEW
FULL COUNCIL

The Council Year began in May with the local Council elections. Regretfully, only seven people stood for the fourteen places available for election within the three wards in the Redruth parish. This would mean that we would have to look to co-opt another seven Members over the coming months of the Council year – a task which has proved difficult to date. At our Annual General Meeting, which followed the elections, Councillor Mrs Judy Davidson was re-elected for a second term as the Town Mayor, and Councillor Will Tremayne re-elected as the Deputy Town Mayor for the coming 2013-2014 municipal year. For our Town Mayor things were to get even more exciting when it was announced in the Queen's Birthday Honours List that she had been made a Member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE) for her services to JobCentre Plus here in the County.

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 Cornwall Council's Community Network Manager which has enabled us to develop our working partnership.

We have also been 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. We are hopeful that demolition works will commence very soon and that this "blot on the landscape" will be transformed for ever. There is still much work to do, but matters are moving in the right direction.

We continue to fund the monitoring of the CCTV system in the town in partnership with other Town Councils in the west of Cornwall, which is appearing to contribute towards a safer environment in which to socialise and work, and have also had initial discussion with the Environment agency regarding flash flooding in the town.

We have continued our discussions with Cornwall Council about the use and charges in the town car parks (Council-owned) and have hopefully set some trails in place 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.

The Council has given its support to a newly established Redruth/Mexico twinning association which will enable our links to be strengthened, and have given our support to the local cinema in the light of proposed developments at Pool.

We continue to have an excellent working relationship with our Neighbourhood Police team and support the work they carry out throughout the parish and have actively supported the "Safer Redruth" scheme. We have continued our support in the policing of the parish with a financial contribution towards an additional PCSO, although this will cease in the coming year.

The Council also operates monthly surgeries where you have the opportunity to discuss issues with a member of the council on a one-to-one basis. These are held on either the second Saturday or Wednesday of each month and you should check our website for details.

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

There are three main Committees of the Council each consisting of at least eight members. Due to the lack of elected Members at the start of this municipal year, those elected served on all committees until at least the end of September 2013. Reports on the activities of each of the committees follow (membership details of committees reflect the post September 2013 position):

AMENITIES COMMITTEE

Chairman – Councillor Stephen Barnes
Vice-Chairman – Councillor Deborah Reeve

The Amenities Committee consisted of the following Councillors:

Councillor Stephen Barnes
Councillor Henry Biscoe
Councillor Ian Clarke
Councillor Judy Davidson
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 public realms art works etc.

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 the parish; and have had on-going discussions concerning the transfer of assets and services from Cornwall Council to the Town Council where we believe the community will be better served by locally based services, although this is proving more difficult than first envisaged. However, we have finally had the Trewirgie Charitable Trust Fund with its associated funds and assets transferred in whole to the Town Council, and are to take over a 125 year lease on St Rumon's Gardens in the near future. 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. We are currently working 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 have and will continue to ensure that the Cornwall Council owned parks and play areas in the parish are well maintained and will be places that the community wish to use, and have indeed provided new seating in St Rumon's Gardens which replaced the wooden seats which became unfit for purpose. Rather late in the financial year the committee agreed to fund some of the weed control in the town following Cornwall council's decision to withdraw the service from all but the essential areas of the town. Whilst we are unable to fund the service for the whole town this year, we will look at a widening the service in the coming years.

We continue to support the Redruth Amateur Growers Association who manage the 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.

FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

Chairman – Councillor John Hayward
Vice-Chairman – Councillor Will Tremayne

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

Councillor Daniel Brant
 Councillor Mrs Judy Davidson
 Councillor Michael Eddowes
 Councillor John Hayward
 Councillor Deborah Reeve
 Councillor Ian Thomas
 Councillor Will Tremayne

The Finance & General Purposes Committee is responsible for all matters relating to our employees; the finances of the Council; all matters relating to policy and the general administration of the Council.

The committee was once again responsible for the town's celebration in Murdoch Day, and a very successful day despite the weather. We have been involved in various consultations with Cornwall Council which will hopefully pave the way for a greater liaison between two tiers of local government.

We again ran our Tourist Information Point in the Cornwall Centre for the summer month's period, and a valuable asset it is becoming. Following the resignation of our Community Partnership Officer late in 2013, we were delighted to appoint Mrs Lara Hill in the position of the Community Projects Manager, and look forward to her involvement in the towns' projects.

We have made a commitment to take over the CCTV system within the town from Cornwall Council and await transfer of the equipment and new contracts to be put into place. To ensure that we get value for money we are continuing to do this in partnership with 4/5 other councils within the west of Cornwall.

The committee has supported the town museum in its objective to obtain accredited status; have helped with a mini Cornwall Film Festival here in the town with the aim of getting the full Festival here later in the year; and are looking at becoming the holding trustees for Murdoch House.

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	£6000	Merlin MS Centre	£250
Redruth Fun Day	£600	Mount Ambrose Cricket Club	£2000
Christmas Goodwill	£975	St Euny Church	£750
Redruth Tennis Club	£2000	Redruth Story Group	£130
Cornwall Neighbourhoods for Change	£780	Cornwall Animal Hospital Charity	£400
Cornish Global Migration Project	£500	Redruth Bowling Club	£2000
Cornwall Blind Association	£150	Inland Festival (in Redruth)	£500

PLANNING COMMITTEE

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

The Planning Committee consisted of the following Councillors:

Councillor Henry Biscoe
 Councillor Daniel Brant
 Councillor Stephen Barnes
 Councillor Ian Clarke
 Councillor Mrs Judy Davidson
 Councillor John Hayward
 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 150 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 Neighbourhood Plans 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 2013-2014:

	Council	Amenities	F&GP	Planning
No of Meetings	12	6	7	24
R S Barnes	11	4	(2) 1	18
H Biscoe	11	5	(2) 2	22
D Brant	(10) 4	(2) 2	(5) 1	(16) 9
I Clarke	(10) 9	6	(1) 0	(21) 19
Mrs J Davidson	12	4	6	16
M E Eddowes	10	(2) 0	6	(9) 1
J Hayward	10	(2) 1	5	17
T Nicholls	(8) 8	(5) 5	(1) 1	(19) 18
Ms D Reeve	(9) 9	(6) 5	(6) 6	(6) 6
I Thomas	11	(6) 5	5	(8) 5
N Thomas	(9) 8	(5) 4	(1) 1	(20) 17
W Tremayne	10	5	7	21
P Weeks	(1) 1		(1) 1	

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 2013-2014:

INCOME		EXPENDITURE	
Precept	237813	General Administration	133803
Council Tax Support Grant	56517	Grants & Donations	15421
Interest	818	Events	25922
Floral Displays	3744	Capital Expenditure	6596
Tenancies	8238	Running Costs	29042
Events	6174	Floral Displays	15008
Other Income	4273	Other Payments	61745
	<u>317577</u>		<u>287536</u>

Members of the public can view the Annual Return of the Councils Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2014 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 Nick Thomas (from 1st July 2013)
Councillor Ian Thomas
Councillor Will Tremayne
Councillor Peter Weeks (from 31st March 2014)

Redruth (Central) was represented by:-

Councillor Henry Biscoe
Councillor Michael Eddowes
Councillor Deborah Reeve (from 1st July 2013)
VACANT

Redruth (South) was represented by:-

Councillor Daniel Brant (from 24th June 2013 until 31st March 2014)
Councillor Ian Clarke (from 24th June 2014)
Councillor Mrs Judy Davidson
Councillor John Hayward
Councillor Tony Nicholls (from 29th July 2013)

There are approximately 14018 people residing within the boundary of this Council of which 10809 are registered electors.

The Precept from Cornwall Council for the fiscal year 2013-14 was £237813. However, this was supplemented by a Council Tax Support Grant of £56516, due to a change in funding by central government. This equates to a sum of approximately £67-76 per household within the year of the Town Council, and showed a decrease of £1.33 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 £294330, but did not include any Council Tax Support Grant.

ABOUT MEMBERS

For the period of this report:

Councillors Michael Eddowes and Ian Thomas are elected Members of Cornwall Council.

REDRUTH TOWN COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE BODIES

<u>Councillor</u>	<u>Outside Body</u>
Stephen Barnes	Redruth North Partnership
Henry Biscoe	Redruth Chamber of Commerce; Redruth Twinning Association; Mineral Point Twinning Association
Mrs Judy Davidson	Redruth Chamber of Commerce; Redruth Twinning Association; Redruth Youth Centre Management Committee; Mineral Tramways Partnership; Archive Working Group
Michael Eddowes	Redruth North Partnership
John Hayward	CALC; LLCC; Redruth 2000 (Murdoch House)
Ian Thomas	CCVS; Redruth North Partnership; Archive Working Group
Will Tremayne	W Cornwall CCTV Working Group; Mineral Tramways Partnership

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 MBE
2013/2014	Mrs J. M. Davidson MBE

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 2014 – 2015

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
Cllr Peter Weeks	9 Chyrose Road, St Day, Redruth TR16 5LX	01209 313660
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
	VACANT	
REDRUTH (SOUTH) WARD		
	VACANT	
	VACANT	
Cllr Mrs Judy Davidson	2 Trevenner Mews, REDRUTH, TR15 1JW	01209 217179
Cllr John Hayward	6 Glendale Crescent, REDRUTH, TR15 2JR	01209 213554
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