



# Probus Parish Council

Annual Report 2021-2022

BRANSTON FARM, BODMIN ROAD, BODMIN PL30 4BB

APRIL 2022

## Members of Council

### Chairman:

Cllr. Bill Sutherland 01726 884007

### Vice- Chairman:

Cllr. Nicholas Gillard 01726 883926

Cllr Rachel Tofts 07432 566055

Cllr. Steve Dalton 01726 884080

Cllr. Liza Deards 07888 684425

Cllr. James Faull 07494 756249

Cllr. Neil Glasson 07709 286850

Cllr Ross Goldsworthy 07967 125526

Cllr. Malcolm Maskill 01726 884368

Cllr. Larry Saunders-Fern 01726 882669

Cornwall Cllr Karen Glasson 07980

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## How the Precept was spent 2021-22

The main income of Parish and Town Councils is provided by local residents via the Parish Precept, an element of your Council Tax.

<b>Income</b>	
Precept	£51,712.11
Council Tax Grant	£954.91
Bank Interest	£0.80
Cemetery	£1,064.00
Vat refund	£1,837.32
Other Grants	£1,874.91
Car Park	£1,305.00
Other Income	£1,544.72
<b>Total</b>	<b>£60,293.77</b>
<b>Outgoings</b>	
Administration incl. staff wages	£35,539.44
Playing Field/ Play area/ MUGA/OS	£17,591.55
Village Hall	£3,742.00
Cemetery Maintenance	£4,121.52
Capital Projects / Jubilee Gardens	£942.09
Grants	£3,893.35
Streetlights	£173.11
Footpath maintenance	£500.00
Car Park	-£349.00
Public Toilets( exc caretaker)	£871.47
Vat	£4,586.61
<b>Total</b>	<b>£71,612.14</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>-£11,318.37</b>

Additional staffing expenses were incurred this year owing to the overlap of time at the changeover of the Parish Clerk's position.

## **PROBUS PARISH COUNCIL**

### **Chairman's Report 2021-2022**

Once again COVID features in the report on the activities of the Parish Council. Having been confined to virtual meetings for a year, we had our first face to face meeting on 17/05/2021 with social distancing and masks. A strange experience which evolved to at least workable and then on to something nearer normal. Of course, everybody in the community was affected and thank you again to those who volunteered to help the more vulnerable among us.

The Probus News magazine again proved helpful and informative so thank you to all involved there.

Thanks as always to Amanda Kendall, our clerk, for her valuable support and guidance. Unfortunately she left the Parish Council in January 2022 and our Staffing Committee was put to the test to find her replacement which they did in the form of Jenny Hoskin to whom we extend a warm welcome.

The Parish Council seems to have functioned well in providing services and facilities and we give thanks to Glen and Vic who continued to perform throughout a difficult time.

The delayed works of the Truck Holy Well refurbishment and the original wild flower planting was completed in 2021 whereas the preparations for the Neighbourhood Development Plan is ongoing.

Again the Playing Field Committee continue to keep the facilities in the best order they can and thanks must go to Graham Smith for his groundsmanship. The search for an alternative site is ongoing but proves ever difficult to find.

The children's play area has been cleared of the rubbish accumulated over many years and hopefully the reclaimed ground will be put to good use once the north boundary fence has been repaired.

Since the skate ramp rebuild in 2020, it's popularity has grown. The down side is that a complaint from one resident of noise to the Environment Protection Officer means it's future is uncertain. The Parish Council is acting on that officer's recommendations.

Antisocial behaviour has raised its ugly head this past year. Reports to the police have increased many fold. The local officers do their best to control the few who blight things for the many.

The Planning Committee continues it's role. The Tregony View phase 2 construction has started this year. However, it is terribly disappointing, to say the least, that Cornwall Council has reneged on it's intention to provide the 55 new dwellings as affordable housing. The adoption by the Parish Council of the open space created by phase 1 is still under investigation.

The fixed speed warning sign on St Austell Road is now installed and the Speed Watch scheme is up and running.

The Village Hall Committee has struggled with the effects of COVID and the subsequent restricted letting ability which is slowly improving. They have implemented plans for improvements in and around the building which are currently ongoing.

The Sustainable Transport Working Group was set up over two years ago to determine (within the rules under Highways) the best options and projects to finance with the S106 allocation from the Tregony View phase 1 development. The Group has made significant progress with a project in the Village Square, the original goal of which was always to prevent runaway parked vehicles crossing the footpath and demolishing the garden walls of the cottages by the Farm shop (or even worse, trapping a pedestrian against a wall) and to achieve this without the loss of parking spaces. It was proposed that heavy duty planters be strategically placed parallel to the footpath at the Farm shop to create a barrier which if kept looking good would enhance the square. Also the installation of two cycle hoops. They were asked by residents if the cross-section slope of the footpath could be reduced to assist wheelchair users and pedestrians alike. This has been factored in and agreed with Cornwall Council. The railings opposite the shops are to be repaired and painted and a VAS flashing "school children" warning sign installed near the bus stop opposite the shops. An infographic board is to be installed on the Church cobbles where the finger point signage has already been fitted. The Fore Street (Treviglas Lane) bus shelter is to be refurbished and improved with a cycle rack facility. This all went out to Public Consultation on the 23/11/21 and the group hope for completion of the project in 2022.

A Green Working group (code name P.E.A.T) was set up on 21/07/2021 to oversee environmental issues around the village i.e Litter Picking, Weed Control and Tree Planting etc. October saw the planting of very many bulbs around the village by this Group in collaboration with John Denyer (Probus News) and residents. As this is the Platinum Jubilee year the Group's intention is to sow wild flower seeds of appropriate colours in the various beds around the village and refurbish the gardens at each end of Probus. The latter has now been achieved. On 20/12/21 a special oak tree commemorating the Platinum Jubilee was planted in Fore Street by the Group with the deputy Lord Lieutenant Daphne Skinnard in attendance. The Government tree planting initiative has been taken up by the Group with several sites identified as suitable. The Group is in talks with Cornwall Council to refurbish the Church footpaths which have been sadly neglected. It has been resolved to discontinue the use of glyphosate to control the weed growth on the village streets. A village litter picking initiative was set in motion in September 21 for the first Saturday each month, run by volunteers, and has been very successful. Thank you to all involved.

The Platinum Jubilee committee chaired by Cllr Tofts is striving to organise events within the village to celebrate the momentous historic occasion of our Queen Elizabeth being an amazing 70 years on the throne. God Bless Her. The list of planned events is available in the Probus News magazine, on the Village Notice Board and on Facebook.

The Parish Council co-opted three councillors last year but unfortunately has lost one since so we need to co-opt another for a full compliment.

Once again a large Christmas tree was erected on the Church cobbles which looked splendid.  
Thank you to Jonathan Keam and all involved for organising that event.

I would like to acknowledge the support of Cornwall Councillor Karen Glasson in her first year as the parish's representative in that role.

All in all a busy year and I thank everyone for their time and effort.

Cllr Bill Sutherland  
Chairman  
Probus Parish Council