



Probus Parish Council

Annual Report 2023-2024

LEE HO, ASHDOWN CLOSE, STICKER, PL26 7EU

MAY 2024

Members of council 2023-24

Chairman:

Cllr. Nicholas Gillard 01726 883926

Vice- Chairman:

Cllr. Neil Glasson 07709 286850

Cllr Rachel Tofts 07432 566055

Cllr. James Faull 07494 756249

Cllr. Bill Sutherland 01726 884007

Cllr. Ross Goldsworthy 07967 125526

Cllr. Malcolm Maskill 01726 884368

Cllr. Chris Dutton 07689 451207

Cllr. Paul Quinlan 07498 304044

Cllr Alison Cook

Cllr Bryan Fogerty

Cornwall Cllr Karen Glasson

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Finance Report & How the Precept was spent 2023-24

Account Balance - as at the **1st April 2023** stands at **£105,284.35**, of which:

- Earmarked for specific projects: **£52,700**
- CIL money – **£33,492.05**
- General reserves - **£19,092.3**

Explanations:

*The **precept** is the council tax that the billing authority (in this case, Cornwall Council) collects on behalf of a parish council. The precept is calculated as part of the parish council's budget; it fills the gap between the parish council's planned expenditure and its estimated income.

The Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL**) is a charge that local authorities can set on new development in order to raise funds to help fund the infrastructure, facilities and services - such as schools or transport improvements - needed to support new homes and businesses.

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

Source	£
Parish Council Precept	£59,700
Bank Interest	£158.99
CIL Monies	£9,096.63
Cemetery Fees	£1,861
Car Park Income	£1,666.27
Cornwall Council SLA/LMP	£2,704
S106 fund	£3,682.75
Defibrillator crowd funding	£3,893.8
Other Income	£1,085.38
	£83,848.82

Income streams:

It can be noted from the above that the greatest proportion of the Parish Council's income (71%) is derived from the Parish Precept. *

Community infrastructure levy (CIL) monies account for 10.8% of income **

S106 fund – 4.3%, Crowdfunding contribution toward defibrillators - 4.6%, SLA contributions - 3.2%

Other income account for 1.2% of total income, Car Parking Charges generate 1.9% of income and Cemetery Fees 2.2%.

EXPENDITURE: Total expenditure for the municipal year 2023-24 amounted to £77,011.37 (gross).

Staff costs (including training and expenses)	£26,608.68
Hall Rent	£784.19
Equipment	£695.09
Insurance	£2,202.44
Subscriptions	£1089.68
Website	£487.32
Audit Charges	£768
Grants	£4,842.62
Defibrillator	£4,410
Open spaces & Verges Maintenance	£7,823.8
Play Area/ Muga Maintenance	£4,773.4
Infrastructure improvement (incl S106 project)	£9,358.26
Waste Removal and weed treatment	£3,051.96
Public Toilets (Excl. Cleaning)	£ 680.80
Community events	£ 665.56
Other, including assets maintenance	£1,403.73
Including VAT	£7,365.84
	£77,011.37

Probus Parish Council Chairman's Report 2022-

Patience, persistence and perspiration make an unbeatable combination for success. This proved to be a year of persevering with goals that had been set last year and were beset with changes & challenges.

The parish council Clerk successfully completed her first full year in post and has the confidence of the council. The council's maintenance officer, Glen, left to take up a new role. Following a period of temporary support the council appointed Andy Taskis, a local resident, to the post. The council's other employee Mr Vic Coop decided to retire after 20 years of service to community and caretaking the public convenience. Progress is underway to fill this gap. The council has continued to contract with Algaard Renshaw Business Solutions for additional support and expertise to ensure its statutory duties are met for the municipal year.

The council was pleased to welcome two new members, Mrs Alison Cook and Mr Bryan Fogerty. Sadly, four Councillors decided to stand down due to other commitments and so we thank Mrs Rachel Tofts, Mr Paul Quinlan, Mr M Maskill and Mr Bryan Fogerty. The Parish Council valued their contributions throughout their term in office, which is a voluntary role, and sincerely hopes that they may return at some point in the future.

Grants were awarded in the year to the Village Hall Committee, Playing Field Committee. Probus News received a grant in support of its dedicated work in keeping the village informed and entertained with news and stories on a monthly basis. Probus Fun Week Committee received a grant in aid of supporting the reintroduction of a carnival/fun week for the parish/community.

King Charles III coronation celebrations were supported by the parish council, and it proved to be a special community event which incorporated a range of activities and the main event of a street party.

Village infrastructure and general upkeep has progressed throughout the year. Works included: the repair & reinstatement of the Jubilee Lamp; renewed signage at the playing field & car park and to the rear of the village hall; an additional defibrillator (fund raising led by Probus News); new benches installed to the side of the mixed use games area (MUGA), newel posts replaced at "the Green"; further noise mitigation work to the skate ramp; CCTV cameras upgraded at the play area and additional one installed near the public convenience; village square improvements carried out. The parish council acknowledges the important role of Probus Environment Action Team (PEAT) and its work in maintain the environment including all those volunteers that support regular litter picking.

During the year Cornwall Council carried out its public consultation over the proposed introduction of a 20mph speed limit villages across the County. Our elected divisional member campaigned for and supported this proposal. Following the consultation, it was decided to go ahead. Specific proposals for introducing the 20 mph limit along with traffic calming measures were drafted for Probus and distributed for consultation. The parish council played an active role in responding to the consultation. The final plans were agreed before the end of the municipal year and will be implemented in May/June 2024. During the year it was possible for the local Community Speedwatch group to re-establish with new members and start a regular programme of Speedwatch sessions at different locations in the village.

Probus Fun week was a great success with many residents attending different events and taking part throughout the week. The parish council was pleased to support the initiative and acknowledges the tremendous amount of work carried out by all the volunteers involved in making it a success. Planning is already underway for Probus fun Week 2024.

Regular Parish Council business continued during the year with regular meetings, including providing consultation responses to over 20 planning applications. Councillors have continued to fulfil their representative roles on various committees and in liaising with other local bodies & groups. The parish Council supported what is now the annual initiative for a Christmas tree to be erected on the Church cobbles, many thanks to all the residents involved for organising this.

Cornwall Council published details of its Community Levelling Up and Good Growth funds, encouraging communities to submit relevant applications. The parish council resolved to support Probus Village Hall Committee with an application for funds to modernise and improve the Village Hall.

The development of 55 houses at Tower Parc was completed. The number of “affordable housing” units was increased by Cornwall council agreeing to purchase additional units. The parish council continues to support Tregony View Residents Association who prepares to take up responsibility for management of the open spaces as part of both phase 1 & 2 of the completed development. The parish council approached Cornwall council about “adopting” the road infrastructure to the developments. This was completed toward the end of the municipal year.

As the end of the municipal year the parish council is preparing an application for an “off street parking order” which will apply to the car parking areas at the village hall and the playing field thereby affording a greater degree of control over how they are used

As the year draws to a close there are 5 vacancies on the council. The clerk would be delighted to receive expressions of interest and/or applications from residents.

It has been a busy year, with a mixture of following through on some projects and making a start on others. Thank you to all the staff & Cllrs (past & present) for their time, effort, and commitment throughout the year.

Cllr N Gillard
Chairman
Probus Parish Council