

Annual Report from the Parish Council Chair 2021-2022

St Keyne & Trewidland Parish Council
Cllr Sally Lewis

Firstly, and most importantly, thank you everyone for all your help and work over the past year, and a special note of gratitude to the Parish and Cornwall Councillors and our excellent Clerk, John Hesketh.

The new St Keyne and Trewidland Parish Council came into being in May 2021. I'm delighted to say that we now have a full Council, four new Councillors from Trewidland, Angela, Jonathan, Lindsey, and Sarah and three new Councillors for the St Keyne Ward, Alex, Mark and Peter and, of course, I'm so pleased that Kevin and I are still here from the old St Keyne Parish Council. All of our Councillors have contributed to the work that we do and special thanks are due to:

Kevin and Sarah – who have become signatories to our Bank Account

Alex who has taken on the sometimes-onerous task of inspection and maintenance of the installations at Jubilee Park

Kevin and Peter who are working on the updating of the Emergency Plan

Angela who has taken on the role of updating the Parish Notice Board in Trewidland and is also our representative on their Village Hall Committee

Lindsey and Kevin who are looking at upgrading footpaths

And Sarah who offered to sit on the Scrutiny Committee which has happily not had to meet as yet

I would also like to take this opportunity to say a special thank you to Phil Seeva who represented us until the elections. We are very grateful to our Cornwall Councillors, Jane Pascoe, and Armand Toms who between them have attended all of our monthly meetings. They have been an incredible source of information and practical help throughout this year – they are both very much appreciated.

We are sharing the venue for our monthly meetings between St Keyne and Trewidland and have been pleased to welcome a number of Trewidland Parishioners to our meetings. The Council has taken time to seriously evaluate the Planning Applications that we have been asked to comment on and as a rule the applicants have responded to our invitation to come along to answer any questions.

All the Councillors have attended training sessions with the new Councillors benefiting from John's instruction and guidance on how the Council works and our roles within it.

As we began the year the Covid 19 pandemic was still having a great effect on all our lives. I'd like to thank again all the wonderful volunteers who gave up their time during the pandemic to help our parishioners with collecting prescriptions, shopping etc. and especially Carol Beaver for the hundreds of masks (I'm sure we all have one or two still in use) and Jim Rooke who repainted all of our road and street signs. Meeting indoors was not always possible and many of the usual gatherings, such as the Liskeard and Looe Community Network, were being held over the internet.

We began the integration of Trewidland into the new Council with a public walkabout for all the Councillors to see what we could do for the Village in the future. One thing that was mentioned more than any other was the speeding traffic through the narrow lanes around and through the Parish and the danger they caused to horse riders and pedestrians. We are grateful to Will Glassup from Cornwall Council who came on a site visit, and he arranged for the installation of the 'Beware of Horses' road signs. Councillors have tidied up the area around the Public Notice Board in the centre of the Village and one of the old notice boards has been replaced. We are aware that there is still more to do but with an enthusiastic new Council we will endeavour to improve things as much as we are able to in the future.

Jubilee Park in St Keyne has been enhanced by new benches, the play equipment and the whole area is well used and enjoyed by all, especially now that the planting we did with the Garden Club before has matured. I know that the opportunity to walk dogs in the park has been well received and taken advantage of. I'd like to say a special thank you to the conscientious people who have often picked up dog mess left by those who really don't seem to care about the health of our children or the enjoyment of everyone else. We continue to have annual inspections of the play equipment, and this helps to inform our maintenance of the Park.

The Memorial Garden in the Lawn Cemetery is now well established. The three Silver Birch trees seem to be happy within the Cornish Stone wall and I'd like to thank the members of the public, especially Carol Stevens, who have spent a lot of time improving the floral displays there. The opportunity to put plaques on the memorial wall and also to reserve burial plots in the cemetery is a great asset and is appreciated. The Garden Club has recently planted two more copper beech trees in the garden. The Cemetery is now a peaceful and beautiful area. Currently the Council is seeking quotes to improve the entrance to the Lawn Cemetery and to create a path to make access better, especially for those with mobility problems.

I'd like to say a special thank you to Jane and Ian Page who diligently collect rubbish from the green areas of St Keyne and also deal with the dog waste bins as a contribution to the wellbeing of the Village. What a shame that this needs doing, if only people took their waste home and picked up after their dogs!

The defibrillator in St Keyne is checked regularly and one has now been ordered for outside the Village Hall in Trewidland. The training session held recently in St Keyne was well attended and very useful and informative.

In October 2021 we hosted a Police surgery with PCSO Steve Edser. Not too many people came along but it was a valuable exercise and those of us who were there learnt a lot.

Our Clerk, John Hesketh, has kept us all in line and has sorted out the website, all the reams of necessary paperwork, made sure we were compliant with so many changes in legislation, sourced training opportunities for us and provided training himself where necessary. What an asset to us he is – Thank You, John.

We have kept our precept at the same rate since 2019 and will continue to keep it as low as possible. We need to ensure that we have enough money to cover our running costs and are hoping to use some of the reserves held in our accounts in a number of ways in the coming year – for instance the path in the cemetery and work to maintain, enhance and reopen some of our footpaths. We will be looking at updating our Emergency Plan in the future, so if you have any ideas about ways we could have done better or things we need to include, please don't hesitate to get in touch with the Parish Council.

Please don't forget that we have some money available if you need a small grant – details are on our website

Once again thank you everyone for the contribution you have all made to the well-being of St Keyne and Trewidland Parish

Sally Lewis

Chair of St Keyne and Trewidland Parish Council

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