



Gwinear-Gwithian Parish Plan 2010

Gwinear-Gwithian
Parish Plan 2015



Ray Tovey

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Welcome to the Gwinear-Gwithian Parish Plan

This Parish Plan represents a big step forward for our community, and for the Parish Council elected members who represent the community.

In these pages we set out to make clear what it is the Parish Council actually does in a typical year; what powers it can exercise; and what it is we plan to do during the next 5 or so years in addition to our regular duties and responsibilities.

We explain why it is important for any community to plan its future and how a plan like this can make a significant difference; we set out what changes and improvements we believe are necessary and desirable in the Parish over the Plan period, we suggest how these might take place, and who should be making sure that it all happens.

We also make clear the changes in Parish Council practice we are putting in place, and the expected outcomes and benefits of those changes.

It is important to stress that a plan such as this needs members of the community, elected or unelected, to take an active part in helping to deliver the aspirations contained in its pages. We hope therefore that more and more members of our community will take an active interest in our proceedings, and will want to contribute in some way to our work.

On a personal level, I would like to pay tribute to my predecessor Chairman, Kelvin Jenkin, for his enthusiasm in seeing this Plan come to fruition.

Brian Pocock Chairman, February 2010



Ray Tovey

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A profile of Gwinear-Gwithian Parish

The Parish of Gwinear-Gwithian lies in the west of Cornwall, in the former Penwith District. The Parish covers 2,977 hectares, and stretches from the coastline at Godrevy Point down to Fraddam, incorporating the villages of Gwithian, Gwinear, Connor Downs, Carnhell Green, and the hamlets of Fraddam, Wall, Reawla, Roseworthy, and Upton Towans. The Parish is bordered by Camborne Parish to the north-east, by Hayle Parish to the west, St Erth Parish to the south-west, and Crowan Parish to the south. The civil parishes of Gwinear and Gwithian were combined to form the parish of Gwinear-Gwithian in 1934.

Around Gwinear there is archaeological evidence that farming in this area goes back at least to the 2nd century, as a defended farmhouse of that period was discovered in the Parish. Gwinear was the son of an Irish pagan king and is reputed to have been slaughtered together with his companions by the Cornish pagan king Theodoric.

Silver and copper mines and related industries were important in the past, but as elsewhere in Cornwall these have now declined. In the 18th and 19th centuries, Rosewarne and Herland mines produced silver, whilst Wheal Alfred and Wheal Relistian produced copper. In those days, the Parish was a thriving mining community and one of the first steam engines ever to be built was installed at the Herland mine in 1758.

Gwinear Church is dedicated to St. Winnierus and the living is held by Exeter College and has been since 1261. There was at one time 5 Manors which held land in the Parish, they being Connerton, Drannick, Gurlyn, Polkinghorne, and Roseworthy.

Gwithian was the former administrative centre of the Penwith Hundred: the institutions of the hundred were moved to Penzance in 1771 (or earlier) following large successive inundations of in-blown sand. Chesten Marchant, who died in 1676 at Gwithian is believed to have been the last monoglot Cornish speaker (as opposed to Dolly Pentreath of Paul who could speak English as well). The church and relics of St Gwithian or Gocianus, built in 490, were uncovered from the beach and dunes during the early part of the last century, but were then allowed to be

reclaimed by the shifting sands. He is the patron saint of good fortune on the sea. The current church was established further inland in the 15th century but only a few fragments of this building remain incorporated in the lychgate of Edmund Sedding's church of 1866 (the tower however is the original one of the 15th century.)

A short distance to the east of the village is Gwithian Towans, which is an area of coastal duneland that forms part of The Towans. Gwithian Towans cover the site of a Bronze Age farm which has been excavated but no remains are visible. Gwithian Beach stretches three miles from the Hayle River mouth to the Red River at Godrevy. The beach is popular with tourists throughout the year, especially surfers, windsurfers, kitesurfers, surf kayakers and more recently stand-up paddlers.

As a predominantly rural Parish, farming is still the main industry, although tourism makes a significant contribution: the Parish hosts six caravan and camping sites, with visitors keen to use the beaches at Gwithian and Godrevy, the latter owned by the National Trust. In recent years the Parish has seen a large influx of European workers employed by a major vegetable-packing/distribution business. Other farms not directly involved in food production have diversified into farm shops, farm markets, and catering.

The Parish has also seen a substantial growth in affordable housing, with Connor Downs in particular earmarked through the former Penwith District Council as a village suitable for such development. In addition, on the edge of the Parish we have seen the growth of the West Cornwall Retail Park, and consequently increased traffic through Connor Downs.

There are a number of pro-active residents' associations in the Parish, and a good cross-section of community groups and associations. Amongst our community halls, The Hall for Gwinear offers a performing arts programme through the Carn to Cove initiative. Gwinear Community Primary School received an Ofsted rating of 1 - *Outstanding* - for its work in 2009, which is a remarkable achievement.



Carnhell Green Vintage Rally 2009: Ray Tovey



Carnhell Green Vintage Rally 2009: Ray Tovey



Godrevy beach



Gwinear Church



Footpath, Gwinear



Godrevy lighthouse from Gwithian Towans

The work of Gwinear-Gwithian Parish Council

Town and Parish Councils are the most local form of elected government, so have a vital role to play in deciding the future of their community, and managing local affairs within their powers.

So what do Parish Councils actually do?

The 1965 Royal Commission on Local Government (The Redcliffe-Maude Commission) recommended that local councils should be empowered to do what they pleased for the benefit of their people, and a consequence of this was the important 1972 Local Government Act which removed many of the restrictions on the activities of Parish Councils.

For example, before the 1972 Act, Parish Councils were not able save money from one year to the next in order to fund a major project. This is something all Councils have to do these days to avoid having a massive council tax for each year that anything new is attempted. Town and Parish Councils have a range of powers vested in them: they can...

- Provide allotments, and have a duty to do so if demand is unsatisfied.
- Acquire and maintain burial grounds, cemeteries, crematoria.
- Agree to maintain war memorials.
- Provide and maintain bus shelters.
- Make bye-laws in relation to pleasure ground, cycle paths, open spaces, and burial grounds.
- Provide public clocks.
- Establish markets.
- Maintain closed churchyards.
- Provide public conveniences.
- Provide common pasture, and regulate and manage commons and common pastures.
- Provide conference facilities.
- Provide and equip buildings for clubs having social, athletic or educational objectives.
- Spend money on various crime prevention measures.
- Deal with ponds and ditches.
- Appoint school governors.
- Provide entertainment and support of the arts; this includes maintaining bands or orchestras and providing for dancing.
- Accept gifts.
- Repair and maintain public footpaths and bridleways.
- Light roads and public places.
- Provide litter bins.
- Provide parking places for vehicles, motor-cycles and bicycles.
- Provide roadside seats and shelters.
- Give consent for stopping up or diversion of highways,

- or ending maintenance of a highway at public expense.
- Provide traffic signs and other notices.
- Plant trees, maintain roadside verges.
- Participate in investment schemes.
- Acquire land by agreement, appropriate land, dispose of land, and accept gifts of land.
- Promote lotteries.
- Provide public buildings for offices, public meetings and assemblies.
- Acquire land for or to provide recreation grounds, pleasure grounds, open spaces.
- Provide gymnasiums, playing fields, holiday camps, and boating pools.
- Contribute to organisations that encourage tourism.
- Utilise wells, springs or streams to provide water.
- Provide small grants to local organisations and to charities.
- We have a right to be notified of planning applications, and comment on all the applications that come before them, providing local knowledge to the Planning Authority.

In addition to all this, in any situation not covered by one of the specific powers described above, a Parish Council can do anything that is for the general benefit of the community, and provided that the expenditure in any one year does not exceed £5.86 per local government elector in that particular parish or community.

Most Parish Councils do not elect to take on all these responsibilities: some of them do not make best sense in some parishes, others need a more modern interpretation. We also have to remember that Parish Councillors are volunteers, often in full-time employment and with other commitments, and many of the services listed above are currently provided by other agencies, such as Cornwall Council.

That situation changed in April 2009 with the advent of the new unitary authority, Cornwall Council, and the introduction of plans for Community Networks, which provide a number of opportunities for Parish Councils. For example, Parish Councils will be able to opt to take on new services if they wish, possibly in partnership with neighbouring parishes, so this plan, and the consultations that support it, will help us shape plans in this area.

The way in which we work

Parish Councils are allowed to raise money through a compulsory 'precept' which forms part of the Council Tax, collected on their behalf by District or Unitary Councils. Parishes can set their precept at the level of their choice. They can also obtain grants for specific projects from District Councils, Government departments, and charitable foundations.

The way in which Parish Councils work is very strictly governed, and many of the procedures are determined by standing orders, codes of conduct, and legislation. Within that framework, we enjoy good levels of debate in order to reach conclusions, and welcome input from the public on Parish Council matters, or on any matter that you think we can help with.

The Parish Council meets at least twice monthly, and publishes in advance the business it plans to discuss, in the form of an agenda posted on the Parish Council notice-boards. These are placed in Carnhell Green outside the Parish office; in Connor Downs by the WI hall, by Reawla Stores, and in Gwithian at the Church Hall. Members of the public are urged to look at the forthcoming agenda for every meeting, so that you know what is to be discussed and decided, so you may give your views. The Parish Council also publishes the minutes, ie the results of our meetings, on those notice-boards.

Public participation

How do you give your views? Our meetings are open to the public, although normally the public can only speak during the period of public participation, a period set aside whereby members of the public can raise matters with the Council.

If the issue is on the agenda, we can discuss it there and then and make decisions about it; if not, we take the matter forward to the next meeting as an agenda item. There are exceptions to this, when the Council agrees to invite members of the public to speak on a specific item, but not when Councillors are actually making a decision: a resolution. We may also decide to exclude the public and the press in particular circumstances.

The work of Gwinear-Gwithian Parish Council, continued

A typical year for Gwinear-Gwithian Parish Council

(This account of a typical year is taken from the Chairman's Annual Report 2008-09).

We met 32 times, in five different venues in the Parish in order to make ourselves more accessible to members of the community.

We have representatives on 11 different community groups, as follows:

- Connor Downs Residents Association
- Hall for Gwinear Committee
- Gwithian Residents Association
- Towans Partnership
- Towans Partnership Transport and Parking Group
- Hayle Day Care Centre Trust
- Hayle Area Plan Partnership (HAPP)
- Penwith Access and Rights of Way Forum
- Gwithian Green Advisory Group
- Rural Transport Partnership
- HAPP Traffic and Transport Delivery Group

Members also attended:

- Penwith Town and Parish Forum
- Police Authority Liaison meetings
- 'One Cornwall' seminars
- Training on achieving Quality Status

The Parish Council took the lead in our ongoing commitment to a *Community Pride Officer*, in partnership with Penwith District Council/Cornwall Council. The seconded role is a new and unique post within Cornwall, and was conceived by the Parish Council.

The CPO's duties include litter picking, reporting fly tipping, broken signs, drainage problems and street cleaning, he is responsible for maintenance of parks and open spaces, maintenance and cleaning of bus shelters, litter / dog bins, benches and signs and grass cutting and planting within our Parish.

We have been working on the proposal to transform *Wall Hall*, including applications for funding, and negotiations on the lease of the property.

We obtained grant funding for a *Parish Plan*, and got that project under way, and sought grant funding for new ground surfacing at the *Elizabeth Sampson Playing Field*, Connor Downs.

We provided *dog bins* at Carnhell Green, Connor Downs and Gwithian; and undertook planting at Reawla bus shelter.

The Parish Council supported other agencies and groups in:

- sand dredging concerns, Hayle Estuary
- investigating the needs for provision of youth and community facilities in Reawla
- prioritising enforcement issues with the Penwith District Council Enforcement Team
- disabled toilet facilities at Gwithian Church Hall
- re-instating the link between Camborne footpath 24 and bridleway 58

The Parish Council remained vigilant on behalf of the community and sought improvements regarding:

- unauthorised developments
- planning conditions not being met
- missing or damaged street signs including fingerposts
- car parking issues on the parish coastline
- Connor Downs Doctor Surgery road/ build out safety issues
- Connor Downs pedestrian safety improvements
- antisocial behaviour in Reawla, Pen Tye, at the Elizabeth Sampson Playing Field, and at Reawla telephone kiosk
- speeding issues across the Parish

We made financial contributions to two local community groups:

- Gwinear Under 11's Football Team for team tracksuits
- Wall Music Festival Society to assist with the annual costs of the festival

We supported Connor Downs Residents Association in re-naming Connor Downs Playing Field after the late Councillor Mrs Elizabeth Sampson.

The Parish Council responded to local concerns and tackled other agencies about:

- *debris deposited on roads and in hedges*
- *dog fouling and provision of dog waste bins*
- *increased growth of ragwort*
- *fly tipping throughout Parish*
- *missing public footpath signs*
- *rainwater drainage issues*
- *proposed bus stop markings at Carnhell Green*
- *provision of Dog Wardens*

The Parish Council responded to 21 consultations, from One Cornwall, BT, Penwith District Council, the Boundary Commission and others. We also received presentations from a number of external organisations, in order to assist our deliberations and decisions.

We continue to manage the cemetery and 22 allotment plots, (where we annually present 'Best Allotment' and runners-up awards); and we manage public footpath trimming on behalf of Cornwall Council. We secure funding for maintenance and implement annual works at Gwithian Green, and manage the Elizabeth Sampson Playing Field in partnership with Connor Downs Residents Association.

We also reviewed and updated:

- *Allotment Tenancy Agreement*
- *Playground Management Plan*
- *Register of Members Interests*
- *Standing Orders & Financial Regulations*
- *Financial Risk Assessment*

...we adopted:

- *Health & Safety Policy Statement*
- *Freedom of Information Act Model publication scheme*
- *Office Fire Safety Policy*
- *Model code of practice for handling complaints*

... we nominated:

- *Health & Safety Representative*
- *Financial Auditing Councillor*

...and we co-opted two new resident committee members to the Elizabeth Sampson Playing Field Committee.

All in all, Councillors spent around 800 hours in meetings, excluding other attendances and commitments concerning Parish Council business; and our Clerk worked in excess of 1500 hours in carrying out Parish duties!

Why we need a Parish Plan

Since we prepared our original Parish action plan, the circumstances within which we operate have changed significantly, and the Parish Council has also moved on, wishing to play a more strategic role in the long-term future of the Parish, and having the capacity, commitment and expertise to do so.

So this Plan builds on the original, and is based on the original community survey, brought up to date through our experience over the last few years, and on our ambitions for the next five years or so.

Introduction

Many Parishes have a Parish or Community Plan. Gwinear-Gwithian Parish Council has worked over the last five years to an action plan, based on a community survey, that at that time described the actions that the community wished us to take, together with a number of aspirational projects led by the Council. Much of what is described each year in the Chairman's report captures action against that earlier plan.

Parish Plans are based on consultation with the community, and are designed to help rural communities such as ours have a greater say in their own affairs. Some plans are initiated by community groups, such as the Hayle Area Plan in which we are a partner; but the majority, as here, are 'kickstarted' by the Parish Council, which then sets up a working group of Councillors to drive the process forward.

These plans articulate the vision which local people have for the future of their village and can cover anything that is relevant to the people who live and work there, from social housing to places for children to play. They propose a range of actions, objectives or projects that will enable that vision to be realised over time, and who should take responsibility for delivering those objectives.

It is also timely for Parish Councils to develop plans for their work into the future, based on consultation with the community, and it is hoped that it is helpful to our elected representatives that they can make decisions and take actions in our community based on the consultations and this resulting Parish Plan.

Who will use the Parish Plan?

Obviously the Parish Council commits to driving forward the Parish Plan, and many of the objectives proposed within these pages will be for the Parish to deliver.

We know that the work of many agencies and organisations impact on our lives, and we need to be able to give them our agenda: clear messages about what we want to achieve in our community. Therefore we need to work in partnership with them,

looking ahead, so they can respond to our proposals and our aspirations. We need to be pro-active rather than reactive, and we can best achieve that by being very clear about where both the Parish Council and the community want to be in the next 5-10 years, through the publication of this Parish Plan. Our partners, both now and in the future, will benefit from that clarity of purpose, and see us as a key partner in their work.

In addition to the Parish Council, therefore, we also see Cornwall Council as one of the key users of the Plan: referring to our intentions for housing development, for economic regeneration support, for improvements to infrastructure, and for the joint development of initiatives that will support the people of the Parish.

Consultations

In 2003/4 the Parish Council undertook a detailed house-by-house survey, the results were analysed by a member of the Council, an interim action plan was produced, and embodied within the Hayle Area Plan. This Parish Plan builds upon the results of that survey, refined by our work over the last few years, and by presentations and talks to discuss issues such as housing, school travel plans, the Towans issues, and work undertaken by the Hayle Area Plan Partnership.

About Community Networks

In April 2009, the new Cornwall Council took over the work of our previous County and District Councils. Key to the new Cornwall Council is the Localism agenda. This development provides opportunities for Parish Councils and community groups to have greater control over issues that affect them: and one of the key initiatives that will affect us all will be the introduction of Community Networks. The key outcomes for Community Networks are seen as:

- Empower local Councillors and have a local decision making forum;
- Involve local people and engage all parts of the Community;
- Provide a local presence for Cornwall Council;

- Provide an enhanced role for Town and Parish Councils;
- Recognise and support the changing role of the voluntary and community sector;
- Identify local needs and priorities;
- Provide a local focus for partnership working;
- Influence local service delivery; and
- Provide a quality monitoring function for local service delivery.

The Community Network will bring together the organisations that deliver services into the community, both public and voluntary, such as- but not exclusively- Police and other emergency services, healthcare providers, and Town and Parish Councillors and Cornwall Councillors for the network area.

The value of Parish Plans

Each Community Network will develop a Community Network Programme for 3 – 5 years which sets out the needs and aspirations of the network. One of the key tasks of each Community Network Manager (see page 46) will be to map the plans that already exist in each area, identify common objectives, agree network priorities, and make links with existing local groups and partnerships and identify how these can all be brought together.

This programme will be informed by a Community Network Profile which sets out the key social, economic and environmental information for each area. The programme will include an Annual Delivery Plan, which sets out how the Council and partners will shape the delivery of their services in each community network to meet local need.

The Hayle and St Ives Community Network

Gwinear-Gwithian Parish is in the Hayle and St Ives Community Network, part of the West Cornwall community network area. Our partner Councils are:

- Hayle Town Council
- St. Erth Parish Council
- St. Ives Town Council
- Towednack Parish Council

Our Vision for the Parish

Introduction

Describing the sort of community in which we all want to live and work formed the basis for our thinking behind this Plan; we were enthusiastic about the future for Gwinear-Gwithian that came out of our early talks, and we agreed a series of statements, aspirations, that describe where we want to be in the future.

So this is our statement of intent- how we want our Parish to be. The statements *are* aspirational, but they are also achievable. We believe our role is to take the longer-term view about shaping the community we all want, and to ensure our day-to-day activities and duties build towards the achievement of our Vision.

In the Plan we set out a series of actions- our Objectives- that cumulatively will help us achieve our Vision. The Objectives described in this Plan therefore are designed to achieve our Vision over time, working in partnership with other agencies and organisations.

Our Vision for Gwinear-Gwithian

- **A place where people take pride in where and how they live.**
- **A community with good quality housing for all those wishing to live here, and with a local connection.**
- **A community where we see a levelling-out of built development to enable us to elevate areas historically over-developed and suffering social consequences.**
- **Villages that develop to meet the needs of a wide mix of people.**
- **A Parish that has vibrant village centres, with thriving shops and post offices, and is innovative in supporting new and existing businesses.**
- **A community that embraces tourism to our collective advantage.**
- **A community that is safe: from anti-social behaviour, speeding traffic, and the fear of crime.**
- **A community that engages and supports its young people.**
- **A connected community- physically; and mentally: addressing problems of spatial distance and the very different nature of our diverse community groups.**
- **A place where the Parish Council is at the heart of the community, shaping and driving change.**
- **A community that has access to quality local health care services.**
- **A healthy-eating community, enjoying opportunities to grow their own produce.**
- **A community that has good local access to a variety of quality sporting and leisure facilities.**
- **A community that responds positively to the challenges of climate change.**

Delivering the Vision: the Plan structure

We have organised the Plan into a number of Themes, so we can group the actions we intend to take into logical, related groupings. Underneath each vision statement, we list our Objectives; the practical steps we will take to deliver our Vision. These may take the form of new initiatives for the Parish Council to undertake, actions we require of other organisations, or matters on which we will lobby that are outside our immediate control.

Theme 1: Our environment

'A place where people take pride in where and how they live'.

Objective 1:
Environmental improvements: undertake a community consultation to establish priorities for the Parish Council.

Objective 2:
Introduce Community Clean-up Action Days in partnership with statutory providers.

Objective 3:
Secure for the long-term the role of Community Pride Officer in the Parish.

Objective 4:
Establish a Parish Trail in order to promote Gwithian Green and other community amenities.

Objective 5:
Establish the post of Warden to safeguard and manage the Towans environment and Gwithian Green for the community.

Objective 6:
Resolve the longer-term impact of parking and access on the Towans and surrounding areas.

Objective 7:
Protecting and preserving our heritage and our community assets.

Theme 2: Housing and the built environment

'A community with good quality housing for all those wishing to live here, and with a local connection'.

'A community where we see a levelling-out of built development to enable us to elevate areas historically over-developed and suffering social consequences'.

'Villages that develop to meet the needs of a wide mix of people'.

Delivering the Vision: the Plan structure, continued

Objective 8:

Establish a data-base of those requiring affordable housing in the Parish, and then prepare an affordable housing policy for the longer term.

Objective 9:

Prepare Village Design Statements for the villages within the Parish.

Objective 10:

Explore the potential for the Parish Council to engage in housing development schemes for affordable homes.

Objective 11:

For significant new development, seek to ensure that any financial contributions arising from the planning process are either targeted for direct benefit to this Parish or managed by the Parish Council.

Theme 3: Economic development

'A Parish that has vibrant village centres, with thriving shops and post offices, and is innovative in supporting new and existing businesses'.

Objective 12:

Support wealth creation and improve the economic base of the Parish.

Objective 13:

Supporting local shops and local businesses: a Parish Directory.

'A community that embraces tourism to our collective advantage'.

Objective 14:

To develop initiatives that build upon the tourism industry in the Parish in order to create benefits for the wider community.

Theme 4: A stronger, safer community

'A community that is safe: from anti-social behaviour, speeding traffic, and the fear of crime'.

Objective 15:

To work collaboratively with Devon and Cornwall Police and with other partners to address problems of crime and anti-social behaviour in our community.

Objective 16:

To work with housing developers, the planning authority, the highways authority and Devon and Cornwall Police to ensure new developments contribute positively to the drive to 'design-out' opportunities for crime and anti-social behaviour.

'A community that engages and supports its young people'.

Objective 17:

Secure the long-term commitment of youth service agencies to help identify opportunities to engage with our young people.

Objective 18:

Meet our commitment to providing a venue for young people to meet together, and with other sectors of our community.

Theme 5: Connected communities

'A connected community- physically; and mentally; addressing problems of spatial distance and the very different nature of our diverse community groups'.

Objective 19:

Develop a Parish website.

Objective 20:

Evaluate and respond to the need for community transport links not currently offered by bus service providers.

Objective 21:

Establish a network of safe places to walk and cycle throughout the Parish.

'A place where the Parish Council is at the heart of the community, shaping and driving change'.

Objective 22:

Secure a long-term base for the Parish Council, with good access for members of the community.

Objective 23:

Understand the barriers to wider community interest and involvement in Parish Council affairs, and seek to remove those barriers.

Objective 24:

Actively promote the Objectives within this Plan to partner organisations, and ensure that key partners play their role in delivering these Objectives.

Objective 25:

Seek to establish and enhance village centres through improvements to the streetscape and traffic management schemes.

Objective 26:

Work towards achieving Quality Parish Council status.

Theme 6: Community health

'A community that has access to quality local health care services'.

Objective 27:

Secure an improved health-care provision within the Parish through partnership working with health-care providers, and exploring opportunities for sharing physical resources.

'A healthy-eating community, enjoying opportunities to grow their own produce'.

Objective 28:

Investigate opportunities to promote a healthy eating culture through the provision of Parish allotments, garden-sharing and other initiatives.

Objective 29:

Work with new housing developers to provide community gardens/allotments as part of any development scheme.

Theme 7: Leisure and recreation

'A community that has good local access to a variety of quality sporting and leisure facilities'.

Objective 30:

To expand our provision of recreational and play space, and embrace sporting activities, particularly those that can underpin our vision for a more connected community, and for engaging with our young people.

Theme 8: Technology, energy, and climate change

'A community that responds positively to the challenges of climate change'.

Objective 31:

To support and encourage the use of new technologies and practical measures that will reduce our energy consumption, as a positive response to the challenge of climate change.



Photo courtesy of Trevaskis Farm

Theme 1:

Our environment

Objective 1:

Environmental improvements: undertake a community consultation to establish priorities for the Parish Council.

A longer-term ambition than that described by Community Clean-up Action Days (Objective 2), this Objective is concerned with consulting with the community and taking a good hard look at our overall environment, its fitness for purpose, and make recommendations for improvements that would benefit the quality of life for our residents over an extended period of time.

As we look long-term at our plans for new housing development, we also need to consider the rest of the spaces around us- how we use them, how well they function, and if our needs are being met.

Actions and considerations

- This is a wide-ranging topic, as it should include a critical look at all aspects of our lives: how easily we can drive, cycle and walk to where we want to be: therefore feedback about the provision of good quality highways, pavements, new cycle-paths, and new and better- maintained existing footpaths will benefit work under Objectives 20 and 21 (pages 32, 33).
- We will need to look at the quality of our bus-shelters and decide if they are of the standard we would all aspire to, and what improvements could be made, funded from what source. It may be appropriate, in order to better meet the needs of our elderly population, to provide seats in our bus-shelters, (if we can manage out the potential for anti-social gatherings in the shelters).
- The provision of recreation space falls within the remit of the Parish Council. We inevitably apply this to the provision of playing space for young people, and we now need to consult about the provision of green spaces for other members of our community, possibly as a Parish garden, orchard, or parkland. Relates to Objectives 28 and 29 (pages 38, 39).
- Our remit should extend to include upgrading road-signs, possibly investigating the cost of English/Cornish signs; and the installation of 'Welcome to the Parish of Gwinear-Gwithian' signs at strategic points.

Objective 2:

Introduce Community Clean-up Action Days in partnership with statutory providers.

Our ambition is that people take pride in where they live: much of the thinking behind the post of Community Pride Officer was to promote that ambition, and to say, publicly, that we care about our environment.

This Objective proposes therefore that we identify those parts of our environment that could really benefit from concentrated action, to clear accumulated mess from irresponsible dog owners, graffiti, rubbish and litter in our streets, in parks and playgrounds, fly-tipping in ditches and verges; and that we seek volunteers to join together with our Community Pride Officer, supported by the statutory authority, in targeted Community Clean-up Action Days.

Similar schemes operated elsewhere have sent out clear messages to those that contribute to the problems we experience, and have done much to reduce the problem. The scheme can be extended to include, amongst other things, repainting and renovation of run-down or neglected public buildings, signposts, benches, roadsigns and finger-posts.

Actions and considerations

- Involve the community and community groups in identifying problem areas in the Parish.
- Recruit volunteers to target specific areas at specific times.
- Gain support from Cornwall Council for the scheme: to provide dedicated teams, to address health and safety issues for volunteers, and to provide transport to remove collected waste/ rubbish material.
- Ask farmers and landowners to support the scheme by collecting and removing plastic material from gateways, tree- branches and ditches.
- Encourage members of the public to report unacceptable activities such as fly tipping and dog mess, and those who may be responsible.

Objective 3:

Secure for the long-term the role of Community Pride Officer in the Parish.

The role of Community Pride Officer has been established in this Parish for approximately two years. Based originally on a secondment from Penwith District Council, the post has continued under the auspices of Cornwall Council. Our objective is to secure the long-term future of this innovative role, with a view to making the position a permanent full-time post in the Parish funded through partnership working with Cornwall Council.

The Community Pride Officer undertakes the following duties, working in conjunction with specific functions managed by Cornwall Council:

- Maintain all public spaces and verges free from litter, graffiti and dog-waste.
- Work with Cornwall Council street-cleaning team to ensure streets and public spaces are litter and rubbish-free.
- Trim and maintain public green spaces.
- Oversee contracts for footpath trimming and monitor standards.
- Maintain public benches in good order.
- Keep bus-shelters clean, litter-free and regularly painted.
- Maintain public signs and notices.
- Oversee playsites and advise the Parish Clerk on issues of health and safety.
- Undertake or organise the maintenance of play equipment.
- Report on overgrown verges, potholes, fly-tipping, damage to bins.
- Liaise with Cornwall Council where specialist services are required, or statutory services are not being delivered.

Actions and considerations

- Formally establish the willingness of Cornwall Council to continue with the scheme.
- Monitor any staffing and plant/ vehicle cost implications to the Parish Council.
- Measuring the effectiveness of the scheme.



Approaching Gwithian



Gwithian village

Objective 4:

Establish a Parish Trail in order to promote Gwithian Green and other community amenities.

The Parish has a substantial number of visitors every year, particularly to the beaches; and we have a large number of camp sites within our boundaries. We have much to offer visitors that often goes unnoticed, apart from the beaches. Gwithian Green is an excellent example of this, but we also have a good provision of footpaths and bridleways, villages and churches of historic interest, and places to eat and drink. We should promote these by creating a Parish Trail, that also brings the potential for increased business to local stores, public houses and restaurants.

Actions and considerations

- In developing one or more Parish Trails, we need to consider the issue of users arriving by car, and the need to provide car parking space without any negative impact on the immediate environment.
- We will need to establish different categories of trail for different users, from the short stroll to the longer trail for experienced walkers.
- Where possible, we should connect these trails to places where walkers and cyclists can stop for refreshment.
- We have sources of expertise in the community that could be of assistance: the Gwinear and District Footpaths and Bridleways Association, PAROW, (Penwith Access and Rights of Way Forum), and members of the Ramblers Association.
- Historical sources should be consulted to provide information for walkers alongside information on plants, wildlife, and local interest, and presented as a free leaflet dispensed at camp sites, public houses and restaurants, shops, and other locations.
- The leaflets should be supported by interpretation boards, that also reinforce the suitability of the walks for different types of user, particularly those with disabilities, and parents with prams or push-chairs.
- Collaboration with PAROW may enable us to open up any sections of path necessary to create improved and more interesting trails.



Gwithian Church

Objective 5:

Establish the post of Warden to safeguard and manage the Towans environment and Gwithian Green for the community.

The Parish Council recognises the unique benefits that Gwithian Towans brings to both residents and visitors. Although we do not own any of the Towans, nor have any direct responsibility for them, we are clear that the volume of visitors impacts negatively on the Towans themselves, in terms of habitat; on residents at Gwithian Towans in terms of visitor numbers and volume of cars, and on all of us in terms of public health matters and dog waste.

We are also concerned to properly maintain and safeguard the unique environment of Gwithian Green, the nature reserve in the care of Gwinear-Gwithian Parish Council. We currently benefit from the work of volunteer members of the community to advise the Council when there are problems such as ‘fly-parking’ on the site, but the site needs maintenance and development.

Therefore it is our intention to press Cornwall Council to invest in the appointment of a Warden. We will work through the established Towans Partnership, which offers us an opportunity to extend the role to include Upton Towans and Hayle Towans, in partnership with those landowners and with Hayle Town Council.

Actions and considerations

- Funding the position of Warden. There are a number of lines of enquiry: funding through revenue from the car parks; by secondment from Cornwall Council; by direct employment in partnership with Hayle Town Council. (Also see Objective 6, page 22).
- Consider any employment issues for the Parish Council if that is the preferred route.
- Ensuring the Warden has appropriate knowledge and skills to manage and advise on habitat issues, and is also able to multi-task where appropriate, to support others such as the Community Pride Officer, or seasonal car park staff.
- The Towans Partnership should be a key partner in this Objective.



Gwithian Towans

Theme 1: Our environment, continued

Objective 6:

Resolve the longer-term impact of parking and access on the Towans and surrounding areas.

The Towans Partnership is an advisory group of Cornwall Council that is concerned with the management and sustainability of the Towans, from Godrevy to Hayle. Whilst the Partnership has no statutory powers, it brings together private landowners, the National Trust, Natural England, this Parish Council, Hayle Town Council, Cornwall Council officers, local residents' groups representatives, and other interested parties to tackle issues of concern, and to make recommendations to Cornwall Council and partner agencies.

One significant concern raised over two years ago is the substantial increase in cars wanting access to the beaches, particularly at Godrevy, which is owned by the National Trust, and at Gwithian, where the car park, although owned by the Hocking Trust, is managed by Cornwall Council. The reality is that the Towans cannot sustain the negative impact of so much traffic, and the local road infrastructure cannot cope with the volume of cars. Fly-parking on approach roads and in other spaces such as Gwithian Green has reached unacceptable levels. Residents at Gwithian Towans are unable to gain easy access to their homes, and emergency vehicles have real problems getting to residents and holidaymakers alike.

It is also of concern to the Parish Council that the revenue from Gwithian car park is absorbed by Cornwall Council and spent outside the Parish, and it is our view that the Parish Council should receive that revenue to manage in the best interests of local residents and to ensure the welfare and sustainability of the Towans.

Actions and considerations

- Work with the Towans Partnership to develop the report by the Transport and Access sub-group into a set of viable proposals, and lobby Cornwall Council for action for a longer-term solution to the management of parking on Gwithian Towans.
- Pursue the management of Gwithian car park by the Parish Council, for the benefit of the Parish.

Objective 7:

Protecting and preserving our heritage and our community assets.

The Parish Council is concerned to be proactive in preserving those assets and aspects of our Parish that help define our heritage, and the quality of our environment. As a community we enjoy the benefits of living alongside a number of specially designated environments; and we have a number of listed structures and defining settings that need to be preserved for the benefit of future generations.

We need to ensure regular dialogue with those groups and organisations with responsibility for particular assets within our community, such as St Gothians Nature Reserve, understand their longer term plans and objectives, and commit to supporting in the most appropriate manner. We should also seek to influence future plans where we have concerns or ideas for improvement, and use our powers as a Parish Council wherever necessary to meet our objective.

Actions and considerations

- Compile an accurate listing of all of the following:
 - Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)
 - Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)
 - Local Nature Reserves (LNRs)
 - commons
 - listed buildings and structures
 - conservation areas and orders
 - archaeological remains such as St Gothians Church, and the 'Hundred Pound' in Gwithian.
- Identify the organisations, groups, associations and individual contacts concerned with all the above, and communicate our interest in their work.

Theme 2:

Housing and the built environment

Objective 8:

Establish a data-base of those requiring affordable housing in the Parish and then prepare an affordable housing policy for the longer term.

The Parish Council is not content to remain as a passive consultee in the planning process. We accept that there is a demand for social rented housing and affordable housing within our Parish, so that we may accommodate those members of our community who wish to continue to live here, or those that move here to work.

We are also conscious that the Planning Authority holds data on those registered with them for housing, and that developers, through advertising, establish their own levels of demand for affordable homes in the Parish. We are aware that the Planning Authority will accept the validity of a properly organised parish housing needs survey, and have offered to provide a template for our use.

The Parish Council therefore is resolved to establish our own data-base, based on regular consultations with our community, and in partnership with providers of social rented accommodation through local authority housing organisations. We will use this information to prepare a longer-term plan for the provision of affordable homes within the Parish.

Actions and considerations

- Review the success of the August 2009 public consultation concerning affordable housing in Connor Downs.
- Develop the process to include Carnhell Green, Reawla, Gwinear and Gwithian.
- Establish links on a regular basis with the Affordable Housing Team for West Cornwall at Cornwall Council.
- Establish links with registered social landlords.
- Work collaboratively with neighbouring parishes through the Community Network for Hayle and St Ives.
- Identify sites within the Parish where we would support the development of affordable homes, linked to criteria set out in our Village Design Statement (Objective 9).
- Also relates to Objective 10 on page 24.

Objective 9:

Prepare Village Design Statements for the villages within the Parish.

As we experience further demands on our community in terms of new affordable housing developments, we need to take steps to ensure that we preserve the best aspects of our villages, and at the same time set out clear standards and our expectations for those wishing to develop property within the Parish. A Village Design Statement gives us that control: the following is an extract from the *Natural England* website:

'Many people feel that they have no say over what development takes place in their community; but Village Design Statements (VDSs) offer a constructive solution to this dilemma.

Local communities have a unique appreciation and understanding of their own place, and a VDS is based on this knowledge. It describes the qualities that residents value in their village and in their surroundings.

A Village Design Statement sets out clear and simple guidance for the design of all development in a village, based on its character. It is an advisory document produced by the village community, not by the planning authority. It will not stop change from happening, but it can help effect how any new building fits in to the village. VDSs are intended to influence the operation of the statutory planning system, so that new development is in harmony with its setting and makes a positive contribution to the immediate environment'.

What does a VDS cover?

- It describes the distinctive character of a village and its surrounding countryside.
- It shows how character can be identified at three levels:
 - the landscape setting of the village,
 - the shape of the settlement,
 - the nature of the buildings themselves.
- A VDS sets down design principles based on the distinctive local character.
- Production of a VDS fosters working in partnership with the local authority, understanding of current planning policies, and offers the chance to influence future policies.

Theme 2: Housing and the built environment, continued

Objective 9 (continued):

'Village Design Statements are of value to residents, planners, designers and developers. There should be broad involvement of local interests so that the finished design statement is a representative document, and one that presents ideas for stimulating and sustaining community involvement in planning issues. It is important that the parish council, plus planning authority councillors and officers are drawn in to the VDS process.

Preparing a Village Design Statement doesn't demand design or planning knowledge - the only requirement is an interest in the future well-being of your village. A Village Design Statement gives planning advice directly applicable to the statutory planning system and is entirely community based. An effective Village Design Statement':

- is developed, researched, written and edited by local people;
- reflects the representative views of a community;
- involves a wide cross-section of residents in its production;
- describes the visual character of the village;
- demonstrates how local character and identity can be protected and enhanced in a new development;
- is compatible with the statutory planning system and its local application;
- should be accepted as supplementary planning guidance (and thereby influence developers and decisions on individual planning applications);
- is relevant to all forms and scale of development, and is about managing change in the village, not preventing it.

Actions and considerations

- Build on the August 2009 community consultation in Connor Downs by setting up a group to prepare a VDS for the village.
- Establish a working group of Parish Councillors and residents to drive the project forward. Internet research gives many examples of VDSs to draw upon.
- Extend the scheme throughout the Parish.

Objective 10:

Explore the potential for the Parish Council to engage in housing development schemes for affordable homes.

The reality of increasingly prohibitive costs of house purchase, an economic recession, and population expansion, is that those members of our community that may want to live independently in their own home, are less likely to be able to do so. We have therefore seen, in the Parish, a substantial increase in the development of affordable and 'intermediate affordable' homes, along with social housing schemes. Yet rather than take a proactive role, we allow ourselves to be at the mercy of developers, and planning officers, when it comes to what sort of developments are proposed, the location (generally on 'exception' green field sites), and the design of those developments. However, there is an alternative.

The Parish Council has a number of powers that would enable it to consider developing a portfolio of housing stock for the benefit of residents of the Parish, possibly in partnership with members of the community, through a variety of innovative schemes practiced elsewhere.

Actions and considerations

- Conduct a full housing needs survey, which will identify any need for affordable housing in the Parish (Objective 8, page 23).
- From the survey, and using local knowledge, determine what sort and scale of development is most appropriate- ie a multi-property scheme or small infill sites; flats or live/work units- and within our capacity to deliver.
- Identify suitable sites (Objective 8).
- Consider the benefits of a partnership arrangement with funders, developers, and housing associations.
- Explore the potential offered by a Community Land Trust for the Parish Council to engage in providing housing for the community.
- Look for examples of community and self-build projects for good practice, such as the model developed by Cawthorne Parish Council in South Yorkshire.

Objective 11:

For significant new development, seek to ensure that any financial contributions arising from the planning process are either targeted for direct benefit to this Parish or managed by the Parish Council.

This Parish Council wishes to establish with Cornwall Council the precedent that any financial contributions made by developers in support of their applications, or elicited by Cornwall Council as a contribution towards affordable housing, infrastructure, or similar, should be of direct benefit to this community, and not be seen as a contribution to Cornwall Council funds, or to funding affordable housing or infrastructure elsewhere in the County.

Further, the Parish Council believes that it should have direct influence on the allocation of such sums as they arise, being in the best position to understand the local dimension, and local need.

This objective refers to Section 106 Planning Obligations. Planning obligations are created under Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990. They are therefore known as ‘Section 106 obligations’. They are legally binding obligations that are attached to a piece of land and are registered as local land charges against that piece of land. Planning obligations enable a council to secure contributions to services, infrastructure and amenities in order to support and facilitate a proposed development.

Planning legislation includes the essential principle that development should pay for the social and physical infrastructure to support and facilitate a development. It would not be fair to expect a developer to contribute towards existing service deficiencies such as a shortage of school places or library facilities, or repairs to the highway. However, it would be fair to expect them to contribute to limiting the impact of their own development on the local area.

The key principles for establishing 106 contributions are defined and structured in the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM) Circular 05/05, and are also referred to in a number of Planning Policy Guidance notes (PPGs) dealing with specific policy management issues. For example, PPG13 gives detailed

guidance on contributions for measures to assist public transport. Circular 05/05 defines the parameters for the negotiation process and also establishes that contributions must be:

- relevant to planning;
- necessary;
- directly related to the proposed development;
- fairly and reasonably related in scale and kind;
- reasonable in all other respects

Planning officers will not ask for any contribution unless it relates ‘fairly’ to the development. If a developer offers any unrelated contribution as an inducement, planning officers will disregard this when determining the application. For example, it may not be proper for a local authority to seek contributions towards the development of a new swimming pool arising from an application for a supermarket development. However, it would be proper to expect a supermarket developer to contribute towards highway improvements (if appropriate) and an enhanced landscaping plan.

In practice, it is not unreasonable for communities to identify those areas where there are weaknesses in social and physical infrastructure to which contributions could be sought from any significant new development. For example, affordable housing, sheltered accommodation, open space and local environmental improvements.

Actions and considerations

- The Parish Council needs to formally resolve that it intends to pursue this course of action.
- A paper should be prepared detailing the position of the Parish Council, and submitted to the Planning Authority, Cornwall Council.
- The Parish Council should enlist the support of the Cornwall Councillor for this electoral division in this matter, and through the Community Network, elicit the support of partner Town, Parish, and Cornwall Councillors.
- We should also lobby for inclusion in any debate about Section 106 contributions in the Hayle area where we can accurately predict an impact on our communities, for example Connor Downs and any further development of West Cornwall Retail Park.

Theme 3:

Economic development

Objective 12: Support wealth creation and improve the economic base of the Parish.

The Parish Council wishes to support, and wherever possible implement, initiatives that contribute to wealth creation in the Parish, and that improve the economic base for the residents. The Parish Council as a 'stand-alone' organisation needs to work with partners to undertake this responsibility. As a member of the Hayle and St Ives Community Network, however, it is well positioned to bring to that Network the challenge of economic improvement, and to use the Network as a source of information about and signposting to Cornwall Council and regional initiatives that can benefit our community.

Working in partnership in this way, with Hayle particularly as a key partner in the Network as our immediate urban neighbour, we will also be able to ensure that plans for the economic development of Hayle are undertaken in consultation with our Parish.

We will also be in a position to actively support the creation of new employment opportunities within the Parish, and we should work collaboratively with businesses that seek to expand and innovate.

Actions and considerations

- The starting point is to understand the socio-economic profile of the Parish. This data is available via Cornwall Council, and can be commissioned via our Community Network Manager. We should view that data in the context of data for Hayle, and then for the wider area.
- The Community Network can then help to deliver this objective in a number of ways:
 - Present to members any plans for economic regeneration that have an impact on this area, and explore ways in which we can advise and work with members of our community so that such plans have a real presence in our Parish.
 - Provide members with an opportunity to feedback on such plans, giving a local perspective.
 - Explore opportunities to adapt and develop Cornwall-wide or regional-wide initiatives to 'best fit' a community such as ours.

- Develop new schemes through the Community Network using the resources provided by Cornwall Council through the Community Network mechanism and the Localism agenda.

- The Parish Council can then also support the local economy through its approach to the development of our built environment:
 - Support wherever possible applications for innovative and environmentally sympathetic development that will help improve the economic base of the Parish;
 - Work with local businesses to identify suitable sites for business development;
 - Identify sites for business starter units and consider options for the Parish to act as developer;
 - Support planning applications for starter units, live-work units and home office extensions;
 - Link to Objective 9, Village Design Statements (pages 23, 24).
- Ensure the Objectives described in this Plan are included in the objectives and forward planning of the Hayle and St Ives Community Network.

Objective 13:
Supporting local shops and local businesses: a Parish Directory.

The Parish Council is keen to support our local shops and businesses in a pro-active and practical way. We recognize that local shops are at the social heart of our villages, and that their long-term survival is fragile. We also want to see local people spending money locally, on local goods and services, in order to support our businesses.

Actions and considerations

- We propose to organise and publish a Parish Directory that lists all local businesses and services, in order to help ensure their longer-term viability and to invest, as a community, in our local economy.
- The Parish Directory would provide listings of all the shops, services, tradespersons, and businesses in the Parish, to increase awareness, improve access, and help to ensure their success.
- The Directory would offer the facility for local services such as the shop and post office to provide detailed information about goods and services available, opening times, and contact details.
- Typical local services listings could include:

Shops and shop services, and opening times
Post offices and their range of services
Public houses and restaurants
Tourist and holiday attractions
Camping and caravanning sites
Builders, plumbers plasterers, carpenters, decorators and electricians
Licensed child-minding services
Schools and nurseries
Cleaning services
Garage services
Farmers supplies
Handyman services
Garden maintenance/tree surgeons
Home delivery: milkmen, grocers, butchers
Office services such as photocopying
Taxis
Residential and nursing homes

- In addition to listing businesses and services, the Parish Directory could include:

Cornwall Council One-Stop Shop details
Emergency contact numbers
Health service details- doctors, dentists,hospitals
Social Services
Clubs and associations
Residents' associations
Community hall contacts
Charities at work in the Parish
Churches and places of worship
Mobile library details
Recycling details
Volunteer services, e.g. hospital car
Parish Council meeting dates and venues
Parish Councillor contacts
Cornwall Councillor contacts
Dial-a-ride service

- Advertising space can be offered to offset printing and distribution costs, however the project would require volunteers to gather and collate the information, and organise printing and circulation.
- The Parish Council also intends to develop a Parish website, (Objective 19, page 32), which in addition to publishing the immediate business of the Council, will include an electronic version of the Directory, and links to local businesses and attractions.

Theme 3: Economic development, continued

Objective 14:

To develop initiatives that build upon the tourism industry in the Parish in order to create benefits for the wider community.

Gwinear-Gwithian Parish plays host to a substantial number of caravan and camping sites, who bring large numbers of visitors to our community. We also have, at Gwithian and Godrevy, some of the County's more popular beaches, particularly noted for the quality of surfing conditions, and playing host to other forms of extreme sports in recent years. We also have a number of public houses, cafes and restaurants that attract visitors as well as local clientele.

At the same time the Parish Council recognises that for many residents, the main change to their quality of life in the summer is vastly increased visitor numbers making access to local beaches very difficult, clogging up the main arterial routes, and creating a high volume of traffic on local roads.

We are also conscious that other businesses in the Parish see no real gain from the number of tourists in the Parish, and it is our objective to support local businesses however we can.

As part of a desire to help improve the economy of this Parish, the Council would like to explore, with the tourism industry and other businesses locally, ways in which we could add value to the wider benefit of the community.

Actions and considerations

- The Parish Council acknowledges that we need take no part in encouraging visitors to our beaches, but our concern is to promote to those visitors the other attractions, services and facilities the Parish has to offer. We can however work strategically with beach owners, and with local caravan- and camp- sites, to help us promote the wider area to help us target visitors effectively.
- The first step is to work with representatives of the tourism industry in the Parish to gain a clear understanding of the type of visitors they host, and what those visitors are seeking locally, apart from the beaches.

- We would also need them to agree to promoting other facilities in the Parish, by displaying leaflets and notices at key points such as reception areas.
- The Parish Council should commission and erect illustrated weather- and vandal- proof Parish maps of attractions and facilities at strategic, heavily populated sites such as Godrevy and Gwithian, to include the location of pubs, restaurants, cafes, shops, and other facilities such as parks and playing fields, horse-riding facilities, footpaths and cycleways including the Cornish Trail, and cultural and historical features of interest.
- There are clear links between this Objective and Objective 4, (page 20), which proposes establishing a Parish Trail.
- The same illustrated map would form the basis of a visitor leaflet.
- The Parish Council should work with organisers of events within Parish boundaries to consider opportunities for collaboration in promoting other facilities in the Parish.
- Information developed for this Objective would also be applicable to the proposed Parish website.



Godrevy beach looking towards Gwithian

Theme 4:

A stronger, safer community

Objective 15:

To work collaboratively with Devon and Cornwall Police and with other partners to address problems of crime and anti-social behaviour in our community.

The Parish Council receives monthly reports on crime statistics from our local Police team, and are able to raise questions and comment on the statistics, details of crimes and incidents, and related matters. This does not however serve as a substitute for collaborative working, and we should take the opportunity presented to us by the new Community Network for Hayle and St Ives, whereby the Police will be part of the Network, to more systematically address matters of concern.

Despite Police efforts, we are still faced with anti-social behaviour, illegal drinking, vandalism and littering, and dangerous driving, in addition to the normal portfolio of crime that any rural area might receive. It is also realistic to comment that despite ongoing Police presence in targeted areas such as Reawla, no real change has been perceived over the last few years. Therefore we need to consider how we might play a more vital role in the process.

Actions and considerations

- The main focus should be on multi-agency partnership working, including Police, the highways authority, youth services, elected representatives, residents' associations, and others to look for long-term, sustainable solutions.
- We need to re-establish PACT (Partners and Community Together) meetings on a more regular basis, working with the Police to regularly review progress against targets.
- We should also put pressure on the Police authority, through the vehicle of the Community Network, to provide greater resources in key areas, and to engage more proactively with other agencies such as the planning authority and the highways authority to eliminate opportunities for crime and anti-social behaviour in the longer-term.

Objective 16:

To work with housing developers, the planning authority, the highways authority and Devon and Cornwall Police to ensure new developments contribute positively to the drive to 'design-out' opportunities for crime and anti-social behaviour.

The Parish Council is a statutory consultee on planning applications in the Parish. We are able to comment on, but not decide upon, those applications. In many instances the Council, like many others, relies upon the planning authority for expert input on such specifics as highways matters. We also previously relied somewhat upon the fact that significant applications would generally come to the attention of local District Council members to bring to Planning Committee.

However, with the advent of Cornwall Council, and, hopefully, a new attitude towards the involvement of Parish Councils in the planning process, and the significance of Parish Plans to planning officers, the Parish Council needs to take a more pro-active role. We wish to ensure that any new housing developments build not only houses, but stronger, safer communities.

Actions and considerations

- To actively consider the potential to reduce or eliminate opportunities for crime and anti-social behaviour in new housing developments by the way in which such developments are designed.
- To work collaboratively with the developer, the planning and highways authorities and the Police, before significant applications are considered, to ensure that opportunities to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour are key considerations for any proposed development.
- This means that the planning authority should be expected to work more closely with the Parish Council, by giving update briefings on any significant planning applications that are coming to the authority.

Theme 4: A stronger, safer community, continued

Objective 17:

Secure the long-term commitment of youth service agencies to help identify opportunities to engage with our young people.

Whilst it is important to work collaboratively with the Police to address issues of anti-social behaviour, it is also important to set out to engage with our community to understand the issues behind anti-social behaviour, and to find ways to offer support. There are a number of relevant agencies that the Parish Council can contact, listed below.

The intention would be to develop a longer-term plan of action between Police, parents, schools, youth agencies, and the Parish Council in order to break the cycle of anti-social behaviour, to raise standards of behaviour, and to help our young people gain a more positive attitude about where and how they live.

We will also need to undertake a body of work with members of the community who for understandable reasons have a negative attitude towards many of the young people, usually because of direct experience of anti-social behaviour in one form or another.

Actions and considerations

- We need to start by identifying a specific area in which to work, where there is greatest need: and ensure that any good practice can roll out to include other parts of the Parish.
- Establish a multi-agency meeting in the first instance to present the issues we face, to agree which agencies are the most appropriate to ask to support our objective, and to consider ways forward (as per Objective 15, page 29).
- In order to make any progress, we must also get some of our young people on board. Work has already started with the return of the Penwith Community Development Trust Communities Department Youth Workers and their mobile centre, but their presence has been inconsistent. If we raise aspirations, we must be consistent in our efforts.
- We need to gain the support of some of the parents in the vicinity, to make the connection in the minds of young people between those coming into the community and residents.
- We need to elect a member of the Parish Council to champion this work, and report back to the Parish Council on progress.
- We should also consider enlisting the help of one or more residents who are critical of the behaviour of young people, and who may have had negative experiences, to help us monitor progress and manage the programme.
- We should adopt a positive approach throughout, be willing to tackle issues such as boredom through practical solutions, and accept that the Parish Council has made numerous unfulfilled commitments to young people in the past.
- In order to support the work, we will need access to venues that welcome or are designed for young people, and this is an on-going issue for the Parish Council, (see Objective 18).
- These are some of the agencies and organisations that can be contacted:
 - YMCA
 - Trelva Youth Project
 - Penwith Community Development Trust
 - Just Youth
 - Cornwall Council Children, Schools and Families Directorate / youth services
 - Cornwall Youth Service
 - Cornwall Fire and Rescue Service
 - Cornwall Children and Young Peoples Partnership / Youth Cornwall
 - Cornwall Youth Work Partnership

Objective 18:

Meet our commitment to providing a venue for young people to meet together, and with other sectors of our community.

The Parish Council has yet to resolve this issue. For a number of years we have been engaged in negotiating a lease for Wall Hall, which would offer the facility to create a dedicated Youth Cafe in addition to other community facilities, and would provide an ideal venue for young people and other residents to meet together in a social and unthreatening environment. It would also provide a focal point for the youth work identified in Objective 17.

However at the point of publication of this Plan, there remain a number of unresolved issues about the acquisition of the lease for Wall Hall, and a degree of uncertainty about the availability of grants to develop the building if the lease were taken. We have already made two grant applications, one for the Youth Cafe and the other for major works to the Hall, neither of which were successful. Such grant aid would be essential to support various repair and restoration works, and for any dedicated equipment and facilities for youth provision, particularly a Youth Cafe.

We have also assumed in the past that young people would welcome a Youth Cafe, and this may be an assumption on our part. We need to undertake some form of survey through the current youth work going on in the village to confirm that a meeting place is the main requirement for young people; and we need to be clear about the age ranges that would use such a facility.

Actions and considerations

- Any arrangement would have to consider the need for supervision, and the impact on neighbours of any gatherings, parking, music, etc.
 - Consider alternative arrangements for the young people of the Parish.
 - One solution might be to tap into other youth venues and activities by organising free transport to under-16's and those without access to any form of transport (Objective 20, page 32).
 - Further opportunities might be explored through agreements with property development schemes within the Parish.
-
- Resolve the matter of acquiring Wall Hall as a matter of urgency. The main issue is the potential to attract funding for substantial renovation work. One solution is to work with our Cornwall Council Regeneration Officer to see if any funds may be available, in order to help the debate.
 - An alternative is to consider whether the Hall can be used for such provision without substantial renovation, in its current state of repair, or to identify the costs of minimum repair and essential health and safety works.

Theme 5:

Connected communities

Objective 19: Develop a Parish website.

To properly meet our vision of a community that is connected mentally as well as physically, we need to use technology to maximum advantage. The development of a Parish website will connect residents and visitors alike, not only to each other, but to the work of the Parish Council, to the services, businesses, amenities and attractions available, and to the events taking place in the wider community.

References are made in Objective 26, *Work towards achieving Quality Parish Council status*, concerning the requirement for a website in order to meet the standards; and in Objective 13: *Supporting local shops and local businesses: a Parish Directory*, we refer to the benefits of a website, but the value overall will be far more significant. Listed below are just some of the possible uses:

- Pages for Parish Council business, minutes of meetings, agendas, and reports.
- Community consultation and interaction between the Council and the community.
- Planning matters.
- Pages for young people, and for all sectors of our community, with links to residents' associations.
- Parish Directory.
- Tourism facilities and links.
- Community events such as Gwinear Show, Carnhell Green Vintage Rally.
- Sporting events and fixtures.
- Business links.
- Where to eat.
- Campsites guide and links.
- Good beach guide.
- Walks and cycle routes.
- School links.

Actions and considerations

- Establish a budget, and identify any sources of grant funding that may be available.
- Appoint an experienced website designer.
- Establish a working group to oversee the design and development of the site.
- Work with partners to agree links.
- Ensure the continued maintenance of the site.

Objective 20: Evaluate and respond to the need for community transport links not currently offered by bus service providers.

As part of the drive to create a stronger, more connected community, the Parish Council is aware that public transport services do not successfully link our settlements, nor do they provide a service that is sufficiently flexible to support work, leisure, and social needs, and good access to services.

Therefore our key aim would be to improve accessibility to jobs, services and facilities for rural residents, particularly those groups within our community least able to help themselves: the elderly and infirm; young people; those seeking to work in hard-to-reach locations and without access to private transport.

For this to be achieved, an assessment of local need will be required, based on robust evidence, from which appropriate solutions can be identified. Opportunities to use smaller vehicles, demand-responsive services or the input of voluntary organisations will be vital elements in providing cost-effective responses to the often dispersed transport need that is characteristic of rural areas. Another important element of providing transport by this means is by demonstrating the 'value for money' i.e. the cost of a community based transport solution providing access to healthcare against the cost of the hospital providing private transport.

The phrase 'community based solutions' is used to emphasise that these are schemes that are often identified and supported by the community but do not solely refer to community transport (i.e. services owned and operated by community groups).

Actions and considerations

- Undertake an assessment of local need, and a comprehensive mapping of existing public transport routes and timetables.
- Relate this provision to the places we know people want to access: the beaches, village halls and social/club gatherings, restaurants, shopping centres, health care providers, youth clubs, local

leisure centres and places of work are possible examples.

■ The principal types of solution open to us are:

- Strengthening local bus services
- Community bus services
- Taxi-bus and taxi-sharing services
- Dial-a-ride services
- Group hire of minibuses
- Voluntary car schemes
- Shopmobility schemes
- Wheels to Work schemes
- Community car-sharing schemes.

■ Undertake research to identify other rural communities that have successfully introduced a community bus scheme. We can access this information via links from Cornwall Council website. We would need to know:

- costs of purchase or hire where applicable, or of running the scheme
- maintenance costs
- insurance issues including public liability
- qualifications needed for named drivers
- sources of grant aid to fund the project.

■ If there are suitably qualified potential volunteers in the community- eg those employed as coach or bus drivers.

■ Work with the Rural Transport Partnership, which works with communities to develop ways of improving local people's access to employment, services and facilities.

■ Work with our Cornwall Council regeneration advisor to investigate sources of funding, and if appropriate to offer support in the preparation of grant applications.

Objective 21:

Establish a network of safe places to walk and cycle throughout the Parish.

Walking and cycling are the most sustainable and active forms of transport. Many of our daily trips are short and can be walked or cycled. In addition, a walkable environment is very important to support good public transport, as all public transport users are pedestrians at the beginning and end of their trips. Parishes that are easy and safe to walk in can increase the potential catchment of public transport services. Both pedestrians and cyclists need a legible and direct network of paths, off or on-road, and, ideally, other facilities (such as bicycle parking) at main destinations. Both modes of transport require attention to urban and traffic design details, such as footpaths or shared paths, kerb ramps, signage, lighting, as well as other design features that improve safety, convenience and attractiveness.

Actions and considerations

In order to provide an accessible and integrated network of walking and cycling routes for safe and convenient travel to local destinations, we need to:

- Plan and construct legible, connected walking and cycling routes leading to local destinations and focal points such as shops, schools, parks, beaches, Gwithian Green, and public transport stops. Routes should be continuous and direct.
- Provide information to assist with safe route planning, such as route maps.
- Create stimulating and attractive routes in order to encourage repeated use, with careful consideration of details such directness, lighting, shade, opportunities to stop and rest, landscaping with appropriate species choice, pavement and edge treatments and directional signage.
- For on-road cycle routes, allocate sufficient space for cyclists and use signage and road marking to reduce ambiguity about where the route is.
- Provide safe places to cross streets close to the direct line of travel for pedestrians and cyclists.
- Connect local walking and cycling networks to regional routes linking centres and facilities.
- Ensure new developments make suitable provision for / connect with walking and cycling routes.

Theme 5: Connected communities, continued

Objective 22:

Secure a long-term base for the Parish Council, with good access for members of the community.

For many years the Parish Council office has been based in Carnhell Green, but the premises do not meet current health and safety requirements, and therefore can no longer function as a base for the Parish Clerk, nor as a place for the Parish Council to hold their meetings. Current use of this facility is reserved for the storage of files, as a postal address, and as a base for communication by telephone.

In recent years, the Parish Council therefore has accepted that the Parish Clerk works from home, and has hired local facilities to hold meetings, rotating between the villages within the Parish.

However, the climate within which the Parish Council operates has changed in recent years, and the Parish Council are also resolved that they play a more strategic role in determining the future of the area. This means that the Parish Council wants to engage more people in the process of local government: make ourselves more available, our work of more immediate interest to the community, and our resolutions of greater significance to key partners such as Cornwall Council.

With this approach, and with the encapsulation of this attitude in this Plan, the work of the Parish Council requires greater input from Councillors, Clerk, and the wider community. Therefore a permanent base is needed.

Actions and considerations

- To urgently resolve the potential lease of Wall Hall, and, if viable, to secure grant funding for the regeneration of the hall, to include a permanent Parish Council base.
- To urgently explore alternative venues for the Council, possibly through engagement with developers and property owners in the Parish.
- To build into our forward financial planning, at the point where we have a viable solution to our future location, an appropriate element for the costs of maintaining a permanent office base.

Objective 23:

Understand the barriers to wider community interest and involvement in Parish Council affairs, and seek to remove those barriers.

Public interest in Parish Council business is minimal, usually only connected with planning applications in the immediate vicinity of those attending, or to do with matters of anti-social behaviour. This situation is not unique to Gwinear-Gwithian Parish Council, being true for the majority of parishes. However this Parish Council is concerned to involve far more members of the community in our work, and this Plan is part of that process, by showing how we can make a difference and shape the future of our Parish, and by wishing to draw in members of the public to help us deliver many aspects of this Plan.

If we are to engage with more members of the community, we need to look at our practices, and undertake a real assessment of how we conduct our business in the context of making it more interesting, and more relevant to the wider community.

Actions and considerations

- To consider how we might review all aspects of Parish Council business to make it more interesting, and to feel more relevant, to members of the community. This may include the following:
- How, when and where we make the public aware of what we plan to discuss, and the results of our discussions. We are not limited to the use of Parish Council notice-boards, nor to reporting in minute-form only.
- The benefits of a Parish newsletter, distributed door to door.
- The benefits of a web-site, (Objective 19), and a 'chat room' for members of the public to converse with Parish Councillors about issues of interest and concern.
- The layout and ambience of venues for meetings, including lighting, heating, table and seating arrangements, and the availability of large-scale visual aids for members of the public.
- The design of the agenda, and better opportunity for informal sessions to engage with public debate.
- Improving access by the public to Councillors and to the Parish Clerk.

Objective 24:

Actively promote the Objectives within this Plan to partner organisations, and ensure that key partners play their role in delivering these Objectives.

Key to the success of this Plan will be the recognition of the validity and importance of the Objectives by partner organisations, so that they refer to the Plan when making decisions about any aspect of their function or service within our Parish, or that impact on our Parish.

Cornwall Council is the most significant of our partners, and influential in the delivery of services and policy development affecting our Parish. One of the most effective routes to dialogue with Cornwall Council will be through the Hayle and St Ives Community Network. That Network is also ideally placed to engage with the Police, with healthcare providers, with Cornwall Highways, and of course with neighbouring parishes.

We have also said elsewhere in this Plan that community involvement is essential, so we need to consider promoting the Plan to residents associations, and other community groups.

Actions and considerations

- To consider the way in which the Parish Plan is promoted to our partners: to consider the possibility of a launch event for partner organisations. Refer to page 42, *'Delivering the Parish Plan: Stakeholder and partner consultation and engagement.'*
- To consider producing a summary leaflet for distribution to partners, and for door-to-door distribution throughout the Parish, to advise partners and members of the public about the existence of the Plan, and to invite their involvement.
- In addition to determining the distribution list for printed copies of the Parish Plan, we will make available a CD copy or an electronic copy to a wider audience of partner organisations, influencers, and consultees; place an electronic copy on our proposed web-site; and provide a paper copy at cost to any member of the public who requests a paper copy.

Objective 25:

Seek to establish and enhance village centres through improvements to the streetscape and traffic management schemes.

A difficult objective to quantify, this must stand as a long-term aspiration of the Parish Council: to return priority to pedestrians rather than vehicles in key parts of our villages, in order to establish or reinforce a sense of community, of village centres, where these are desirable, such as Reawla, Carnhell Green, and Connor Downs. In each case, these are linear villages: no village green, no existing centre, but development either side of a busy roadway that effectively divides a village and creates the sense that vehicles have priority.

A range of initiatives can help create a sense of 'centre' for a village, normally around a village shop or village community centre, from seemingly simple measures to substantially calm traffic and distinguish areas of roadway designated as pedestrian priority, to detailed traffic management schemes, with changes to the street architecture.

The benefits to the community would be more than just visual: restoring a place to prioritise people rather than prioritising motor vehicles will strengthen a community, and in so doing may help address a number of anti-social behaviour traits we are experiencing. Creating a village centre that can be enjoyed and valued by all members of the community, that welcomes people in, will add to the longer-term sustainability not only of the community, but the shops that help us have a focus to our villages.

Actions and considerations

- The starting point will be to identify in which village location to undertake the 'pilot' project.
- The Parish Council should approach Cornwall Council to gain expert help from experienced highways engineers, planners and designers, in terms of practicalities in proposing improvements, and guiding the Parish Council through the processes involved, in order to provide a visual and physical focal point for target villages in the Parish.

Objective 25 (continued):

- Detailed plans would need to be drawn up and presented to the community at an open meeting, in order to elicit support, and views, from those it will most affect.
- The use of alternatives to tarmac for areas that must continue to allow the flow of traffic should be considered: different surfaces can clearly identify to motorists that an area is 'pedestrian priority'.
- Siting of public seating in these areas, relocating bus-stops, and making changes to pavements and kerbs all add to the sense of pedestrian priority.
- Careful consideration should be given to the mix of materials and components in order to reflect and complement local character.
- Lighting schemes can add to the overall sense of creating a village centre.
- The impact of planting schemes should be also be considered.

Objective 26:

Work towards achieving Quality Parish Council status.

The Parish Council is an effective and well-organised group of elected representatives supported ably by a very capable Parish Clerk. We believe we can achieve Quality Parish Council status, reflecting the quality of our work, our systems and administration, and our capacity. In addition to the recognition that this status would bring us, there are also benefits to the Council that will support our work, and our influence on other organisations. The following extract from 'The Quality Town and Parish Council Scheme' published in 2003 by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister describes the characteristics of a Quality Parish Council, and makes clear the benefits to the community, and to our partners.

A Quality Parish Council:

- *is representative of, and actively engages, all parts of its community, providing vision, identity and a sense of belonging;*
- *is effectively and properly managed;*
- *articulates the needs and wishes of its community;*
- *upholds high standards of conduct;*
- *is committed to work in partnership with principal local authorities and other public service agencies;*
- *in proportion to its size and skills, delivers local services on behalf of principal local authorities when this represents the best deal for the local community;*
- *works closely with voluntary groups in its community; provides leadership to the community through its work on Parish plans; and*
- *working with its partners, acts as an information point for local services.*

In order to qualify for Quality Parish Council status, the following must be in place: (this is an indicative list- full details are on the *National Association of Local Councils* website).

- *The electoral mandate: at least two-thirds of the Councillors must be elected.*
- *Clerk's qualifications must be either a Certificate in Local Policy or a Certificate in Local Council Administration (CiLCA).*
- *Evidence of meetings held in the 12 months prior to application.*

-
- *The need for a web-site and e-mail address, and a newsletter published at least four times per year delivered to all households.*
 - *An annual report published by 30 June each year and available for inspection by the public.*
 - *Accounts prepared to statutory requirements.*
 - *A Code of Conduct.*
 - *A Community Engagement Strategy.*
 - *Training strategy and budget.*
-
- The Council has formally resolved that it wishes to work towards Quality Parish Council status.
 - The Council has also established a Working Group to guide the Parish Council through the process.

Actions and considerations

- Look at the body of evidence required in order to achieve Quality Parish Council status, and:
- Consider carefully and budget for the costs associated with meeting and maintaining the standards required and recommend a budget to the Council.
- Set up a timetable to review existing practices against the evidence requirements, and implement change where it is needed.
- Identify those changes that would benefit the Parish Council most, and are achievable in the short to mid-term, and determine which aspects are to be addressed in the longer term.
- Work with the Parish Clerk to identify the administrative, clerical, and financial support needed in order to work towards and ultimately achieve the CiLCA qualification.

Theme 6:

Community health

Objective 27:

Secure an improved health-care provision within the Parish through partnership working with health-care providers, and exploring opportunities for sharing physical resources.

Whilst Connor Downs benefits from a part-time GP surgery, the other villages within our community, particularly in the area of Carnhell Green, Wall, and Reawla, have no such provision, and access to a doctor requires a trip to Hayle, Camborne or Praze. At one point there was a visiting part-time practice based in Wall Hall, but the facilities there were not appropriate, and the facility was removed by the Praze practice that had provided it. As our community expands, we need to work to ensure that the local provision of health care can meet the needs of the community.

Actions and considerations

- Connor Downs is targeted for new housing development: at the time of writing this Plan there are three applications for planning permission awaiting a decision, totalling 60 more homes, with a further 25 or so to come on stream. In this instance, The Parish Council needs to work with the surgery at Connor Downs to identify if there are plans to meet this expansion in our numbers, for example by longer opening hours.
- If there is capacity at Connor Downs, any provision of community transport addressed in Objective 20 could be used to provide a transport facility to this practice. We should also work with public transport providers to confirm that public transport routes offer good access to health-care providers from all parts of our community.
- It has been the Parish Council's intention to seek to deliver a part-time health facility at Wall Hall, and the commitment to provide a part-time surgery in the area of Reawla, Wall, or Carnhell Green, is ongoing.
- Further discussions with local surgeries should be held, to see if the climate for part-time provision has changed since discussions were held with Bodriggy and Veor surgeries to no avail.
- The Community Network provides us with another avenue of dialogue with senior health-care providers.

Objective 28:

Investigate opportunities to promote a healthy eating culture through the provision of Parish allotments, garden-sharing and other initiatives.

Successive generations are becoming increasingly aware about the importance of a healthy diet, yet as our villages expand to accommodate more numbers, and the economic climate requires the development of more and more affordable homes, garden spaces are at a premium for the next generation of our community.

The Parish Council already fulfils its obligation to provide allotments, and this Objective confirms our intention to expand that provision over time. We are also aware that we have a substantial elderly population, some of whom will be struggling to maintain their gardens, and who may be happy to participate in a scheme that lets others maintain their garden, and at the same time turn part of it over to a vegetable garden. More than 22,000 people have so far signed up to food campaigner Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall's Landshare scheme, launched last autumn, and there are similar initiatives across the country.

Actions and considerations

- In order to increase our allotment provision, we need to approach local land owners for land on terms that are mutually acceptable, in a location accessible for the community preferably by walking or cycling.
- Raise the profile of our allotment awards, and include a 'best garden share' award.
- In terms of a garden-share scheme, look for best practice elsewhere, particularly in terms of legalities, and in ways of safeguarding members of our community who participate.
- Consider supporting our schools and our young people by setting up an allotment purely for their use.
- Explore with local growers opportunities for collaborative working with the Parish Council in achieving our vision of a healthy-eating community.
- Approach NHS Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Health Promotion Team for support.

Theme 7:

Leisure and recreation

Objective 29:

Work with new housing developers to provide community gardens/allotments as part of any development scheme.

In support of the previous objective, there is an opportunity for the Parish Council to comment on and influence planning applications that come before us. A number of affordable housing schemes are under way in the Parish, and in both cases the Parish Council has been consulted by the developer in advance of a planning application being made.

In any affordable housing development scheme, land is obviously at a premium, in order to minimise costs, and clearly there is not usually space for allotments as well as the garden/curtilage for each property. However, recent experience suggests that developers are willing to provide an area of play space, and the Parish Council should engage in dialogue about the provision of community gardens, such as a community orchard, or community allotment, as part of that development.

Actions and considerations

- Work with current developers to amend housing schemes in order to help deliver this objective.
- Promote the objective to Cornwall Council as the Planning Authority, and work with officers to explore ways of building community garden space into our requirements longer-term.
- Also explore with Cornwall Council officers how we might direct any Section 106 agreements to include garden/allotment provision, or use any financial contributions for this purpose.

Objective 30:

To expand our provision of recreational and play space, and embrace sporting activities, particularly those that can underpin our vision for a more connected community, and for engaging with our young people.

There are currently two play / recreation sites in the Parish: one in Reawla, the other, the Elizabeth Sampson Playing Field, in Connor Downs. The Parish Council's current provision and responsibility is the ownership and maintenance of the Elizabeth Sampson Playing Field, managed by a Committee drawn from the Council and members of the community.

In the past, a community group was responsible for gaining grant funding to equip the Reawla Playing Field, formerly owned by Penwith District Council, and now owned by Cornwall Council. Due to lack of resolution over transfer of land ownership, the Parish Council is not responsible for maintaining this facility or the equipment, and vandalism and lack of maintenance has caused a number of items of equipment to be removed. Attempts to engage the local residents in the management of this facility a number of years ago failed.

However, the Parish Council recognise that the provision of recreational and sports space for all ages can make a very positive contribution to a more connected community, and contributes to our aspiration to help promulgate a healthy community.

The Parish Council has for a considerable time been working with the Police to try and address a culture of anti-social behaviour, (ASB), particularly in the area of Reawla. A lack of facilities, and opportunities to engage in targeted social activities, mean that part of the solution to ASB remains untackled. Addressing the provision of sporting facilities is a recognised route to reducing instances of ASB in a community.

We are also conscious that our playing field in Connor Downs is designed to primarily meet the needs of younger children, and we should consider the needs of a wider age-range of users.

Theme 7: Leisure and recreation, continued

Objective 30 (continued):

Finally, the Parish Council should work with developers, and the planning authority, to make sure that as new housing developments come before us for consideration, that we make sure that recreational space, for adults as well as children, is made available as a crucial part of any housing development.

Actions and considerations

- Support a community survey, particularly amongst young people, about the facilities they would welcome.
- Review with Cornwall Council the maintenance, ownership and management of Reawla Playing Field, with a view to replacing and upgrading the equipment, and introducing a policy of repair rather than removal of failing equipment.
- Support the Elizabeth Sampson Playing Field Management Group in the task of reviewing the range of equipment on their current site, to consider how the space may be made more inviting to a wider age range; and exploring opportunities to extend the site to add additional space for sports pitches and bmx facilities.
- Discuss with the respective Residents' Associations how they and the Parish Council might collaborate on improving facilities, and what and where they should be.
- Similarly, discuss with sports clubs within the Parish their longer-term needs and aspirations, in the context of contributing to Parish Council objectives and meeting joint objectives.
- Consult with Devon and Cornwall Police and Cornwall Council over opportunities to fund play and sport facilities in the context of reducing instances of anti-social behaviour and building stronger communities.
- Talk to local landowners about making unused land available for specific sporting activities, for agreed periods.
- Look for good practice elsewhere in providing facilities, particularly for disengaged youth.

Theme 8:

Technology and energy

Objective 31:

To support and encourage the use of new technologies and practical measures that will reduce our energy consumption, as a positive response to the challenge of climate change.

Renewable energy is derived from inexhaustible sources like the sun, wind, water, and plant material. Using renewable energy reduces our dependence on burning fossil fuels, helping mitigate climate change. Parish and Town Councils can play a substantial role in the drive to reduce the risks of climate change.

The *Climate Change and Sustainable Energy Act 2006* gave Parish and Town Councils specific powers in relation to local energy saving measures, which will reduce the greenhouse gas emissions that cause climate change. We can promote and support community initiatives to reduce emissions, review our own procedures to make a positive contribution as community leaders, and through the planning authority and service providers such as Cornwall Council, require that measures to save energy and reduce emissions are at the forefront of all decision-making.

Actions and considerations

- The *Climate Change and Sustainable Energy Act 2006* allows us to promote microgeneration and the use of electricity or heat produced by microgeneration. Microgeneration is the production of heat and/or electricity on a small scale from a low carbon source, such as solar, micro-wind, micro-hydro, heat pumps, biomass, micro combined heat and power.
- We should therefore positively welcome applications for planning permission to install such devices wherever reasonable to do so, and promote the use of microgeneration to new housing developers.
- In terms of being a statutory consultee on planning applications, we can promote the need for the highest standards of environmental rating for new and existing developments: e.g. *EcoHomes* 'excellent' (the *Building Research Establishment* environmental rating for homes); and land use patterns that reduce the need for car travel, by ensuring schools, shops, workplaces are accessible by foot, bicycle, or by public transport.
- Promote the use of environmentally-friendly travel: walking, cycling, car-share schemes, and the use of public transport. We have powers to provide and maintain cycle parks, bus shelters, roadside seating, and local community bus services. Grants are available to support community transport.
- Ensure that people can walk safely to school, shops, playing spaces, and services through a campaign to ensure that footpaths and pavements are provided where they are needed. (see Objective 21, page 33).
- Consider the benefits of establishing a 'Climate Friendly Parish' project, based on the St Endellion model, and encourage residents, public houses, restaurants, camp-sites, schools, churches, and other businesses, alongside the Parish Council, to sign up to a 5% reduction in carbon emissions annually.
- Consider setting up a joint ordering process for fuels such as heating oil and coal, by introducing a delivery 'hot-line', to reduce the number of delivery trips made to our villages.
- Use low-energy lightbulbs in any Parish Council premises or facility, and low-emission lighting along roads and footpaths. Consider micro-generation methods of powering any areas of public lighting that come under Council control.
- At the same time, we must ensure that there are no Parishioners suffering from fuel poverty, by helping our most vulnerable residents to access the 'Warm Front' programme, and grants for insulation programmes.
- Input into our Village Design Statements (see Objective 9, page 23), to ensure that good practice is embodied and updated.

Delivering the Parish Plan

The Parish Council cannot deliver this Plan in its entirety by itself. We will need to work with partner organisations, such as Cornwall Council, in order to achieve the Objectives described in these pages.

We will also work direct with a number of partners, such as Devon and Cornwall Police, the NHS, and residents associations, as shown in the diagram on page 44; and we also need to draw in members of the community to assist in delivering those Objectives that are of interest and concern to them.

Parish Plan Working Group

The Parish Council will appoint a Working Group to take the lead in prioritising the Objectives described in this Plan, and advise the Parish Council on a monthly basis of progress against Plan Objectives. The Working Group will consider ways of engaging with members of the community to support them on delivering any given Theme, or specific Objectives, and identify for each Objective the key organisations and agencies with which to engage.

The Working Group will work in close collaboration with the Hayle and St Ives Community Network Manager as a broker for accessing the resources of Cornwall Council, regeneration staff, and other agencies. Should the Community Network Forum decide to set up a management team for Hayle area plans, including Hayle, Gwinear-Gwithian and St Erth plans, the Working Group will propose representation from the Parish Council on that team. That representative will in turn be required to represent the views of the Working Group, and regularly update the Parish Council via a Working Group agenda item.

Identifying resources

The Working Group will be asked to advise the Parish Council on the probable resources required to deliver the Parish Plan- not the cost of delivering individual Objectives, but the management, coordination, and administration involved. There may be implications for the Parish Council in terms of increased staffing and associated salaries, and office / meeting space accommodation, that will require early resolution.

Stakeholder and partner consultation and engagement

A key part of the process for the Parish Plan Working Group will be to identify those organisations, groups, businesses, associations, and individuals who could have a particular interest in the contents of this Plan, or a particular role to play in implementation, and to undertake the process of consultation with them, particularly around details of delivery. The results of those consultations will be used to amend or improve aspects of the Parish Plan. The Working Group will

also be charged with engaging stakeholders in the delivery of aspects of the Plan that fall within their remit.

Prioritising our work

The Parish Plan is a major commitment for the Parish Council. We believe it is ambitious, but achievable in partnership with our community, and with organisations with whom we work. We will need to prioritise our work, and in order to do that, we will also need to understand the priorities of our partners, and the time-scales attached.

As an example, the *Environment, Planning and Economy Directorate* of Cornwall Council has identified five thematic priorities, as follows:

- Creating better places to live
- Enabling sustainable economic prosperity
- Creating a Green Cornwall
- Creating connectivity and strategic infrastructure
- Delivering excellent services.

These priorities clearly reflect, on a County-wide scale, what we are seeking to achieve locally; we will need to understand how Cornwall Council plans to deliver these priorities in the context of our Parish, and work with them to monitor success. This process has already been put in hand by our elected Cornwall Council member in partnership with that Directorate, working through the Community Network.

Parish Councillor ‘champions’

The delivery of the Objectives, once prioritised, will be driven by Parish Councillor ‘champions’, each taking the lead in driving forward either complete Themes, or more probably individual Objectives, that reflect their area of interest and expertise. Support for their work at a strategic level should be provided by our Community Network team.

Tackling the funding issue

There is clearly a cost implication to achieving many of the Objectives contained in this Plan. Through the Localism service of Cornwall Council, in West Cornwall, the Community Regeneration Officer working within the Community Network team will

be able to assist in sourcing external grant funding. Links will also be made to the Cornwall Council Directorates shown on page 44 in order to seek financial support for our part in achieving common goals.

Community launch and ‘sign-up’ events

Please also refer to *Objective 24: ‘Actively promote the Objectives within this Plan to partner organisations, and ensure that key partners play their role in delivering these Objectives’.*

In order to launch the Parish Plan, and to interest members of the public in helping the Parish Council, through the Parish Plan Working Group, to deliver individual Objectives or indeed sign up to helping with complete Themes, we will hold a community event in each of the main communities. We will invite members of the public, community groups, residents’ associations, and representatives of partner organisations to attend the launch.

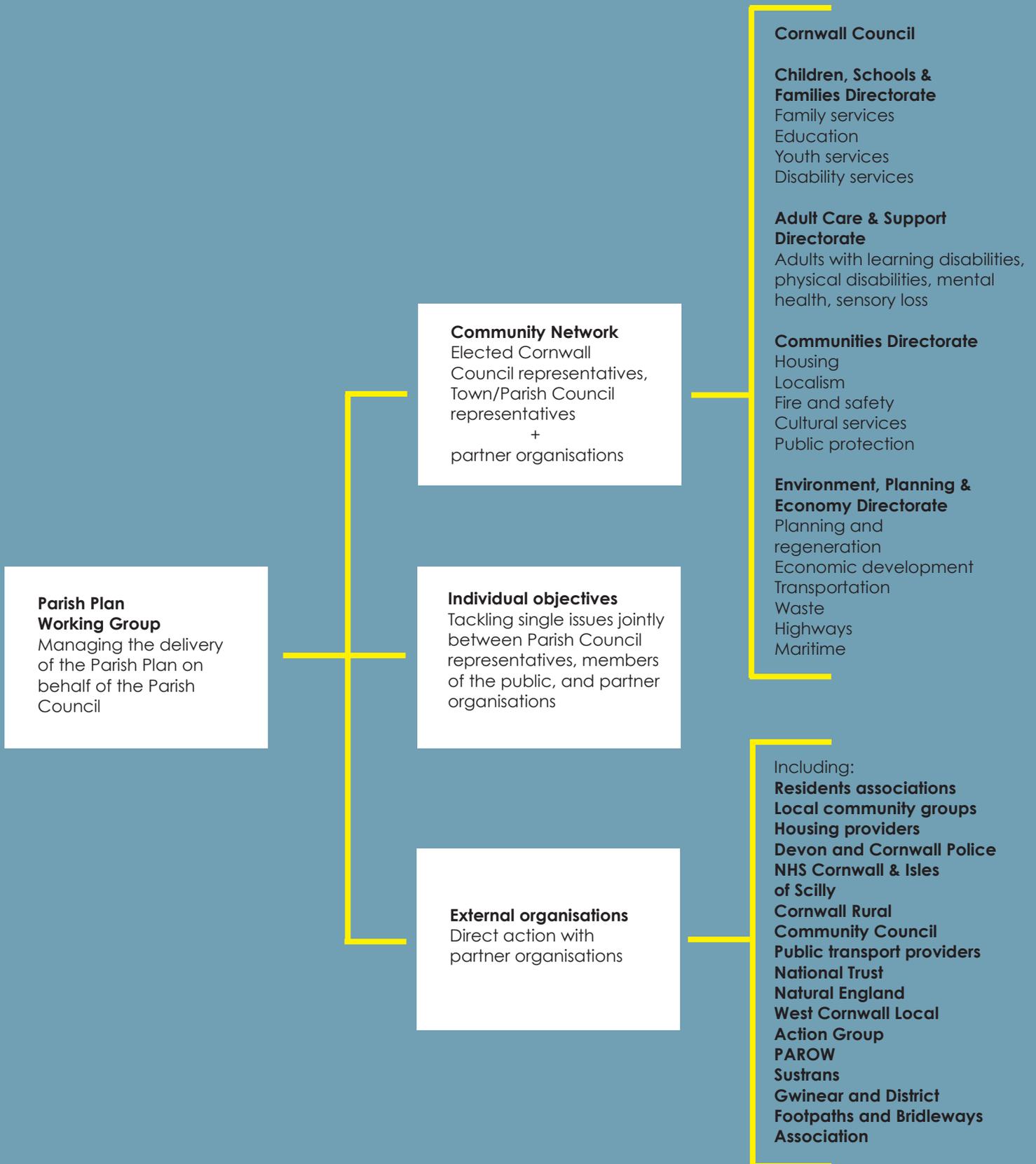
Each of the Themes, and their respective Objectives, will be displayed on a large scale, and members of the public will be able to ‘sign up’ for any Objective they would wish to support. Given sufficient response, the Parish Plan Working Group will contact each volunteer, in order to understand the skills and expertise they could bring to the work, their availability, and a short-list prepared.

We will make copies of the Plan available to partner organisations. Members of the public will be invited to request an electronic copy e-mailed to them. (Paper copies can be provided at cost). The Parish Plan will be available on our website when that is complete, together with reports on progress.

Annual review

The Parish Council will review progress against the Parish Plan on an annual basis, and the Plan will be amended and updated as a result of the annual review process.

Delivering the Parish Plan, continued



Gwinear-Gwithian Parish Council 2009-10

The Parish Clerk

Vida Perrin
Parish Council office:
8 Penhale Road, Carnhell Green, Camborne TR14 0LT
01209 831115

Chairman

Brian Pocock
Pennance Vean Farm, 19 Prosper Hill, Gwithian,
Hayle TR27 5EB
01736 754985

Vice-Chairman

Lionel Pascoe
19A Hayle Road, Fraddam, Hayle TR27 6EH
01736 850708

Parish Councilors representing the Gwinear ward

Shirley Negus
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01736 850832

Lionel Pascoe (as above)

Michael Roberts
Wall Farm, 18 Wall Road, Gwinear, Hayle TR27 5HA
01736 850506

Steven Rowe
36 Reawla Lane, Gwinear, Hayle TR27 5HH
01736 850181

Bet Slade-Elmes
6 Henvier Gardens, Reawla, Hayle TR27 5LN
01736 850217

Anthony Young
Skyber Goth, Station Road, Carnhell Green,
Camborne TR14 0LY
01209 831082

Parish Councilors representing the Gwithian ward

Ian Horne
19 Horsepool Road, Connor Downs, Hayle TR27 5DZ
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The Carthouse, Trenoweth Farm, Station Road,
Gwinear, Hayle TR27 5JJ
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Brian Pocock (as above)

Kevin Thomas
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01736 757949

Duncan Thurnell-Read
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01736 754235

Contacts

Cornwall Councillor for Gwinear-Gwithian and St Erth electoral division

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rtovey@cornwall.gov.uk or
ray@cornishquest.freeserve.co.uk

Cornwall Council Hayle One-Stop Shop

Frank Johns Centre, 56 Queens Way, Hayle TR27 4NL
01209 615001

Hayle and St Ives Community Network Manager

Maxine Hardy
Cornwall Council St Ives One-Stop Shop,
The Guildhall, St Ives TR26 2DS
01209 615007 / 07528 983415
maxine.hardy@cornwall.gov.uk
and at the Hayle One-Stop Shop as below

Hayle and St Ives Community Network Support Officer

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Community Regeneration Officer

Kate Keogh
Cornwall Council One-Stop Shop, St Clare, Penzance
TR18 3QW
01736 336737
kate.keogh@cornwall.gov.uk

Devon and Cornwall Constabulary Hayle Neighbourhood Beat Team Leader

Sergeant Simon Dobson
Hayle Police Station, Sea Lane, Hayle TR27 4DU
01736 751827 (this number is not for reporting crime-
please use 08452 777444)

Cornwall Council services

General enquiries: 0300 1234 100
Comments, complaints: 0300 1234 100
Children, schools and families: 0300 1234 101
Libraries: 0300 1234 111

Benefits: 0300 1234 121
Adult care and support: 0300 1234 131
Refuse and recycling: 0300 1234 141
Planning: 0300 1234 151

Housing: 0300 1234 161
Council tax and business rates: 0300 1234 171
Registration: 0300 1234 181
Trading Standards: 0300 1234 191

Environmental management: 0300 1234 202
Environmental health and licensing: 0300 1234 212
Roads, transport and parking: 0300 1234 222
Fire and community safety: 0300 1234 232



Photo and back cover photo: Ray Tovey

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Gwinear-Gwithian Parish Plan: version 3, February 8, 2010

