

**ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD AT POLYPHANT VILLAGE HALL ON WEDNESDAY 16 MAY 2007 COMMENCING 19.30HOURS.**

**PRESENT**

<b>CHAIRMAN</b>	Iris Curley
<b>VICE CHAIR</b>	Dave Parnell
<b>CLERK</b>	Elaine Cook
<b>COUNCILLORS</b>	John Newbery, Ken White, John Panter, Jenny Potter and David Eno.

Members of the public were also present.

During the course of our Ordinary Meeting our District Councillor Graham Facks-Martin and County Councillor Neil Burden.

Report for Polyphant WI for the year 1 January 2006 to 31 December 2006.

Polyphant WI had another full year, with a programme of speakers as varied as "Living in Indonesia and China" by Brenda Hooton, "Life as a Cornish Chimney Sweep" by Mr Metters and "The History of the West Country Mail Service" by Mr R Bicknell. We also enjoyed a trip to Killerton House in Devon, followed by a visit to the Farm Shop at Powderham Castle in glorious sunshine. We participated in two Group Meetings with other Womens' Institutes in the area. Sadly, owing to increased subscription rates and the imposition of a compulsory magazine it was decided to close Polyphant WI at the end of our financial year in December. Members voted, however, to start a Ladies' Club to meet monthly in the Parish Church Hall and we held our first meeting at the end of March 2007. We now look forward to a busy and interesting year ahead. Any further information, please contact the Secretary, Ann Bishop on 880019.

Report from the Methodist Church and Community Centre for the Parish Councils' A G M 17 May 2007.

The activities here at the Methodist Church and Community Centre over the past year have continued as in the previous year with either the church or hall in use more days than not.

Some repairs were necessary this year to the south wall and stained glass windows and other minor work has been completed by members of the congregation. We are grateful to the builders R Worth & Sons for working in with the bookings and the Parish Council for their grant towards the cost. Bookings for the rest of the year show no reduction.

Like most rural churches and chapels the average age of its members continue to rise. We have five members of our congregation who are now categorised by the new Safeguarding Act as vulnerable adults but we are well supported by others yet to meet this new milestone. Incidentally, being a vulnerable adult does not preclude you from being approved to supervise children. If this situation should ever arise I expect you eye one another up to decide who is the most vulnerable. Under these circumstances I think the decision could go either way.

Like most churches we look forward to welcoming new members of our congregation. We are a broad church with members of the congregation sharing one faith but from various branches of the Christian Church who never the less believe in supporting their local church and community. Hence some are Methodists but others are regular members of the congregation but all take an active part in the church and village activities.

A recent change has been the demise of the Polyphant WI/being replaced by the Ladies Club. Details, events and contacts are published in the monthly Parish Newsletter. There is also the Social Afternoon Group, Friends from the village who meet on a Tuesday afternoon 2 – 4.30pm. So far we have tried our hand at Painting, drawing and most recently calligraphy under the guidance of Iris Talbot. The underlying aim being to enjoy the afternoon in each others company. The ladies of Polyphant also wish to keep fit and run a voluntary club on a Thursday morning 9 – 10am organised by Di Greenfield. These are recent additions to the existing Adult Education and other independent published activities.

We look forward to continuing working in the community and clearing our next hurdle the buildings Quinquennial Inspection. Any work needed as a result should be phased over a five year period. Although the building is now 120 years old, and not wishing to tempt providence, we are not anticipating anything substantial.

#### Lewannick Film Society – May 2007

Early in 2007 the film society was awarded an Awards for All grant of £6,500 which made it possible to buy the projector and screen which we needed to start up.

In March we had our first screening which was free. This was made possible by the grant received from the Parish Council last year. The two performances, children's and adults, attracted a good number of people and since then we have had a steady flow of enquiries and applications for membership.

At our first paying screening in April we had 43 adults and children for the children's film and 54 adults for the main film which was sufficient to make a small profit. Current membership is around 60.

The aim of the society is not to make a profit overall, but we have had a number of costs, such as expensive cables, insurance and buying rights to show short films which we did not budget for in our original costing. Film distributor's charges have increased by 60% in the last year. There are also a number of ongoing costs such as postage, copying etc which need to be met.

However, if we continue to get good support we will be able to keep the prices about the same which is between £4 and £4.50 per entrance.

There are two expenses which we are struggling to meet and these are insurance and the cost of a spare projector bulb. Insurance is required to cover our equipment against theft or damage, and public liability, should any of our equipment cause injury to the public. This would not be covered by the Village Hall's insurance policy.

We can obtain insurance at a discounted rate of £243 from the British Federation of Film Societies. The spare projector bulb costs £400 and although these have a life of around 2,000 hours and are apparently very reliable, the screening would have to be abandoned if a bulb went during the show.

David Eno has attended two information and film screening days put on by the British Federation of Film Societies which were a great opportunity to meet with other film society organisers and to gain from their knowledge and experience.

We feel that response so far has been excellent and look forward to continuing to provide what we hope will be a valuable amenity for both children and adults in our community.

David Eno  
Chairman Lewannick Film Society

### **LEWANNICH PARISH WEBSITE – MAY 2007-06-02**

During the last year there has been a surge in hits on the website. The total hits since the website was set up in 2001 is 143,000, of these 62,000 were in the last year. The website is regularly at the top of internet searches for Lewannick on Google, and the main search engines. The various areas of the website are also indexed on Google, including all the Newsletters since November 2002.

We intend now to regularly add the Parish Council Minutes to the website.

The website content is gradually expanding and the continuing intention is to make it a rich source of information about the parish. The 'What's on' section is now regularly updated by Jayne Young. The sections on Neighbourhood Watch, Useful Information, Local Business, Where to visit and Where to stay are now well established.

We are planning a project to trace the origins and history of the places and people of Lewannick Parish and hope to involve Cornwall Records Office and the Cornwall Family History Society. We will be seeking grants to help with this and will be holding a public meeting to try and persuade as many residents as possible to take part. The ongoing results of this will be presented on the website and should form a valuable resource for the school, local people and anyone who has connections with the parish.

We also intend to start adding information and photographs illustrating the Natural History of the parish.

The financial help given to the website by the Parish Council over the past year was much appreciated and we hope that the website will continue to be supported.

### **Newsletter – May 2007**

The Newsletter has had another successful year, and all twelve issues apart from one were published on or before the first day of the month. Newsletters are now being

hand delivered to the Trelaske area. Anyone else in the parish that does not receive a copy and would like to should contact the editor. The newsletter is now always available on the website on the day of publication. Copies can also be picked up at Lewannick Post Office and at The Archer Arms.

I have looked into expanding the newsletter to a booklet format but the extra costs of printing and stapling seem to outweigh the small advantage this might bring. The current single A4 sheet is very economical to produce and takes the least amount of time to lay-out.

Printing and other costs have remained stable so there is no need for any increase over last year.

David Eno.

### **LEWANNICK AMATEUR DRAMATIC SOCIETY**

The Society continues to thrive in its 59<sup>th</sup> year with new members taking art in all aspects of its annual pantomime. Support continues to grow with the pantomime, so much so that the decision has been taken to add an extra performance to accommodate an ever increasing audience who no doubt will thank the village hall for the purchase of new comfortable chairs.

The purchase of its own lighting system proved to be a sound investment enabling lighting to be adapted and altered to suit the performances and will soon pay for itself eliminating the yearly hire fees.

Fabric has been purchased to make new stage curtains with remaining lengths used to make matching window curtains.

Fund raising events this year include a car treasure hunt and the annual summer event being an evening of live music on the moor in August.

New members of all abilities are always welcome and we hope to keep the society and its traditional politically incorrect pantomime humour alive and kicking for many years to come.

Jenny Eno – Vice Chairman.

### **LEWANNICK VILLGE HALL COMMITTEE**

The Committee has had a busy but productive year with the results of its fundraising finally becoming visible. The disabled access and toilet are now fully operational and the central heating has proved a successful and affordable luxury. The exterior has been painted with the aid of hard working volunteers and a generous donation of paint.

Inside there are 28 new comfortable chairs with the complete set on the way. These have all been funded by a small grant and donations by hall users and local residents. Also 17 replacement tables have been acquired and these will be given a coat of paint to match the new chairs.

The yellow hatch markings in the car park, although rather unsightly, seem to have solved the problem of cars parking on the strip of land used by Mr F Werring as a right of way. However, the Committee is still in regular correspondence with the above's solicitor!!!

The next project is the interior decoration of the hall. May Day raised a considerable sum towards this but quotes are now being sought in order to apply for grant aid to help finance the project. It is hoped that a more pleasing interior will encourage more bookings for parties and social events.

Bookings are up this year with new groups such as the Film and Scrapbooking Clubs. Fundraising continues throughout the year with the next big event being the Annual Flower Show.

Jenny Eno – Vice Chairman.

## **ST MARTINS CHURCH**

St Martins Church congregation continues to try to maintain a strong Christian presence in the Parish. The greatest progress of this past year has been the joining with us of our friends of the Methodist Tradition who have for a number of years held their services in the Village Hall.

So far both traditions have been supported in the services that we have had on Sundays.

After many years Maurice Holden has decided to relinquish the office of Church Warden. We have elected two new Churchwardens Judith Jolly and Caroline Latham at our A G M. We hope with their leadership and guidance to become more involved in outreach throughout the Parish. We thank all parishioners for the support they have given St Martins in many ways throughout last year. Our thanks especially for those who put time and effort into keeping the churchyard tidy throughout the summer. Many people have expressed how well maintained the whole church and surrounding area are kept, it being a credit to the village.

## **NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH**

Herewith please find the NWH report for the year ending May 2007. Further to my previous reports, the members of the team met at the Archer Arms Public House at 6.15pm on Wednesday March 21<sup>st</sup>.

At the March meeting, it was agreed to have two meetings per annum and confirm our general internal working arrangements and to apply for more NWH roadside signs as some of the earlier signs have been either removed or defaced. Derek applied to Camelford, the North Cornwall NWH Office for these replacements the following morning, but as yet, they have not been delivered.

We also discussed the proposed meeting between our local constable and Derek which has not yet taken place, although the local constable telephoned about 18 months ago to arrange a meeting and it was left at his discretion as to the time and date. Because of the limited arrangements for anyone to contact an individual police officer, Derek cannot remind him of our appointment. At the Police Liaison meeting on March 8 Derek raised this matter and was promised an immediate response as to the system to be introduced for Co-ordinators to be able to contact members of the police, but this has not yet taken place. Derek feels that these failures to respond to comments are deplorable given that two years ago we were informed that the levels of police manning were much improved, as a result in the large sums of money which were being provided for policing funds at the time. Derek will be contacting Camelford shortly to renew these issues.

Finally, a reminder of the members' names and telephone numbers which parishioners are urged to ring in the event of an incident:

Derek	782 493
Jenny	86 514
Betty & Ken	782 228
Shirley and Alan	782 269
Charles	782 542
Judith	86 004
Judy	86 230
Lesley & Russell	782 562
Ray	86 340
Jim	86 198
Eric & Barbara	782239

### **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

In June last year we welcomed Jenny Potter of Polyphant as a valued member of the Parish Council. Unfortunately, in May this year we have lost two members, Councillors Chris Beckley and Tim Ellis, and we thank them for the time and effort they have put in. Applications for these two posts will be advertised in the Newsletter. If you have any interest in serving the Parish please apply promptly.

We have provided a bench in the play area in Lewannick. We are liaising with the County Council to improve the pavement outside the Archers Public House and the area outside the Post Office, and to provide signage on the old A30 road to Plusha for the safety of residents on that stretch of road. We are also negotiating widening the footpath alongside the school playing fields. For extra safety we plan to put a hand rail on the slope leading from the village hall.

The village clock, the bus shelter and seats throughout the parish have been maintained as usual.

With regard to Blackhill Quarry, there have been two Liaison Committee meetings this year with the quarry authorities and representatives of the District and County Council – both were constructive. Due to concern in the Parish over blasting at the quarry, we have instigated a system of telephone warnings of an imminent blast to a list of interested members of the public. We have also arranged for meters to be placed at strategic points in the two villages every time there is a blast, and a permanent meter is due to be installed at Mount Pleasant, Polyphant within fourteen days. The quarry management has installed a new, efficient wheel washer and has had the entrance to the quarry Tarmaced. The Vehicle Activated Signs promised by Highways have still not materialised but new plans for these have been submitted by the quarry to Cornwall County Council and Highways. In the meantime, the management have installed signs within the quarry warning lorries to turn left on the A30 only – three violations of which will incur a ban.

For the past year your Council have made a concerted effort to maintain and husband Polyphant Green for future generations. As you all know, this was the third year of planned maintenance for the trees under the guidance of the County Forester – a very large task indeed because it was the first time that there had been a planned schedule

to maintain the woodland. Unfortunately we lost a large and beautiful specimen because fungus attacked the root. It was also decided to clear and renovate the overgrown areas of the green and we obtained a grant to help us in this project of £4,944 from the Aggregates Levy Sustainability Fund – this is a fund set up by the government from a levy imposed on the quarrying industry to help projects in areas adjacent to working quarries. Overgrown areas of the green have been cleared, tree stumps removed, areas re-turfed and planted, a road reconstructed and woodland paths have been laid. The overall cost of this work was £8,870. At the moment, I know the green is looking overgrown, but this is because we are covered by by-laws and the first cut of the season cannot take place until the wild flowers have seeded. We are still waiting for the main road across the green to be resurfaced.

As Chairman of your Council I would like to thank all the councillors on your behalf of the time and help they willingly and freely give – no expenses for postage, telephone, stationery, mileage or labour is claimed. I must mention too the help and advice we receive from our District Councillor – Graham Facks-Martin and from our County Councillor – Neil Burden – it is much appreciated. Finally, I would also like to thank our Clerk for all her hard work and to let you know that we have decided that we can no longer allow the clerk to subsidise the community and have resolved to pay the full designated salary entitlement plus necessary expenses.

Finally, with regard to the questions which have been raised about planning applications, I cannot emphasise too strongly that it is the responsibility of residents to read the pink planning notices that appear in the villages and, if they have any concerns, to write to the Planning Department, NCDC, 3-5 Barn Lane, Bodmin, PL31 1LZ with a copy to the Parish Council. It is only when the Planning Department receive more than six letters of concern that an application goes to the full Planning Committee for a decision, otherwise it is delegated to one planning officer. I must also emphasise that although the Parish Council may not support an application and may quote all the relevant clauses in the Local Plan on which their objections are based, it is the NCDC who make decisions on planning applications.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

3,300	Balance at 1 April 2007	6,948
10,000	Add Precept	10,000
779	VAT refund	-
-	Interest	32
-	Aggregates Levy Subsidy	3,435
-	Wood Purchased (Polyphant)	20
<u>14,079</u>		<u>20,435</u>
7,131	DEDUCT Expenditure	14,505
<u>6,948</u>		<u>5,930</u>

These cumulative funds are represented by:-

5,732	Current Account	4,661
1,081	Deposit Account	1,134
135	Rec. Current Account	135
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6,948		5,930

#### **EXPENSES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2007**

<b>2006</b>		<b>2007</b>
-	Bench Lewannick Playarea	200
80	Equipment repairs	-
476	Insurance	497
2,300	Lewannick/Polyphant Greens	2,494
1,440	Polyphant – Trees	2,286
70	Polyphant – Septic Tank/Manhole Cover repairs	33
106	Parish Clock	106
118	Lewannick Bus Shelter	118
220	Noticeboard – Polyphant	-
245	Refurbishment of furniture	220
-	Inspection Report – Polyphant Green	220
330	Newsletter	635
141	Audit Commission	141
900	Clerk's Salary	900
-	Files/Storage	77
30	Hire of Halls	90
15	British Legion	15
30	Pottery Bowl	30
-	Dog Bins	373
-	Polyphant Green – improvements (£5,000 invoice through account April 2007)	3,395
	<b>GRANTS</b>	
100	Polyphant Chapel	1,150
100	Trevadlock Chapel	150
100	Lewannick Church	150
130	Lewannick Website	200
100	Lewannick Playgroup	275
100	Lewannick Village Hall	250
-	Lewannick Film Society	500
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7,131		£14,505

Following the above reports the meeting was open to the general public.

Queries were raised regarding Darkes Development and the publishing of our Agenda.

The above were signed as a true and fair copy by our Chairman on Wednesday 27 June 2007.