

The Annual Parish Meeting was held on Wednesday 15-April 2025 at the Gildhouse. The Chairman of the Parish Council Cllr. Stephen Blake opened the meeting at 6:30pm. Parish Councillors present were Stephen Blake, Michelle Carter, Pamela Idelson, Tom O'Sullivan, Liz White, David Barton and the Clerk Mrs. Lynn Pluess.

On behalf of Poundstock Parish Council the Chairman, Cllr. Stephen Blake extended a warm welcome to all attending the Annual Parish Meeting. The minutes of the previous Annual Parish Meeting held on 18-May 2025 were circulated and without any comments or matters arising, were noted.

Report from Chair of Poundstock Parish Council Cllr. Stephen Blake.

For the last 12 months it has been an honour and a privilege to continue to serve as Chair of Poundstock Parish Council.

Poundstock is not some sleepy backwater but a busy Parish that is popular with tourists and has, I am pleased to say, a community that takes a keen interest in what is happening.

I am lucky that I work with a team of Councillors without whom this job would be impossible and the support of a Clerk without whom we would all be in deep trouble.

Of course, it has been another busy year. As many of you may know Cornwall Council approved our planning application for a new parish hall at Bangors Cross. As is usual, following that approval we then had to meet a number of quite complicated conditions. I am pleased to say that these were all finally passed at the beginning of this year.

We have also acquired a site of approximately three acres for the new hall which will provide not only a suitable site for its location but ample parking and an outdoor area for a wide range of uses.

Work has continued on the substantial improvements to the toilets at Widemouth Bay car park and, amongst other things, we now have a new baby changing room. I am sure you will also be pleased to learn that the showers are being replaced and will be operational again in just a few weeks.

This past year it has been my pleasure to welcome two new Councillors to the team, Liz White and Dave Barton. In addition, we decided to create the new post of Assistant Clerk to assist the Clerk. I am delighted that Cllr Tom O'Sullivan has accepted this important position and has already demonstrated his value in the role.

Looking forward to the year ahead, I am sure there will be many interesting challenges but rest assured that your Council is here to support and serve our community.

Report form Cornwall Councillor Poundstock Ward Member Cllr. Nicky Chopak.

Cllr. Nicky Chopak addressed the meeting.

I would firstly like to extend my thanks to all the parish councillors who support Poundstock Parish Council (along with the clerk of course!) and do a sterling job of representing the residents of Poundstock.

As many of you know I look after 9 parishes, so it becomes difficult to attend every meeting and every event, but I do my utmost to ensure any residents concerns are dealt with in the appropriate way. This last 12 months I have received over 1500 emails which relate to matters such as double yellow lines, neighbourhood disputes, homelessness, anti social behaviour, rubbish and recycling collections (or lack of), planning queries, the lack of health services and the lack of public transport to name but a few.

In addition to the list above I am chair of the Health and Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny committee for Cornwall, which in itself is more than an education and I see the NHS in a totally different light, to when I started this job! We must salute them in what are very difficult times.

As you may also know I am chair of the Community Area Partnership for North Cornwall. I am already getting a reputation for causing trouble but I am ensuring North Cornwall's voice is heard with such issues as housing and young people being some of the items being discussed.

Hopefully this has given you a flavour, but please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any concerns or issues which I may be able to help with.

Public Questions

No questions were raised by members of the public, although the opportunity to do was provided.

Meeting Closed 19:00.

Signed: _____

Date: _____