

VIRTUAL MINUTES OF THE PARISH MEETING INTENDED TO BE HELD ON HELD ON THURSDAY, 21st MAY 2020

Usually in May we undertake the Annual Parish Meeting, with reports from parish groups on their activities. In lieu of this where they have received a separate set of "virtual Minutes" recording reports from community groups has been created.

3178.20VM TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES OF THE COMMUNITY

The following reports have been received by the clerk by the end of May 2020 and as agreed have been included within these virtual minutes.

Mawnan WI Report - Parish Annual Meeting 2020

Members of Mawnan WI have all agreed that we have had a great programme over the last year. Excellent speakers have told us about a wide range of topics and our educational visits have become well-established taking us near and far throughout Cornwall- truly widening our horizons. Lunches and theatre trips have been enjoyed by many members.

We are a very active group of 83 members. Some of the things we do have resulted from NFWI campaigns like collecting plastics for recycling, offering friendship to others in the community at our popular Cake, Chat and Company or keeping fit in Walking Netball. Other activities have emerged from national initiatives such as Get Creative Day, World Kindness Day and Green Hearts Day - who would have believed that our president would be interviewed on Radio Cornwall about our Green Hearts workshop which was held to raise awareness of concerns about climate change. Two new fixtures in our calendar are the monthly Flower Arranging sessions and collection for the food bank.

Our biggest events are now annual village occasions and have been run by enthusiastic sub-committees. We are particularly grateful to the Parish Council for the grant given to support our Community Get Creative Day which we hope to repeat in May. We have raised some fantastic sums for charity from holding the Garden Safari and Fashion Show. We also had wonderful support fund raising for St. Petroc's when Bishop Chris visited us and Gill Sadler had a collection for the New South Wales Firefighters after our Line Dancing!

We have added to our Poppy Cascade and felt very proud to see it displayed at Trebah, Mawnan Church and in the Memorial Hall.

We continue to strive to be an inclusive, supportive group with opportunities for members to be involved in many activities. We have added some extras this year to celebrate our centenary which include giving out 100 bunches of daffodils, distributing 100 books to women in the village to celebrate World Book Day and organising a Big Lunch in June where we hope to see you all!

MAWNAN AFC ANNUAL COUNCIL REPORT

ALONG with everyone else, Mawnan Football Club fell victim to the coronavirus two and a half months before their playing season was supposed to end.

It had been a difficult campaign where everyone who played sport having to contend with some really rotten wet weather and a lack of referees to take charge of the games. Fortunately for Mawnan they could rely on one or two people who were willing to take up the whistle and help out the club with their fixtures.

Sadly, all records for the season were expunged and the club's hopes of doing well in the various cup competitions were halted with both teams going well in two cup tournaments.

With all grass roots sports suspended until further notice it looks like sports clubs are going to experience an uneasy future in their planning and raising money to ensure their future existence.

Leon Pryn

Mawnan AFC

THE MAWNAN ANVIL TRUST - REPORT TO ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 2020

The Mawnan Anvil Trust is a charity registered with the Charity Commission.

The Trust has two charitable aims:

- First, to restore and to maintain the old smithy, a listed building of historic interest which, it is said, gave its name to the village.
- Second, to encourage practice and education in traditional crafts by offering low cost work spaces, especially to young craftworkers at the start of their careers.

Please note that the workers are not employees of the Trust – they are all self-employed and pay the Trust a monthly rent for their workspaces. Because we are required to offer the four work units at less than market value rents, our financial margins are often tight. Although we can maintain the structure of the buildings, (*as much work as possible being undertaken by the Trustees themselves*) we have to conduct our own fund-raising activity and appeal for grant aid to undertake any additional expenditure, such as publicity.

The Trust wishes to thank the Parish Council for its assistance last year by providing a grant of £100 towards the replacement of dilapidated benches in the central courtyard. Two new benches were purchased at a cost of £379.98, painted by a Trustee to coordinate with other painted woodwork and should provide many years of safe seating.

Whist the Trust has been fortunate to have three quite long established tenants (*Signwriter: Sheila McCann-Downes, award-winning Silversmith: Abigail Brown and Bespoke Joiner and Furniture Maker: Peter Steele & Ruth Wynton*), we were not so lucky with the blacksmiths who followed our first tenant, Richard Hingley.

Neither of the two blacksmiths that followed lived up to the Trust's expectations and requirements and each was asked to leave. Traditional blacksmiths are hard to find however, we were fortunate to engage a new tenant for the smithy - Nigel Wills, who specialises in metal sculptures alongside traditional blacksmithing. Nigel, born in Falmouth, had recently returned to the area and, as a boy, remembers Dryden James, the last blacksmith until his death in 1994, whereupon the premises were closed and fell into disrepair.

Some renovation and improvements to the smithy were necessary in the last year to make the workplace function correctly and comply with Health & Safety:

Forge flue extractor fan – the original motor and fan unit, installed in 2007 had failed. It could not be repaired nor replaced by a similar model. Without an extractor, the inside of the smithy would fill with smoke once the forge was lit. It was therefore replaced with a more sophisticated unit that should have a much longer working life.

Cost: £1,422

Welding Screen – as Nigel's work often involves welding, a screen was purchased to shield onlookers from the bright light.

Cost: £134.95

Replacement Glazing – the original glass panels at the rear of the smithy were badly pitted and discoloured by the grinding and welding activity of previous blacksmiths and penetration of natural light was much reduced.

Cost: £323.40

The Trust had other costs to bear during the year.

Periodic Maintenance – for the first time since the original renovation, the smithy walls were given coats of traditional limewash, painted woodwork was prepared and re-painted and wooden cladding re-stained. The hardwood frames to the windows and doors of the other three units were cleaned and oiled.

Cost: £1,536.25

Upgrade of electrics for Silversmith – the silversmith wished to teach students and needed extra sockets for a number of electrical tools to be used simultaneously during such sessions.

Cost: £216.75

Christmas Lights – several sections of bulbs had failed on our original light strings thus they were replaced by two modern LED strings.

Cost: £90.20

Publicity Leaflet – following Nigel's arrival, the existing leaflet required updating as did the large display poster in the courtyard. Artwork revisions were made by the Trustees and 2,500 leaflets printed. Also purchased were ten DL leaflet dispensers to better display the leaflet in local hotels, the pub and other places.

Cost: £174.20

Fundraising – the annual Penwarne Garden Open Day, scheduled for 5th April had to be cancelled owing to the Coronavirus outbreak. Looking at the average earnings over the last six years, we would have expected to raise around £600. The weather was good that weekend, so there should have been a good number of visitors.

Forecast Loss: £600

SUMMARY

The Old Smithy Workshops are an attractive feature of the village and greatly underpin its character. The historic smithy, in particular, is a draw to visitors. The individual workers provide useful services to customers in the parish and further afield.

The 2019-20 year was quite expensive for The Mawnan Anvil Trust; nevertheless the various works and purchases were considered to be unavoidable. The coming year should be more stable provided that all the craftworkers continue to find sufficient work to pay their rent.

Visitor numbers are, of course, drastically reduced for now.

Report prepared 15.05.20

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