

Vice-Chair's report on the work of Ludgvan Parish Council over the past year – Annual Meeting of Electors – 12 March 2025

The report this year is given by the Vice-Chair, Cllr Rod Porter, following the recent resignation from the council of former Chair Roy Mann, who has stepped down from the parish council for health reasons after serving this council and the local community for many years.

Two new parish councillors joined the council in 2024/25: Cllr Malone-Lee and Cllr Rodda.

This meeting is being held earlier than usual this year, to avoid the pre-election period, leading up to the parish council elections on 1 May 2025. It has again proved to be a busy year for the council, with a summary below of the work carried out so far this year:

Planning applications – 65 applications have been considered by this council (as a statutory consultee) and responses from the parish sent through to Cornwall Council in order that local concerns are fed into the planning decision making process. The parish council has also sent a response to 1 planning appeal consultation.

Planning enforcement concerns have been reported to Cornwall Council, as the Planning Authority.

Grants:

- £400 – Long Rock Playing Field Association
- £100 – YMCA Cornwall
- £100 – Cornwall Air Ambulance
- £300 – St Petroc's, Penzance

Decisions in the year:

- The developers of Morva Reach, Long Rock, have a planning obligation to build a Community Hall which will be transferred to the parish council to be run on behalf of the parish community. The parish council agreed to fund the provision of 10 solar panels which will help the building to be more energy efficient
- The parish council is keen to be proactive in bringing about improvements to highway safety. Efforts over the past year include:
 - Regular meetings about safety improvements for the A30, meetings with representatives from Cornwall Council Highways, Cormac, MP, National Highways and Councillors from St Erth Parish Council and Marazion Town Council. Talks include provision for bus shelters, crossing points, traffic speeds, traffic priorities and parking. Two key factors are funding and scheduling of works. Talks are continuing.
 - Improvements for pedestrian safety, Ludgvan and Crowlas. Local calls for action led to a feasibility study, public consultation, and then works to reduce traffic speeds, change parking restrictions, install build-outs.
 - The need for safety improvements for the junction of Heather Lane and the A30

- The parish council has been an active participant in meetings of the Penwith Community Area Partnership
- The parish council carried out maintenance of vegetation on public rights of way in the parish, under the agency agreement with Cornwall Council.
- Signed off the annual end of year financial reports and audits, which ensure that council accounts processes are carried out to a high standard, protecting public money
- Councillors have attended relevant training sessions throughout the year, keeping up to date with changes in planning legislation and working to ensure that the council follows best practice in all that it does
- Reviewed and improved the maintenance arrangements for the White Cross scheduled monument at Whitecross
- Supported the annual Ludgvan Horticultural Show
- Increased communications with the community through social media and carried out a review of the council's website provision, with plans to improve the website in the near future. The council is approaching this on a 'bundle' basis, seeking a provider for new website, email support and provision of a gov.uk domain in line with best practice.
- Grant funding has been secured for a new bus shelter at Castle Gate, and there will also be a replacement bus shelter at Chy An Gweal. It has taken time to arrange funding and permissions, but it is anticipated that both will be in place by the end of March 2025.
- The allotments sites at Church Hill, Ludgvan and at Long Rock are actively managed by the parish council. We strive to ensure that all plots are worked to a good standard and that tenants maintain good levels of neighbourliness to one another, making the allotments an enjoyable place to grow produce. Anyone wishing to take up an allotment is encouraged to contact the Clerk and if an allotment is available it will be allocated, otherwise names are added to the short waiting list.
- The parish council runs the new St Paul's Cemetery (Ludgvan) and Crowlas Cemetery. Burials are arranged through the Clerk and the council continues its comprehensive grounds maintenance of both cemeteries.
- Parish boundary signs have been installed, marking the pride that the parish council wishes to encourage in the area
- The council has responded to consultations from Cornwall Council and Government consultations, representing the views of this area. Meetings are held with the management of Castle an Dinas Quarry to discuss the quarry operation in relation to the parish.
- The Ludgvan Neighbourhood Plan is due to be reviewed by the parish council as it is reaching the 5-year stage where a review is due, and in view of changes to planning policy introduced by Government.
- Parish Christmas Trees were provided once again.
- The council set its budget and precept in December, working hard to balance the need for provision of services with value for public money, and the aim to minimise increases to Council Tax bills during times of economic difficulty

- The council is discussing with Live West the possibility for a new footpath connection to improve pedestrian safety.

All seats on the parish council are up for election on 1 May 2025 and so we encourage anyone with an interest in serving the community and getting involved in grass roots politics to put their names forward for election to ensure that the local electorate have a good range of candidates when it comes to casting votes on polling day. Candidate Nomination Forms can be collected from Long Rock Post Office (for the Long Rock ward), and for Crowlas and Lelant wards, collect nomination forms from Crowlas Post Office.

Cllr Rod Porter

Vice-Chair, Ludgvan Parish Council

12 March 2025