



# Annual Report

## 2009/10

June 2010

### INTRODUCTION

Welcome to Helston Town Council's sixth Annual Report.

It has been a busy year, and with the recent general election and Town Council by-election, it makes us all think of the future and what lies ahead and much of what I have to report is looking to the future of this great town - plans and goals as well as achievements and milestones.

No one driving along Clodgy Lane can fail to have noticed the building work on the Sainsbury's Store and I understand that the development at Tesco's will be starting shortly. These developments will create many jobs and the Section 106 money will be used for "public realm works" to rejuvenate parts of the town centre and hopefully make a visit an even more pleasant experience and generate extra footfall. That will also be the job of the Town Centre Manager whose post will also be funded by these developments. I am particularly looking forward to that, as the opportunity to have a professional regeneration officer working solely for the Town of Helston is long overdue and much needed.

There has been criticism of the budget for the public realm works so may I remind you that this was a decision of Kerrier District Council and how that budget is finalised and spent is now under the control of Cornwall Council. We, as the Town Council, have always fought to keep all of the money for spending in Helston for the benefit of Helston and I know from my own experience that our councillors on Kerrier District Council fought hard for that as well, and that our current Cornwall Councillors are as supportive of the town as they can be. Whether £1,000 or £10,000 is spent on an item is an important detail but the fact that it is spent on HELSTON is vital and all your councillors from all levels of local government are committed to getting this windfall for this town and maximising its benefits for future generations.

We continue with our work on the Town Plan. In the last year we have set up small councillor focus groups to look at the headings which we initially consulted upon and we will soon be continuing that work with some further public consultation on more specific areas as well as meetings with various local groups and associations.

This year we held our first Continental Market which despite some reservations proved to be a huge success with some of the Town's businesses reporting record trading and requesting repeat visits. Well our Amenities

Committee responded and a second market was held on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2010 and was again very successful.

I now turn to one of this year's hot issues – The kennels. They are running again and I think the Town owes its thanks to Cornwall Councillor Robertson and the landowners. An excellent example of simple pragmatic discussions overcoming what was becoming an increasingly entrenched dispute. Well done to all involved.

The Town Council has submitted an Active Partnering Bid to run the Coronation Park and Penrose Amenity Area. The details of it are I am afraid commercially confidential so I cannot impart any further information except to say that we are now in active discussions with Councillors and officers of Cornwall Council and we hope to have more to report very soon.

One important initiative that the Town Council undertook this year, which did slip under the radar a little, was that the Council had undertaken all the necessary training and adopted the “Power of Well-being”. Very simply, there is a lot of legislation which tells us as a council we cannot do something. Now, however, with the Power of Well-being, provided we can show that certain criteria have been met and the community is with us we can cut through the red tape and deliver. However, there is a sting in the tail, there is no new money to help us deliver such projects. We can, if the criteria are met, raise the funding via our Precept but again to do this we would need the backing of the Community.

Helston Town Council has supported many organisations within the Town. One of these joint ventures secured a firm benefit for the Town and the young people involved. Using a grant for equipment and with support direct from the Town Council, the Phoenix Project cleared and improved the Monument Garden and I think did a superb job - so well done to all involved.

As I said at the start, much of this report has been about the future. We have a lot to look forward to and I firmly believe we have a bright future ahead of us. Helston is growing and this Town Council is determined to get the best it can for this great town we all serve.

**Councillor Niall Devenish**

**Town Mayor (May 2008 – May 2010)**

## **THE COUNCIL**

Meetings of the Full Council are held on the third Thursday of every month and are open to the public. Time is set aside at these meetings for the public to ask questions or to make their personal views known. A representative of the Devon and Cornwall Constabulary is usually present to report on crime statistics and to discuss issues as they arise. There is also an agenda item for the Cornwall Council Local Members and the Community Network Manager to give reports and they attend when possible.

## **AMENITIES COMMITTEE**

This committee has responsibility for civic amenities, such as public seats and bus shelters, along with the Council's land and buildings to name a few. In 2009 the Committee arranged the first Continental Market in the town which was such a success that a second Market was organised for April 2010. The Committee is Chaired by Cllr Mrs Susan Swift and met on six occasions during the 2009/10 civic year.

## **HARVEST FAIR COMMITTEE**

At the beginning of 2007, by mutual agreement with the existing Harvest Fair Committee, the Town Council assumed responsibility for organising the annual Harvest Fair activities. A Town Council committee was formed consisting of six Town Councillors and six members of the community. The Committee, in turn, has a number of Working Parties to organise specific events and involve more members of the public. The main Committee is scheduled to meet on six occasions during the civic year and is Chaired by Cllr Jonathan Radford-Gaby.

## **PLANNING COMMITTEE**

The Planning Committee, consisting of six Members currently Chaired by Cllr Mrs Vicki Matthew, meets on the first and third Thursday of every month and has delegated authority to consider all planning applications and to make recommendations to Cornwall Council - the Planning Authority. All Applications are categorised into those that are non-contentious (Category I) and those that require more in-depth consideration (Category II). Each Category II application is allocated to a Committee member who visits the site and contacts neighbours to establish a balanced view and to make a presentation and recommendation at the Planning Committee meeting. If a near neighbour of the application site can not be contacted a letter is left giving the application details and how to contact the Committee member. The public are welcome to attend the meeting and again have the opportunity to express their opinions to the Members.

From May 2009 to May 2010, 42 Category I planning applications were considered and 83 Category II.

## **PLAY COMMITTEE**

The Play Committee was created last year to continue the good work of the Playgrounds Working Party. It is appropriate to mention the hard work of the Playgrounds Working Party under the leadership of Councillor Devenish that, over a period of time, made an outstanding contribution to renewing playground equipment in Helston. The Play Committee now consists of six Councillors and six members of the public. Initially the Committee met when required however, following a change of policy, four meetings were scheduled for 2010/11. The Committee is currently Chaired by Cllr Mike Thomas.

## **POLICY, FINANCE & RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

The Policy, Finance and Resources Committee, consisting of six Members Chaired by The Mayor, met on nine occasions during the year to consider new policies, monitor the budget and consider the draft budget 2010/11. Meetings are scheduled for alternate months commencing in June.

## **FINANCE**

Set out below is a summary of the Council's income and expenditure for the financial year 2009/10.

<u>Income</u>	£	<u>Expenditure</u>	£
Precept	170,640	General Administration	145,228
Agency Services	1,739	Agency Services	1,832
Interest on Investments	164	Grants	6,758
Harvest Fair	2,142	Capital Expenditure	8,649
Fees & Charges	17,624	Community Support	4,888
Grants	2,806	Tourism	2,950
Reimbursements	530	Harvest Fair	2,583
Other	714	Property Running Costs	16,135
		Other	3,097
	<u>196,359</u>		<u>192,120</u>

## **Attendance at meetings May 2009 – May 2010**

	Full Council	
		Absent and no apology received
<b><i>Number of Meetings</i></b>	<b>19</b>	
Cllr N.J.C. Devenish (Town Mayor)	19	
Cllr R Williams	17	1
Cllr Mrs S.M.E. Swift	17	
Cllr P Phillips*	15/16	
Cllr R.J.L. Boase	18	
Cllr K. Reynolds	18	
Cllr Mrs V.J. Matthew	15	
Cllr D.C.Swift	13	
Cllr Mrs F.N.E.Boase	19	
Cllr R.R.Pryor	16	
Cllr M.H. Thomas	19	
Cllr J P Radford-Gaby**	16/16	
Cllr W A Radford-Gaby***	1/1	

Cllr N C Martin resigned from the Council on 19<sup>th</sup> May 2009.

\* Cllr Phillips resigned from the Council on 19<sup>th</sup> February 2010.

\*\* Cllr J P Radford-Gaby was elected onto the Council on 16<sup>th</sup> June 2009.

\*\*\* Cllr Mrs W A Radford-Gaby was elected onto the Council on 8<sup>th</sup> April 2010.

Committee	Amenities	Harvest Fair	Planning	Play	Policy, Finance & Resources
<b>Number of Meetings</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>9</b>
Cllr N.J.C. Devenish (Town Mayor)		8	22	1	8
Cllr R Williams	6				
Cllr Mrs S.M.E. Swift	6				9
Cllr P Phillips*	4/5		19/19		
Cllr R.J.L. Boase		8	22	2	
Cllr K. Reynolds			22		8
Cllr Mrs V.J. Matthew		9	22	1	
Cllr D.C.Swift					
Cllr Mrs F.N.E.Boase	6	9			9
Cllr R.R.Pryor	6			2	7
Cllr M.H. Thomas	6	6/8			9
Cllr J P Radford-Gaby**		4/7	19/19		
Cllr Mrs W A Radford-Gaby***					

### **Current Committee membership 2010/11**

#### **Amenities Committee**

Cllr R. Williams  
 Cllr Mrs S.M.E. Swift – *Chairman*  
 Cllr N.J.C. Devenish  
 Cllr Mrs F.N.E. Boase  
 Cllr R. R. Pryor – *Vice Chairman*  
 Cllr Mrs W.A. Radford-Gaby

#### **Harvest Fair Committee**

Cllr R.J.L. Boase (Town Mayor)  
 Cllr Mrs V.J. Matthew  
 Cllr Mrs F.N.E. Boase – *Vice Chairman*  
 Cllr M.H. Thomas  
 Cllr J.P. Radford-Gaby - *Chairman*  
 Cllr W.A. Radford-Gaby

#### **Planning Committee**

Cllr R.J.L. Boase (Town Mayor) – *Vice Chairman*  
 Cllr N.J.C. Devenish  
 Cllr K Reynolds  
 Cllr Mrs V.J. Matthew - *Chairman*  
 Cllr J.P. Radford-Gaby  
 Cllr M. H. Thomas

#### **Play Committee**

Cllr R.J.L. Boase (Town Mayor)  
 Cllr N.J.C. Devenish  
 Cllr Mrs V.J. Matthew  
 Cllr M.H. Thomas - *Chairman*  
 Cllr J. P. Radford-Gaby – *Vice Chairman*  
 Cllr Mrs W.A. Radford-Gaby

#### **Policy, Finance & Resources Committee**

Cllr R.J.L. Boase (Town Mayor)  
 Cllr Mrs S.M.E. Swift  
 Cllr N.J.C. Devenish  
 Cllr K. Reynolds  
 Cllr Mrs V.J. Matthew  
 Cllr M.H. Thomas

During the year the Town Council gave financial support to the following organisations:-

1 <sup>st</sup> Helston Scout Group	Cornwall Air Ambulance
Carleen Church Community Care Centre	Home-start Kernow
St Michaels Church (Clock Fund)	The Phoenix Project
Helston School Jazz Orchestra	Helston Air Training Corps 3
Helston Athletic Football Club Youth	Truro Hospital Radio
Girlguiding UK	Tanya's Courage Trust
Helston & District Town Twinning Assn	Helston Chamber Choir
Helston Cricket Club	Marie Curie Cancer Care
Cornwall Blind Association	Cornwall Rape & Sexual Abuse Centre
Cornwall Rural Community Council	Helford River Sailing Trust
Helston Age Concern	

**CURRENT TOWN COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES ON OTHER BODIES AS AT JUNE 2010**

<b>Executive Committee – C.A.L.C.</b> .....	Cllr Mrs S.M.E. Swift
<b>Bulwark Working Party</b> .....	Cllr Mrs F.N.E. Boase
<b>Helston Community College</b> .....	Cllr K. Reynolds
<b>Helston &amp; Lizard Community Network Panel</b> .....	Cllr N.J.C. Devenish
<b>Helston &amp; Lizard Health Board</b> .....	Cllr Mrs V.J. Matthew
<b>Helston Street Festival</b> .....	Cllr Mrs F.N.E. Boase
<b>Local Council Planning Forum</b> .....	Cllr K. Reynolds
<b>Loe Pool Management Forum</b> .....	Cllr R. Williams
<b>Mayors Parlour Campaign Group</b> .....	Cllr Mrs S.M.E. Swift
<b>Nansloe School Board of Governors</b> .....	Cllr Mrs V.J. Matthew
<b>Partners &amp; Communities Together (PACT)</b> .....	Cllr N.J.C. Devenish
<b>South Kerrier Alliance</b> .....	Cllr Mrs F.N.E. Boase
<b>Victim Support West Cornwall Advisory Group</b> .....	Cllr K. Reynolds
<b>West Cornwall CCTV Group</b> .....	Cllr D.C. Swift
<b>West Cornwall Healthwatch Committee</b> .....	Cllr Mrs S.M.E. Swift
<b>Helston Welfare Trust</b> .....	Cllrs R. Williams, Mrs S.M.E. Swift & N.J.C. Devenish

**SUMMARY OF COUNCIL ACTIVITIES 2009/10**

May	Mayor Choosing Ceremony Beating of the Boundaries Flora Day
June	Civic Sunday RNAS Culdrose Freedom Parade
July	Helston in Bloom Competition
September	Harvest Fair RAFA Battle of Britain Service

Continental Market

November Remembrance Sunday  
Christmas Lights Switch-on

Throughout the year the Mayor and Mayoress attended various events as invited.

### YOUR COUNCILLORS

#### Helston North Ward

	Home Telephone	E-mail
Mrs S.M.E. Swift	01326 565120	s.swift@helstontc.com
R.J.L. Boase ( <i>Town Mayor</i> )	01326 573200	
N.J.C. Devenish	01326 561418	n.devenish@helstontc.com
Mrs V.J. Matthew	01326 574441	matthew@helstontc.com
R.R. Pryor	01326 561264	
J.P. Radford-Gaby	01326 560210	radford-gaby@helstontc.com

#### Helston East Ward

R. Williams	01326 572179	
K. Reynolds	01736 762344	reynolds@helstontc.com
M.H. Thomas	01326 562947	thomas@helstontc.com
Mrs W.A. Radford-Gaby	01326 560210	w.radford-gaby@helstontc.com

#### Helston West Ward

Mrs F.N.E. Boase	01326 573200	
D.C. Swift	01326 565120	d.swift@helstontc.com

### COUNCIL OFFICERS

<b>Town Clerk</b>	Mr Chris Dawson	<b>Street Stall Superintendent</b>	Mr Steve C.C. Mole
<b>Administrative Assistants</b>	Miss Pamela Lavelle Mrs Shelly Price	<b>Town Beadle</b>	Mr Jim Moran
<b>Town Warden</b>	Mr Craig Bowcutt	<b>Sergeants-at-Mace</b>	Mr Fred G. Angove Mr Paul J. Cooke
<b>Senior Caretaker</b>	Mrs Jean Johns	<b>Flag Flyer</b>	Mr Paul Upperton
<b>Assistant Caretaker</b>	Mrs Sam Goss	<b>Tree Warden</b>	Mr Martin Maylam

The Council can be contacted on **(01326) 572063** or e-mail **townclerk@helstontc.com**

Or write to:- The Town Clerk, Helston Town Council, The Guildhall, HELSTON, Cornwall, TR13 8ST

For more information regarding meetings and the latest news visit our web site [www.helstontc.com](http://www.helstontc.com)