

# St. Gluvias Parish Council

CLERK. Mary Gosling. 3 Cliff Terrace, Portreath, TR16 4LE. Tel 01209 842255 [email stgluviasparishcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:stgluviasparishcouncil@gmail.com)

16<sup>th</sup> July 2019

Dear Mr Polak

## **RE: Cornwall Community Governance Review 2019-2020**

### **Submission from St Gluvias Parish Council**

With reference to the above I am writing to set out the response of St Gluvias Parish Council. This submission should be read as a response to Questions 5 and 6 on the CCGR 2019 Submission Form.

By way of introduction the Parish of St Gluvias is a largely rural one and its history and future is closely linked to surrounding mining villages in this part of Cornwall but also to the main populations of Falmouth and Penryn in particular. The main strategic roads of the A393 and A39 bisect our Parish and converge at the Treluswell Roundabout which is roughly centrally located within the Parish.

The Parish Council is preparing a Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) and hopes to be in a position to have produced a draft for consultation within the next 6 months. It is currently gathering evidence and drafting policies. A Parish wide consultation was undertaken in 2018 which sought views from parishioners on the priority issues that affect our Parish and which ought to be addressed in the NDP.

In terms of the issues relevant to Review, it is a feature of our Parish that our only main settlement, the village of Ponsanooth, is located in the far north west of our Parish boundary. Ponsanooth is, however, tightly hemmed in by the current Parish boundaries, which have historically been aligned with the River Kennall which flows through and around Ponsanooth. Immediately to the north lies the outer peripheries of Stithians and Perranarworthal Parish Councils. This situation causes a concern to the Parish for a number of reasons. The Parish therefore respectfully request that the Parish boundaries be extended outwards by a relatively modest area to include additional land and features around Ponsanooth, for the following reasons:

Reason 1. Kennall Vale Woods are an important heritage and recreation attraction, and its industrial history comprising part of the World Heritage Site is linked to Ponsanooth which lies immediately adjacent. The leats that were developed to power the water wheels linked to the gunpowder works in the woods flow through Ponsanooth and into the River Kennall downstream beyond. The residents of Ponsanooth associate their identity with the Woods. The School often hold classes in the woods, and their logo includes trees that are by definition a feature of the Woods. Access to the Woods by car and by foot can only be gained via Ponsanooth. There is therefore an obvious link between the Woods and Ponsanooth, however the Woods lie within Stithians Parish. While the Woods are a treasured and cherished feature in the community unfortunately St Gluvias Parish Council receive all the negative feedback from its residents regarding the adverse impacts associated with the Woods; either by on street parking congestion caused by a lack of any dedicated visitor parking (which has created problems for Emergency Vehicles that need to get into the Woods), or the leats whenever they fail and/or overflow into the village. In short the Parish is unable to effectively manage these problems and deliver solutions as the Woods lie outside its jurisdiction, and we wish to remedy this problem by extending the Parish boundaries to include

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the Woods, and which would also help to establish the link between the village and its historical past;

Reason 2.1 As mentioned above the Parish Council is developing a Neighbourhood Plan for the future needs of its community. While at a draft stage it is however clear to the Council that future housing growth should be focussed in or around the main settlement of Ponsanooth in order for the Parish to meet Cornwall Council's strategic planning policy requirements. However achieving this by allocating land for future growth is hampered by the lack of available land around Ponsanooth caused by a) tightly drawn Parish boundaries to the west, north and east contiguous with the River Kennall (the Parish is disavowed from identifying land for housing in a Neighbourhood Plan which lie outside its boundaries); b) unsuitable hilly topography to the south west which includes woodland and is unsuitable for housing development. By expanding the parish boundaries around Ponsanooth would therefore maximise opportunities for the village to grow sustainably by identifying more potential land nearby for housing. Linked to this, land immediately to the east of Ponsanooth forms an important wooded valley backcloth to the village which the Parish Council would like to safeguard from any development, however that area lies within Perranarworthal Parish. St Gluvias Parish would wish to discourage any housing development in that area however it is unable to do this effectively as the land in question lies outside the Parish.

Reason 2.2 Related to the above the emerging Neighbourhood Development Plan is proposing to develop an area of grassland adjacent to the River Kennall for general public/amenity use. This is a response to an identified shortfall of flat (useable) public open space in our Parish and to nearby Ponsanooth and Cosawes Park. This has been a historical problem within our Parish and was confirmed during the 2018 Parish wide consultation with residents of Issues and Options to inform the NDP. Of course the Parish accepts that this proposal will be subject to examination and approvals as part of the Plan making process however it is considered that this area of land for this purpose would be a practical solution to a historical problem within our Parish. Roughly half of this area is already within our Parish but a section on the northern side of the River currently lies within Perranarworthal Parish. It is also proposed to link this amenity area to the wider road and footpath network via a section of new footpath which would also be identified within the NDP.

Reason 3. There are a number of properties located to the north of Ponsanooth in the 'Kemyel' and 'Pean Cross' area which lie either in Stithians or mainly in Perranarworthal Parish Council areas. The boundaries currently have no geographical relevance to the settlement pattern as these properties are more closely located to Ponsanooth than their host Parishes, as we know residents frequently walk into the village to access nearby services. It is our request that the boundaries should therefore be extended to also include these areas.

The Parish Council has met with representatives from Perranarworthal Parish Council 12<sup>th</sup> July to discuss issues 2.1, 2.2 and 3. No objections/support was given by the Parish to these proposed amendments and a copy of our letter to Perranarworthal is attached for your information.

The Parish Council has endeavoured to contact Stithians Parish Council to discuss amendments that would affect their Parish however in May 2019 they declined to meet and requested written information to take to their June 19 Parish Council full meeting. Stithians Parish Council resolved "that Members do not wish Kennall Vale to become part of any other parish. It has been part

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of Stithians since the Parish Council was formed and is seen as an integral part of the parish and an asset which it does not wish to lose.”

The above reasons are of utmost importance to the Parish and we would wish to see them addressed as part of the current Review. We believe the implementation of these changes will enable our Parish to be more effective for its community as well as provide a convenience for the relevant residents and businesses within the proposed area. To assist I have attached a plan to show a suggested boundary which picks up the above points. Please note the Plan is intended to show the existing and proposed boundary of St Gluvias Parish, as well as the Electoral Ward divisions. The Plan also shows with a fainter line the boundaries of other local Councils which are not relevant to our response.

For your information I have also attached a copy of a response from my Council to Penryn Town Council in respect of changes they were seeking, which my Parish were not supporting.

Finally, in giving consideration to the above my Parish Council have requested a name change for the Parish from ‘St Gluvias’ to ‘Ponsanooth Parish Council’. The reasons for this are considered to be well founded: the Church of St Gluvias lies within Penryn Town Council’s boundaries, and therefore the name often causes confusion when geographically locating our Parish. By naming the Parish after its principal settlement would give the Parish a better identity and one which is more closely linked to the community it serves. This issue has been discussed and supported at a number of our Parish meetings. I am aware that agreement has recently been given to changing the Electoral Ward name to Mabe, Perranarworthal and Ponsanooth as part of the Electoral Review and hope this logic can be applied across to the Parish Council name.

We look forward to hearing from you on the above and would be happy to elaborate on any points further if you wish.

Yours Sincerely

Cllr Marilyn Ferris

Chairman

pp M Gosling

Clerk

CC: Cllr Peter Williams

## **Attached below**

Letter to Perranarworthal PC

Letter to Penryn Town Council

# St. Gluvias Parish Council

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16<sup>th</sup> July 2019

Dear Penryn Town Council Clerk,

Thank you for the opportunity to meet with you your colleagues on the 4<sup>th</sup> July and hear your request for an amendment to our local Council boundaries as part of the ongoing Boundary Review. The proposal put to us was essentially that Penryn TC boundaries extend northwards incorporating a roughly triangular piece of land including 'Penvose Farm' and the adjacent farmland up to the Treluswell roundabout, with the boundaries defined by the A39 on the west and the B3392 on the east. As we understood it, an alternative smaller parcel of land was also proposed such that it includes just the Penvose Farm area, and its northern boundary would coincide approximately with an east-west minor road which runs past 'The Old Abattoir'.

My Council considered these proposals at their meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> July. The resolution of the Council was to not support the requested amendments and to keep the boundaries intact. The reasons for this are that the amendment would incorporate a considerable area approximately 123 acres (50 acres) which would penetrate into the centre of our Parish. My Council felt that the land has a pleasing historic rural character which commands excellent views towards the Carrick Roads, and is therefore a highly valued parcel of agricultural land to the Parish and surrounding community. The value the Parish Council places on this parcel of land is reflected in the effort and cost invested in the recent Judicial Review proceedings in the student accommodation scheme at Penvose Farm. Further, my Council wishes to retain control over this land as part of the emerging Neighbourhood Plan proposals which it clearly would be unable to achieve were the boundaries to be altered in this way. For these reasons my Council was unable to support any alterations to the boundaries in this area.

I am hopeful we would be able to meet again at some point in the future to discuss areas of common interest and concern to our Councils.

Yours faithfully

Cllr Marilyn Ferris

Chairman

pp M Gosling

Clerk

CC: Cllr Peter Williams

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16<sup>th</sup> July 2019

Dear Anna,

RE: Boundary Review proposals for St Gluvias/Perranarworthal Parishes

It was good to meet you and your Chairman on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> to discuss proposed boundary alterations between our Parishes.

I am pleased we reached agreement on the two areas of amendment which as promised I have shown on the attached plan. These relate to an area extending north from our Parish to include land and several properties up to 'Pelean Crossroads', and a small area north of the River Kennall. We discussed the reasons behind both proposed alterations, with the first a 'tidying up' exercise to include a collection of properties near to Ponsanooth (in some cases very close to Ponsanooth) which have a close association with our Village but currently lie outside; and the second a modest inclusion of land next to the River which the Parish would like to progress as public amenity land given the lack of useable green space in our Parish. We will forward this to Cornwall Council as part of the Community Governance Review.

During our meeting you mentioned proposals to amend boundaries between your Parish and adjacent Mylor Parish Council in respect of the inclusion of land at Perran Foundry. While this does not directly affect our Parish we wanted to express our full support to your proposals in this regard as we can see the clear logic to the proposal given the close cultural and historic links to your Parish. We can also relate to this issue given we have a similar issue with Kennall Vale Woods which lies immediately adjacent to Ponsanooth but lies within neighbouring Stithians Parish.

We also discussed Neighbourhood Plan issues and we would be very happy to work with you to progress our Plans and discuss any areas of common concern.

Yours Sincerely

Cllr Marilyn Ferris

Chairman

pp M Gosling

Clerk

CC Cllr Peter Williams