



Ponsanooth Parish Council 'vision' 2023-2029

Background

Ponsanooth Parish Council (St Gluvias Parish Council, as it was) had a Community Plan which ran from 2009-2019. The Community Plan set out the vision which local people had for the future of the village. It included a range of actions, initiatives and projects that set out the objectives to be achieved, and how to realise those objectives.

The Parish Council agreed in Spring 2022 to refresh this with a new 'vision' for the parish. This vision is intended to cover 2023-2029, with full review in 2025.

It differs from the Community Plan in that although it sets out what is important to people, it does not seek to define actions or projects at this stage. This is to allow flexibility and not to limit future options.

In common with the Community Plan, this vision recognises that delivery of the vision needs members of the community, elected or unelected, to take an active part in helping deliver the aspirations contained in its' pages

Contents:

Purpose

What is our vision

How did we get to this vision

Themes

Using the Vision

Purpose

To set out our ambition for the parish, based on feedback from residents and businesses.

It should help ensure organisations (not just the parish council) understand what is important for the residents and businesses of the parish.

By understanding what is important to people who live and work here, we (the parish council and community groups) will be better able to act in their interests.

How will we use it?

- To understand people's priorities and work to deliver these with short, mid or long terms actions
- To better articulate our priorities and be a voice for the parish in local networks
- Be better placed to apply for funding which requires us to evidence community need
- Where we face competing demand for finite resources, e.g. volunteer time, funding, to help prioritise what we progress

What is our Vision?

Our vision statement

Ponsanooth will be a vibrant rural parish, centred around its strong community of residents and businesses. We will approach modern challenges in a way which protects and builds on its historic and natural character.

The vision statement is closely related to the statement for the Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP), and this is intentional, as the work of the NDP is a place based piece of work so has already consulted on a wide range of issues which affect businesses and residents.

This is underpinned by key themes which have been developed out of the NDP and supplemented by review of other working groups consultations, direct community and business engagement, and direct (to councillors) and indirect (e.g. social media) feedback.

How did we get to this vision?

We reached this vision statement and the themes described in this document through the following steps.

Existing engagement

There are a number of existing working groups run by the parish council which have been undertaking engagement via surveys and in person over the last few years e.g. stands at Fair Day. These include:

- The Neighbourhood Development Plan working group
- Road safety working group
- Chapel working group

Additional engagement

Having reviewed the feedback of the above, we didn't want to duplicate asking people again what is important to you, so we specifically consulted with parish businesses and community groups.

We asked local businesses and community and community group representatives the following questions:

- What's important for the business / group you represent
- Any ideas / projects you've got on a 'to do' list
- What you think is special about Ponsanooth and how do we preserve or build on this?
- ideas for what you think would improve the lives of residents of Ponsanooth?

Community engagement

At Ponsanooth Fair Day in July 2022 we asked residents for feedback. We specifically asked young people how they rated living in Ponsanooth, and how we could improve this.

Feedback is contained in full appendices 2-4 - this is in addition to feedback gained via consultations on behalf of the NDP, Chapel working group, via more traditional routes such as simple conversations in the community and on social media



Engagement is not static

We have a number of working groups which deliver activity in the village, and they act as a way to continually ensure we are listening to local residents and businesses. We recognise that we need a communications plan and this is a piece of work which will commence in Spring 2023.

Themes

What we found was we already have well developed and active working groups which capture feedback on what the community feels is important. The Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) by its nature is wide ranging, and a review of the various existing engagements led to the conclusion that the themes of the NDP are predominantly a good starting point for our vision themes. There was the

addition of activities and facilities for under 25s and values and respect, which emerged as a theme during consultation.

Our themes

1 Local services are protected and enhanced
2 Ensure future generations of local families can remain in the Parish
3 A Parish that is more adaptable to the future; e.g. climate change
4 Better Transport connections, cycling, rail, footpaths and road
5 A parish that embraces renewable energy
6 Activities and facilities for under 25s
7 Protect Open Green Spaces, tree canopy and the diversity of natural habitats
8 Developments are respectful of the parish heritage, adding value to the community
9 An environment where people can live and work locally - promote local employment and create outdoor spaces for exercise and recreation for all

We want to be able to show how our themes align with the broader Cornwall Council priorities. We believe this should place us in a stronger position to access funding for more ambitious projects.

Cornwall Council themes 2020-2050

A creative carbon zero economy

Sustainable food, land and seas

Thriving Places with Decent Homes

Equality, Education and Entrepreneurship

Safe, Healthy, Resilient Communities

A Digital Revolution for Sustainable Living

How we align

	A creat ive carb on zero econ omy	Sust aina ble food, land and seas	Thriv ing Plac es with Dece nt Hom es	Equa lity, Educ ation and Entr epre neur ship	Safe, Healt hy, Resili ent Com munit ies	A Digital Revolu tion for Sustai nable Living
Local services are protected and enhanced			x	x	x	
Ensure future generations of local families can remain in the Parish			x		x	
A Parish that is more adaptable to the future; e.g. climate change	x	x			x	
Better Transport connections, cycling, rail, footpaths and road			x		x	
A parish that embraces renewable energy	x				x	
Activities and facilities for under 25s			x	x	x	x
Protect Open Green Spaces, tree canopy and the diversity of natural habitats		x	x		x	
Developments are respectful of the parish heritage,			x		x	

adding value to the community						
An environment where people can live and work locally - promote local employment				X	X	X

Using the vision - Mission statement – how do we now use this vision?

The review of existing community engagement and additional work identified a number of priorities. To achieve these, we might need short, mid term or long term steps in place. The point of the vision isn't to set out every step we will take, but enables us to understand what people in the parish value, in order that ideas can be developed or opportunities taken which help achieve these.

Next steps

1. review the current action plan against these themes and verify if they still feel reflective of what people tell us is important
2. in Spring 2023 create a communications strategy to better explain what the parish council does (and doesn't) do and improve feedback and engagement with our community
3. share the Vision with our stakeholders and work with them to review the action plan so our community can understand what we are working on and why
4. recognise the importance of the playing field. Start to consider how this village asset can be used as an event space for all age groups.

Appendix 1 - Stakeholders (non exhaustive list)

Parish Council
Chapel Working Group
Ponsanooth Playing Field Association (PPFA)
Ponsanooth Hall Committee
Climate Action Group
Road Safety Group
Neighbourhood Development Plan
Additional working groups set up as required e.g. Emergency Plan, Communications
Businesses
Residents
Community groups
Local networks
Churches

Appendix 2 Young people were asked to rate living in Ponsanooth out of 10, and asked what would get it to a 10

Improvement suggestions and feedback included:
more park equipment for teens
a nice place to live
train station
better equipment in the park
more shops
outdoor climbing / parkour gym
all wheeled track / skate park / skate ramps
no rubbish
activities / groups to include teenagers and young adults
important to maintain parks and hedges
craft and art clubs
animals to see / hold
more plants and more places to play
more trees

Appendix 3 Fair day feedback on themes / Vision statement

Change the word 'provision' for young people > activities and events
Support for locally growing food
Concerns about people driving to a proposed train halt
Hydro electricity from the river
Coach trips to places with free / low cost entry such as garden centres
Community health and wellbeing
Concern about number of second homes
Better sports facilities
Tree planting / rewilding
Support for a return of the parish newsletter

Appendix 4 - Business and community group feedback

Viaduct - increasing connectivity down to the viaduct estate; promoting offer among village / parish more to raise awareness

Road safety in Treluswell; maintaining sense of community and heritage

pre-school are currently fundraising and endeavouring to obtain grants to enable us to develop the outside play area at the pre school. Value shop, community spirit, pub instal of EV charger at Playing field

pre-school, aim to support whole family

People don't know what the PC does / how it might help amplify concerns e.g. road safety, planning

Table tennis club

A train halt in Ponsanooth

Central parking might help alleviate on street issues

Homes for young people

Emergency plan for events such as recent storms; emergency 'centre'