

Penarth Civic Society

Chair's report for AGM 2022

I am delighted to be able to welcome members to the 2022 Annual General Meeting of the Penarth Civic Society. My name is Anne Evans, I am the Chair of the Society.

As the pandemic struck shortly before the 2020 AGM, we weren't able to hold an annual general meeting that year. Last year, the AGM for the year 2020 – 2021 was held via Zoom. We were advised by Glamorgan Voluntary Services (the organisation for voluntary groups in the Vale of Glamorgan) that this would be acceptable to the Charity Commission. The Zoom technical arrangements worked very well – although we were of course aware that this arrangement meant that some members were not be able to join us.

I am very pleased that all of the existing committee members are willing to serve for another year. But we are very much in need of more committee members and would be absolutely delighted if anyone else would like to join us. I am very pleased to say that Dan Brown has offered to continue help with the all things technical and has agreed to be on the committee. The excellent work of the sub groups relies on the existence of the main executive committee – I am determined that it will continue but it does rely on a huge amount of work by the current small committee.

The Society, along with many other local residents and organisations, is very concerned about the future of the town centre. We were extremely disappointed that the consultants' report commissioned by the Vale Council on this topic, and due to be released in March 2021, has never materialised. However there are a number of other interesting initiatives. One of these is a new group, Living Streets Penarth, which has recently been set up and which arranged three thought provoking and well attended lectures.

Separately, the Society, and other local groups including the Penarth Business Group, were approached by a Senior Lecturer in Planning at Cardiff University, who lives in the town, with regard to some of her students undertaking research. Several groups of post graduates are currently working on their projects and will be presenting their findings on 3rd May at a public meeting in the Paget Rooms. We are very keen that this work is taken forward. The future of the town centre depends on all of us – traders, residents, visitors, the Town and Vale Councils. I would encourage all members to take part in any surveys and participate in any other way. We are hoping for a good attendance at the open meeting. This is being organised by the University- I don't know the time at present but we will let you know when we are informed. As a society we have produced a list of relatively small things that could be done that we feel would make a difference – encouraging the use of different coloured paints maybe, or having crochet tops for pillar boxes.

One of our main roles has always been to scrutinise planning applications.

Members will be aware of the proposals to build 576 homes on a site at Upper Cosmeston Farm. We submitted a comprehensive objection to these plans. It is, however, likely that this development will go ahead as the site was allocated for housing in the last Local Development plan.

Our concerns centre around two main issues. One is the many environmental concerns which we do not think have been properly addressed. The second is the many infrastructure issues this development will create – Penarth as a whole is well off for public transport, but Lower Penarth, and Sully, where there are also major housing developments, are very poorly served. We are extremely concerned that these new developments will lead to traffic gridlock, particularly at rush hours. And there are obvious concerns about access to GPs and other services.

The plans to build a primary unit for the Ysgol y Deri Special School on land next door to Upper Cosmeston Farm is another planning issue that we have objected to. Whilst we fully appreciate the excellent work being done at the school, we think that a site more central in the Vale would be much more appropriate and that, if built, transporting children to this school would further exacerbate that traffic issues in Lower Penarth.

The Local Development Plan as a whole is due for revision and we will be commenting on this. In particular, it needs to be revised to take into account the Climate and Nature Emergencies rightly declared by the Vale.

With regard to the conservation area in general, we are concerned that some of the actions of the Vale Council are contrary to their own advice. There is a lengthy document ‘Supplementary Planning Guidance for the Penarth Conservation Area’ which details actions that may, or may not, be taken by home-owners, and actions that may, or may not, be taken by the Vale Council. These guidelines are on occasion not being adhered to by the Vale, specifically with regard to pavements. It is not reasonable to expect home-owners to keep to their part of the bargain when the council does not.

Following two years of not being able to hold meetings for members, we are very pleased indeed that we are now able to resume these. The first meeting was addressed by the Vale’s Ecologist and was remarkably well attended given the storms approaching that very night. Our second meeting in March focussed on our work on trees. And the programme for the rest of 2022 is indeed very interesting. We look forward to welcoming lots of our members, and non-members, to these events. I am particularly looking forward to the guided tour of Llandaff Cathedral.

Before I go on to talk about the work of our sub-groups, I want to finish this section by reminding members of the title of the discussion at the 2021 AGM, which was Working Together in the town. Those of you who know me will be aware that I have been very keen for a long time for local organisations with similar objectives to our own to collaborate wherever possible. That really is happening now and I am delighted. Long may it continue.

So to our amazing subgroups.

During the past year the various sub-groups has been as active as possible under the circumstances, albeit in different ways to usual.

The Tree Forum has worked extremely hard. We are particularly pleased to finally be working with the Vale's Highways Department with regard to street trees in the conservation area. It is obvious to everyone that some of the pavements need urgent action. Following a meeting with Council Officers, and the relevant Councillor, it was agreed that the Tree Forum and Highways would look at each road in turn. Starting with Alberta Road where members may have seen the tree work done earlier this month. It may have taken an extremely long time, but we are very pleased indeed that the Vale are now working with us with regard to street trees, and that they appreciate the expertise we have. Members will remember our very successful campaign to retain our heritage lampposts in the conservation area, which was achieved through joint working with the Vale. This, to my mind, has to be the way forward and I'm pleased that the council now seems to agree. It would be very easy to go to the press with criticism on a regular basis. I am sure that working together is a much better way – although we will still contact the press if needs be.

The second bit of excellent news on the tree front is the amazing work done by our volunteers looking after the 170 odd new trees planted in our parks. We are working very closely with the parks department, and the trees are definitely benefiting from all the hard work weeding, mulching, staking and more. The cliff tops are transformed. And Golden Gates Park is looking amazing. I have to admit that I'd never heard of it before but it's well worth a visit.

There still isn't a Council Tree Strategy, however, despite several promises over several years. It's now five years since we produced our Tree Strategy and shared it with the Vale. A question for your potential councillors perhaps?

And finally, tree forum volunteers have been looking after the community orchard at Cosmeston that was planted several years ago by GPG Penarth Greening. The difference is amazing.

Friends of Victoria Square goes from strength to strength. If you haven't been there recently you will certainly notice many changes. Community engagement is progressing apace which I am delighted about. A recent visitor to the Square from the Heritage Lottery Fund was extremely complimentary about the work done. Look out for the Big Lunch (and the plant swap happening on 6th June). This project is a fantastic example of different groups within the society working together. In this case The Friends and the Tree Forum. And working with GPG Penarth Greening. Lots of different groups cooperating for the benefit of everyone in the town.

Work on the Italian Gardens, Railway Path Project and the Beach Wardens has been limited. In the case of the Beach Wardens, it seems that others are now helping to keep the beach clean, but we are keeping an eye on it as well.

We are very excited about two new projects. The first is a Heritage Project. When visiting other towns throughout Britain I am often struck by the number of signs and boards and blue plaques. There are some here but I think not enough. We have put together a great group of people who are working to change this. We have so much history and we should celebrate it! The Vale Council Tourism Officer is keen to be involved and we will be applying to the Heritage Lottery Project for a grant to make this happen.

And, even more recently, we were approached about a project in St Joseph's Park – the zig zag path. We are delighted that this project will be part of the Society. It will be launched at an open meeting to be held on 26th May at 7pm in the new St Paul's development.

Looking back, we have achieved a huge amount as I hope you will agree. This next year promises to be even better. We look forward to seeing many of you at our various events and helping with our various groups.

Before I close, there is one procedural decision for the meeting this evening is a formal change of name. We are the Civic Society for Penarth and have used the name Penarth Civic Society for a number of years as it was found that people didn't know what the Penarth Society was or did. Can we have a show of hands of those in favour please?

2022.04.20 AE

Date	Number	Description
04/01/2021		JONES D W & F NO2 STO
04/01/2021		MCMURRAY A C STO
04/01/2021		MRS ANGELA J GREGO STO
04/01/2021		WILLIAMS C M PP STO
04/01/2021		WARD V S STO
04/01/2021		SETCH TF & D STO
04/01/2021		COUCH PM STO
04/01/2021		MRS ANNA M SMITH ANNA SMITH STO
04/01/2021		F STRICKLAND-CONST STRICKLAND MEMBER STO
04/01/2021		CM NEILL STO
04/01/2021		M DAVIES D3 STO
04/01/2021		PHELPS M. PHELPS STO
04/01/2021		MEAZEY P S5R F MEAZEY STO
04/01/2021		SCHULP A S61 F SCHULP STO
04/01/2021		LANE S H77 F LANE STO
04/01/2021		K HOWELL 43 STO
04/01/2021		H G BOUDIER STO
04/01/2021		MARCUS PAYNE P4 STO
04/01/2021		P B THOMPSON T1 STO
04/01/2021		MORGAN JP STO
04/01/2021		Evans Anne PCS SUBS STO
04/01/2021		HENRY P & ME STO
04/01/2021		DORKEN M S STO
04/01/2021		ELIAS J E J JEJ ELIAS STO
04/01/2021		PHILP RM PHILPOT RM STO
04/01/2021		VE /P WILLIAMS WILLIAMS STO
04/01/2021		Kitchiner Neil DR N KITCHINER STO
04/01/2021		Soulsby Anne PENARTH SOCIETY STO
04/01/2021		SIMONS AL&YA STO
04/01/2021		CURTIN J & S STO
04/01/2021		CLIFT M C5 STO
04/01/2021		HUXTABLE WQ STO
04/01/2021		Knight Brian KNIGHT STO
04/01/2021		NICKELS IJ&SJ S & I NICKELS STO
04/01/2021		MAYO&DAVIES MAYO&DAVIES STO
04/01/2021		Gibbins Brenda STO
04/01/2021		DORRELL M&P P & M DORRELL STO
04/01/2021		Mitchell Teresa TERESA MITCHELL STO
04/01/2021		CLYNE SV TPM STO
04/01/2021		Clifford Carole C A CLIFFORD STO
04/01/2021		ELIZABETH PHILIPPS E J Philipps STO
04/01/2021		Hodgkinson Jeffrey P SOCIETY MEMBERS STO
04/01/2021		MR GOSSAGE ANNUAL SUBS STO
04/01/2021		PALSER HR &N STO
04/01/2021		HIGLEY C J C J HIGLEY MEM SUB STO
04/01/2021		MRS & MR BENNETT BENNETT STO
04/01/2021		MR KINNERSLEY PAUL KINNERSLEY STO
04/01/2021		DOCTOR MARTIN M1 STO

04/01/2021	BARTLEY C	C BARTLEY	STO
04/01/2021	CAMPBELL HF	HILARY CAMPBELL	STO
04/01/2021	BURTON C&R	STO	
04/01/2021	AVON MEM	STO	
04/01/2021	DAVIES I J	STO	
04/01/2021	THOMAS GW&JE	GLYN & LIZ THOMAS	STO
04/01/2021	WYATT C&SC	WYATT SUBSCR	STO
04/01/2021	NEVILLE R	PENARTH SOCIETY	STO
04/01/2021	IAN PALMER	Pen Civic Soc	STO
04/01/2021	MERCER MES	STO	
04/01/2021	DAVID JONES	STO	
04/01/2021	CHRISTINE LEWIS	LEWIS	STO
04/01/2021	101193 FOVS Various		
04/01/2021	101191 FOVS Various		
04/01/2021	JOHNSON DIANA	DIANA JOHNSON	STO
04/01/2021	MsM O'Connor	Annual Sub	STO
04/01/2021	WALTER KIERAN GEAR	MCCEACHERN	STO
04/01/2021	Topping Celia	C TOPPING	STO
04/01/2021	SALTER G & S	SALTER G & S	STO
04/01/2021	CANTLAY DA&CM	CANTLAY PARK ROAD	STO
04/01/2021	DEWAR IS	02	STO
04/01/2021	FOULKES DM	THE PENARTH SOCIET	STO
04/01/2021	KINGSTON G	KINGSTON G	STO
04/01/2021	CATTERALL VA & C	STO	
04/01/2021	BOURNE TE & CA	BOURNE TE & CA	STO
04/01/2021	CROFTS NG&JM	CROFTS NG&JM	STO
04/01/2021	WILLIAMS R	WILLIAMS R	STO
04/01/2021	MARQUAND D & J	MARQUAND	STO
04/06/2021	MR DAVID THOMAS NO	NOBLE DAVID AND AN	BGC
04/06/2021	BOARD OF THE C	REV	
04/06/2021	BOARD OF THE CIVIC	STO	
04/12/2021	MRS E CAHILL	WEBSITE	
04/12/2021	KONSILEO TRADING L	INSURANCE PENARTH	BBP
04/12/2021	101194		
04/12/2021	COLLIER C F	C COLLIER SUB 2021	BGC
04/14/2021	A L POOLE	P2	STO
04/19/2021	P CAMPBELL	SUBSCRIPTION	STO
04/20/2021	101195		
04/29/2021	Long Gwyneth	NOT APPLICABLE	STO
05/04/2021	BIRCH	BIRCH	STO
05/17/2021	FOVS Various		
05/17/2021	FOVS Various		
05/17/2021	WYATT EJL	THE PENARTH SOCIET	STO
05/17/2021	GORNALL L	DOUBLE GORNALL	STO
05/24/2021	S SALTER	TOM & SARAH SALTE	STO
05/24/2021	STEVE AMBLER TREE	INVOICE 2021 SA132	BBP
06/29/2021	FOVS Various		
06/29/2021	FOVS Various		
06/29/2021	FOVS Various		
07/20/2021	IR and JM Hydon		

07/21/2021	Wix website hosting
07/22/2021	Emuly Warren
08/02/2021	Jill Penn
08/17/2021	FOVS Various
08/17/2021	FOVS Various
08/27/2021	Alan Thorne Walk Admission fees
09/08/2021	Caroline Munckenbeck
09/09/2021	Peter Blackburn
09/10/2021	Mary Davies
09/13/2021	Sian Till
09/15/2021	Alan Thorne Walk Admission fees
09/24/2021	Tony Hazell Donation
09/27/2021	Lottery Fund Grant
09/30/2021	Peter Blackburn
09/30/2021	Peter Blackburn
10/11/2021	Terrain Aeration Sevices
10/12/2021	Penny Daw
11/04/2021	Peter Blackburn
11/05/2021	Chris Riey Subs
11/10/2021	Dan Brown subs
11/10/2021	FOVS Donation
11/17/2021	Postage
11/17/2021	Steve Ambler Tree Services
11/23/2021	Des Lloyd subs
11/29/2021	Pam Wright subs
12/10/2021	O2 Direct debit ***Incorrect to be reversed***
12/14/2021	Peter Blackburn
12/15/2021	Ruth Williams Membership Subs
12/15/2021	Ann Youde Membership subs
12/31/2021	Judith Lewis
01/10/2022	O2 Direct debit REPAYMENT
01/10/2022	O2 Direct debit ***Incorrect to be reversed***
01/11/2022	O2 Direct debit REPAYMENT
02/10/2022	Jowett subs
02/10/2022	Jowett subs
02/10/2022	GIFT AID REFUND
02/10/2022	Tracy Alexander subs for past two years
02/10/2022	Ecology Event income
03/02/2022	Hall Hire Ecology Event
03/02/2022	Peter Blackburn
03/02/2022	Anna Smith Donation towards leaflet cost
03/30/2022	Bryn Walters subs

Victoria Square Analysis from second grant January 2021

Existing funds left	3921.14
Spending this month	442.92
Income this month	

Balance	3478.22
Society Funds	6380.28

Notes	Category	Income	Expense	Opening Balance
				£19,660.69
	101 Membership Subs	10		
	101 Membership Subs	10		
	101 Membership Subs	10		
	101 Membership Subs	10		
	101 Membership Subs	10		
	101 Membership Subs	10		
	101 Membership Subs	10		
	101 Membership Subs	10		
	101 Membership Subs	10		
	101 Membership Subs	10		
	101 Membership Subs	10		
	101 Membership Subs	10		
	101 Membership Subs	8		
	101 Membership Subs	10		
	101 Membership Subs	5		
	101 Membership Subs	8		
	101 Membership Subs	10		
	101 Membership Subs	10		
	101 Membership Subs	10		
	101 Membership Subs	10		
	101 Membership Subs	15		
	101 Membership Subs	10		
	101 Membership Subs	15		
	101 Membership Subs	10		
	101 Membership Subs	8		
	101 Membership Subs	10		
	101 Membership Subs	10		
	101 Membership Subs	15		
	101 Membership Subs	15		
	101 Membership Subs	12		
	101 Membership Subs	7		
	101 Membership Subs	10		
	101 Membership Subs	15		
	101 Membership Subs	15		
	101 Membership Subs	10		
	101 Membership Subs	17		
	101 Membership Subs	15		
	101 Membership Subs	10		
	101 Membership Subs	10		
	101 Membership Subs	15		
	101 Membership Subs	15		
	101 Membership Subs	10		
	101 Membership Subs	10		
	101 Membership Subs	15		
	101 Membership Subs	15		
	101 Membership Subs	10		
	101 Membership Subs	10		
	101 Membership Subs	15		
	101 Membership Subs	15		
	101 Membership Subs	10		
	101 Membership Subs	10		

101 Membership Subs	10		
101 Membership Subs	10		
101 Membership Subs	15		
101 Membership Subs	10		
101 Membership Subs	10		
101 Membership Subs	15		
101 Membership Subs	10		
101 Membership Subs	10		
101 Membership Subs	15		
101 Membership Subs	8		
101 Membership Subs	15		
101 Membership Subs	12		
405 Misc		505.38	
405 Misc		121.8	
101 Membership Subs	10		
101 Membership Subs	10		
101 Membership Subs	8		
101 Membership Subs	15		
101 Membership Subs	12		
101 Membership Subs	15		
101 Membership Subs	15		
101 Membership Subs	10		
101 Membership Subs	10		
101 Membership Subs	7		
101 Membership Subs	10		
101 Membership Subs	10		
101 Membership Subs	10		
101 Membership Subs	15		
101 Membership Subs	15		
Cancelled SO	30		
Cancelled SO	-30		
		760	
		335.78	
		295.28	
101 Membership Subs	10		
101 Membership Subs	15		
101 Membership Subs	10		
101 Membership Subs		1100.94 Total In	
101 Membership Subs	10		892
	12		
405 Misc		123.87	
405 Misc		1036.05	
	10		
	15		
	15	Total In	
405 Misc		5520	52
405 Misc		1531.1	
405 Misc		225.13 Total In	
405 Misc		617.98	
101 Membership Subs	10		

205 Website Hosting		61.2	Total In	
101 Membership Subs	10			20
101 Membership Subs	7			
405 Misc		310.36		
405 Misc		661.79	Total In	
102 Event Admission Fees	111			118
101 Membership Subs	15			
101 Membership Subs	10			
101 Membership Subs	10			
101 Membership Subs	15			
102 Event Admission Fees	24			
309 Donation	50		Total In	
307 Lottery Funding	12240			12364
405 Misc		568.91		
405 Misc		1443.15		
405 Misc		6720	Total In	
101 Membership Subs	3			3
405 Misc		531.68		
101 Membership Subs	10			
101 Membership Subs	10			
309 Donation	25			
206 Printing and Stationery		66		
405 Misc		354		
101 Membership Subs	10		Total In	
101 Membership Subs	10			65
		25		
405 Misc		349.62		
101 Membership Subs	10			
101 Membership Subs	10		Total In	
101 Membership Subs	8			20
	25			
		25	Total In	
	25			58
101 Membership Subs	2.00			
101 Membership Subs	20.00			
101 Membership Subs	263.75			
101 Membership Subs	20		Total In	
	24			329.75
		26		
405 Misc		442.92		
	20.00		Total In	
	15			35.00
		Total spending		
Total Income	13956.75	23758.94		
Lottery	12240			
Gift Aid	263.75			
Donations	95			
Event Income	111			
Membsubs	1222			

Income

- 101 Membership Subs
- 102 Event Admission Fees
- 103 Annual Dinner Cost
- 104 Coffee/Tea Sales
- 105 Donations/Grants
- 106 Gift Aid Receipts

Expenses

- 201 Room Hire
- 202 Insurance
- 203 Annual Dinner Sale
- 204 Speaker or Event cost
- 205 Website Hosting
- 206 Printing and Stationery
- 207 Postage
- 208 Gift
- 209 Charitable Donation
- 210 Misc

Income Victoria Square

- 307 Lottery Funding
- 308 Event Income
- 309 Donation Donation
- Expenses Victoria Square
- 401 Surveys
- 402 Printing
- 403 Event expenses
- 404 Website and Publicity
- 405 Misc

Total out	Balance
3119.18	£17,433.51 CORRECT

Total out	Balance
6679.92	10805.59 CORRECT

Total out	Balance
2374.21	8431.38 CORRECT

Total out Balance
61.2 8390.18 CORRECT

Total out Balance
972.15 7536.03 CORRECT

Total out Balance
0 19900.03 CORRECT

Total out Balance
8732.06 11170.97 CORRECT

Total out Balance
951.68 10284.29 CORRECT

Total out Balance
374.62 9929.67 CORRECT

Total out Balance
25 9962.67 CORRECT

Total out Balance
0 10292.42 CORRECT

Total out Balance
468.92 9858.50 CORRECT