

# Perranzabuloe Parish Council - Community Engagement Strategy

## 1. Aims and Objectives

The council's aims and objectives for seeking community engagement and the outcomes it hopes to achieve are:

### Aims:

- Work more closely with residents, businesses and community groups;
- engage with as many people as possible who want to participate in decision-making, monitoring services and planning for the future;
- ensure that, by getting closer to the community and being accessible to all groups, local democracy is enhanced;
- ensure that through the use of a wide range of approaches to public involvement and community engagement, we actively encourage the involvement of residents, to capture their views and learn their concerns and effectively use those views as an integral part of the decision-making process;
- ensure that residents have the opportunities to be heard at every stage, and the capacity to be effective citizens.

### Objectives:

This strategy is part of the council's commitment to creating and maintaining effective working relationships with all sectors of the community, based on trust, openness and constructive challenge. Outcomes of the strategy will include:

- Improved communication through the establishment of new channels of engagement.
- More residents understanding the role of Councillors and getting the best effect.
- Improved engagement with local communities, with more people feeling that they are involved in decision-making and a higher percentage of people involved in volunteering.
- Improved satisfaction with services provided by the Council.

## 2. Defining the Community

Perranzabuloe is a predominantly rural Parish situated on the north coast of Cornwall. The principal authority is the unitary authority, Cornwall Council. There are a 2598 residential properties accommodating approximately 4460 electorate (as at January 2011).

The community may be defined as consisting of residents of the parish; and

- Village Halls Trustees & its users,
- Head Teachers and Governors of Perranporth and Goonhavern Schools,
- Young people who live and/or go to school in the parish,
- Retail and other Businesses in the community,
- Interest groups – clubs and societies
- Voluntary organisations,
- Church Groups,
- Groups of people defined by a common factor such as age, disability, faith, and other groups,
- Councillors and public service representatives including Council Staff.

### Role of Council Members and Officers

- The Parish is currently not party-political with 15 Councillors identified in the community, via newsletters, the website and published in the Council's annual report.
- There is one officer of the Council, (the Clerk/RFO) who covers the entire spectrum of the council work, aided by one assistant, and is currently based at Parish Office, Ponsmere Valley, Perranporth. Members of the public are welcome to call in when the office is open (9-5, Monday to Friday incl.) or make appointments at mutually convenient times to visit the office. The officer is frequently dealing with meetings or in contact via email, telephone and letters etc.

### **Provision of Information to the Community**

- Messages can be left 24/7 either by telephone or email.
- The names, addresses and phone numbers of all the Councillors are published on the website, and in the **Annual Report**.
- The Parish Council website address is also widely published and the site contains all the information an individual might wish to know about the work of the Parish Council and its individuals, including meeting minutes, policy documents, financial statements, annual report and how to contact anyone associated with the Council.
- Information, such as agendas of meetings, is published on the **13?** notice boards around the parish and on the web site.
- Relevant Police Officers, Police Community Support Officers, members of the press are invited to attend every Council meeting. Cornwall Council Members are also currently Members of the Parish Council.
- An Annual Report is prepared and printed in the newsletter and on the web site.

### **Opportunities for Community Involvement**

- It is recognised that members of the community may wish to engage with the Council at different levels - from the odd email or letter with a suggestion on how a service could be improved, to regular attendance at a Council meeting.
- To hold a monthly parish council surgery, which will allow members of the public to come and talk directly with council members.
- Parish Council meetings are open to the public and there is a public forum at the beginning of each council meeting.
- An Annual Parish Meeting is held in either **March or April ?**, giving the public and local organisations an opportunity to participate in the full meeting. This meeting is advertised widely and is used by the Council to report on the work carried out during the year. It is also an opportunity for the Council to obtain the views of residents on any matter which affects the community.
- The council undertakes consultations by questionnaire, public meetings as appropriate, for specific issues.
- The Council is always considering practical ways of engaging with people and community groups.
- The Council will continue to arrange, support and participate in community events.

### **Involvement with Partnerships**

The council has a representative on the following organisations:

- North Coast Cluster Group
- Penhale Sands SAC ??
- Perranporth Airfield ??
- Perranporth Memorial Hall
- Perranporth Tennis
- Perranporth Youth Action Group
- St. Agnes and Perranporth Community Network (CC)

### **Contact the Parish Council:**

The Council and members may be contacted through the Parish Clerk:

Mrs. Cathy Oates, Perranzabuloe Parish Council, Chyanhale, Ponsmere Valley, Perranporth TR6 0DB

Telephone: 01872 572727

e-mail: perranzabuloe@btconnect.com

Website: [www.parish-council.com/Perranzabuloe](http://www.parish-council.com/Perranzabuloe)

This Statement of Intent for Community Engagement was approved for issue at the parish council meeting held on

Signed .....

Chairman