

Jim Johnston sent a message, which was relayed by Ken Barnes, and was factually incorrect. Please may I take up a little of your time and ask you to read this to the end (I'll try to make it as short as I can)

Those at the AGM will know that Ken Barnes tried, unsuccessfully, to scupper the AGM by making a personal statement instead of following the Agenda, and then walking out. The Cornish Guardian printed an approximation of his speech on Wednesday.

There are several threads to the complaint against myself and some of the Committee members so I shall deal with them one at a time:-

That we do not support the original aims of the group, and that we have no intention of so-doing

The original aims of FoPB are set out in the Constitution, which was accepted by the Inaugural Meeting on 13th August 2009 and was signed by Ken Barnes, as Chair, and Jules Jonklaas, as Secretary shortly afterwards. This document was emailed to all members before the AGM and is on the website. The Committee has at all times kept to its original aims.

The point of disagreement is that some claim that FoPB was set up to support the Parish Council in its bid to get Cornwall Council to 'return the beach back to the PC and the people of Tywardreath and Par. This was never one of our stated aims as FoPB was set up as a support group for the Parish Council, NOT as a campaigning or lobby group.

Had we been seen as a campaigning and lobbying group then we should not have received the grants from the Co-op Bank and Cornwall Council. If we are seen as being such a body it could also prejudice some exciting projects, funded externally, that we hope to announce this month.

That we have acquired the positions on the committee and the finances and goods by deceptive means

I, and my fellow Committee members, refute any wrong doing and the libellous way in which this is being stated.

That we were already a pre-formed group with your own and different agenda

There was never a pre-formed group, but it is true that a majority of last year's Committee disagreed with a minority faction.

Unfortunately, it is now that faction that wishes to change FoPB into an organisation with narrow aims that were never intended. Ken, in his AGM speech said that he would walk away from FoPB and form a group that will lobby and campaign for what they believe in. I think that would be a very good idea, rather than trying to change FoPB into a very different organisation. I see this as being a positive move and the current membership can decide which group to support, possibly both.

I have, with difficulty, tried very hard not to make any personal attacks and to stick to the facts, but I cannot resist saying that this does seem to be a case of 'taking the ball home so that no one else can play'

I am sorry to have taken up so much of your time. Please, continue to support FoPB to develop and expand the valuable work that has been done in our first year.