

It's 1<sup>st</sup> October and we start a new membership year today. If you have not done so already then our new Treasurer, Jan Phillips, whose contact details are below, will be pleased to hear from you. A renewal form is attached to this email or a paper copy can be obtained from Jan or from me.

Around 60 members came to the AGM and I would like to thank them for coming to support Friends of Par Beach and to choose new Officers and Committee.

Those who were not able to join us at the AGM may have read the piece in Cornish Guardian this week, and I am happy confirm that Friends of Par Beach will be continuing with its work on conservation, management of the site, promoting events, supporting stakeholders and providing access for all.

- Fourteen events were organised by Friends of Par Beach in our first year, which I believe is a great achievement. A winter/spring programme will be announced soon.
- Contacts have been forged with stakeholders such as Parish Council, County Council, Ecobos, Serco, Par Sands Holiday Park, Environment Agency, Natural England and Cornwall Wildlife Trust.
- Major grants were awarded by the Co-op Bank Community Fund and the Cornwall Council Community Fund to set up Friends of Par Beach and we are in the process of identifying the best way to use this money for the benefit of Par Beach and its members.
- Two resolutions were passed at the AGM by a very large majority.
  - i) That Friends of Par Beach supports the principle that Par Beach and Par Beach Local Nature Reserve remain in public ownership in perpetuity.
  - ii) That Friends of Par Beach supports the proposal that the paths to and around Par Beach become Public Rights of Way
- We have recently applied for funding of projects specific to the Par Beach and hope to be able to make an announcement soon.

The Committee voted in by members at the AGM is:-

*Chair*            Mike Freemantle  
*Secretary*      Jules Jonklaas  
*Treasurer*      Jan Phillips

*Committee*        Rachel Abel  
*Members*         Michelle O'Shea  
                          John Page  
                          Jane Richards  
                          Mark Whittaker  
                          Adrian Wildish

We do need your support to build on our successes and continue the good work we have started.

**P.S. I had no intention of referring to the acrimony caused by a few people at the AGM, but, in view of the scurrilous attack on some members of the Committee, I need to send the true story as those who were unable to attend the AGM may be a little in the dark. This is on a separate attachment**