

Mary Tavy Parish Council

The May meeting of MTPC is also the occasion of the Council's Annual General Meeting. Officers of the Council were also appointed at the meeting for the coming 12 months and I am pleased to report that the new Chairman of MTPC for 2017 / 18 is Councillor John Hill. Councillor John Hill is the youngest member of the Council and has already become well known for his involvement in and his support for the Coronation Hall and as the Parish Council's Emergency Warden. In times of minor flooding, Councillor Hill and his trusty tractor have often been a very welcome sight!! We have no doubt that he will be a very positive force in further improving the work of your Council.

The first of our planned improvements to the provision of emergency equipment within the Parish has been successfully completed. A Public Access Heart Defibrillator in its easy to open cabinet has been fitted to the front wall of Mary Tavy Post Office and Stores and is now fully operational. This appliance is battery powered and is light weight and easy to carry. It is also semi-automatic in operation and gives voice prompts and visual indicators to ensure that use is as straight forward as possible. We are of course deeply grateful to Martin and Tracy Bradford the owners of the premises for not only giving consent for the installation but in agreeing to monitor and record its operational condition.

The second improvement is the creation of a Community Night Landing Site on the Recreation Ground for use by the Devon Air Ambulance. A formal Planning Application has been deposited with the DNPA and we hope that it will be swiftly processed by them using "delegated powers." We firmly believe that such a facility must surely enjoy universal support as the speedy arrival of an air ambulance could so easily be the difference between life and death for a seriously ill parishioner.

With regard to the erection of steel masts, by complete coincidence, the Parish Council has been asked to consider an application for the erection of a 15m telecommunication mast on farmland approximately 500m from our Primary School. Such a development under the terms of the Town & Country Planning Act is classified as "permitted development" and has been lodged with the DNPA on behalf of Telefonica (UK) Ltd. and Vodafone. The mast is designed to carry 3 antennae and 2 dish arrays. There is of course very limited scope for comment by anyone under "permitted development" regulations. Equally it is also unclear how much mobile phone signal coverage will be improved in Mary Tavy by this development.

Councillor Peter Jarvis ~ Vice-Chairman, Mary Tavy Parish Council.