

STATEMENT ON BOUNDARY REVIEW

In December 2018, Cornwall Council instigated a county-wide boundary review. Budock Parish Council could not opt-out of this process as Falmouth sought a re-drawing of the boundaries, both between Falmouth and Budock Parish, and also between Falmouth and Penryn.

Budock Parish Council met with representatives of Penryn Town Council and a re-location of the boundary was agreed.

Budock met with Falmouth Town Council with the intention of finding a way forward. At this point Falmouth Town Council put forward their intention to take large areas of the parish and stated that they were not interested in negotiations.

Budock Parish Council undertook to inform their parishioners of the implications with a public meeting, letters to all households, petitions, posters and a statement to the press.

Submissions were put forward to Cornwall Council which were then debated twice. Falmouth Town Council were looking to expand into Budock Parish which included: Chy-An-Dour; land along Bickland Water Road up to Budock church; Eve Park; Union Corner and Union Park. Falmouth Town Council's submission was mainly accepted by Cornwall Council, twice voted on and approved.

At the second of the Cornwall Council debates it was pointed out to the panel that any change in boundaries would land those moving from Budock Parish to Falmouth Town with a considerable extra burden in Council Tax, as the local Falmouth Town precept was at least £260 more than that of Budock. This was again ignored by the panel in making their decision.

Falmouth Town Council failed to achieve all of its aims, as land known as Church Commissioners' land was voted by Cornwall Council to remain as part of Budock Parish. Cornwall Council's aim to create an identifiable boundary was not achieved and the boundary was even more complicated.

Falmouth Town Council at this point changed their minds and sought to negotiate a way forward. Cornwall Council said that they would support a locally-agreed solution. Briefly, the road from Maenporth back along Bickland Water Road as far as Bickland Hill would become the new boundary. Chy-an-Dour would remain in Budock, as would the land around Budock Church.

In conclusion, faced with Falmouth's need to expand which was supported by Cornwall Council, it was inevitable that Budock Parish Council would, with great regret, be forced to cede land to Falmouth, the other option put forward by Cornwall Council being an even worse outcome. As part of the talks, Falmouth Town Council have agreed not to seek any further changes to the boundary for a period of twenty-five years.