

MEETING NO.

Minutes of the FEOCK PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held on Monday 4th October 2021 at 6.30pm at Carnon Downs Village Hall

Present: **WARDS** **CARNON DOWNS** **DEVORAN** **FEOCK**
 P Allen A Allen C Blake
 C Kemp B Thomas H Freeman
 K Gason S Cooper B Robson
 P Lightfoot
 J Allen

In attendance: Cornwall Councillor Martyn Alvey
 12 members of the public in attendance
 Debra Roberts, Parish Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer

CHAIRMAN: Councillor Thomas

1. INTRODUCTION

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Cllrs Hambly-Staite and Steel.

3. CO-OPTION TO CARNON DOWNS WARD VACANCY

Jan Allen from Carnon Downs had expressed an interested in filling the Carnon Downs ward vacancy and gave an overview of her reasons for wishing to join the Council and what she could bring.

RESOLUTION: CLLR BLAKE PROPOSED JAN ALLEN BE CO-OPTED TO THE PARISH COUNCIL, SECONDED BY CLLR LIGHTFOOT AND CARRIED BY A MAJORITY.

A lady had express an interest in filling the Feock ward vacancy and would attend the next meeting.

4. TO CONSIDER THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 17TH MAY 2021 AS A TRUE AND ACCURATE RECORD

RESOLUTION: CLLR LIGHTFOOT PROPOSED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 17TH MAY 2021 AS CIRCULATED BY THE CLERK, BE SIGNED BY THE CHAIRMAN AS A TRUE AND ACCURATE RECORD OF THE MEETING, THIS WAS SECONDED BY CLLR KEMP AND WAS CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY THE MEETING.

Jan Allen joined the Council and signed the Acceptance of Office paperwork.

5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

6. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Old Carnon Hill footpath and traffic calming

A resident said that he felt the footpath on Old Carnon Hill had much improved pedestrian safety. He asked that the Parish Council in future consider improving access on footpaths and public rights of way for people with buggies so they can also use the footpaths and enjoy the countryside.

A resident who also lives on Old Carnon Hill felt that in the main the footpath is a good thing, the virtual footpath is a little bit less successful. When vehicles get past the last chicane they then speed up when they get towards Wellington Place and go far over the speed limit.

The Clerk said there had been some complaints from residents about the positioning of the traffic calming and that some people felt the calming had not been successful and vehicles had speeded up. Cormac were carrying out a speed survey to establish if speeds had increased.

Cllr P Allen said that during our Neighbourhood Development Plan consultation the general feedback was that people did not wish to see further traffic calming.

A resident said he was surprised that the feedback was that people did not want traffic calming. Another resident said that everyone did feedback about the consultation and said that the piece of road in between the existing traffic calming at the bottom of Old Carnon Hill and up to the new traffic calming and the need for calming there as well.

A resident commented that he would like to see full width speed humps across Old Carnon Hill, he felt the current traffic calming was not sufficient.

Outline planning applications for 5 dwellings on Old Carnon Hill, Carnon Downs

A resident lives alongside the A39 bypass, and was aware of the outline application for 5 dwellings and he was opposed to this, the access was unsuitable and the site was outside of the settlement boundary set out in the Neighbourhood Development Plan. There is a problem with people not using the bypass and instead using Old Carnon Hill as a cut through and more houses here would make the problem worse.

The Chairman commented that the Parish Council do not give approval, planning consent is given by Cornwall Council, the Parish Council are purely consultees and provide their views guided by the Neighbourhood Plan on applications.

A resident lived near to the proposed site and was very concerned about the access to this proposed new site as he felt the byway was not a suitable access lane. He asked the Parish Council to consider objecting to this planning application. A gateway had been installed in the last few years and this was not being used for the proposed access.

A resident who also lives at Wellington Place and said the byway was very well used by residents, walkers and cyclists and also felt the proposed access was not suitable.

Another resident who lives on Old Carnon Hill, he was also concerned about the width of the lane proposed to be used as access, the lane had already been very busy with builders building the two houses further down the lane. He would like to see a 20 mph limit throughout the village. The site plan is shown online as one empty field, it is actually 3 small fields bordered by Cornish walls/hedges and very mature trees.

Cllr Freeman thanked the residents for their comments and said the Planning Committee would certainly consider them as part of their consultee comment to be submitted to Cornwall Council.

Pre-application for 30 dwellings on Quenchwell Road, Carnon Downs

A resident of the Forge was concerned about the pre-planning application on this site that has just had 14 houses completed.

The planning item was brought forward to enable residents to listen to the discussion.

14. PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT

There were concerns raised by residents that they were not made aware of applications near to them. Cllr Freeman said that Cornwall Council no longer put up yellow notices (unless the application was in a Conservation Area, affected a public right of way or affected a listed building), Cornwall Council only notify those who live adjacent to site/boundary. The Parish Council put lists of planning applications on their website, Facebook page and on the Planning agendas which are displayed on the noticeboards.

Cllr Freeman explained the planning process and how comments are put together, the Parish Council's Planning Committee hoped that their comments were thorough, fair and followed all planning policies including the Feock NDP.

The Burrington's site is a pre-planning application, the Parish Council would be making a comment. Burrington's had commissioned a housing needs survey which had been sent to all residents of the parish, they do this to inform them as to the type of houses (if any) that are needed in the parish. The Parish Council are still waiting to receive a copy of this. The site of the pre-application is outside the settlement boundary which is concerning. The existing permission for the commercial units area has not yet had work started. Condition 5 on the original permission has been discharged, which is to move the speed hump so it is not on the entrance to the site but this has not been done. The local schools are almost full and the Doctors Surgery is at capacity. Do we need any more new houses? These are all issues that the Parish Council will be considering when they make a comment to Cornwall Council about the pre-application.

With regards to the Old Carnon Hill, the issues we would like to look at are: that it is outside the settlement boundary is significant, access from the lane, concern as to whether it would be safe for pedestrians, horses and cyclists, nuisance caused to existing residents during building. Carnon Downs is getting bigger and bigger, can the infrastructure cope? Impact on wildlife such as the active badger sett. Whether affordable homes are proposed and if its going to be 5 homes only, this only an outline application, the detailed proposal could be very different. Is it a sustainable development?

Cllr Freeman hopes that reassures residents that will be applying the planning policies that we have especially the Neighbourhood Development Plan.

16. FUNDING APPLICATION

Julian from the Rotary Club of Truro attended and had applied under Section 137 for funding from the Parish Council to fund books for Devoran School titled "Watch Out!" This was part of a national Rotary Club project and would provide a copy of the book for every KS 2 child at Devoran School. The funding requested was £150 (£1 a book)

RESOLUTION: CLLR FREEMAN PROPOSED THE PARISH COUNCIL GRANT THIS FUNDING REQUEST, SECONDED BY CLLR A ALLEN AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

7. CLERKS UPDATE ON MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

There were no matters arising and the Clerk had circulated her report previously.

8. MATTERS FOR REPORT

Cllr A Allen attended the Community Network Panel meeting, the main issue was housing and the significant demand for housing in Cornwall. Cornwall Council have a housing strategy to try to address the current problem.

Cllr Cooper had attended a two way communication course to try to get the public to engage more with the Parish Council. Monthly video updates from the Chairman was one method that was currently popular and worked well and she suggested the Parish Council consider trialling this. Cllr Cooper had also attended an Ancient Tree Course and it was hoped a local tree group could be formed to start to create a register of trees locally.

Cllr Lightfoot went to the Kea Parish Council meeting where the purchase of the woodland behind Playing Place Park was discussed and it was excellent news that the Crowdfunder to purchase the woodland had been successful and the Parish Council were not responsible for this public area.

The Chairman had attended Chairman training which was run by CALC. He would strongly recommend that all our sub committee Chairs attend as it was very useful.

9. CURRENT REPORTS

Cornwall Council

Cllr Martyn Alvey said he had been unaware of the SWW sewage works application until it came into Cornwall Council. SWW were apologetic that they had not consulted the Parish Council and would be in touch to start a consultation.

There were 4 planning applications for Feock waiting to go the Planning Committee, the Committee was very busy with applications that are being called in. The Head of Planning may start refusing applications to go to Committee if she does not feel there are sufficient material reasons to call this application in and it would be hard to defend at Appeal.

There is a page on Cornwall Council called 'Lets Talk' and this contains all the current live consultations if anyone wishes to comment. There are also links to the various projects the Council is currently running.

Kea School are desperate for new Governors and Cllr Alvey asked if we could include this in the next edition of Connect.

The new Cornwall Council administration is supporting 20s Plenty and by the end of the administration in 4 years time the aspiration is that all built up areas are reduced to 20 mph unless there is objection from the community. This will not happen overnight and will be expensive to put in place but it is hoped if all the applications could be put in under one Traffic Regulation Order it would reduce the cost significantly.

Currently second homes pay full Council Tax, Cllr Alvey said Cornwall Council would like second home owners to pay an enhanced rate. Cornwall Council would like any new housing to be for primary residents. In areas where second homes are a particular problem, the Council would like to be able to insist for planning permission to be required to turn a property from residential into a holiday let. Also

those that are registered for Business rates do not contribute to the precept and it is the Town and Parish Councils that lose out as they do not get a payment from the Business Rates.

The Chairman congratulated Kea Parish Council on the success of their campaign to purchase the woodland in Playing Place.

Cllr P Allen felt that Right to Buy properties should be full time residential and not a holiday let or second home but this was proving very difficult to enforce.

Devon & Cornwall Police

The Police had opened a “How safe is your neighbourhood?” survey to try to identify areas where people did not feel safe. The crime figures were available online.

10. LOCAL WARD REPORTS

Feock ward

Cllr Freeman said the car park at Loe Beach is now being managed by an outside parking company and is now pay and display. The Council were concerned that this would have a knock on effect and move the parking issues elsewhere in the village and other areas where there was public access to the water.

Cllr Blake said he would collect in the cones now that the Summer season had passed. The TRO consultation regarding parking restrictions in Feock should be starting in the next few weeks.

Cllr Robson said that Roundwood Quay was getting very busy and the grass eroded and it was starting to look very unsightly. The whole area was owned by the National Trust and she had spoken to the Rangers about the condition of the quay.

Cllr Gason said she felt we should raise this with the AONB and the Clerk would contact the AONB in relation to the Monumental Improvement project to provide a letter of support.

Devoran ward

Cllr Kemp said there were ongoing issues with parking on the pavement in Market Street.

Carnon Downs ward

Cllr Lightfoot said the two or three houses on Quenchwell Road opposite the Burringtons estate have flooded several times since the development had been completed. Cllr P Allen felt we should contact Burringtons to ask them to give us an explanation as to how they are going to deal with the flooding and also request an update on what is happening with the commercial element.

11. FINANCE REPORT & SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

The Clerk circulated the invoice list and gave an overview of the Council’s current financial position.
RESOLUTION: CLLR THOMAS PROPOSED THE CHAIRMAN SIGN THE INVOICES FOR PAYMENT LIST, SECONDED BY CLLR LIGHTFOOT AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

12. HAIRE WELLBEING PROJECT

An update on the project had been circulated to Councillors.

13. ACCESS & AMENITIES COMMITTEE

Dog waste bins

It was agreed to move the move bin by Point Green down to the junction with the Tram Road and then install a new bin at Carnon Mine.

Cllr Gason said that a landowner was not currently in agreement with the changes proposed to one of the stiles as part of the Enhanced LMP project. Cllr P Allen said that we had had correspondence from the Countryside Team about two stiles they had complaints about which were on our list for the enhanced LMP for replacement.

The kissing gate which comes out on to Loe Hill needs some work as it is rusting and very sharp and there were concerns that it may injure an animal.

Cllr P Allen will arrange to turf the area at Carnon Yard next to the bench.

Retallack Playing Field Refurbishment

The Clerk had circulated the quotes received for the groundworks and play and gym equipment and the details of the equipment that would be provided.

RESOLUTION: CLLR P ALLEN PROPOSED THAT THE LOWER QUOTES WERE ACCEPTED AND WORK START ASAP, SECONDED BY CLLR THOMAS AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Weed Control

It was noted that sedges were spreading across Feock village and needed treating. Cllr Blake said there were two issues, moss on the pavements which was slippery and dangerous and then unsightly weeds.

RESOLUTION: CLLR FREEMAN PROPOSED THAT IT WAS URGENTLY BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF CORMAC ABOUT THE SLIPPERY MOSS ON THE PAVEMENTS IN CHYCOOSE PARC AND WELLINGTON PLANTATION AND THAT WEED CONTROL WAS CONSIDERED AGAIN NEXT YEAR BY THE COUNCIL, SECONDED BY CLLR KEMP AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Trees in Devoran Park

An anonymous letter had been to the Council last year about the view being blocked by trees in the park for residents in St John's Terrace. Advice had been sought from Tree Experts which was conflicting about if the trees were appropriate for the park or not and there had been discussions about potentially replacing them with 4 fruit trees. The Planning Committee had serious concerns about chopping down trees on our own land as they work so hard to keep tree cover in the Parish.

It was previously suggested that the trees are replaced with 2 cherries and 2 fruit trees (a mix of both in each area), the trees needed to be substantial to ensure they provide shade which was the whole reason that they were planted in the first place as residents had expressed concerns about a fixed structure being installed, they would cost around £300 to £400 each and would be around 3 metres tall.

It was noted that we could require planning permission depending on the size of the trunks of the trees as the park is in the Conservation Area.

The other option is that the trees could potentially be pollarded to ensure they were kept at a lower level and provided the shade they were planted to create.

RESOLUTION: CLLR P ALLEN PROPOSED THE CLERK BE ASKED TO CONSULT WITH PLANNING/CONSERVATION AND IF PERMISSION WAS REQUIRED WE WOULD GO ALONG WITH THE PLANNING TEAMS VIEW WHICH WOULD REQUIRE ANNUAL POLLARDING, IF DON'T REQUIRE

PERMISSION TO REPLACE THE TREES, THEN GO AHEAD AND REPLACE WITH 2 CHERRIES AND 2 APPLES, SECONDED BY CLLR LIGHTFOOT, CARRIED BY A MAJORITY.

It was agreed to defer the discussion on the Bude Stratton Housing proposal.

15. HIGHWAYS ISSUES

There was no progress with the obstruction on verges in Carnon Downs.

With regards to the flowerbed build out on Forth Coth a price had been provided by Cormac but it was agreed to delay this until we have another highways scheme in the area and it was hoped this would reduce the price.

Roundabout and verge planting – Cornish Concrete Products had been in touch previously to express interest in sponsoring the Carnon Downs roundabout. Cllr P Allen said he felt it could be improved by the verge by the bus lane and the Forge being tidied and planted and this could mimic the side of the Caravan park by being cut and planted, the proposal included planting a row of cherries but we could do this just up to Jubilee Wood to improve the gateway to Carnon Downs.

The Clerk would to contact CCP to see if they would like to be involved with sponsorship.

Cllr P Allen said he would still like this to be done even if sponsorship was not available.

A response had been received from Cornwall Council regarding the noise from bypass and this had been circulated. It was agreed to carry out a survey.

20s Plenty

Cllr Cooper asked if the built up areas are reduced to 20mph could the 40mph limits be reduced to 30mph.

RESOLUTIONS: CLLR COOPER PROPOSED THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL WRITE TO CORNWALL COUNCIL TO CONFIRM THAT THEY ARE VERY SUPPORTIVE OF 20 MPH LIMITS IN BUILT UP AREAS AND THE 20S PLENTY CAMPAIGN, AND REDUCE SPEED ON OTHER ROADS SUCH AS THE KING HARRY FERRY ROAD, WHERE THE SPEED LIMIT SHOULD BE REDUCED FROM 40MPH TO 30MPH, SECONDED BY CLLR LIGHTFOOT, CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

There were ongoing problems in Devoran with large vehicles clipping the verges at the bottom of the S bend and also damaging verges on the Tram Road near to Tallacks Creek.

16. CONNECT NEWSLETTER

The Council agreed the content of the newsletter with the addition of a survey about the bypass.

17. YOUR CHOICE FUNDING

The Clerk asked the Council if they wished to continue with the Your Choice funding scheme and if so they did they wish to make any alterations to the criteria. All agreed for the scheme to continue in its current format.

18. A MONUMENTAL IMPROVEMENT CORNWALL AONB PROJECT

It was agreed to resend the letter of support to the AONB to support their funding bid for this project which included Roundwood Quay.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10pm.