

**MEETING NO.**

**Minutes of the FEOCK PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2019 at 6.30pm  
at the Parish Council Office, The Old Market Hall, Market Street, Devoran**

Present:   **WARDS**       **CARNON DOWNS**       **DEVORAN**       **FEOCK**  
                          R Brickell                   A Allen                   C Blake  
                          C Kemp                     B Thomas  
                          P Allen                     S Parker  
                          P Lightfoot               A Allen  
                          K Gason

In attendance:       Cornwall Councillor Martyn Alvey  
                          Debra Roberts, Parish Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer

CHAIRMAN:           Councillor Lightfoot

**1. INTRODUCTION BY CHAIRMAN**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**2. APOLOGIES**

Apologies had been received from Cllrs Steele, Hambly-Staite, Andrew and Freeman.

**3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 4<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2019**

**RESOLUTION: CLLR PARKER PROPOSED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 4<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2019 AS CIRCULATED BY THE CLERK BE SIGNED BY THE CHAIRMAN AS A TRUE AND ACCURATE RECORD OF THE MEETING WITH ONE AMENDMENT BEING THE CHANGE TO CLLR P ALLEN FROM CLLR A ALLEN IN RELATION TO THE OYSTERS ITEM, THIS WAS SECONDED BY CLLR KEMP AND WAS CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY THE MEETING.**

**4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There were no questions raised.

**6. CLERKS UPDATE ON MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**

The Clerk gave the following update.

The green energy contracts were now all arranged and a smart meter being installed in the office. Clothes bank – Cllr Pauline Giles is supplying the phone number for the gentleman who installs and empties the clothes banks. As the office is in a conservation area, the Clerk had checked planning requirements, and it had been confirmed that the bank could be installed under permitted development rights, however if we wished to erect any screening then this would require planning permission.

The Clerk had ordered 2 bike racks to be installed at the Parish Council Office and a new rubbish bin had been sourced for Penpol, the location to be agreed with Cllr A Allen.

**7. MATTERS FOR REPORT FROM ATTENDING AT MEETINGS AND OUTSIDE BODIES**

There were no matters for report.

## **8. CURRENT REPORTS**

### **Cornwall Council**

Cllr Alvey gave the following report.

The Localism Conference was held recently and it was very heartening to hear the enthusiasm from Town and Parish Councils for doing things to reduce the effect of climate change in their areas.

The award for the contract for rubbish and recycling has been delayed due to costs, new quotations were sought on a new contract which was for general rubbish fortnightly, and recycling and food waste to be collected weekly. However, as a result of the amendments to the contract the recycling and general rubbish will now only be collected fortnightly (in a wheely bin but if not enough room a seagull proof sack will be provided), and food waste will to be collected weekly. The Council will be removing the recycling bins they have put in place in Council land such as car parks, mainly due to abuse of the use of the bins by businesses who should be paying for their recycling to be collected and instead this is coming out of the Council tax paid by residents. This will not affect supermarket recycling bins. The incinerator is up and running again and all black bag waste will continue to go to the incinerator. The Feock and Playing Place division continue to be the top recyclers in Cornwall.

He had attended the Community Network Meeting where the highways bid was discussed and our bid for a feasibility study to look at improved cycle access from Devoran to Truro was approved in principle and would go to the next stage of being costed and then back to the Panel again for further consideration.

He had attended the launch today of the Tour of Britain and it was confirmed that the route will go from Falmouth to Truro and where possible this will go up through the Trafalgar Way, through Perranwell and Carnon Downs. The exact route was yet to be confirmed as road surfaces, distance etc. needed to be checked to ensure they were suitable and met the criteria for the high level race. The Carnon Downs Cold Calling Zone had been heavily publicised on TV and the radio which was excellent and signs had now been displayed in the area.

He had received an update today on CIL, Parish and Town Councils will be paid the any CIL money in two instalments, one in April and one in October. CIL becomes payable 60 days after the commencement certificate is issued. Any spending of CIL money needs to be accounted for separately by Councils in their accounts.

### **Police Report**

Total of x 5 crimes reported

Carnon Downs x 0 crimes

Feock x 3 crimes

Elm Grove x 1 burglary

Elm Grove x 1 drugs

Parking area Loe Beach x 1 criminal damage and arson

Devoran x 2 crimes

Near to recreation area x 1 violence and sexual offences

Devoran Lane x 1 violence and sexual offences

## **9. LOCAL WARD REPORTS**

### **Feock ward**

Cllr Blake said that the drains need clearing in most of Feock village, by St Feock Church, by the Church car park and on the one way system. He asked if the sides of the road could also be cleared of leaves

as this was pushing walkers out into the road and this was very hazardous. The Clerk would report this.

Cllr Blake said that a very old Beech tree has been taken down under a 'dead and dangerous' tree application. People are very cross about this happening as they did not feel it was diseased and it was an important tree in the area. People are annoyed with the Parish Council for allowing this to happen even though the Parish Council were not consulted or notified about this application as it was not published on the online Planning website due to it being a dead and dying tree which is processed under a 5 day application as an emergency felling.

At the request of the Parish Council, Cllr Alvey has investigated how this application was processed due to the number of questions being asked of them about this. A Cornwall Council Arborist assessed the tree and said that there was disease in the upper part of the tree and in his view it was a danger due to the proximity to the neighbouring property, this was then carried out under an emergency felling and the Parish Council would not be consulted as this was on the basis of a clear and present risk and this risk was such that work could not be delayed whilst consultation was carried out with neighbours or the Parish Council. It was felt that a summary of the process followed for dead and dying tree applications should be included in a future copy of the Connect newsletter.

Cllr Alvey suggested that if we receive a planning application and have concerns about a tree that is not protected it would be sensible to apply for a TPO to be put on the tree rather than just make this comment on the application.

**RESOLUTION: CLLR P ALLEN PROPOSED THAT THE PLANNING COMMITTEE DEVISE A PROCESS WHERE EVERY PLANNING APPLICATION IS ASSESSED FOR IMPORTANT TREES ON THE SITE AND CONSIDERATION IF THEY ARE WORTHY OF TPO PROTECTION, SECONDED BY CLLR BRICKELL AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Cllr A Allen said the hedges on the top half of Harris Hill still had not been cut back and this was forcing traffic and cyclists out into the middle of the road.

#### **Devoran ward**

There were no issues to raise in Devoran.

#### **Carnon Downs ward**

Cllr Kemp thanked the Carnon Downs Community Association for their hard work in putting up the Christmas Lights display and for putting on a nice community evening on Saturday despite the rain. The Chairman had switched on the Christmas Tree lights. A warning had been put out by the Police on social media as there had been a spate of incidents in Carnon Downs of people have their door handles tried late at night, we had also shared this information.

### **10. FINANCIAL SUMMARY & ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

The Clerk reported that the outgoings since the last meeting totalled £8,530.51, this included maintenance to the footpaths and clearing of fallen trees, website annual fee, new mats for the Community Library and two cycle stands. The Clerk circulated to all present the list of accounts for payment this month.

**RESOLUTION: CLLR THOMAS PROPOSED THE ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT BE APPROVED AND SIGNED BY THE CHAIRMAN, SECONDED BY CLLR P ALLEN AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The Clerk advised that a bank reconciliation had been carried out and all was in order, the bank balances matched the balances on the electronic banking system.

A Business plan meeting had been held, the Clerk clarified that this was an informal brainstorming meeting to look at ideas for future projects and not a formal decision making meeting, therefore any projects suggested still needed to be agreed by full Council by way of a resolution.

It was agreed for the Finance & General Purposes Committee to review the Business Plan projects and allocate a budget to the relevant Committee for them to then cost up their projects.

### **Ethical banking**

Cllr P Allen felt we should be investing our money into organisations who invest in saving the planet. We would need to consider the financial implications of this. The Finance & General Purposes Committee would look at this at their next meeting.

### **11. WELLBEING PROJECT REPORT**

Cllr Blake reported that the HAIRE EU project application had been successful and we were one of the partners in this University of Exeter led project. We were now into the initiation phase, the next work for us early in the new year would be to recruit volunteers (7 to 10) to carry out Guided Conversations which would inform the project, this would take around 3 months to complete the target of 75 interviews. Stakeholders would be identified and contacted in the next couple of months. A full time Project Officer would be employed from May 2020 together with an Administration Assistant. Cllr P Allen said we should congratulate Cllr Hambly-Staite on the work he has put into this project to ensure the bid was successful.

The Clerk gave the latest update from Sharon Nettleton, Community Navigator on Community Connect and would circulate this to all by email.

### **12. CLIMATE EMERGENCY PROJECT UPDATE**

Cllr P Allen has met with a consultant regarding the ground source heat pump system to be installed at Trelissick. Tests would be carried out to see if the Parish Office building would be suitable for a heat pump system.

The clerk advised that funding was available from the National Lottery under a Climate Fund, expressions of interest needed to be made by 18<sup>th</sup> December after which if we were successful in being selected to go forward to the next stage we would be notified.

The expression of interest would include investigations into ground source heat pump and community energy, a Part Time Project Officer to manage the project, electric car charging points in every village, special newsletter updates twice yearly, events to share good practice and information, revision to the Neighbourhood Plan to include Climate Change policies.

We would be applying to the Woodland Trust in the near future for trees to plant at the community woodland at the Carnon Valley.

### **13. ACCESS & AMENITIES COMMITTEE REPORT**

Cllr P Allen said the minutes would be circulated shortly. Our contractor is going to do some cutting back of hedges at our Playing Fields soon, this would include removal of some dead Elms at Retallack Playing Field and tidying of the hedges in Pengelly Meadows.

#### **14. HIGHWAYS ISSUES**

The Clerk had circulated to all the feasibility study on improvements to Old Carnon Hill and asked the Council to consider approving the cost of the fees to now move to the next stage which was public consultation.

**RESOLUTION: CLLR P ALLEN PROPOSED THAT £20,230 BE AGREED TO COVER THE FEES FOR THE PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON OLD CARNON HILL AND BISSOE ROAD FOOTWAY AND PEDESTRIAN IMPROVEMENTS, SECONDED BY CLLR BRICKELL AND CARRIED.**

There were no further developments on the parking issues at Penelewey or Restronguet Point.

There were still some flooding issues at the bottom of Old Carnon Hill, although this was much improved. We had been advised by Highways that the EA would shortly be carrying out some work to the river which should alleviate the flooding on the road.

It was hoped that the additional posts to mount the flashing speed VAS sign on would be funded by the Community Network budget and we were waiting a response on this.

There was flooding from drain on the Carnon Downs bypass which is caused by a collapsed drain, this will be repaired by Cormac shortly.

Flooding on Greenbank Road continued to be very bad during periods of heavy rain as drainage was poor, this had been reported to Highways who were looking at the issue.

The issue of making the Old Tram Road access only had been suggested to Cornwall Council and they said this was very unlikely to be approved, it was unlikely to be supported by the Police and very difficult to enforce.

#### **15. PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT**

The Clerk circulated a report from the Assistant Clerk covering the last few months of planning applications which set out the various types and numbers of applications received, number of appeals and applications called into Central Planning Committee, this was summarised below.

A total of 99 applications have been received requiring consultee comment since 1st April 2019 comprising:

- 34 x Householder development
- 6 x Householder development to a Listed Building
- 38 x Trees
- 4 x Conversions/Change of Use
- 6 x Amendments to previous approvals
- 3 x Replacement dwelling
- 4 x Individual new dwelling (garden development etc)
- 1 x Multiple dwellings sites
- 2 x Applications relating to a business
- 1 x Other applications

71 of these applications have been decided by Cornwall Council. Determined as follows:

- 61 x Approved
- 1 x Refused
- 2 x Withdrawn

6 x Decided not to TPO (trees in the Conservation Area)  
1 x Not acceptable as an amendment

The Chairman thanked all Councillors who sit on the Planning Committee as it is a very busy committee and asked that it be minuted that they were very well supported by the Assistant Clerk and could not function as well without her support, this was agreed by everyone present.

Cllr Kemp said that the Planning Committee were also very grateful to Cllr Alvey for all his support.

#### **16. YOUR CHOICE FUNDING 2020/21**

The Clerk had circulated the current funding criteria for review as it had been commented that the current voting system could be weighted in favour of larger organisations who may have more members to vote for them and make it very difficult for much smaller groups who could be doing really good work but did not have so many members to support them in the vote. There was a discussion regarding various ways that the voting could be carried out to make it fairer on all groups.

**RESOLUTION: THE CHAIRMAN PROPOSED THAT THE WIDER PUBLIC VOTING ELEMENT IS REMOVED, EACH GROUP ATTENDING WOULD HAVE ONE VOTE AND WOULD RANK THE APPLICATIONS AS PER PREVIOUS YEARS, THE PARISH COUNCILLORS WOULD ALSO HAVE ONE VOTE EACH AND RANK THE APPLICATIONS, THE PARISH COUNCIL WOULD HAVE THE FINAL DECISION ON HOW THE FUNDING WAS SPLIT BETWEEN GROUPS, SECONDED BY CLLR THOMAS AND CARRIED.**

#### **17. CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE KING HARRY FERRY**

The Chairman read out the correspondence from the King Harry Ferry regarding potential charges for use of the river by the ferry from Cornwall Council. A Harbour Revision Order is being submitted to combine the harbour authorities in Cornwall and their budgets and this charging element has been included.

**RESOLUTION: CLLR P ALLEN PROPOSED THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL SUPPORT THE KING HARRY FERRY COMPANY AS THE FERRY IS A VERY IMPORTANT METHOD OF TRANSPORT, REDUCES VEHICLE MILES AND THEREFORE HELPS THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY AND DID NOT WISH ANY INCREASED COSTS TO BE PASSED ON TO PASSENGERS, SECONDED BY CLLR KEMP AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

#### **18. REQUEST TO USE POINT GREEN FOR CAR PARKING**

A request had been received to use Point Green for car parking for a wedding being held on Point Quay in May 2020.

**RESOLUTION: CLLR THOMAS PROPOSED THIS BE AUTHORISED ON THE BASIS THAT THE NECESSARY INSURANCES WERE IN PLACE FOR THE EVENT AND THAT EVERYTHING SHOULD BE DONE TO MINIMISE DAMAGE TO THE GRASS AND GREEN, SECONDED BY CLLR A ALLEN AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9pm.