

MEETING No.1346

**Minutes of the meeting of Feock Parish Council's Access & Amenities Committee held on
Tuesday 21st May 2024 at 6.30pm
at the Parish Council Office, Market Street, Devoran TR3 6QA**

Members present: Cllr Anne Allen, Devoran Ward
Cllr Rick Bowers, Feock Ward
Cllr Richard Brickell, Feock Downs Ward
Cllr Phil Allen, Carnon Downs Ward
Cllr Jan Allen, Carnon Downs Ward
Cllr Keith Hambly-Staite, Feock Ward

In attendance: Debbie Searle, Assistant Parish Clerk
Cathy Whitmore, MyFeock Information & Wellbeing Adviser

Public present: None

1. ELECTION OF COMMITTEE CHAIR

Cllr Hambly-Staite opened the meeting and asked for nominations for Chair of the committee.

RESOLUTION: Cllr Brickell nominated Cllr A Allen as Chair of the Access & Amenities Committee for the year 2024/25. This was seconded by Cllr J Allen and unanimously carried.

2. ELECTION OF COMMITTEE VICE CHAR

The Chair asked for nominations for Vice Chair of the committee.

RESOLUTION: Cllr J Allen nominated Cllr Bowers as Vice Chair of the Access & Amenities Committee for the year 2024/25. This was seconded by Cllr Brickell and unanimously carried.

3. INTRODUCTION BY CHAIRMAN

The Chair thanked Cllr Hambly-Staite for his service, over the last few years, as the committee Chair and how pleased she was that he would be continuing as a member of the committee and co-lead, with Cllr P Allen, on the Active Feock Project.

4. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Johnson.

5. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLUTION: Cllr P Allen proposed the minutes of the Access & Amenities Committee meeting held on 23rd April 2024 as a true record of the meeting and be signed by the Chair. This was seconded by Cllr Bowers and carried by the meeting.

6. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

7. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no members of the public present.

8. CARNON GATE ROUNDABOUT

It was discussed that Cllr P Allen and Cllr Bowers would meet with Peter Williams and Ewen Abram-Moore regarding the possible sponsorship of the roundabout. A date to be arranged as soon as Councillors could advise of availability. It was noted that the closure of the lanes to allow access to the roundabout was for 3 nights from 30th September and agreements would need to be in place by then. It was confirmed that the Parish Clerk (PC) had emailed the Clerk of Helston Town Council to ask for any information they may have on the sponsoring of roundabouts from Highways and was awaiting a reply.

9. HEALTH & WELLBEING

Cathy Whitmore (CW), MyFeock Information & Wellbeing Adviser, provided the following report which had been circulated with the agenda:

Volunteer Cornwall Community

Maker New post created to support communities access funding through Community Hubs and the volunteering services of Volunteer Cornwall. Jeremy Rowe commenced his role in April covering Truro and Falmouth areas. Jeremy was most complimentary of our MyFeock website and how much information is available, including the many clubs and societies advertising on our 'What's On' guide. Jeremy will attend our next Repair Café if you wish to meet him on 28th May.

- We will be receiving an invitation to the next Community Hub Roadshow event in the Autumn. There are discussions around a possible Devoran Community Hub being established; venue currently not known.*
- Andy Brelsford from Volunteer Cornwall is setting up initial discussions around how they might assist a community-based transport scheme, such as our own. It is possible there might be a working group established to look at this; Jeremy has asked if it is something we would be interested taking part in.*
- Jeremy has also made enquiries about us using Cornwall Council's Safeguarding Team to provide the administration for our DBS check on our volunteer drivers. The cost would be £17.50 per check. (Previously £45 through Age UK's Driver Training Course). Our Transport Team of Drivers have requested in-house training for new recruits, as previously raised at the Access & Amenities Committee Meeting 24th October 2023.*

Repair Café saves the day!

Derek Wakeford, electrical/electronic skilled repairer, discovered damaged wiring on a 1960s brass lamp which, if tested by the owner at home, would have resulted in electrocution. A post will feature on MyFeock Wellbeing Facebook when the next session is advertised, and poster will be handed out at the next Repair Café 28th May.

Community Liaison

Chairman Richard Brickell and I attended the 100th Anniversary Celebration for Devoran Village Hall on Saturday 27th April to meet parishioners, guests and visitors to the exhibition and sharing tea party. The purpose was to raise the profile of the Feock Parish Council as a supportive organisation highlighting our Feock Trails Local Parish Walks and the 'What's On' guide with a view to recruit new councillors. Richard, in his role as FPC Chairman, was invited to give a welcome speech, which he did in good spirit with an appropriate, humorous and well received anecdote.

Discussion followed. Cllr Bowers questioned how the new 'in-house' training would work. CW advised that they would meet with her and then buddy-up with one of the existing drivers.

10. SMALL GRANTS

Applications for Small Grants had been received from Devoran Explorers and Sunbeams Stay and Play and members reviewed the application forms and discussion followed. The Chair stated that Devoran Explorers were seeking the funding for a tent and Sunbeams Stay and Play wished to purchase play equipment comprising a mud kitchen and sand and water table. Cllr P Allen felt that the requests were inline with the Parish Council's criteria for providing support. Cllr J Allen stated she had experience with the Sunbeams and would be happy to support them and also that the Scouts were excellent and should also be supported. CW confirmed that she had checked the applications against the Council's criteria and guidance and was satisfied that they fitted. Cllr Bowers felt that

it would be nice if there was the opportunity to advertise the Parish Council's donation to the groups. Discussion followed which included confirmation that it would be reported in the Connect Newsletter and agreement that groups should be asked to acknowledge the support of Feock Parish Council in their publicity material and an invitation should be given to attend a future meeting to give details of how the funding has been spent.

RESOLUTION: Cllr Hambly-Staite proposed that a small grant of £200 be awarded to both Devoran Explorers and Sunbeams Stay and Play and that they be asked to acknowledge the Parish Council's support in their publicity material and attend a future meeting. This was seconded by Cllr J Allen and carried unanimously.

11. TRAM ROAD FIELD

Cllr Hambly-Staite reported that the ownership of the field along the Tram Road had reached exchange but not completion. A condition for completion of the contract was for a plaque, highlighting the name of the field and its origins, together with seating. He confirmed that the family had requested it be called Dyson's Field and the wording for the sign had been agreed. He gave details of a Bioblitz held in the field, led by Edwin Lanyon and attended by Professor ffrench-Constant, and also advised that the trees are growing well and the new pedestrian gate which is wheelchair friendly has been installed. Some of the chippings from Cornwall Council, obtained by Cllr Brickell, have been used to give better access. The sign will be adjacent to a granite pillar so will be highly visible and another sign giving dos and don'ts will be positioned within the gate. Discussion followed regarding the funding for the benches and the application made to SWW for funding. Cllr Hambly-Staite stated that the field needed to be cut and raked in June and gave information relating to the increased number of ticks in the area. Discussion continued regarding other possible avenues for obtaining funding for the benches, should the funding from SWW not be awarded, this included a request to Cllr Alvey for funding from his Community Chest fund and also included Cllr P Allen suggesting the use of one of the Council's £200 small grants. Cllr Brickell stated that residents had mentioned to him that they had never seen anyone using the picnic seating in Pengelly Meadows and they would appreciate having a bench there instead which would be easier for older people to use. Discussion followed in which the Chair questioned where the picnic seating could be positioned in Dyson's field due to the slope and in response Cllr Hambly-Staite stated that he would ask Edwin Lanyon.

RESOLUTION: Cllr P Allen proposed that the committee recommend to the full Parish Council that a request is made to Cllr Alvey to provide funding for some of the benches through his Community Chest and that further funding is agreed at the meeting to allow the benches to be purchased and sited by July. This was seconded by Cllr Bowers and carried unanimously.

The Chair asked Cllr Bowers if any progress had been made with invasive species along the Tram Road. Cllr Bowers advised that he had had an informal meeting with Leah Thomas who is a volunteer for Cormac and that she is willing to supervise the volunteer groups. She isn't keen on removing the invasive species during the nesting season, so this is something which may be started in September/October but she is willing to supervise the work to the footpath by Penpol Creek and is happy to assist with laying aggregate and he is waiting to hear back from Penny Hodgson who would be supplying the materials. The Chair asked who would be in the working group and Cllr Bowers advised that it may be the Feock Eco group and that Professor Richard ffrench-Constant will supervise them when undertaking the removal of the invasive species.

The Chair reported that the passing place on the Tram Road is being used as a parking place and advised that Passing Place Only signs had been made and needed to be put up.

ACTION: The Clerk to ask the Parish Council's contractor to put up the Passing Place Only signs along the Tram Road.

Discussion followed, instigated by Cllr Brickell, regarding parking for an opening event for the field.

ACTION: The Clerk to add parking for the Tram field opening event to the agenda for the full PC meeting on 10th June.

Discussion followed, instigated by Cllr P Allen, regarding the cutting of the Tram Road hedges and informing the residents.

ACTION: In September a leaflet would be agreed to send to residents living along the Tram Road regarding the cutting of the Tram Road hedges and other issues.

Discussion followed, instigated by Cllr Bowers, about the registering of the fundus.

ACTION: To ask the Clerk for an update on the registering of fundus at Restronguet Creek and for it to be placed on a future meeting agenda.

Cllr Brickell stated that Sycamores are becoming a big problem as they grow so quickly and overhang the road and questioned if there were many on the Tram. Cllr P Allen advised that there were some sycamores, but they were not a major problem.

12. ACTIVE FEOCK PROJECT

Cllr Hambly-Staite and Cllr P Allen reported that a meeting was scheduled for next week with the Project Consultant to discuss the responses to questionnaires. Cllr Hambly-Staite advised that he had met with Cllr Stephen Warman from Kea Parish Council who has written an environmental strategy document for his council which he considers is the baseline from which projects can be drawn. Cllr Hambly-Staite felt that there was a possibility of working with neighbouring parishes on projects in the future. He also advised that he had suggested regular reports be sent to residents so that they are regularly reminded of what is happening. Cllr A Allen queried that the feasibility study needed to be received in order to apply for further funding and discussion followed regarding types and availability of funding. It was discussed that a public meeting would be held to present the outcome of the study and Cllr Hambly-Staite confirmed that he believed the Project Consultant would be doing this.

13. CLERKS REPORT

The Assistant Clerk reported on actions from the previous meeting:

PROMOTION OF COUNCIL FACILITIES AND SERVICES

ACTION: Cllr Brickell proposed, seconded by Cllr Griffiths, that a banner is costed as promotional material, this was carried by the meeting.

The Parish Clerk had drafted a banner and the cost to have printed via eBay is £50 from a company called Display Essentials. It is 85cm x 200cm which is the same size as the HAIRE one in the office.

RESOLUTION: Cllr Brickell proposed that the A&A committee recommend to full Council the purchase of the banner as drafted. This was seconded by Cllr J Allen and carried by the meeting with one abstention (KHS).

Cllr P Allen reported that all the Cherry trees planted along the bus lane had been adopted and he will draft the sign to be sited with them.

MOBILE SPEED SENSOR EQUIPMENT

ACTION: The Assistant Clerk to establish which Parish Contractors have the Chapter 8 certificate for working next to the highway.

Established that TW does not have the qualification but would be happy to undertake the training, DW also does not have the qualification but in previous employment undertook regular training for working by the highway. EAM has confirmed he does have Chapter 8. The Clerk has emailed Notter Bridge Training centre to establish any opportunities for our contractors undertaking the Chapter 8 training with them.

Cllr Bowers provided information on research into the effectiveness of the speed sensor signs (studies from Canada and United States) showing a lot of positive effectiveness of moving the signs around. He offered to provide further information to members.

ACTION: Cllr Bowers to circulate information to members.

PARISH TRAVEL PROMOTION

ACTION: It was agreed that the Parish Council approach Cllr Martyn Alvey to see if he would set up a meeting with Cornwall Council to discuss bus use and travel in the Parish. We would also make enquires with the Feock community bus organisers to see if they were able to assist. Cllr Griffiths to draft a flyer for consideration.

A meeting has been confirmed for 12.00 on Thursday 30th May, Cllr Anne Allen and Cllr Hambly-Staite will be attending with Cllr Alvey to meet with Miriam Binsztok and Gemma Hall (Cornwall Council). Cllr Hambly-Staite suggested that information should be sought from Trelissick regarding their arrangements for participation in Go Cornwall.

Cllr Anne Allen gave details of the current use of the Feock minibus and confirmed that she will speak to Nina Davey regarding possible use of the community bus.

Cllr Griffith's proposed flyer was viewed and discussed. Cllr A Allen suggested that a survey could be designed to be included within the next Connect newsletter to either complete online or post back to the office. Cllr Brickell advised that the IT Club in Carnon Downs had been teaching members how to use the online payment system for car parking. Cllr J Allen understood that Cornwall Council carparks had to be able to take cash or card.

TRAM WALK

ACTIONS: Cllr Bowers will set up a volunteer group to tackle invasive species and members agreed to read the verge guide before the next meeting. The Assistant Clerk to chase up Cornwall Council regarding the progress of the TPO for the Tram Road.

The Planning Officer has confirmed that this TPO request (PA21/01824/PREAPP) is ongoing, and he has chased the relevant officers.

HIGHWAYS

ACTION: The Assistant Clerk to report the road issue and the cement slurry to Cornwall Highways.

Reported to Cornwall Highways, response circulated to Councillors 08.05.24.

RISK ASSESSMENTS

ACTION: The revised risk assessment sheet to be considered at the next meeting.

Cllr Bower's revised assessment sheet had been circulated with the agenda for discussion and agreement under meeting agenda item no.17.

14. HIGHWAY

Cllr J Allen advised that a new pothole had already appeared where the road had been repaired and she would report it to Cornwall council using their online reporting system.

Cllr A Allen advised that a resident had been in contact who was very concerned about the bottom verge at Trolver Hill and she and Cllr Bowers would be meeting with them to establish the issue.

Cllr Hambly-Staite raised the issue of road closures in Feock. His concern was that money is being wasted due to the lack of co-ordination between Cormac and Utilities companies. Members agreed by majority that it was not the Parish Council's responsibility to manage road works and residents should be advised to contact Cornwall Council.

15. PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

Cllr Bowers advised that he and Cllr A Allen had walked footpath 46, he wasn't aware of any further incidents of cars trying to force their way through and google no longer showed a way of getting through. Cllr A Allen suggested that a 'no through road' sign should be sited there. They confirmed that there didn't appear to be any cutting of the hedges but the use of the tractor to pull cars out could have pushed back the hedges.

ACTION: Cllr P Allen will raise the issue with Viv Bidgood at the scheduled Highways meeting.

Cllr Bowers advised that he and Cllr P Allen had visited Carnon Yard and an action was to meet with our contractor to discuss how the footpath could be adapted to make it more suitable for someone who is less able on their feet. Cllr Bowers also advised that they had decided to put labels on the boats at Carnon Yard which is the next step in trying to tidy up the area. Cllr P Allen stated that he had spare notices and Cllr Bowers confirmed that he would be happy to fasten it on the boat.

ACTION: Cllr Bowers to advise of his availability and meeting to then be scheduled with Cllr Bowers, Cllr P Allen and David Woolcock.

16. LAND & PLAYING FIELDS

Cllr J Allen expressed concern at the cutting that had occurred at Point Orchard and discussion followed. Cllr Hambly-Staite wished to advise that Edwin Lanyon had volunteered to carry out some pruning of the trees and Cllr P Allen would raise this at the next meeting of the association.

Cllr P Allen reminded members that he had recently written to the Bissoe Woodland sub-committee, the clerk for the committee is the Clerk to Kea Parish Council, however the new Clerk has not been advised of her duties of clerking the sub-committee. The sub-committee is comprised of Feock, Kea and Chacewater Council members. He reported that he has started cutting out on the land and the trees are growing well, there are no issues with invasive species and there is no need to meet until the Autumn when it would be expected that more whips would be available from the Woodland Trust. He felt that we needed to be cognisant of the management of the land. He questioned if membership of the committee needed to be re-affirmed and discussion followed.

ACTION: Bissoe Woodland Sub-committee to be included on the agenda for the full Parish Council meeting in June.

17. RISK ASSESSMENTS

Cllr Bowers explained that the form presented used Cormac's risk assessment grading and discussion followed. Cllr P Allen stated that he was satisfied that the revised form concentrated on Environmental issues and Health & Safety however when members inspect the Parish's land they would also need to look at other elements such as reputational risk, boundaries and other matters.

RESOLUTION: Cllr J Allen proposed that the new form be used for risk assessments. This was seconded by Cllr Bowers and carried by the meeting.

18. DATES OF FUTURE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Discussion took place regarding the most suitable day for committee meetings. It was agreed that a Monday (the Monday following the full Parish Council meeting each month) would suit the majority of members. It was agreed that this would be discussed with the Clerk and if agreed the next meeting date would be Monday 17th June 2024.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.00pm