

MEETING NO. 1191

Minutes of the FEOCK PARISH COUNCIL ACCESS & AMENITIES COMMITTEE MEETING held on Thursday 23rd November 2017 at the Parish Council Office, Devoran at 6.30pm

WARDS	CARNON DOWNS	DEVORAN	FEOCK
	P Allen	B Thomas	K Hambly-Staite
	R Brickell	S Parker (in part)	C Blake
			H Freeman (in part)

In attendance: Debra Roberts, Parish Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer
4 members of the public.

CHAIRMAN: Councillor Allen

1. INTRODUCTION

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Cllrs Johnson and Andrew.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 18TH OCTOBER 2017

RESOLUTION: CLLR BLAKE PROPOSED THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 18TH OCTOBER 2017 BE APPROVED AND SIGNED BY THE CHAIRMAN, SECONDED BY CLLR THOMAS AND CARRIED BY THE MEETING.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were 4 members of the public present who wished to speak on the item relating to Feock Sports for All.

6. CLERKS REPORT ON ITEMS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Living Churchyard scheme

The clerk has contacted Devoran & St Feock Churches to find out if they are part of the Living Churchyard scheme. Devoran confirmed that they are and I am still awaiting a reply from St Feock. Carol Simpson from Devoran came to see me as she was involved with setting up the Living Churchyard scheme and has given a contact for the scheme. Cllr Hambly-Staite said that St Feock Church did have wilder areas but there also needed to be sensitivity to the feelings of relatives of the recently deceased.

Noticeboard for Porthgwidden bus shelter

The Clerk queried with Cllr Blake the type of board he was suggesting, would it need to be enclosed/lockable? Cllr Blake said that a cork board would be fine as notices could be laminated, it was purely to stop people pinning notices on the bench. The Clerk would find a suitable cork noticeboard.

Mobile phone coverage

The Clerk has been in touch with Superfast Cornwall and Cornwall Council and has been advised that unfortunately neither have any influence on the mobile phone network providers regarding the upgrading of the signal. It was suggested to contact the mobile phone operators directly to find out about any proposed improvements. Cllr Hambly-Staite said that the issue of mobile phone reception was being put on the agenda of the Community Network Panel meeting in the new year.

Drains

The Clerk has reported the drainage issue at Fourturnings and by St Feock Church Hall to Cornwall Council and requested that the roads at Fourturnings and Feock Churchtown are swept of leaves by Biffa. The Clerk had also requested that Biffa and Cormac liaise to ensure the leaves were swept before the drains were cleaned to avoid the existing leaves being washed down into the drains after they had been cleaned.

Land Registry and foreshore ownership

The Clerk has sent the letter agreed by the Committee at the last meeting, Land Registry and been in contact following receipt of the letter and spoken to Cllr Allen, this item would be discussed later in the meeting.

7. FEOCK SPORTS FOR ALL GROUP PRESENTATION ON RETALLACK FIELD PROPOSAL

Cllr Allen said that no decision would be made this evening, this was purely for the Councillors to ask questions to try to understand the proposal in more details.

RESOLUTION: CLLR HAMBLY-STAI TE PROPOSED THAT STANDING ORDERS BE SUSPENDED TO ENABLE DISCUSSION OF THE ITEM WITH THOSE PRESENTING, SECONDED BY CLLR THOMAS AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Roger Hyde said that since the last Council meeting when they initially approached the Parish Council they had looked at how to carry out a public consultation and now had a better idea of the cost of the project.

The initial idea was to provide tennis courts but as the project had developed and comments from the community had been considered, the project had changed to a more general sports facility which would be suitable for all members of the community and would not be a private club - it would open to all. They hoped that people from all over Feock parish would come and use any facilities provided. They would like to provide a village meeting place at the park.

The parking would be for around 8 to 10 vehicles. The children's play area would stay in roughly the same area but the existing equipment may need to be moved or new equipment installed. The zip wire would need to be moved down from the top of the field to the play equipment area. They would like to provide a simple basic open shelter, not a pavilion, but somewhere to shelter from the rain and a toilet/s but can see that this may not be straightforward due to maintenance issues. A locked area in the shelter to contain water supply, power and drainage would be useful to enable events such as fetes to be run on the field.

They would like to provide a pathway which could be used for children to cycle on, for wheelchairs and pushchairs. The football pitch area would have part taken off it to make room

for a multi-use court which now may include a hockey pitch. The other court would go where the zipwire currently is and also outdoor gym equipment in the top triangle of the field.

There were already some trees on the boundary hedge near to the end of the field where the court fencing would be and this would help to screen the fencing, there would be some fencing visible to the rest of the field which they hoped to help to camouflage with landscaping and planting. They felt this issue would come up in consultation with the public and hoped that a solution could be found. The cost plan came out at £210K to £220K, this did not include all costs of the project, such as installation of electric or water. Sport England would match fund up to £160K, SITA also had a funding scheme that the group would be eligible to apply for.

As hockey had been suggested to be incorporated the group had tried to include this. Tennis and netball were fixed court sizes, hockey and football were more fluid. Suggested to combine hockey and football be played on one pitch and a basketball hoop be put up but not with a full basketball court.

Cllr Allen asked if any groups had expressed an interest in using the facility. The group felt that the type of sports and groups who may use the facility would be established at the public consultation and hoped that groups may come forward at that stage.

The surface would be a drainable surface that would be suitable for all sports, the two courts would be side by side without any fence between them but with a perimeter fence all the way around the boundary of the two courts to keep the balls in.

Cllr Blake felt it was a good scheme that would be suitable for all ages.

Cllr Hambly-Staite said he was involved with the health and wellbeing project which aimed to bring people together and help people who were isolated. He felt this scheme fitted with the health and wellbeing agenda and this may open up further funding for the group.

Cllr Allen asked the group to expand on the maintenance plans for the new equipment. There would need to be an accessible toilet and they had not yet established how many toilets would be required. It would be an open shelter, not a pavilion. The Clerk confirmed that the Parish Council currently maintains the grass, hedges and play equipment. The group felt that a management committee would manage the new facilities and they would set up working parties to carry out maintenance or would ask groups who use the facilities to pay towards maintenance if they could not give their time. It was agreed that daily cleaning of the toilets would be required and that fundraising would be carried out to fund this. Ideally they would like to make it a green and sustainable building but this was costly and not straight forward. They did not wish to light the shelter or the field it to avoid light pollution.

Cllr Thomas commented that if the project went ahead he would like to see local contractors used for the work wherever possible.

Cllr Allen asked that answers were given to the specific points raised in the Planning Pre-Application advice letter and let the Parish Council have their answers to these points.

The Clerk advised that there was a covenant on the field which currently precluded any development on the field that required planning permission.

The group commented that they felt they could not carry out further public consultation with residents until they had a positive response from the Parish Council. The Parish Council said they had to be sure that there was a need for these improved facilities and that they would be used.

Cllr Allen asked that the item be put on the January Full Parish Council meeting so that the Council could discuss, if in principle, they agreed that improved facilities were required for the Retallack Field and the proposal for these improvements should be progressed further, subject to understanding the views of the village and residents needs.

Cllr Allen thanked the group for coming along and presenting their ideas.

8. F.A.S.T. PROJECT & HIGHWAYS PROJECTS UPDATES

The Clerk advised that Cllr MacDonald had met with Cormac for an update on the Carnon Downs and Devoran highways projects. It was likely that the 20mph zone for Devoran would now be put in place in February 2018 and consultation the works for Carnon Downs would start after Christmas.

The Clerk has contacted the supplier of the planters to Truro City Council and had obtained a price, however these were plastic planters not metal which we felt would stand up to potential vehicular damage. The Clerk would find out from Truro City Parks Department if their plastic planters were located near to highways.

Cllr Parker left the meeting at 7.55pm.

One Speedwatch site in Carnon Downs has now been approved and a meeting is being held with Ellie from the Speedwatch team on Saturday 9th December to hand over the equipment. The Feock site was unfortunately not approved due to safety reasons but another site was being actively sought in Feock.

Cllr Freeman left the meeting at 8.05pm.

9. HEALTH & WELLBEING WORKING PARTY REPORT

Cllr Hambly-Staite said that Truro City Council had not yet made a decision regarding funding of the joint programme. NHS Kernow Health have now appointed a Project Manager, his brief is county-wide with 2 days a week allocated to the Feock project. It was agreed to invite Oliver Sleeman, the newly appointed Project Manager to a meeting of the Health & Wellbeing Working Group before Christmas.

The Vice Chairman and members of the Duchy Health Board were also present at a recent meeting and may be interested in being involved in the project.

The "Meet & Eat" group based at Devoran Village Hall have achieved a 5 star health and hygiene rating and had held their first lunch with the second being held on Wednesday 6th December.

10. FOOTPATH IMPROVEMENTS

Cllr Allen and the Clerk had met recently with Penny Hodgson from Cormac regarding some issues on our footpaths and the upgrading of the classification (Gold, Silver, Bronze) of the footpaths on our Feock Trails routes to bring them all up to Gold, we shortly be applying for these to be upgraded. Cornwall Council install steps and bridges but it is the landowners responsibility to install and maintain stiles and gates (traditionally due to the need to keep stock in). We would be surveying where there were missing footpath signs and arranging for these to be erected. There was as deadline in the next few years to get all footpaths registered and Cllr Allen would work on this project.

Cllr Brickell said that there had been complaints from horseriders in Carnon Downs regarding access on bridleways and byways. Cllr Brickell would provide a list of the bridleways and byways to the Clerk that were blocked so she could report this to Cornwall Council so that this could be investigated.

11. FORESHORE OWNERSHIP, LAND REGISTRY & COMMONS REGISTRATION

The Land Registry has contacted us in response to our letter. They were not willing to note our interest unless we formally applied and paid the fee to register.

12. CARNON DOWNS NEW RECREATION AREA & EXISTING PARK IMPROVEMENTS WORKING PARTY

The Clerk had this week delivered letters to all of Pengelly Meadows asking for volunteers for a working party to look at the park and new recreation area, there had been two responses to date from residents who would like to be involved. It was agreed that the Carnon Downs Ward Councillors and a number of residents who respond to the request to be involved and the Clerk should make up the working party. The Clerk would contact Cornwall Council regarding the overgrown hedges on the bridleway that goes down through Pengelly Meadows. It was felt that this bridleway needed a better surface as there was a very deep channel where the path had washed away. The highway hedge of the recreation area needed cutting back as it was overhanging the highway.

13. COMMUNITY SAFETY PLANS

The Clerk had been in contact with Cllr Lightfoot who was leading on this project and would be shortly meeting with him to look at kick starting the project again. The plans needed input from residents to identify those people that could be called upon in an emergency and this information had not been forthcoming. The Clerk would circulate the drafts of the plans to the Access & Amenities Committee and would report back to the next meeting once she had spoken to Cllr Lightfoot. The Clerk would also compose a brief list of all contacts within the Parish, flood lines etc. for circulation to all Councillors so that if they were contacted by a resident in an emergency they had the information to hand.

14. CONCERNS RAISED BY RESIDENT REGARDING TREE IN DEVORAN CHURCHYARD

The Clerk had reported his to Highways due to it overhanging Devoran Lane, highways had advised that as it was not on their land we should contact the Church. Cllr Thomas advised that the Church have had the tree inspected last year and who advised the tree was safe and although it was leaning quite substantially it would form a root structure to keep the tree up. The resident who had raised the issue still remains very concerned about the safety of the tree.

RESOLUTION: CLLR ALLEN PROPOSED THAT THE CLERK RAISE THE ISSUE WITH DEVORAN PCC, SECONDED BY CLLR THOMAS AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

15. LOCAL TRANSPORT SCHEME

The Clerk advised that the scheme was currently £513.94 in the black. There were some trips where the donations did not fully cover the mileage paid to the drivers, but other trips more than covered it, hence the balance of the finances. It was agreed that the Council should not be subsidising trips and where there were regular trips that were not being covered by the donation the recommended donation should be increased to 'break even'.

16. SURPLUS CHAIRS IN PARISH COUNCIL OFFICE

The Clerk advised there were a number of surplus chairs (24) stored in a storage room in the Pre-School and the Pre-School wished in the new year to turn this into a sensory room and the chairs needed to be removed and stored elsewhere. The Clerk asked if the Council wished to dispose of these chairs or keep them? Cllr Blake requested the Clerk check the lease regarding the Council using the space and also any storage clauses and that the item be considered again at the next meeting.

The next meeting would be held on Thursday 11th January 2018 at 6.30pm.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.20pm.