

MEETING NO. 1116

Minutes of the FEOCK PARISH COUNCIL ACCESS & AMENITIES COMMITTEE MEETING held on Thursday 24th September 2015 at the Parish Council Office, Devoran at 7.00pm

WARDS	CARNON DOWNS	DEVORAN	FEOCK
	B Richards	B Shankland	C Johnson
	P Allen		

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

CHAIRMAN: Councillor C Johnson

1. INTRODUCTION

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES

Cllrs MacDonald, Blake, Gordon and Andrew had given their apologies for the meeting.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 1ST JULY 2015 AND MATTERS ARISING

RESOLUTION: CLLR RICHARDS PROPOSED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 1ST JULY 2015 AS CIRCULATED BY THE CLERK BE CONFIRMED AS A TRUE RECORD, AND SIGNED BY THE CHAIRMAN. THIS WAS SECONDED BY CLLR ALLEN AND WAS CARRIED BY THE MEETING.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were three members of the public present (Derek Reed, Chair of the Friends of Restronguet Point, David Watson and Biddy Walston from Porthgwidden Estate) who had come to speak regarding HGVs in Feock and also regarding the road at Porthgwidden.

Cllr Johnson welcomed the members of the public to the meeting.

Derek Reed commented that there were problems with large vehicles using little roads in Feock, an HGV had damaged the wall and fingerpost at Porthgwidden, and these large vehicles also damaged the verges which residents wanted to see kept in good condition. He would like to see signs put up further out of the village to restrict size of vehicles, ideally with a weight restriction. There is already a sign saying the road is not suitable for HGVs. Derek had met with Viv Bidgood from Cormac to discuss minor changes in signage, such as HGV warning signs and this was possible as long as a third party paid for this as Cormac did not have the funds. They were advised that they needed to get the support of residents, the Parish Council and local Cornwall Councillor. It was suggested that the sign relating to HGVs should be placed just before Ferris Garage, near to the large layby which would enable large vehicles to pull over, then they would have a chance to turn around before getting into the narrower part.

On the corner where HGVs are eroding the verge and almost touching the wall of Porthgwidden, they would like to install some bollards to protect the verge. They would like the support of the Parish Council and are not necessarily asking for the Parish Council to fund these. Cormac had suggested putting in some traditional cast iron bollards which would protect the wall. Also adding a slope to be put up against the wall to stop water running into Porthgwidden. It was suggested that when planning permission is granted for developments in the area, if there could be a clause in the permission to limit the size of delivery/works vehicles, especially as the area is AONB.

Cllr Richards commented that the biggest problem is the size and weight of these vehicles, unfortunately after speaking with Viv Bidgood from Cormac, it was not possible to put in a weight limit of 7.5T as there would still need to be an 'except for access' clause which would not stop larger lorries. Cormac would not support a weight limit as there was no physical reason to install one (ie. a weak bridge). An additional warning sign near to Ferris Garage could be considered, but this would only be an advisory sign.

Cllr Richards also commented that it would be possible to request as part of our consultation comment on planning applications that a size and weight limit be put on delivery vehicles for developments on Restronguet Point. This was already in place for developments on Trolver Croft due to the size of the road.

RESOLUTION: CLLR JOHNSON PROPOSED THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL DID NOT HAVE ANY OBJECTION TO THE INSTALLATION OF THE BOLLARDS (ON THE CONDITION THAT A DESIGN WAS SUPPLIED TO THE PARISH COUNCIL BEFORE INSTALLATION) OR AN ADDITIONAL HGV WARNING, THIS WAS SECONDED BY CLLR RICHARDS AND CARRIED BY THE MEETING.

ACTION: PARISH CLERK TO FIND OUT THE COST OF AN ADDITIONAL HGV WARNING SIGN AND THIS COULD BE INCLUDED IN THE BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS FOR 2016/17

The Porthgwithen Estate would get prices for the bollards.

Cllr Allen commented that before the Parish Council started to ask for conditions on planning applications regarding restricting size of delivery vehicles, he would like to be sure that the majority of residents supported this. The Friends of Restronguet Point would contact their members and feedback to the Parish Council their views.

6. CARNON DOWNS TRAFFIC MEETING WITH CORMAC

Cllr Richards, Allen, Chamberlain and Viv Bidgood met to look at issues in Carnon Downs. There was a suggestion of removing the white line in the middle of the road on Old Carnon Hill, to make traffic slow down as this would give the illusion of the road being narrower, there was the potential for additional build outs and virtual pavement on Old Carnon Hill as well but these would all need costing.

The installation of bollards on the pavement on Forth Coth had been discussed, a mock up of how this could look and the cost had been provided. The next step would be to commission a feasibility study for Carnon Downs, as had been done for Devoran. Cllr Richards suggested that we should have a multi-year plan for future works but need to look at our income and how we raise any additional money to fund any highways work.

Cllr Shankland would like the Access and Amenities Committee to have a small budget with delegated authority from the full Parish Council to spend up to a certain amount. All agreed that we needed to forward plan and plan the budget accordingly to have a long term plan for highways works and other works.

PROPOSAL: CLLR JOHNSON PROPOSED THAT CLLR ALLEN CO-ORDINATE AND ARRANGE A MEETING WITH THE CARNON DOWNS COUNCILLORS TO LOOK AT THE AREAS THEY WISHED TO BE CONSIDERED IN A CARNON DOWNS HIGHWAYS FEASIBILITY STUDY

7. PROBLEMS WITH HGVS IN FEOCK

This item had been discussed under public participation.

8. DEVORAN HIGHWAYS FEASIBILITY STUDY REPORT OUTCOME

Cllr Shankland had spoken to a number of residents regarding their views on the outcome of the report and he would feedback their comments when they had come back to him. Cllr Johnson suggested the meeting go through each item on the feasibility study to get everyone's views and then arrange a meeting with Glyn Stanley from Cormac to discuss further any queries.

Greenbank Road

Cllr Shankland felt the suggestion of a buildout and virtual pavement on the houses side did not protect users on the creek side of the road. Would like to have an exploratory dig on the creek side to see how far the verge has encroached over the tarmac.

Cllr Allen was concerned that Cormac had not taken up a dual cycleway / pedestrian path. He felt that the footway with a build out on the houses side is probably the best option, but the cost was much higher than we had originally thought. He would like to ensure the residents were in favour before we spent a large amount of money on this.

Cllr Richards commented that a pavement on the creek side would be very expensive.

Cllr Johnson felt we couldn't consider building a pavement on the verge due to cost but perhaps using our lengthsman scheme we could take the verge back to where it met the tarmac to widen the road. Cllr Allen thought this had already been done but he would check.

Cllr Richards commented that when we write to residents along Greenbank Road to update them on progress, could we also remind them to keep their hedges trimmed to increase visibility for them when exiting their properties as this would also help.

Cllr Allen asked the Clerk to find out if there was any grant funding available from Sustrans to improve cycleways.

It was agreed to invite a representative of Sustrans to a future A&A Meeting to discuss cycling issues once the Parish Council has decided on the Carnon Valley adoption project.

It was agreed that Greenbank Road provision should only be a footway as it was difficult to mix both pedestrians, cyclists and motor cars.

Old A39

Cllr Shankland suggested we just put some hard standing on the grass verge (gravel or rubber mesh like in the park) to keep a dryer strip for people to walk on rather than go to the expense of a virtual pavement.

Cllr Allen would like to discuss with Cormac their reasoning on their recommendation not to have a virtual footway/cycleway up the old A39. He would also like to see the white line markings from the centre of the road removed.

20mph zone for whole village

Cllr Shankland commented that again this was a lot of money! He didn't feel that the suggestion to remove the speed limit sign outside of the school was a good idea. Could we just have consistent 20mph limits throughout the village, and not a zone? He would like more information about the specifications of signs / distance requirements of the signs for a zone.

Cllr Allen felt we needed to discuss this further with Cormac as it was a lot of money. Also residents had said before they did not like speed humps!

Cllr Richards agreed this was too much money and we just needed to change the 30mph limits to 20mph and not have a zone if this would be cheaper.

Quiet Lane on the Old Tram Road

Cllr Shankland felt as this would not provide a legally enforceable speed limit he felt we should be putting money into more feasible schemes, although this was a 'nice to have' he felt there were more important areas in the village that money would be better spent on.

Cllr Allen agreed with Cllr Shankland. He suggested perhaps the Parish Council could put up their own signs to reinforce that it was a road used by pedestrians and cyclists as well as cars, more of a community lane, he felt this would do as much as designating it as a Quiet Lane.

Cllr Richards agreed with Cllrs Shankland and Allen.

RESOLUTION: CLLR JONSON PROPOSED THAT THE CLERK TO WRITE TO RESTRONGUET CREEK SOCIETY TO ADVISE THEM OF THE COSTS THAT HAD BEEN PROVIDED AND THAT IT WAS LIKELY THAT THIS WOULD BE PROHIBITATIVE TO MAKING THIS A QUIET LANE, SECONDED BY CLLR RICHARDS AND CARRIED BY THE MEETING.

ACTION: CLERK TO ARRANGE A MEETING FOR THE A&A COMMITTEE WITH GLYN STANLEY OF CORMAC TO DISCUSS OUR THOUGHTS ON THE FEASIBILITY STUDY

9. DEVORAN RECREATION GROUND REFURBISHMENT PROJECT

It was agreed to hold the official opening of the play equipment after school on Friday 2nd October from 3.15pm. Teas and cakes would be available from Pre-School.

The Clerk circulated a copy of the quotation she would recommend acceptance of for the access work (funded by Cory) and said that she would put this on the next full Council agenda for the full Council to authorise before going ahead and asking the company to start work. All present were happy with the quote and works proposed.

10. DEVORAN MICRO LIBRARY

The Clerk advised that it was hoped that the library would be in place by around the end of October / beginning of November. She was currently getting prices for installing shelving, seating and a PC, which would be funded from the grant from Cornwall Council.

Cllr Johnson asked the Clerk to get prices for opening up the entranceway and putting in a sliding door at the top of the existing stairs in to the office to open the area more. Cllr Johnson would ask Cllr MacDonald if he would like to be involved with the library project.

11. SIGNS FOR COUNCIL LAND

Cllr Allen proposed that the cost of the 6 signs be put in the budget for 2016/17, the cost was £892.70, the play park signs would be in addition to this.

12. LOCAL COMMUNITY TRANSPORT SCHEME

The Clerk advised that the scheme was doing very well, new users were coming to the scheme all the time. At present it was breaking event but we desperately needed more drivers as we had unfortunately lost a couple. The Clerk would circulate a suggested email to the Councillors with a request to send on to anyone they felt may be interested in volunteering.

13. DEFIBRILLATOR LOCATIONS CARNON DOWNS & DEVORAN

Cllr Johnson would ask Cllr Shefford to suggest locations in Feock. The Clerk would chase up the Manager of the Spar shop regarding the suggestion of putting on one the outside wall in Carnon Downs. The opening of the Devoran defibrillator was being held on Saturday at 10.15am.

14. HERITAGE LOTTERY FUNDING

The Clerk and Cllr Allen continued to work on the bid for funding to print historic footpath walks and provision of signage. Cllr Allen asked for any comments on the names of the footpaths that had provisionally allocated.

15. ENVIRONMENT AGENCY LAND AT THE CARNON VALLEY

The Clerk had circulated Cllr Allen's draft business plan for the Carnon Valley and this explains why we would like to take it over and what we could do with it. There were now no grants now available for energy schemes. Cllr Allen had spoken to the EA last week, and we were waiting for them to provide the definitive map of the land we would be looking to take over, and the land that is down to pasture and the status of this at present. This needed to be resolved before the Council could take the land over. It was likely that stewardship payments would be available from Natural England which would help to fund maintenance of the land.

Cllr Johnson suggested a working group be formed at the appropriate time. Cllr Allen said we also needed to ensure we consult with our neighbouring parishes as some of the land went into their parishes.

16. SAFE CYCLE ROUTE FROM TRURO TO DEVORAN

Cllr Allen's report had been circulated for information.

17. RISK ASSESSMENTS

The Clerk had circulated a list of actions from the risk assessments. A decision was needed regarding 3 wrecked boats at Carnon Yard, these had had notices placed on them but no contact with the Parish Office had been made. Cllr Allen suggested these be disposed of, the cost of this would be around £100 and he would raise this at the next Parish Council meeting for authorisation.

There being no further business the meeting closed 9.00pm

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: THURSDAY 22ND OCTOBER 2015 AT 7PM IN THE PARISH COUNCIL OFFICE