

Minutes of the FEOCK PARISH COUNCIL ACCESS & AMENITIES COMMITTEE MEETING held in the Parish Council Office, Devoran at 7pm Thursday 23rd June 2022

WARDS	CARNON DOWNS	DEVORAN	FEOCK
	K Gason	A Allen	R Brickell
	P Allen	S Cooper	K Hambly-Staite
	J Allen		

In attendance: Debra Roberts, Parish Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer
Cllr Lesley Fitt, Devoran ward
Bob Fraser, Cornwall Ramblers

CHAIRMAN: Councillor K Gason

1. INTRODUCTION

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN FOR YEAR 2022/23

The Clerk asked for nominations for the position of Chairman and Vice Chairman.

RESOLUTION: CLLR BRICKELL NOMINATED CLLR GASON FOR THE POSITION OF CHAIRMAN, SECONDED BY CLLR COOPER AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

RESOLUTION: CLLR BRICKELL NOMINATED CLLR HAMBLY-STAITTE FOR THE POSITION OF VICE CHAIRMAN, SECONDED BY CLLR COOPER AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. APOLOGIES

No apologies had been received.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 2ND FEBRUARY 2022

RESOLUTION: CLLR A ALLEN PROPOSED THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING DATED 2ND FEBRUARY 2022 AS CIRCULATED BY THE CLERK BE APPROVED AND SIGNED, SECONDED BY CLLR S COPER AND CARRIED.

5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

6. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was one member of the public present, Bob Fraser attended from Cornwall Ramblers and was responsible for the responses to planning applications on behalf of the Ramblers.

7. CLERKS REPORT ON MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

The Clerks report had been circulated to all Committee members.

The following comments were made by Councillors for the Clerk to action.

The hedge by the bridge at Come to Good was very overgrown and severely narrowing the road and needed to be reported to Cornwall Council.

The pathway on Gig Lane and past the Caravan Park up to Killaganoon was very overgrown and difficult to use as a path, this also needed reporting to Cornwall Council as the path was now very narrow.

The hedge by the two new houses on Smithy Lane was also overgrown and needed a notification to cut sending out.

It was pointed out by Cllr Cooper a benefit of overgrown hedges was that it did slow down vehicles.

The Clerk commented that we cut the hedges on Parish Council land along the Tram Road in September plus a Summer cut in mid July of only the passing places.

Cllr Hambly-Staite said we should publicise that we are not overcutting the tram for the benefit of wildflowers and wildlife.

Cllr P Allen would write an article for the next issue of Connect about landowner responsibilities with their hedges next to highways.

The Clerk had written to Diocese re the Old Vicarage hedge on Devoran Lane which growing out over the pavement. The Clerk explained where she knew the landowners address she had standard triplicate forms from Cornwall Council that she could send out on their behalf to request landowners cut back their hedges. Where she did not know the landowners or their address (ie. When it was a field) she reported this using the online form to Cornwall Council to request they contact them.

Councillors said that they were not always aware of the processes the Clerk followed for different types of enquiries and asked that the Clerk write a FAQ document for them so they knew how to advise residents.

8. HIGHWAYS UPDATES & ISSUES

Flashing speed sign post

It was agreed to request that Highways re-site this post nearer to Ferris Garage and on the left on the verge at the top of Retallack Recreation Area.

Forth Coth footway pinch point

Cllr P Allen explained the issue where a build out flower bed was narrowing the footway and causing a safety hazard for pedestrians. It was agreed that the report be sent to Viv Bidgood, Highways Manager to request that this work to reduce the build out was done at the same time as the road resurfacing. The Clerk would measure the width of the footway and include with Cllr P Allens' report.

Cycle route into Truro

Cllr P Allen said he had cycled the route from Devoran to Truro with a Cornwall Council Officer to show them the issues. Active Travel will be discussed further at the next Community Network Panel and he would be giving a presentation and had circulated to all a list of items he would like to raise on that agenda.

Cormac Workshops

Cllr Hambly-Staite said that it needed to be made clear that Cormac need an more economic and effective way to deal with highways issues that are raised and to take into account the local requirements and priorities more than they currently do.

Cllr Hambly-Staite suggested that a public meeting should be held with representatives from Cormac to explain the background to the speed limits and why they are set as they are. Safe cycling links and potential changes to public rights of way could also be discussed at this meeting. It was agreed to put this as a recommendation to Full Council.

9. PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY ISSUES

Definitive Map Modification Order decision – Penpol Farmhouse

The Chairman said that a meeting needed to be arranged with the owners to start the process to extinguish the bridleway as the alternative route had now been established.

Trolver Croft PROW proposed change of status from footpath to bridleway to improve community connectivity

This idea has been raised through the Feock Eco group. The route was covered by a limited review in 1984 and the Parish Council at the time felt it should be made into a byway but there were objections and the Inspector made various designations which made changes to the status of paths into various stretches of footpaths, bridleway and byways in the parish. The Inspector made various recommendations but not all were taken up by Cornwall Council.

Cllr A Allen commented that the footpath from Penpol Pond through to Trolver was previously a road but was now a footpath.

The Chairman gave permission for the member of the public present to speak on this matter.

Bob Fraser said that the time had now passed where the Inspectors 1984 decision could be challenged. He explained that the Parish Council now needed to find new additional evidence to prove that the footpath had been used as a bridleway if they wished to change the status of it. If new evidence could be found it could be added to the evidence provided previously and used again. A DMMO (Definitive Map Modification Order) would need to be applied for or a creation order to create a new route.

It was agreed that this item needed to go to the Parish Council for further discussion due to the complexities involved.

Enhanced LMP Footpath project update

Feock Trails signage – waymarkers – **Need a meeting to look at waymarkers with Ewen**

Have another working group meeting – Phil, Kate, Keith, Ewen, Anne, Sue

Enhanced LMP project update

Footpath 22/1 improvement to stile, Clerk to write to landowner to confirm that this has been agreed by Cornwall Council.

The Clerk had circulated a report from our contractor on work completed to date on the project.

Another meeting was needed to look at the waymarker element of the project. The Clerk would arrange this.

Proposal from Feock Eco Working Group to use hand tools

The Clerk had circulated Cllr Coopers report and Cllr Cooper ran through the report briefly. David May, Cornwall Wildlife Trust was willing to carry out the training of volunteers.

There were some questions that needed to be answered around who would manage the volunteers, who would provide the tools, insurance, any impact on our LMP contract with Cornwall Council.

RESOLUTION: CLLR HAMBLY-STAIITE PROPOSED THAT CLLR COOPER DEVELOP A PLAN AND WRITE TO CORNWALL WILDLIFE TRUST ABOUT THE PROJECT AND IF THEY WOULD WORK WITH US ON THIS AND THEN FEEDBACK TO FULL COUNCIL, SECONDED BY CLLR GASON AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

It was clarified that our existing footpath contractor would still carry out his existing contract but the tools that he uses to carry out his contract may change to be more environmentally friendly. The volunteer work would be to enhance the paths further. Cllr Cooper said she wouldn't want to see this system be used to widen paths though as she was concerned about the impact on wildlife.

Cllr P Allen said that he was only talking about cutting out the paths to the width they were previously and where they had been allowed to grow in and impeded access. The Chairman agreed there needed to be a sensible compromise.

Condition of Drovers Way footpath following completion of development

It was understood that the waste had been dumped on land with the landowners permission. Cllr P Allen would investigate with the EA about the implications of dumping builders waste and soil on land.

The Clerk confirmed that there was still £5K committed in reserves to provide a safe surface footpath in this area.

Cllr P Allen would speak again to the landowner regarding our wish to provide a surfaced footway. The connection up through Drovers Way has not yet been put in by the developers.

The Chairman said there is a modification order being submitted by the British Horse Society at the top of Tresithick which this path links too.

10. LAND & PLAYING FIELDS UPDATE

Trees in Devoran Park

The Chairman has contacted a Tree Consultant for advice on pollarding. The Clerk has contacted Nick Cooper, Cornwall Council's Tree Officer for advice. It was commented that the trees are doing what they were planted for which was to provide shade in the park which was much needed. It was asked that if the advice was to pollard them that this was not done until the Autumn to make the most of the shade provision.

Management of our land and parks in relation to wildlife habitats/wild areas

The Chairman commented that our contractor has left some areas of grass longer in Carnon Downs park however it was felt this should be more organised and the main area of grass in the park kept cut to enable younger children to run around more easily. It was suggested perhaps keeping grass longer under the trees and that a common approach was needed if the Council wished to have wildlife areas and look at each area individually.

It had been planned at Retallack to have the wildlife/flower area at the top of the field by the zip wire. Cllr A Allen suggested that we include children in sowing wildflower seeds at the official opening of Retallack in September.

Cllr Brickell said it was now a good time to plant wildflowers and additional grass seed at Retallack.

The Clerk would establish with our contractors when the next grass cut was due.

Cllr P Allen said he felt that a small area of wildflowers should be created with a bug hotel at Park an Gwarry in Carnon Downs as he felt that it was a childs recreation ground.

It was agreed that the Clerk would invite Councillors to have a site visit to each park to look at the areas that could be left for wildlife and a plan for grass cutting could then be given to the contractors.

The Clerk would liaise with the Feock Councillors about benches, gates and signage for Retallack Recreation Area.

Point Quay handrail

The Clerk was asked to submit a listed building consent application for these works.

Requests for memorial benches

The Clerk had circulated a list of the locations and styles of benches requested. It was felt the spot on the path beside the bypass may not be suitable as it is quite noisy and the Clerk was asked to contact the School to see if they would have any objections to having a second bench on the garden area.

Unserviceable boats at Restronguet Point common land

The Clerk had circulated Cllr P Allen's report to all regarding boats on the common land at Restronguet Point. Notices would be placed on them to ask that they contact the Clerk to claim the boat and if no one claimed a boat it would be disposed of to keep the area tidy and enable usable dinghies to be stored there.

Truro College

The Clerk advised that Truro College have been in touch looking for volunteering opportunities for their students starting after September. The Committee agreed they would be happy to work with them to try to provide some volunteering for students. The Clerk would advise Truro College of this.

Penpol Hedge

The Clerk advised that when we cut the hedges on the Tram Road this hedge by the postbox was also trimmed.

Request from resident for Council to provide residents car parking at Carnon Mine

The Clerk had circulated a request from a resident that the Council purchase a piece of land at Carnon Mine to provide parking for residents and those with disabilities. The Committee considered the request however felt that due to the land that the resident had identified not currently being for sale this was not practical to take forward at the current time and they were not aware of there being parking issues in the area.

Carnon Downs swing

The swing in Carnon Downs park had been identified as needing some repair work. The Clerk had sought a price for a replacement swing but this was very expensive. Our contractor had been asked to source a price from a welder to repair the current swing to extend its lifespan.

The Clerk had circulated the report on the valley. The Chairman said she would like discuss the contents in more detail with Cllr P Allen and Cooper. Cllr P Allen said it was a working document that could be amended and updated at any time.

The issues raised about the lease in relation to a habitat management plan had been resolved. The Clerk would raise with our solicitors the requirement for £10M liability insurance for contractors.

RESOLUTION: CLLR P ALLEN PROPOSED THAT THE LEASE BE RECOMMENDED TO FULL COUNCIL TO AGREE AND TAKEN FORWARD WITH OUR SOLICITORS, SECONDED BY CLLR HAMBLY-STAITTE AND CARRIED.

12. WORKING GROUPS

This item had been discussed briefly early in the meeting. It was agreed to put it on a future agenda for further discussion.

13. FACILITY FOR RECYCLING OF BLISTER PACKS

It was agreed for the library to house a red bin where blister packs could be deposited for recycling. A member of the Feock Eco group would then collect these and take them to Superdrug for recycling.

14. AGREED FUTURE MEETING DATES

It was agreed for the next meeting to be on Thursday 21st July and for meeting to be held on the third Thursday of the month.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.10pm.