MEETING NO.

Minutes of the FEOCK PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held on Monday 8th June 2020 at 6.30pm held remotely via Zoom meeting

Present: WARDS CARNON DOWNS DEVORAN FEOCK
P Allen B Thomas H Freeman
C Kemp M Steel C Blake

R Brickell A Anne K Hambly-Stiate

K Gason

In attendance: Cornwall Councillor Martyn Alvey

Debra Roberts, Parish Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer

Debbie Searle, Assistant Parish Clerk

CHAIRMAN: Councillor Lightfoot

Bee Robson (member of the public)

1. INTRODUCTION BY CHAIRMAN

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Cllrs Andrew and Parker.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 11th MAY 2020

RESOLUTION: CLLR THOMAS PROPOSED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 11TH MAY 2020 AS CIRCULATED BY THE CLERK, BE SIGNED BY THE CHAIRMAN AS A TRUE AND ACCURATE RECORD OF THE MEETING, THIS WAS SECONDED BY CLLR BLAKE AND WAS CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY THE MEETING.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Kemp was the Manager of Devoran Pre School and declared an interest in Item 21 Holiday from rent payments.

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Clerk advised that no questions or comments had been received from the public. Bee Robson was attending the meeting remotely as she was interested in becoming a Councillor filling the vacancy in the Feock ward.

6. CLERKS UPDATE ON MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

The Clerk confirmed that the Parish Council insurance had now been renewed as agreed at the last meeting.

7. MATTERS FOR REPORT

There were no matters for report.

8. CURRENT REPORTS

Cornwall Council

Cllr Alvey commented as follows. He was providing a weekly update in the Parish Councils enewsletter and asked if anyone had any questions on anything contained in these updates.

No horseriders sign for path between Knights Meadow and Bissoe Road in Carnon Downs – further investigation was needed on this issue, this was a path maintained by County Highways and recently resurfaced and shown as a byway on the interactive mapping system which would allow use by horses.

Trickle down funding from Cornwall Council – Cllr Alvey has looked into additional funding that was being provided and provided the background on this.

Cllr Alvey had visited the site of a planning application at Dozmere in Feock for a small infill dwelling.

Cornwall Council Planning meetings have now recommenced, virtually, the next meeting is on the 18th June. If an application is called in, the Democratic Services Officers issue the briefing papers and information to the Planning Committee, members have 5 days to go through this and respond by email and responses are then collated by Democratic Services, if there is not a clear consensus of opinion, this will go to a virtual Planning Committee meeting, public comments at the meeting will be made via telephone and then a vote held by members to make a decision. If there is a consensus the Officer will then use delegated authority to make the decision on the application.

It was asked why normal Cornwall Council meetings could not go ahead with social distancing as the Council Chamber was very large. Cllr Alvey said that some Councillors were shielding and there was no agreed or legal mechanism to hold a 'hybrid' meeting where some people attended in person and some remotely, it was also currently against the Government restrictions where large numbers of people from different households were unable to meet indoors.

Devon & Cornwall Police Report

The Clerk advised the 'Your area' crime mapping page had now been taken down from the website to allow the Police to concentrate their efforts on the issues caused by the Coronavirus rather than providing data.

The Clerk had been in touch with Inspector Milburn from Truro Police who had given a very useful breakdown of recent crimes in the local area, the Clerk would ask if this type of information could be given in future, perhaps quarterly as this was very useful compared to the basic figures that were available online.

Cllr P Allen said that residents had been in touch with him regarding ongoing issues at the foreshore at Carnon Yard, the Police have been called due to the perceived nature of some activities. Cllr P Allen felt that we should now start the process registering areas of foreshores as Village Greens which had previously been agreed by the Parish Council. This would establish the designation of foreshores that were not in private ownership. Witness statements would need to be gathered to confirm the area was used by the public and for the period of time this use had been happening.

9. LOCAL WARD REPORTS

Feock Ward

Cllr Hambly-Staite said that the bus timetable had been amended to enable residents to get from the village to Trelissick in the mornings, this change had been requested by the Parish Council. Apparently the bus company have decided to temporarily change the route to avoid damage by tree branches to their new buses. This had been reported by the Clerk to Highways and they said that there was no issue with regards to the branches and the highway did not require any work. Cllr Hambly-Staite asked that the Clerk contact the Transport team at Cornwall Council to find out the bus companies position with regards to the condition of the hedges to try to resolve the issue.

There were ongoing enforcement issues in Feock with regards to a site which was being used as a tip.

Devoran Ward

Cllr Thomas said that the rubbish that had been flytipped at the end of Greenbank Road had been reported by him to Cornwall Council and removed.

Devoran Village Hall have been given a grant by Cornwall Council to help them through the Coronavirus pandemic.

Point Quay Association were aware of complaints about social distancing not being adhered too on the quay. There had been a mix of comments regarding the use of the quay and they were unsure if they should put up signs as a reminder of social distancing, this would be very difficult to enforce though. It was also felt that because Loe Beach was closed everyone was going to Point Quay so increasing numbers using that area. Councillors had not witnessed any dangerous activities there.

Cllr A Allen commented that there is a cycle route beside Carnon Downs bypass on the pavement, the hedge is getting overgrown and dangerous for cyclists. The very bad pot holes on the Point to Carnon Downs Road had been filled but were still a bit lumpy.

Carnon Downs Ward

Cllr Brickell was concerned about visibility at the Carnon Inn roundabout when people on bikes or mobility scooters were crossing the road by the Caravan Park.

Cllr Brickell was concerned about people coming to the County and staying overnight locally when this was against the current Coronavirus restrictions. The Police didn't seem to have any powers to do anything about this. This also appeared to be an issue in Feock village due to the number of second homes. Cllr Alvey said that for second homeowners, overnight stays and social distancing was for the Police to enforce, Cornwall Council had no powers in this area. Cornwall Council had powers to stop businesses opening and operating but that was the extent of their powers.

10. FINANCIAL SUMMARY & ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

The Clerk had circulated to those present, prior to the meeting, the list of accounts for payment since the last meeting. A bank reconciliation had been carried out and all was in order, the bank balances matched the balances on the electronic banking system.

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

11. APPROVAL OF ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2019/20

The Clerk had circulated the Annual Governance Statement for 2019/ to all Councillors with the agenda.

RESOLUTION: CLLR P ALLEN PROPOSED THE COUNCIL APPROVE THE ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT, SECONDED BY CLLR THOMAS AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

12. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTING STATEMENT 2019/20

The Clerk had circulated the Accounting Statement for 2019/20 to all Councillors with the agenda.

RESOLUTION: CLLR THOMAS PROPOSED THE COUNCIL APPROVE THE ACCOUNTING STATEMENT, SECONDED BY CLLR A ALLEN AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

13. WELLBEING PROJECT REPORT

Cllr Hambly-Staite said that following Council's decision to temporarily extend Community Connect, regular remote meetings were being held with Sharon Nettleton. We have now made our appointments to both HAIRE positions which was excellent news. A virtual meeting is being held later this week with IBelong CIC who are now hosting Community Connect. Bex Rawbone, the Project Coordinator will be starting on 22nd June but will be involved on the odd day before then with project meetings. Esther Pollard, the Administration Assistant will start sooner in her Parish Council role and then in her HAIRE role on 22nd June.

14. CLIMATE EMERGENCY PROJECT UPDATE

Cllr P Allen said there was nothing to report on this project and a remote meeting of the group would be held soon.

15. ACCESS & AMENITIES COMMITTEE UPDATE

Pengelly Meadows Recreation Area

Cllr P Allen said that it had been suggested to re-open Pengelly Meadows as this area had no hard surfaces or play equipment which could spread the virus. Cllr Brickell said he would stake open the gate to minimise the need for people to keep touching it.

RESOLUTION: CLLR P ALLEN PROPOSED THE PENGELLY MEADOWS RECREATION AREA WAS RE-OPENED, SECONDED BY CLLR BRICKELL AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Parking problems at Restronguet Point

There had been issues reported with inconsiderate parking in the area of the turning circle which was obstructing the road at Restronguet Point and the residents wished to put up a sign saying 'no parking' and had asked if they had the permission of the Parish Council to do this. This was a Cornwall Council Highways issue and they had advised they had no objections but that just because a sign was put up it would not be official and would not be enforceable. There were no parking restrictions on Restronguet Point.

The Parish Council were disappointed to hear that people were parking inconsiderately to the extent the road was being obstructed to vehicles and did not have any objection to the residents putting up a 'no parking' sign, which they hoped although not enforceable, would discourage inconsiderate parking. The Council were mindful that there were areas of the road where parking would be acceptable due to there being sufficient width in the road and parking in these areas would not cause an obstruction and therefore felt that the 'no parking' signs should be in the area of the turning circle only rather than the whole road to enable people to visit and be able to access the common land area at the end of Restronguet Point.

RESOLUTION: CLLR P ALLEN PROPOSED THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL AGREE TO THE RESIDENTS PUTTING UP NO PARKING SIGNS BUT ONLY IN THE AREA OF THE TURNING CIRCLE, SECONDED BY CLLR HAMBLY-STAITE AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

No horses sign request – Path from Knights Meadow to Bissoe Road

Cllr P Allen said that this stretch was a byway and therefore horses were allowed on this although he understood that horse 'pats' could be a nuisance to pedestrians when there were quite a lot of horses using the paths and roads.

There was a similar issue raised at Chycoose where cyclists and horses had been using a footpath, however although it was a footpath, it had been used for many, many years by users other than pedestrians with the permission of the landowner and the Parish Council had previously suggested that this could be cut out to make it much wider so that all users could continue to use it. Cllr P Allen

had now spoken to both landowners who had given their permission for their hedges to be cut back by the Parish Council's contractor and this would be arranged as soon as possible.

Cycle route in Devoran

A resident had been in touch regarding the poor signage for the cycle route to Falmouth which caused cyclists to mistakenly come down their private driveway and onto their property. The official route was back out onto the A39 using the junction the buses used, just before Yummy Scrummy. There was no cycle route signage pointing this way, it was agreed for the Clerk to contact Cornwall Highways regarding this. It was noted though that the Parish Council were not happy with the cycle route to Falmouth as it was very dangerous on the A39 for cyclists due to the speed and volume of vehicles and they did not wish to promote this as a safe cycling route and would very much wish to see a dedicated cycle route from Truro to Falmouth.

16. PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT

The Assistant Clerk had produced a report for the last year with number of planning applications, number approved, refused and those that went to 5 day protocol and appeal which had been circulated prior to the meeting, Clir Freeman, the Chair of Planning summarised the report.

17. TRURO & ROSELAND HIGHWAYS BUDGÉT

The Clerk had circulated details from the Truro & Roseland Community Network Panel which showed the total number of applications from parishes for Highways funding, the total applied for exceeded the amount of funding available and those who had applied had been asked to feedback the option they would prefer to see for their application (our bid was for improvements to the Feock to Playing Place and Devoran to Playing Place stretch of the Truro to Falmouth cycle route). Three options were presented which decreased in the % of funding awarded to some parishes depending on the priority given to their proposal. The three options for the Parish Council were zero funding, 80% funding or 75% funding.

RESOLUTION: CLLR P ALLEN PROPOSED THAT WE FEEDBACK WE WOULD BE HAPPY TO REVEIVE 75% FUNDING, SECONDED BY CLLR HAMBLY-STAITE AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY THE COUNCIL.

Cllr P Allen had a meeting with Cherilyn Mackrory MP last week regarding the Falmouth to Truro cycle route and the potential for a feasibility study to be carried out on the whole route which was good news, although in his opinion he felt we still needed to take forward our plans to improve the cycle route stretch in our Parish.

18. CORONAVIRUS RESPONSE & VOLUNTEER HELP

The Clerk advised that Cornwall Council had issued guidance on what towns and parishes should be considering to ensure safe re-opening of towns and villages. These included ensuring hedges overhanging pavements are cut back to ensure social distancing was achievable, consideration to be given to removing street furniture and notices reminding people of social distancing.

The Clerk asked that Councillors advise her of any overgrown hedges so that she could contact the landowners to request they were cut back. Current signage was felt to be sufficient.

The Clerk asked Councillors to give consideration to if they wished to put in place a funding scheme for local groups to help sustain them through the current pandemic situation, and if they wished this to be instead of or as well as the current Your Choice funding scheme which had been put on hold this year due to the pandemic.

It was noted that some verges were obstructed with stones or boulders and this caused issues where there were no pavements as people were having to pass in the road. Cllr P Allen would send a report about this issue to Mark O'Brien, Truro & Roseland Community Network Panel.

Potential funding from Cornwall Council

Councillors asked for clarification on how the money from Central Government that had been given to Cornwall Council to support other Councils would be distributed. Cllr Alvey said there had been some miscommunication and confusion where the term 'lower tier Council' actually meant District Council level where there were 3 tiers but in Cornwall as a unitary authority, 'lower tier' did not apply to Parishes or Towns but referred to Cornwall Council. There may be an opportunity for some Town and Parish Councils who had been adversely affected to apply for this funding where they had lost revenue due to loss of car parking income etc.. that they used to supplement their precept levels.

19. AMENDMENT TO STANDING ORDERS

The Clerk had circulated prior to the meeting a proposed amendment to the Standing Orders which would allow the Council to meet remotely due to the pandemic.

RESOLUTION: THE CHAIRMAN PROPOSED THE COUNCIL APPROVE THIS AMENDMENT TO THE STANDING ORDERS, THIS WAS SECONDED BY CLLR A ALLEN AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

There being no further business for the open session the meeting closed at 7.55pm.

