

MEETING NO. 1165

Minutes of the FEOCK PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held on Tuesday 7th February 2017 at the Parish Council Office, Devoran at 7.15pm

WARDS	CARNON DOWNS	DEVORAN	FEOCK
	R Richards	S Parker	C Blake
	M Kemp	B Thomas	R Andrew
	C Kemp		K Hambly-Staite
	I MacDonald		C Johnson

In attendance: Debra Roberts, Parish Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer

CHAIRMAN: Councillor Richards

1. INTRODUCTION

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Cllrs Allen, Gordon and Shefford.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 9TH JANUARY 2017

RESOLUTION: CLLR THOMAS PROPOSED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 9TH JANUARY 2017 AS CIRCULATED BY THE CLERK BE CONFIRMED AS A TRUE RECORD, AND SIGNED BY THE CHAIRMAN. THIS WAS SECONDED BY CLLR HAMBLY-STAITTE AND WAS CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY THE MEETING.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Andrew gave the following statement:- "I (Cllr Andrew) declare an interest in planning matters related either directly or in proximity to my land and property in Feock. For the public record, I am an employee of Cornwall Council working on the Localism Agenda. I have been advised by the Monitoring Officer that as a Parish Councillor I have no personal interest in the Neighbourhood Planning Agenda and related issues. However, if during the course of discussions issues are discussed of which I have a personal involvement it may be appropriate to leave the meeting and take no further part in the debate and for it to be recorded in the minutes"

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were two members of the public present.

6. CLERKS UPDATE ON MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

The Clerk had in contact with the Post Office regarding the closure of the post box at Trevilla and this will be re-opened when the building work has finished, it has apparently been closed due to health and safety.

7. MATTERS FOR REPORT

Cllr Richards attended the Community Network Meeting where the head of Emergency Services spoke about devolving services down to Parish Council level. Cllr Richards attended the public meeting in Feock regarding the proposal for Tennis Courts, the meeting was quite positive and there was a feeling that that sports facilities in the Parish were needed but there were concerns about the suggestion of putting them on Retallack Park. The group who had arranged the meeting were currently looking into funding opportunities and other sites.

8. CURRENT REPORTS

Cornwall Council

Cllr Chamberlain reported as follows. It has been a relatively quiet month, there was a Strategic Planning Meeting regarding lifting a temporary occupation condition on a very large site of holiday homes, around 350 still to be built just outside of St Columb, Cllr Chamberlain led the view that this should be refused and it was refused by the Committee, he felt this decision would impact onto other sites which were seeking to do similar, there was one in our parish which this decision could affect. The Planning PAC on 20th February would be looking at this issue and they would also be looking at the affordable housing contribution for applications such as this.

The panel looking at the Boundary Commission changes had been carrying out a lot of work for quite some time. A group that Cllr Chamberlain was involved in had put in a recommendation that around 85 Councillors would be sufficient. The government were looking at around 60 to 70. Cllr Chamberlain seconded a compromise proposal of 99, each Councillors workload would rise by about 25%, this would mean that a range of people (such as those self employed, employed part-time etc.) would still be able to become Councillors as the role would not be full time. The number of 99 would now go to full Council and then if approved to the Boundary Commission, Cllr Chamberlain however felt that this number may still be reduced.

Devon & Cornwall Police

The latest crime report available online was for November 2016 which the Clerk had reported on last month. The latest figures she was able to access online <https://www.police.uk/devon-and-cornwall/CIOS.4065/crime/+LCXfe2/>

Cllr Andrew raised our issue with the Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner. The Clerk had emailed the new Inspector in Truro with our concerns regarding the way the crime statistics were presented and had been advised that these categories were set by the Home Office and unfortunately more details on the crimes were not available due to time constraints.

9. FINANCIAL SUMMARY & ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

The Clerk gave the following financial report.

Total outgoings/accounts to be paid since the last meeting £9287.01 (ex VAT)

Includes:

Carnon Downs Feasibility study - £2872.31

Planning training - £175

Legal fees - £329.34

Total income since last meeting in January £6264.54

Normal rent from Pre-school and small office.

Donation of £300 from Sunbeams for defibrillator

Credit re removal of FRR from insurance £117.35

Utilities re-imburement from Pre-School £956.85

Local maintenance partnership footpath £3173 & grass cutting £669.01 invoices raised

Current account bank balance and reconciliation - £68,596.96 as at 07/02/17

True balance - £63,681.29 (£4915 cheque not yet cashed)

Cambridge Easy Access Saver (Reserve a/c) - **£72,451.32** (includes £50K bond)

Lloyds Capital Reserve - £199,948.75 – Sale of Reading Room less fees

Currently setting up new account to transfer FRR money into.

Cllr M Kemp asked the Clerk to double check the figures as he felt the expenditure figure was somewhat low for the time of year. The Clerk would double check to make sure there was not an issue in the computerised accounting system as this was where the profit and loss report had been generated from. The Clerk commented that a few months ago there had been a bug in the system and this may be what has caused the report this month to be incorrect.

10. LOCAL WARD REPORTS

Feock ward

Cllr Blake said that the drains still require unblocking and all the footpath signs in Feock had now rotted and broken off. The Clerk advised that she had requested that our contractor put the footpath signs back up as this work was low priority for Cornwall Council and it would be quicker if we did this ourselves. The roads need urgent sweeping of the leaf mulch as people have to walk out in the road. Cllr Blake commented that there is a blocked drain in a property which is Cormac's responsibility but unfortunately they will not take responsibility for this waterway. The issues of drain unblocking have been raised with Highways at the regular meeting but they had advised that due to Feock being a zone 2 area that drain cleaning only had to be carried out infrequently. Cllr M Kemp said that if we took on drain clearing this year we would be setting a precedent for the whole of the parish and we may end up losing the infrequent service that Cornwall Council provide.

Cllr M Kemp suggested we get an outside quote for the drain clearing work for one off work but he remained concerned about setting a precedent.

Cllr Hambly-Staite said the drains from Trevilla to Churchtown in Feock had not been cleared for at least 2 years and some were completely blocked.

Cllr Chamberlain said that if drains were registered as 'hot spots' then they get cleared before there was a weather warning for rain. A hot spot could only be registered however if it had caused flooding of properties, a minimum of 5. Cllr Chamberlain asked for the details of the locations of the drains and he would then raise this with Highways.

The Clerk would obtain quotes for clearing the drains and bring to the next meeting for further discussion.

The Feock PALS village lunch club continues to thrive and there is also a planning application for change of use for part of a dwelling to a small tea room at Penelewey.

Devoran ward

Cllr Thomas commented that the Village Market is being held on Saturday. There had been a near miss on Saturday between a van and bus on Greenbank Road due to flooding and the van going out around it the water and nearly hitting the bus. The Street Trading license for Frankie's had been granted with some amendment to the trading hours. The refurbishment of the lower hall of Devoran Village Hall has almost been completed. At the entrance to Devoran Quay, the fire hydrant has been demolished and the lower wooden fence has also been damaged and there are large nails sticking out. The Clerk would report the damaged fire hydrant and contact Devoran Quay Preservation Society regarding the fencing.

The Clerk read out an email from a resident, Nick Johnson, regarding the recent damage to the granite posts related to the railway in Devoran. It was confirmed that the granite posts are in their original locations and Cllr MacDonald suggested perhaps they could be relocated if they were not listed to somewhere they could be preserved by the village hall but to make the access to the car park easier and stop them being damaged, especially if they were not listed. This email has been passed on to the Village Hall for their comments and they had responded to say that the posts were not listed and they would consult with the Conservation Planning Officer regarding relocating them and where they would be best located.

Skip on the Old Tram Road – The Clerk had been contacted by Environmental Health who advised they would be investigating the use of the skip.

Carnon Downs

There was nothing to raise in Carnon Downs.

11. PLANNING COMMITTEE

Cllr Richards reported that there was a Planning Committee meeting held yesterday. There is an application to take down a very large TPO'd tree at Point, the applicants arboriculture report stated that the tree was dangerous and Cornwall Council's Tree Officer had said that it was not dangerous. The applicant had contacted the Parish Council as their consultant had said it would not be appropriate to trim the tree as had been suggested and the Parish Council had advised that it was not the role of the Parish Council to negotiate between two consultants and we would leave this with Cornwall Council to make a decision, it appeared that this may be taken to the Cornwall Council Planning Committee depending on the decision.

The appeal against refusal of 60 dwellings on Quenchwell Road has been withdrawn, this followed the approval of a much smaller scheme of 14 dwellings on the same site. Cornwall Council have suggested that they would not be able to support another affordable led site due to there not being a local need. The 14 on Point Road had recently been approved. The site at the end of Valley Lane with the application to build 38 dwellings was still being considered by Cornwall Council, the layout of the application had been amended slightly to take into account drainage. South West Water are now putting in very strong objections to any new developments in Carnon Downs until the pumping station capacity has been reviewed as it was felt that this did not have sufficient capacity to take any future new development. A planning application on Quenchwell Road which is described as infill is going to Cornwall Council Planning Committee at the Parish Council's request next Monday afternoon. The Planning Committee has agreed to adopt the Cornwall Council Pre-application protocol which had been agreed by the CALC and Cornwall Council planning group.

12. ACCESS & AMENITIES COMMITTEE

Cllr Johnson reported as follows.

Transport scheme – we have a new driver who has now completed her training and will be starting immediately.

Devoran 20mph zone – Cllr Johnson, Thomas and the Clerk had met with Teresa McCormack from Cormac regarding the fine detail of where the speed cushions and any additional signage would go. The total cost of this work for the 20mph zone would be £32K. If we wished to carry out the works in Carnon Downs at the same time under the same TRO we would save £800. Cllr Johnson would like to propose that we go ahead as soon as possible with this work as it was in the budget for 2017/18.

RESOLUTION: CLLR JOHNSON PROPOSED THAT WE ACCEPT THE QUOTATION FOR THE DEVORAN HIGHWAYS PROJECT FROM CORMAC SUBJECT TO CHECKING THE DIFFERENCE (£800) IN TRO COST BETWEEN SUBMITTING THE CARNON DOWNS & DEVORAN SCHEMES AT THE SAME TIME, CLLR THOMAS SECONDED THIS AND THIS WAS CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY THE MEETING.

Cllr Richards thanked Cllr Johnson for all her work on this project.

New recreation area in Carnon Downs and park equipment - the Clerk was getting more prices for the new equipment for the new recreation area in Pengelly Meadows to include 2 standard goalposts.

Library extension - the listed building application for changes to the Parish Council Office to enlarge the library area had been submitted and accepted, we were now awaiting the outcome. The Clerk would seek prices for this building work.

13. F.A.S.T. PROJECT (FEOCK ACTION ON SPEED & TRAFFIC)

Cllr MacDonald gave an overview of where we were with the project. We are taking forward 3 main projects, the first being the 20 mph zone in Devoran, the second is 4 linked projects in Carnon Downs (parking on Forth Coth, improving Bissoe Road junction, improving pedestrian access on Bissoe Road and extension of double yellow lines on Quenchwell Road). The cost is around £60K but it was hoped that around £30K of this for the pavement on Bissoe Road would be funded by S106 money from Taylor Wimpey.

The third project was to reduce speeding in Feock, specifically on the main road down to Fourturnings and then onto Harcourt, and down to the King Harry Ferry. We have registered to set up a Speed Watch in Feock initially and we have been in contact with Truro Police Station to try to set this up and were waiting to hear back. We had heard that a lot of other parishes were also looking to set up their own Speed Watch schemes. The Perranwell Speed Watch co-ordinator had been very helpful to us so far. We have a list of residents who have volunteered to train to be Speed Watch volunteers.

The fourth element of the project was to look at the location of the Woodland walk road crossing from Trelissick near to the King Harry Ferry. It had been suggested that this would be safer if it was moved around 50 yards up the road in the Fourturnings direction. Visibility had been tested at various points on the road and visibility was difficult at most points along the road. The walls along the garden were also listed structures so any changes to them would be difficult. Near to the Old Lodge there is a privet hedge and Trelissick have been agreed to cut it back a bit more to try to give better vision. There was discussion to put speed bumps on either side of the crossing to slow traffic and a speed warning sign and also the road speed to be reduced down to 30mph from 40mph all the

way along. We have initially been advised by Highways that the density of housing is too low to justify changing the speed limit from 40mph to 30mph, however the density of housing on the Come to Good road is less than on the King Harry Ferry Road and the speed limit there is 30mph so this will be queried.

Cllrs M and C Kemp left the meeting at 8.55pm.

14. HEALTH & WELLBEING WORKING GROUP REPORT

Cllr Hambly-Staite said the first meeting of the working group had been held and this group would report their findings to the Access & Amenities Committee. The group had started to speak to various bodies such as local GPs, Volunteer Cornwall etc. The group had looked at delivering services in neighbourhoods made up of around 60 to 80 dwellings and Sam had started looking at making up 'neighbourhoods' and mapping these. It had been agreed that we would also ask the other Councillors for their input on these areas. It was hoped we could recruit volunteer co-ordinators in each neighbourhood to be the 'eyes and ears' of their neighbourhood, to help with alleviating loneliness, befriending, transport etc.

Cllr Andrew advised that DCLG has launched a Communities Fund and a group in St Austell had put in a bid relating to Social Prescribing. The outcome of this bid is still being awaited. There is a lot of work being done on Social Prescribing and the STP (Sustainable Transformation Plan for Health). Truro City Council are currently working on this and there may be the opportunity to work with Truro City Council on this. Cllr Hambly-Staite had spoken to Trelissick regarding becoming involved in Social Prescribing and they were also interested.

Cllr Thomas felt this was about rebuilding communities and encouraging everyone to look out for each other.

RESOLUTION: CLLR HAMBLY-STAITTE PROPOSED THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL AGREE TO VOLUNTEER TO JOIN THE PILOT SCHEME WITH TRURO CITY COUNCIL, THIS WAS SECONDED BY CLLR RICHARDS AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY THE MEETING.

15. POINT QUAY ASSOCIATION REPORT

There was nothing to report from Point Quay Association.

16. FEOCK TRAILS PROJECT

Sam Edwards said that the walks leaflets had now been completed and printed, copies were issued to everyone present. Sam asked if people could please sign up to help on Walks Day on Saturday 18th February. Sam is putting together a volunteering information sheet for anyone helping. The Lobb Garden is being worked on by Cllr Allen and Thomas. The noticeboard would be removed from the garden to open it up and the front door of the office would be likely to be used for the noticeboard instead.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Allen and Sam Edwards for all their hard work on the Feock Trails project, the leaflets were looking really good. The Parish Council also stated that they were very pleased that Sam had been successful in securing a place at Oxford University and congratulated him on this.

17. APPLICATION TO REGISTER COMMON LAND AT CHYCOOSE BEACH

The Clerk advised that we had now had confirmation from the Land Registry of our objection to the application made to take over some of the common land at Chycoose Beach. The Council needed to decide if they wished to enter into any negotiation with the applicants and the Clerk needed to advise the Land Registry of the decision by 20th February.

RESOLUTION: CLLR RICHARDS PROPOSED THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL DO NOT ENTER INTO NEGOTIATION REGARDING THIS COMMON LAND AND WE CONTINUE TO OBJECT TO THE APPLICATION, SECONDED BY CLLR JOHNSON AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

18. KEEP BRITAIN TIDY CAMPAIGN

The Clerk advised that this was being run again this year from 3rd to 5th March and asked if the Parish Council wished to get involved. Cllr Parker would speak to Devoran School about this to see if they wished to be involved and the Clerk and Cllr Johnson would seek volunteers in each village.

19. AMENDMENT TO STANDING ORDERS REGARDING CODE OF CONDUCT

The Clerk advised that a recent case law found in judicial review of a Code of Conduct complaint at Honiton Town Council. The ruling confirmed that a council could not apply its own sanctions to a member of the council as a result of a finding of a breach of the Code of Conduct; it can only impose those sanctions recommended in the Decision Notice. To reflect this new case law, and to clarify a number of managerial issues around the code of conduct and employer responsibilities CALC have reviewed the national model standing order to make it appropriate for Cornwall's parish and town councils. The Clerk recommended that the Council resolve to adopt the new model Standing Order number 13 (combining 13 and 14 of our existing standing orders) which had been circulated prior to the meeting and copies distributed to those present. These now cover the Code of Conduct, complaints under the Code of Conduct and Dispensations. The guidance has also been approved by the Monitoring Officer of Cornwall Council.

RESOLUTION: CLLR MACDONALD PROPOSED THAT THE STANDING ORDERS BE AMENDED TO REPLACE ORDERS 13 AND 14 WITH THE NEW STANDING ORDER 14 AS CIRCULATED BY THE CLERK, SECONDED BY CLLR THOMAS AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY THE MEETING.

20. COUNCIL TO CONSIDER AGREEING EXTENSION OF TIME PERIOD FOR SIGNING OF DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE FOR COUNCILLORS WHO WILL BE AWAY IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE ELECTION IN MAY 2017

The Clerk advised that following the elections on 4th May 2017, all Councillors (whether they are existing Councillors or newly elected) must sign the Declaration of Acceptance of Office before the start of the Annual Parish Council Meeting on the 15th May, otherwise they will not be elected to the Council. The Clerk was aware of one member of the current Council who was standing again and would be away directly following the election and not able to attend the Annual Parish Council Meeting due to being on holiday. The Clerk advised that the Council would need to consider whether they would pass a resolution to grant an extension of time to this Councillor and any other Councillors who may be in the same situation to cover this eventuality.

RESOLUTION: CLLR MACDONALD PROPOSED THAT AN EXTENSION OF TIME BE GRANTED TO THE 6TH JUNE 2017 (JUNE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING) FOR ANY COUNCILLORS ELECTED AT THE MAY 2017 ELECTION WHO WERE UNABLE TO SIGN THEIR DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE PRIOR TO THE ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON 15TH MAY 2017, SECONDED BY CLLR ANDREW AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The Clerk explained that she had created a page on the Parish Council website with information about how to become a Parish Councillor and what this involved, copies of leaflets were also

available in the entrance way to the office and online. The Clerk would produce a poster to put up around the parish to publicise the May election.

21. APPRENTICESHIP POSITION

The Chairman said that as everyone knew Sam Edwards, our office apprentice was leaving shortly to go travelling, Sam had been a huge help in the office and especially on the Feock Trails project. The Council needed to decide if they wished to recruit another apprentice. The Clerk advised that Truro College had confirmed that although Sam was leaving before the end of his apprenticeship we did not have to recruit another apprentice immediately. The Council agreed that we would not recruit another apprentice straight as it would be sensible to see how the Health & Wellbeing working group developed and if another member of staff would be required to help on that project, possibly another apprentice or part-time project officer.

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

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