

MEETING NO. 1122

Minutes of the FEOCK PARISH COUNCIL ACCESS & AMENITIES COMMITTEE MEETING held on Thursday 26th November 2015 at the Parish Council Office, Devoran at 7.00pm

WARDS	CARNON DOWNS	DEVORAN	FEOCK
	B Richards	V Gordon	R Andrew
	P Allen		
	I MacDonald		

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

CHAIRMAN: Councillor Allen

1. INTRODUCTION

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Cllrs Shankland and Johnson.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 22ND OCTOBER 2015 AND MATTERS ARISING

RESOLUTION: CLLR ANDREW PROPOSED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 22ND OCTOBER 2015 AS CIRCULATED BY THE CLERK BE CONFIRMED AS A TRUE RECORD, AND SIGNED BY THE CHAIRMAN. THIS WAS SECONDED BY CLLR RICHARDS AND WAS CARRIED BY THE MEETING.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Andrew made the following declaration of interest 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 4 members of the public present.

Greenbank Road

Mr Eudon had sent an email regarding his concerns for pedestrian safety on Greenbank Road in Devoran, this had been circulated to the Council and was read out at the meeting by Cllr Allen. Cllr Allen commented that the Council fully supported the points made and this item was on the agenda for discussion today.

Condition of Carnon Gate Roundabout

Mr Abram-Moore would like to propose a maintenance scheme for the roundabout to improve its appearance, this would involve spraying off the weeds every month, removal of debris from the roundabout and general tidying of existing design. This would be a very low cost solution. Cllr

Allen thanked Mr Abram-Moore for his suggestion and said that we would raise the issue with Cormac at our next regular highways meeting the possibility of this type of maintenance scheme.

Broken steps on footpath 28 by entrance from Point Road

Mr Holt was concerned about the broken steps on footpath 28 by Point Road entrance and that also recently someone had left the gate open which concerned him as his cattle may escape onto the road which would be very dangerous.

The Clerk advised she had spoken to Cornwall Council regarding the broken steps, they would arrange to repair them but as a temporary measure they would put sandbags there to make a makeshift step, the Clerk had also put up warning notices.

6. LAND AT GREENBANK ROAD & HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENTS

It was agreed to bring this item forward on the agenda so that the members of the public who had come to the meeting to listen to the discussion would not have to wait for the item later in the meeting.

Cllr Allen said the Council had been concerned about safety on Greenbank Road for some time and the Council had looked at a safe route for pedestrians and cyclists, also a 20mph limit for the whole of the village. It was agreed at the last meeting that the quoted price of £30K was not affordable for the Council, this would provide only a 20mph limit as well as associated traffic calming. A virtual pavement had also been considered as part of this work.

At our last meeting the Council agreed to investigate a grass verge/green pavement, and Mr & Mrs Holt, the landowners, have been approached by the Parish Council to find out if they would be willing for the Parish Council to put a hard standing pathway on top of their verge.

Mr Holt confirmed that he was happy for the Parish Council to put a strip of matting on top of the verge, as long as it was not permanent and did not impede access to the inner part of the verge which they also owned. Mr Holt was happy for the tree (with the mirror on it) to be removed to help the route of the path. Mrs Holt suggested that a sign saying 'free range children' might also be a good idea to warn people to slow down and that there may be pedestrians on the road. The status of the path would be a 'permissive path'.

Cllr Allen thanked Mr & Mrs Holt for their positive response and advised that the Parish Council would now get prices for the green footpath material and a warning sign, and let Mr & Mrs Holt have more details of the suggested scheme.

7. DEVORAN MICRO LIBRARY

The Clerk advised that she had checked with Cornwall Council that the items we wished to purchase with the grant were acceptable, these were shelving, seating, a kinderbox and a new PC, Cornwall Council had confirmed this would be acceptable under the terms of the grant.

8. DEFIBRILLATOR FOR CARNON DOWNS

The Clerk advised she had applied to the British Heart Foundation for 1 defibrillator for Carnon Downs and 3 heated cabinets, one for each village. The South West Ambulance Trust need to authorise our application and the Clerk had emailed them to ask them to do this. The Clerk has advised the Lions Club that at present due to budgets, the Parish Council would try to obtain a free defibrillator first but thanked them for their kind funding offer. The Carnon Downs Film Club had also said they would donate £100 towards the defibrillator in Carnon Downs.

9. CARNON VALLEY LAND AND BUSINESS PLAN

Cllr Allen said that we had been talking to the Environment Agency (EA) for several months now. The Estates team had been to look at the land regarding accommodation land and the status of these which would need to be resolved before the Parish Council would be able to take the land over. The Environment Agency were not currently in a position to be able to confirm the exact extent of the land they owned in the Carnon Valley and its current status (ie. rented out, leased) that we would potentially be taking over from the EA. Cllr Allen said the next stage now would be to write to them formally expressing our position and hopefully the EA could then take our interest forward. The EA had recently mentioned that they had to prove to their auditors that they had achieved the best value for the land as they had spent considerable money on tidying it.

Cllr Allen commented that he would now also like to speak to Kea and Perranarworthal Parish Councils to advise them of our intentions with regard to the land as some of it lay in their parishes.

Cllr Allen had put together a draft Business Plan to give possible ideas of the future of the land and this had been circulated to the Council.

Cllr Gordon asked if they were now implying that they needed to maximise their income from any sales of the land. Cllr Allen said there are two differing views in the EA between the environmentalists and the estates managers regarding the land which had now come to the fore.

Cllr Richards asked if one option would be, that if not all the EAs land was in our parish, would it be possible to just take over the land in our parish and leave the remaining to the other Parish Councils or the EA. Cllr Allen commented that this would be a possibility but a positive of our negotiation was that we were looking to take on the whole piece of land which the EA wished to dispose of.

Cllr MacDonald was concerned about the risks of taking on such a large piece of land and the hazards on it. Cllr Andrew suggested it was put into a land trust, as this would limit the liability to the Parish Council. Cllr Allen said the main purpose of taking over the land was to preserve the cycle path, some of the cycle path was only had permissive pathway status and by the Parish Council taking the land over we could ensure the cycle path was kept, where as if this land was taken over by a third party then the cycle path permissive status could be removed.

Cllr Allen said that if the land was managed by all the Parishes jointly as a managing committee then it could be a standing item on the A&A agenda and reported back to the full Council and regular managing committee meetings held.

RESOLUTION: CLLR ALLEN PROPOSED THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL SEND A LETTER AS CIRCULATED PRIOR TO THE MEETING TO THE ENVIRONMENT AGENCY TO FORMALLY DECLARE OUR INTEREST, APPROVE THE DRAFT BUSINESS PLAN AND FOR CLLR ALLEN TO CONSULT WITH OUR NEIGHBOURING PARISHES, THIS WAS SECONDED BY CLLR GORDON AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY THE MEETING.

10. HERITAGE LOTTERY BID FOR FOOTPATH WALKS & QR POINTS

Cllr Allen said that he would like the Clerk to write a bid for funding from the Heritage Lottery funding for printing history/footpath walks leaflets and history boards to be installed on various landmarks around the parish with a QR code on the boards that could be scanned by a mobile device and would then take the user to a website which contained more information about that particular landmark. Bute Park in Wales was an example where QR codes had been used, see

article here <http://www.walesonline.co.uk/news/wales-news/cardiffs-bute-park-gets-new-4020860>

Cllr Allen said that we needed to decide if we wished to go for a high quality professionally designed leaflet or would we be happy to design these in house to potentially save money.

The Clerk passed around an example of the style of leaflet we would propose producing and advised that we had held a meeting to get an idea of prices for inclusion in the bid with the graphic designer, it appeared that could be achieved within the amount of funding that we were able to apply for.

RESOLUTION: CLLR RICHARDS PROPOSED THAT A BID IS PUT TOGETHER FOR A PROFESSIONALLY DESIGNED HISTORY/WALKS LEAFLET, TOGETHER WITH QR CODED HISTORY BOARDS AND ANCILLARY WORK TO FOOTPATHS TO IMPROVE ACCESS, THIS WAS SECONDED BY CLLR MACDONALD AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY THE MEETING.

11. COST OF RE-ROUTING FOOTPATH IN DEVORAN

Cllr Allen proposed that the discussion regarding the Modification Order for the re-routing of the path be deferred to the next meetings. The Clerk was obtaining details of how this could be done from Cornwall Council.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.30pm