

MEETING NO.

**Minutes of the FEOCK PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held on Monday 4th November 2019 at 6.30pm
at the Parish Council Office, The Old Market Hall, Market Street, Devoran**

Present:	WARDS	CARNON DOWNS	DEVORAN	FEOCK
		R Brickell	M Steel	C Blake
		C Kemp	B Thomas	K Hambly-Staite
		P Allen	S Parker	R Andrew
		P Lightfoot		
		K Gason		

In attendance: Cornwall Councillor Martyn Alvey
1 member of the public in attendance
Debra Roberts, Parish Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer

CHAIRMAN: Councillor Lightfoot

1. INTRODUCTION BY CHAIRMAN

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Cllrs A Allen. It was noted that Lindsey Morgan-Lundie had recently resigned from the Feock ward and the casual vacancy was currently being advertised.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 7TH OCTOBER 2019

RESOLUTION: CLLR STEEL PROPOSED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 7TH OCTOBER 2019 AS CIRCULATED BY THE CLERK BE SIGNED BY THE CHAIRMAN AS A TRUE AND ACCURATE RECORD OF THE MEETING, THIS WAS SECONDED BY CLLR KEMP 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 in the Place Shaping team. 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. I am currently seconded part-time to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government and due to this declare an interest in Item 11 Planning".

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no questions raised.

6. CLERKS UPDATE ON MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

The Clerk gave the following update.

The Clerk had attended the Trading Standards Cold Calling Zone pilot residents meeting in Carnon Downs, Trading Standards would be providing leaflets and No Cold Calling stickers for the library for residents to pick up.

The Clerk was yet to arrange the meeting regarding the highways issues at the Penelewey Tea Room but would do this shortly.

The new water boiler had been purchased and was being used.

The new bench seat for Forth Coth was on order.

7. MATTERS FOR REPORT

Cllr Brickell had attended the National Association of Local Councils Star Council Awards event and was very pleased to bring back the Runners Up certificate for the Parish Council.

Cllr P Allen was on the Countryside Access Forum, he had raised with them the issue of the stiles not being accessible for some people. The group is looking to improve communication with Parish Councils, although ours footpaths are, a lot of footpaths are not looked after by Parish Councils in conjunction with Cornwall Council via the Local Maintenance Partnership Agreement. The Truro Loops team are looking to improve the old railway line from Newham up to New County Hall and this could be part of the Devoran to Truro cycle route and grants are being investigated for this.

Cllr P Allen is also the Chairman of the Harbour Forum and the issue of the MMO application for a sewage works outfall at Restronguet Point this would be discussed by the forum shortly. There were concerns raised that the AONB may have issues with the building of the sewage treatment works on the shoreline and that if this application is granted it may open the door for further development on the shoreline.

There are lots of Pacific oysters in Restronguet Creek and these are on the beaches and are very jagged, this would be discussed further at the Access & Amenities Committee meeting. There was to be a new Marine Officer for the Fal Special Area of Conservation and a meeting would be held with her soon, Cllr P Allen would report back on this meeting.

Cllr Blake and the Clerk had attended the AONB Planning Meeting, he said this was very reassuring to hear the AONB's views and it was very clear that any application in the AONB must be to meet a definite need, conserve and enhance the AONB and this had to be proven and the balance had to be tilted in very strongly in favour of the benefits bring brought versus harm to the AONB caused by the development.

Cllr Hambly-Staite had attended the Half annual meeting of the SW Transport Forum, the bus operators and Councils were saying that we should be encouraging bus use as much as possible and he would write an article in the next edition of Connect. It was very clear that if bus services are not used they will be lost. Cornwall Council has received substantial funding to improve bus services in Cornwall and one of the uses of that funding would be used to reduce bus fares to make the service more affordable and encourage increased use.

8. CURRENT REPORTS

Cornwall Council

Cllr Alvey reported as follows.

The Dene & Topsails appeals have failed and the decision of Cornwall Council to refuse these planning applications had been upheld by the Planning Inspector. He had attended two meetings with regards to planning decisions in the AONB to discuss the issues between the AONB unit and Cornwall Council Planning. There were closures this week on the A39 to carry out maintenance and gully clearance.

He had also attended and spoken at the Parish Council's Climate Emergency Event and thanked the Council for inviting him and giving him the opportunity to explain Cornwall Council's work and position on this. He reminded all Councillors that it was mandatory for them to attend Code of Conduct training.

Cllr Kemp said she would like to formally thank Cllr Alvey for all his support with our Planning and Planning Appeals.

Devon & Cornwall Police

There were a total of 8 crimes reported in September.

Carnon Downs x 4

Knights Meadow - 1 x violent/sexual offence

The Forge – 2 x violent/sexual offence

Carnon Crescent - 1 x violent/sexual offence

Point & Penpol x 3

Penpol Hill – 1 x anti social behaviour

Trolver Hill – x 2 anti social behaviour

Feock x 1

Near to parking area/Loe Beach - x 1 violent/sexual offence

Devoran - no crimes reported

The Clerk would ask for information on what the category of "violent and sexual offences" covers as it was concerning that this appeared in our crime reports every month. The Clerk would also request information the number of report of online fraud or phones scams in the area and contact the Police & Crime Commission, Alison Hernandez about our concerns about the apparent increase in this type of crime.

9. LOCAL WARD REPORTS

Feock Ward

Cllr Blake reported that a protected tree appeared to have had work done to it recently and this had caused concern in the local area as a planning application for the works was not able to be found online.

Devoran Ward

Cllr Thomas said the new speed monitoring flashing sign has been put up in Greenbank Road and it did appear to be having an affect. The Clerk would ask if the sign could be just turned around on the same post rather than being moved to the other end of the road as it may be more effective there.

Carnon Downs Ward

Cllr Brickell had cleared out the drain at the bottom of Old Carnon Hill and the water seemed to be flowing away well.

10. FINANCIAL SUMMARY & ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

The Clerk circulated to those present the list of accounts for payment since the last meeting. These totalled £13,837.63. This included £3,812.56 Public Works loan repayment and £1,020.00 for the pilot of the weed control/brushing.

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

11. WELLBEING PROJECT REPORT

Cllr Hambly-Staite said that the latest summary update has been circulated to all Councillors. A full report on the last 6 months would be circulated in December. A meeting would be held shortly with Truro City Council and the NHS to look at the future of the Community Connect project. We were waiting to hear the outcome of the EU HAIRE project bid and this was due in a couple of weeks, however this may be delayed due to the forthcoming General Election.

12. CLIMATE EMERGENCY PROJECT UPDATE

The Clerk had provided details of new green energy suppliers together with costs.

RESOLUTION: CLLR ANDREW PROPOSED THAT CONTRACTS BE TAKEN OUT WITH ECOTRICITY FOR 3 YEARS FOR GAS AND SSE FOR 3 YEARS FOR ELECTRICITY, SECONDED BY CLLR P ALLEN AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The Clerk would request a smart meter be installed by SSE.

Clothes bank

Cllr Kemp said that it had been suggested to her that a clothing bank could be useful in the yard outside the office. All were in favour of this, Cllr Alvey has a contact and would forward the details to the Parish Clerk.

Cycle racks

The Clerk had circulated details however these were not quite what were needed, Cllr A Allen had provided details of a different design of bike rack (named Sheffield Cycle stand) which cost £29.99 each plus installation. £300 had been allocated at the last meeting for installation of bike racks.

RESOLUTION: CLLR P ALLEN PROPOSED THAT 2 BIKE RACKS BE INSTALLED AT THE PARISH COUNCIL OFFICE, SECONDED BY CLLR HAMBLY-STAITTE AND THIS WAS CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

13. ACCESS & AMENITIES

Cllr Thomas and Brickell had attended a meeting with Kea and Gwennap Parish Councils about the community wood at Bissoe and all Parish Councils were very positive. The terms of reference for the group have been agreed and the next step would be to arrange a license/lease to plant the area. The Clerk of Kea Parish Council would be circulating minutes from the meeting. It was hoped the labour to plant the trees would be from volunteers and the trees grant funded by the Woodland Trust.

The Chairman of Cornwall Wildlife Trust gave a very interesting talk on Climate Change and it would be useful to invite him to one of our Parish Council meetings in the future. Cllr Allen had spoken today to the Coal Authority and Environment Agency and a meeting would be arranged with the Estates team from the EA with regards to linking in the mining trail pathway and the future of the valley.

Cllr Allen had met with the developer with regards to surfacing the footpath that runs along the bottom of the Point Road development. This would be a similar in specification to the pathway that we had put in on the old A39 verge.

14. HIGHWAYS ISSUES

The Feasibility Study for Old Carnon Hill has been received and circulated and the Clerk had summarised this for the meeting (see below). Cllr Allen felt that we needed to obtain prices from other groundworks companies to ensure we were getting best value. It was noted any contractor would have to be on Cornwall Council's approved contractors list. Any scheme would need to go out to consultation with residents for their views.

1. Stretch of road between Smithy Lane and Mount Agar Road

Proposal to put in footway between these two points, this would vary in width depending on the road width available and would also need a priority 'give way' build out to slow traffic. It is suggested that this may inhibit traffic flow which may work in our favour and put off people using Old Carnon Hill as a 'rat run'.

The speed cushions would be retained.

Cost of proposal: £50,395

2. Stretch of road between Mount Agar Road and 'Glendower'

Proposal to put in part footway and part virtual footway, remove some speed cushions and replace with priority build outs with single speed cushion.

Cost of proposal: £27,900

3. Crossing point at Mount Agar Road

Depending on design costs vary from £1500 for dropped kerb, £2900 for a raised table and £6400 for a block paved raised table.

4. Wellington Place Footway

Proposal to install 54 m long footway on existing grass verge at Wellington Place (opposite side of road to Mount Agar Road proposed pavement).

Cost of proposal: £14,400

Cllr Alvey has asked Cormac to look at the issue of the improvements needed to the road from Carnon Gate to the bottom of Old Carnon Hill when they are considering other road changes in the wider area such as the dualling of the A30 and the new Langarth development. Cllr Hambly-Staite said it was interesting to see in the feasibility study the real reason that the road was not fully widened when the bypass was put in and that it was due to planning issues around the hedgerow and removal of trees.

RESOLUTION: CLLR P ALLEN PROPOSED THAT CORMAC ARE ASKED TO START THE CONSULTATION ON IMPROVEMENTS TO HIGHWAYS SAFETY ON OLD CARNON HILL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, TO INCLUDE POINTS 1, 2, 3 (WITH DROPPED KERBS) AND ALSO POINT 4 BUT THAT THIS MAY NOT FORM PART OF THE MAIN SCHEME HOWEVER THE COUNCIL WISHED TO GATHER RESIDENTS VIEWS ON THE NEED FOR THIS FOOTWAY, SCODED BY CLLR KEMP AND CARRIED.

The Clerk explained that issues had arisen with the posts for the new flashing speed warning sign to be located on, SSE the contractor who would move the sign around the parish were not willing to site the sign on existing posts as they were concerned about the weight of the sign and the stability of the posts. The cost to install new posts near to the existing agreed locations was £2982.

RESOLUTION: THE CHAIRMAN PROPOSED THAT THE COUNCIL RESERVE £2982 TO PAY FOR THE NEW POSTS IF THIS COULD NOT BE FUNDED BY THE COMMUNITY NETWORK PANEL AS PART OF THE ORIGINAL FUNDING FOR THE SIGN, SECONDED BY CLLR THOMAS AND CARRIED WITH 3 ABSTENSIONS.

Cllr Alvey said he would make strong representations on our behalf to the Community Network Panel for funding and explain how this issue has come about.

15. PLANNING COMMITTEE

The next Planning Committee meeting is on Wednesday 13th November.

16. PRECEPT & BUDGET 2020/22

The Clerk presented the draft budget which had been discussed and approved by the Finance & General Purposes Committee, and advised that the Committee had recommended a 2% increase on the precept, the detail of this had been circulated to all Councillors before the meeting and this figure had been included in the draft budget, this took into account the continuation of the current service provision in the parish, a new maintenance contract for chemical free weed control across the Parish, potential pay increments for staff and other environmentally friendly methods such as the change to green energy suppliers.

There was a discussion regarding a 3% increase on the precept which would increase the precept by £3,474.075 to a total of £119,276.60, a yearly increase of approx. £1.79 per Band D household.

RESOLUTION: CLLR ANDREW PROPOSED THE PRECEPT BE INCREASED FOR THE YEAR 2020/21, SECONDED BY CLLR KEMP AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

RESOLUTION: CLLR HAMBLY-STAITE PROPOSED A 3% INCREASE IN THE PRECEPT FOR 2020/21, SECONDED BY CLLR ANDREW, AND CARRIED BY A MAJORITY, WITH CLLR BLAKE VOTING AGAINST THE PROPOSAL AND CLLR PARKER ABSTEINING.

S100A LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 (as amended) - Members of the press and public may be excluded from any discussion on the following items on the basis of the likely enclosure of exempt information

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.30pm.