

**Minutes of the FEOCK PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held on Monday 11th July 2022 at 7pm at the
Parish Council Offices, Market Street, Devoran**

Present:

WARDS	CARNON DOWNS	DEVORAN	FEOCK
	K Gason	S Cooper	L Fitt
	C Kemp	M Steel	C Blake
	P Allen	A Allen	R Brickell
	J Allen		
	K Gason		

In attendance: Councillor Martyn Alvey, Cornwall Councillor
14 members of the public (12 for public right of way item and 2 for the planning item)
Debra Roberts, Parish Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer

Chairman: A Allen

1. INTRODUCTION

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Cllrs Hambly-Staite and Lightfoot. Cllr Cooper said she needed to leave the meeting at 9pm.

3. TO CONSIDER THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 16TH MAY 2022 AS A TRUE AND ACCURATE RECORD

RESOLUTION: CLLR J ALLEN PROPOSED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 16th MAY 2022 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 declared an interest in Item 18 request by Devoran Pre School to use Devoran Park for their Sports Day as she was the Manager of the Pre-School.

The Chair declared an interest in Item 19 – Point & Penpol WI request to use Point Orchard for their annual tea party as she was a member of the WI Committee.

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Chair explained that due to the large number of members of the public attending and wishing to speak she would separate the public participation session into two sessions due to restricted space in the office.

The Chair said that all comments received from the public regarding the footpath 46/1 had been circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting and they had all read them. The Chair asked that if people wished to speak further about the item they should please stand, state their name and make their comment but please do not repeat or read out any comments already submitted as there were lots of people who wished to speak and this was only one item on a very packed agenda.

The Chairman said that this item had come up from discussions that the Feock Eco group had had and requested the Parish Council consider, this was purely a suggestion for further discussion and no decisions had been made.

The Chairman opened the floor to the members of the public.

Gerry Shaw, Chairman, Trolver Croft Residents Association: The main issue for most of the residents on Trolver Croft but not all of them was that this was a narrow track, there was already a conflict between pedestrians, cyclists and vehicles. He felt that by creating a formal cycle route this would exacerbate the conflict. Cyclists are silent and there are lots of delivery vehicles also using the track and coupled together with the speed electric bikes travel at this could cause problems. Residents currently co-operate by allowing their private drives to be used as passing places to help the traffic flow, this goodwill will diminish or be withdrawn if there are lots of cyclists. Residents in the past have been sued by cyclists who have had accidents on the traffic calming as this was a private road, will the Parish Council be responsible for any liability in the future? 95% of residents are against this proposal.

It was pointed out that there was recently an accident where a delivery vehicle hit a fence and wall causing damage to private property.

Peter Howell, Harcourt Farm (landowner): the stile between Harcourt and Trolver Croft was adopted in its present location in 1948, his father maintained it before and he have done so himself since for over 60 years. The stile has always been there and the stile was there for over 85 years since the family have owned the farm. He needed to access to my farmyard but the lane is too narrow and barely fits his tractor down the lane and there would not be room for a tractor to pass a cyclist or a horse. It is an aggressive way to go about trying to get access for horseriders and cyclists. There have been offers from developers to sell the farm and land but he was happy with the farm as it is. The viability of his farm would be ruined if he had to give additional access and he did not want to sell and keep it as is but the proposal would make it very difficult.

Brian Ashdown (resident): Please consider highway safety and risk to existing users due to increased traffic by additional users. There are continued obstruction of the highway by Penpol Boatyard, 3m to 4m wide is the British Horse Society recommendation for a bridleway, the existing route does not meet this width. There would be a cost to the ratepayer of creating this new route and the Parish Council would need public liability insurance. There was also the cost to the Parish Council of a public enquiry that would be needed if it were to be applied for due to the number of objections that would be lodged. Permission is needed for conversion of this track passing over farm land and the landowner will not give this permission.

Mark Wootton (resident): Lives on the cycle path on the other side of Penpol, he felt it was a great idea and brings the community together by improving access and cycling. The children have to go on the main road to cycle and he was very supportive of the idea. It also gave the children a safer route to get to Loe Beach by bike.

Ross Biddle (resident): He was supportive of the cycle way and upgrading the footpath. The current stile is not at all accessible and he cannot use the footpath with his disabled daughter and has seen accidents with elderly people trying to use the stile who had fallen and injured themselves, the stile should be removed. It would be great to have the whole of the parish joined up and this type of access change is what we need to enable this to happen.

Amer Shafi (resident): Asked if a concession could be that cyclists dismount when going down Trolver Croft? Is that something that would help the residents be less concerned about safety and conflict between different road users?

Alan Gillard (resident): He was supportive of the idea, aware that its very early stages and also aware that Trolver Croft Residents Association are able to organise a response very quickly and felt there should be a balance of comments. He had put up a post on Facebook to help publicise the idea and get feedback as not everyone had heard about this idea, the majority of comments were supportive, there were lots of 'likes' on the post and people were keen especially on having a safer cycling route to the beach. There was also a desire for paths to be made more accessible so that all ages and abilities of people could use them not just cyclists or horseriders.

The Chairman said that so that the residents who were interested in this item could listen to the discussion about the item on the agenda she would bring forward item 13 Access & Amenities Committee.

13. ACCESS & AMENITIES COMMITTEE REPORT

Council to consider suggestion to change status of footpath 46/1 Trolver to Harcourt in Feock to a bridleway – referred from Access & Amenities Committee

Cllr P Allen said this item had been raised by the Feock Eco Working Group, passed to Access & Amenities Committee and then up to Full Council for discussion.

There was a new policy statement from Cornwall Council and the Government around transport, this envisages that 50% of all trips under 3 miles will eventually be undertaken by 'active travel'. The Council are looking at how this can be achieved as a lot of trips in our parish are less than 3 miles. We realise that this change to the footpath 46/1 status had been discussed previously through the Neighbourhood Development Plan back in 2017 and it had been decided at the time, several years ago, not to take forward this idea at the time. We have a change in circumstance and local policy now since the Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) was adopted.

Cllr P Allen said he felt a reasonable way forward to look at how we connect Feock village with the rest of the parish and into Truro safely, would be by bringing this in as part of our NDP review when we carry this out next year.

Cllr Cooper said she felt it would be useful to include it in a revision of the NDP. Cllr Cooper would like to address Mr Howells anxiety over this idea and the impact on his farm, she hoped that over what is likely to be a very long process we can work with him to reduce this anxiety and alleviate his concerns. The Parish Council do not wish to lose the green spaces locally.

Cllr Brickell said that horseriders were local people, and he could fully understand the landowners anxieties.

Cllr Fitt commented that she is on the Feock Eco group and she was very keen to propose this and felt that we should be looking at the wider good for all and think about all residents and enabling them to have access across the Parish no matter what their physical abilities were.

Cllr Steel asked if the Transport Plan had any guidance in it regarding the issues of land ownership, liability, adoption etc. Cllr P Allen said that the plan did not really set out how the targets would be achieved or anything down this to level of detail. He felt this is why the issue should be looked at holistically and not just one individual route. We are currently looking at removing stiles with the

landowners permission and replacing these with kissing gates to enable them to be more accessible on other pathways as part of our Footpath Enhancement Project.

Cllr J Allen said she agreed with Cllr Fitt and felt that links between our villages were very important, she could understand the concerns of the residents but hoped these could be overcome with some reassurance.

Cllr Gason said the British Horse Society had raised this footpath and the access issue as well and it has been mentioned that the stile is not Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) compliant. In the NDP policy 3.8.10 which sets out that responses from the community from the community survey and this was that residents wished to see more connecting up of the villages and improved access between them. Cllr Gason said this path becoming a bridleway would keep horses off the Feock road which was very positive, this was a very dangerous road and there had been accidents in the past where horses had been killed.

RESOLUTION: CLLR P ALLEN PROPOSED THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL WOULD INVESTIGATE THE FEASIBILITY OF CHANGING THE STATUS OF FOOTPATH 305/46/1 TO A BRIDLEWAY TO ENABLE: ACCESS FOR WITHIN-PARISH CYCLING AND FOR MOBILITY SCOOTERS, TO IMPROVE COMMUNITY CONNECTIVITY AND LOW CARBON LOCAL TRAVEL AND ALSO TO IMPROVE YEAR ROUND USE AND TO TAKE THESE FINDINGS AND INCLUDE IN THE REVIEW OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN IN 2022/23 WHICH WILL INVOLVE COMMUNITY CONSULTATION AS PART OF THE REVIEW PROCESS, SECONDED BY CLLR COOPER AND CARRIED BY A MAJORITY WITH ONE ABSTENTION.

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (CONTINUATION)

PA22/02626 - Shortlands, Ropewalk, Penpol

The Chair said this planning application is on the agenda for the Full Council to agree the consultee comment due to it being a multi dwelling development.

The Chair said that if those members of the public present who wished to speak had already commented online, to save time, please do not read out your comment but feel free to add to your comment.

Eric Davis (from Erle Designs Ltd Architects): The TPO on the site had been discussed with Councillors and that the trees that had been already felled on the site were not covered by the TPO. This had been confirmed by the Tree Officer. Many of the other concerns raised were about the number of dwellings, the site is only populated at the same density of other places in Penpol. The rendering shows that 2 dwellings are hidden behind existing trees that are TPO'd. It is very similar to the rest of Penpol and he did not feel that they would have very much impact onto the landscape as was feared by residents.

Amer Shafi (resident): Lives opposite the proposed development and felt it seemed like over development of the site, normally they are larger houses are in large plots but these are squeezed in, did not feel that semi detached houses were suitable or in keeping with Penpol.

Mark Wootton (resident): Lives in front of the proposed development and did not support it, felt it was a massive over development for the size of the site and that we are already at breaking point with development in the area, 5 was too many dwellings for the site.

Cllr Cooper said that the Cornwall Council Tree Officer was not on the site when they met and the works to the trees was discussed, the gentleman who attended was an ex Cornwall Council Tree Officer.

ITEM 12 – PLANNING APPLICATION PA22/02626 - Demolition of existing dwelling and outhouses to make way for 4 semi detached dwellings and one detached dwelling. Shortlands Ropewalk Penpol Devoran Cornwall TR3 6NP

Council to consider application and agree consultee comment

Cllr P Allen said that we had always understood that if we could demonstrate that trees on a particular site are at risk then the TPO could be updated. The Parish Council had made an application to Cornwall Council Planning to review the TPO on the site in November 2021 and requested that the trees are inspected and to update the TPO as we felt the trees were at risk. In April 2022 Cornwall Council responded and felt that the existing TPO was adequate to protect the trees of any amenity value certainly the ones that were on the skyline. He understood that the Tree Officer at CC was informed immediately tree work started on the site but it was too late to save the trees. The rings of one branch were counted but this did not reflect how old the tree it came from was as this was a branch rather than the trunk.

Cllr P Allen said that tree cover is our main mitigation in these areas for ensuring development is not overpowering.

Cllr Cooper commented that the bat survey that was carried out on the bungalow that is to be demolished and in the survey report it is commented that the mature vegetation surrounding the building is supporting bats, she felt that a proper ecological survey of the whole site should have been carried out.

Cllr Blake said that he felt the application breached NDP policy BIO1 which seeks to safeguard and enhance the natural environment including areas protected by the TPO, BIO2 to protect trees, hedgerows and development proposals should and seek to protect non designated trees that provide skyline access which this did not. NDP Policies LS1 and LS2 to protect and enhance the seascape, clearly visible from the creek, loss of landscape the application was also not in accordance with as he felt it did not conserve and enhance the natural beauty of the area. The site was in the AONB buffer zone and therefore a lot of the AONB policies applied. It also did not comply with NDP Policy H1 to be of an appropriate scale, GA3 as there was inadequate parking on the site. The Council accepted that one property would be redeveloped there but did not accept 5 which was overdevelopment.

Cllr Kemp was concerned the development would set a precedent as it had been mentioned there were other similar plots locally where similar developments could be built.

The Parish Council's comment would be based on the issues discussed and the NDP policies.

RESOLUTION: CLLR BLAKE PROPOSED THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL OBJECT TO THE APPLICATION DUE TO THE REASONS AND NON COMPLIANCE WITH NDP POLICIES, SECONDED BY CLLR BRICKELL AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

6. CLERKS REPORT ON MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The Clerks report had been circulated prior to the meeting.

7. MATTERS FOR REPORT

Cllr P Allen is attending the Community Network Panel meeting next week to give a presentation about active travel and cycling locally. The Chairman said that if any member of the Council wishes to attend this meeting they can do so.

8. CURRENT REPORTS

Cornwall Council

Cornwall Councillor Alvey gave the following update.

Shared prosperity fund (replacing ERDF funding)

Details on how projects can access this £15M for first year will be published in the next couple of weeks. 50% of this money will be for community based projects and there will be a bidding/application process. The objective/outcome for this work is very important. There is no match funding requirement and decisions on the projects to receive funding will be made by Cornwall Council and Council of the Isles of Scilly. Each constituency has the opportunity to bid for funding from this money.

A £50M transport bid submitted named "Mid Cornwall Metro" but this was not building a new railway line! This was a major signals upgrade from Newquay through to Falmouth and main line with signalling upgrade and passing places. The end result will be a 30 minute train journey from Newquay to Falmouth.

There had been lots of concerns raised about noise levels on the Carnon Downs roundabout. He was meeting with Cornwall Council Highways onsite to try to get some progress on how the noise could be reduced. The issue is that the surface is currently in good repair and not due for renewing anytime soon. It was noted that there is no noise legislation or maximum noise level for a highway.

The Chairman asked if Cllr Alvey had any funding for decarbonising of buildings and to enable us to have an audit carried out on our Parish Council Offices. Cllr Alvey advised that the Cornwall Council Hive page on their website may help, together with Community Energy Plus.

Cllr P Allen said that if the criteria for the shared prosperity funding covered safe cycling then the Parish Council could be keen to apply for this.

Cllr J Allen commented about the electric sign at the bottom of Arch Hill, it currently said stay safe and stay in control, she didn't understand what this was in relation too? She thought the sign should display car parking information as that was its original purpose.

Devon & Cornwall Police

The Clerk had circulated the latest crime figures that were available online.

9. FINANCIAL SUMMARY & ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

The Clerk had circulated the invoice list for June 2022 due for payment by email and gave an overview of the Council's current financial position.

RESOLUTION: CLLR P ALLEN PROPOSED THE CHAIRMAN SIGN THE INVOICES FOR PAYMENT LIST, SECONDED BY CLLR STEEL AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10. LOCAL WARD REPORTS

Feock ward

Cllr Brickell commented that the volume and speed of traffic on the Feock road going from Fourturnings down to Feock is increasing.

Cllr Blake commented that the yellow lines near to the top of Loe Hill that we had requested were exactly what we asked for, this has however had the effect of people parking where there were no lines despite there being space in the Church car park (no parking on Sundays though for church

service) and at Porthgwidden on the corner and on the bus stop. There were also problems with lots of boat trailers being left beside the road and causing obstructions. The Parish Council would need to be monitor the use of the parking area up at Retallack Field to ensure it was only used by park users and not as a general car park, new signs would be ordered and displayed to state this.

Devoran ward

Cllr Steel said there was an ongoing issue with speed of vehicles in the village despite the 20mph zone, parking is getting very bad on the S bend just down from the Old Quay Inn and delivery vehicles at the development on the corner of Market Street were also sometimes causing delays.

The Chair said that there were 3 passing place signs that have been either damaged or defaced. The Clerk would look at getting metal signs with FPC logo.

The Chair said at the bottom of Trolver Hill there is a road sign that has been hit by a vehicle, the sign was missing but the concrete blocks were still there. The Clerk would report this online.

Cllr Cooper commented that she was pleased that the wall at Tallacks creek had been repaired and the Clerk confirmed that we had passed on our thanks.

Carnon Downs

There were no issues to report.

11. PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT

The Planning Chairman's report had been circulated to all members. Cllr Kemp asked if the CC Planning Committee would still be going ahead in August as she felt this was bad timing. The Planning Officer is in discussions with the developers regarding the ecology report.

Cllr Cooper asked Cllr Alvey now that the Climate Change DPD now that it has gone to the Inspector does it carry any more weight? Cllr Alvey advised that the Parish Council can quote from it and the further through the process it goes the more weight it will carry. The areas that will not carry weight will be those that are challenged by the inspector.

Item 12 had been discussed earlier in the meeting.

13. ACCESS & AMENITIES COMMITTEE REPORT

Cllr Gason's report had been circulated prior to the meeting.

PROPOSAL: CLLR P ALLEN PROPOSED THAT AS AGREED AT THE ACCESS & AMENITIES COMMITTEE MEETING THAT THE LEASE FOR THE COMMUNITY WOODLAND LAND AT THE CARNON VALLEY WAS APPROVED AND WE ENTER INTO A LEASE WITH CORNWAL COUNCIL AS THE LEAD PARTNER ON THE PROJECT, SECONDED BY CLLR COOPER, CARRIED BY A MAJORITY WITH ONE ABSTENSION.

14. HAIRE & WELLBEING PROJECT UPDATE

Cllr Hambly-Staite's report had been circulated. The Clerk showed the video on the screen that had been made in conjunction with the University of Exeter about the HAIRE project.

15. FEOCK ECO CLIMATE EMERGENCY GROUP REPORT

The report about the hand tools training proposal had been circulated to all with the agenda. The training with the Cornwall Wildlife Trust was being arranged for the end of September.

Cllr Fitt asked if the Parish Council would fund some more robust litter pickers and litter bag rings for the group to hold and lend out at litter pick events. The first one on the Bissoe trail was being arranged but it was hoped more would be arranged. The cost would be £130.

PROPSAL: CLLR C KEMP PROPOSED THAT THE COUNCIL ALLOCATE £130 FOR THE LITTER PICKING EQUIPMENT, SECONDED BY CLLR FITT AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

16. HIGHWAYS ISSUES

Cllr Hambly-Staite had suggested we have a public meeting as we have received a number of complaints from residents about speeding on these roads and perhaps other roads but this had not been agreed to be taken forward.

Cllr J Allen did not agree with speed limits and felt people should be allowed to be sensible and make their own choices about sensible speeds to drive.

Cllr P Allen said that to make the main Feock road safe for cycling speed reduction was needed and he felt that this was a bigger issue than just this road and again we should be looking at active travel and how we can bring this in safely. He felt it should be the whole parish rather than just concentrating on one route.

PROPOSAL: CLLR J ALLEN PROPOSED THAT A SEPARATE MEETING IS HELD WITH A REPRESENTATIVE FROM CORNWALL HIGHWAYS WITH THE PARISH COUNCIL TO DISCUSS ALL OUR ISSUES THAT WE HAVE HAD CONTACT FROM RESIDENTS ABOUT, SECONDED BY CLLR BRICKELL AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

17. AGE FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES

This item was deferred to the September meeting.

18. DEVORAN PRE-SCHOOL USE DEVORAN RECREATION GROUND

The Clerk had circulated a request from Devoran Pre-School to use Devoran Recreation Ground for their sports day.

PROPOSAL: CLLR J ALLEN PROPOSED THE COUNCIL AGREE THIS REQUEST, SECONDED BY THE CHAIR AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

19. REQUEST BY POINT & PENPOL TO USE ORCHARD FOR THEIR ANNUAL TEA PARTY ON 8TH AUGUST 2022

The Clerk had circulated a request from Point & Penpol WI to use Point Orchard for their annual tea party.

PROPOSAL: CLLR BLAKE PROPOSED THE COUNCIL AGREE THIS REQUEST, SECONDED BY CLLR J ALLEN AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

20. SECURITY OF OFFICE AND LONE WORKING OF PARISH COUNCIL STAFF

The Chair said that she would like the Council to authorise a video doorbell to be installed at the office as part of the Council's lone working policy and to protect staff when they were working in the office on their own. They sometimes had to deal with irritated callers and the video doorbell would give them the option if they were on their own to speak to callers through the intercom rather than face to face.

The Chair said that two members of staff were also attending Dealing with Difficult People training and she recommended that Councillors also attend.

RESOLUTION: CLLR C KEMP PROPOSED THAT THE CLERK ARRANGE FOR A VIDEO DOORBELL TO BE INSTALLED AT THE OFFICE (MAXIMUM BUDGET £100), SECONDED BY CLLR STEEL AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

21 LANTEGLOS BY FOWEY PARISH COUNCIL AFFORDABLE HOUSING POLICY LETTER

The Clerk had circulated this letter which was requesting support from Town and Parish Councils.

PROPOSAL: CLLR BRICKELL PROPOSED THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL SUPPORT LANTEGLOS BY FOWEY IN THEIR AMBITIONS ABOUT CHANGES TO THE AFFORDABLE HOUSING POLICY, SECONDED BY CLLR BLAKE AND CARRIED BY A MAJORITY, WITH TWO ABSTENSIONS (CLLRS J ALLEN AND M STEEL).

22 YOUR CHOICE COMMUNITY FUNDING

The Council agreed to look at this funding criteria with a view to re-launching in 2023/24 financial year and consider as part of the budget considerations.

23. STANDARDS COMMITTEE

The Clerk had circulated the details of the Standards Committee vacancies. Cllr Alvey advised that if anyone wishes to apply please do so directly, he had previously been a member so could advise what was involved.

24. CO-OPTION TO FEOCK AND DEVORAN WARD VACANCIES

The Chair said there were two ward vacancies, one in Feock and one in Devoran.

Two candidates had applied, Mr Mark Woolcock and Mr Amer Shafi and she asked them to both say a few words about why they wished to join the Council. Their letters of application had been circulated to all Councillors by the Clerk.

Mark Woolcock: 5th generation of family living in Feock and Kea areas. Felt that he should be a custodian of the parish and that by joining the Council he could help do this, he would like to be involved in helping the parish prosper and make improvements to amenities. He had previously been a member of Kea Parish Council so understood what was involved. He was happy to stand for either ward vacancies.

Amer Shafi: Had been through some of the challenges of building a new house in the parish and come up against the Parish Council in relation to planning. He felt it was important to build relationships with our community so that when contentious issues arise it doesn't feel like 'them v us' He was experienced in bidding for funding and scrutinising accounts and finances. He was new to the area and would like to have had time to meet all the Councillors before this evening.

Cllr P Allen asked Mr Shafi if he would be fully supportive of the Feock NDP. Mr Shafi didn't see why not and he was used to reading and digesting large documents.

The Chair asked if there were proposers for either or both candidates.

PROPOSER: CLLR BLAKE PROPOSED MARK WOOLCOCK FOR THE DEVORAN WARD VACANCY, SECONDED BY CLLR GASON AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

PROPOSER: CLLR FITT PROPOSED AMER SHAFI FOR THE FEOCK WARD VACANCY, SECONDED BY CLLR J ALLEN, A VOTE WAS HELD AND THE PROPOSAL WAS NOT CARRIED BY A MAJORITY.

In accordance with the co-option process as the Feock candidate had not received a majority vote he had not been elected to the Council and the vacancy would be readvertised. The Chair thanked Mr Shafi for his interest.

The Chair thanked everyone for attending and providing reports before the meeting which helped make the meeting run more efficiently.

The meeting closed at 9.23pm