

MEETING NO.

Minutes of the FEOCK PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held on Wednesday 10th November 2021 at 7pm at Devoran Village Hall, Quay Road, Devoran

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|----------|--------------|---------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Present: | WARDS | CARNON DOWNS | DEVORAN | FEOCK |
| | | C Kemp | B Thomas | L Fitt |
| | | K Gason | S Cooper | C Blake |
| | | P Lightfoot | M Steel | K Hambly-Staite |
| | | P Allen | | B Robson |
| | | J Allen | | |

In attendance: 4 members of the public in attendance
Debra Roberts, Parish Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer

CHAIRMAN: Councillor Thomas

1. INTRODUCTION BY CHAIRMAN

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Cllr A Allen and Cornwall Councillor Martyn Alvey.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 4TH OCTOBER 2021

RESOLUTION: CLLR KEMP PROPOSED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 4TH OCTOBER 2021 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

There were no declarations of interest.

5. CO-OPTION TO FEOCK WARD VACANCY

The Clerk explained the process in regard to filling the vacancies. There was currently one vacancy open to be filled for Feock ward which existed due to Rob Andrew not standing for re-election at the May elections. The other vacancy, left by the resignation of Hilary Freeman was currently going through the Cornwall Council process of advertising to check that residents did not wish to call an election. The deadline for this expired shortly and then if an election was not called the Clerk would advertise the vacancy and it would be filled by co-option in the New Year. The Chairman would ask those members of the public present if any of them wished to stand for co-option to the one Feock vacancy. If more than one person wanted to stand there would be a paper vote.

The Chairman asked if anyone wished to be considered for the vacancy and if so could they please say a bit about their reasons for wanting to join the Council and what they felt they could bring.

Lesley Fitt and Amer Shafi both put themselves forward to stand to fill the Feock ward vacancy, both candidates spoke to the Council and explained their reasons for wishing to join and their backgrounds.

A paper vote was held and the Clerk announced that Lesley Fitt had been elected by a majority to fill the Feock vacancy.

Lesley Fitt signed the Offer of Acceptance paperwork and took her seat on the Council.

6. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr Bains owned a piece of land on the outskirts of Caron Downs and had read through the Neighbourhood Development Plan as advised by the Parish Council, he had sent in a summary of his plans for his piece of land which the Parish Clerk had circulated to all Councillors. He would like to build a regional training and product development facility on his land at Carnon Downs for his food business. He would be happy to contribute to a footpath to link to the site and Garden Centre from Quenchwell Road and would also like to have additional industrial units for start up businesses which would in turn create employment locally. The Chairman thanked Mr Bains for coming along and said the Parish Council would respond formally when the planning application had been received.

A resident, Mr Brickell attended and said he was sorry to hear that Hilary Freeman had left the Parish Council as he felt she was an excellent Parish Councillor and worked very hard for the Parish Council, especially on Planning which was a very difficult area to be involved in due to the large number of planning applications in the parish.

6. CLERKS UPDATE ON MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

The Clerk gave her update on actions from the previous meeting.

7. MATTERS FOR REPORT

NALC Environmental Biodiversity event – Cllr Cooper attended this remotely.

Annual Conference of Interreg Project – Cllr Hambly-Staite had attended this remotely as a result of our involvement with HAIRE, this was a very useful conference and a report would be circulated on the project.

Devoran School presentation – Cllr Thomas had been to Devoran School and made the presentation of the Rotary “Watch Out!” books that the Parish Council had helped to fund and the school were very grateful for these.

8. CURRENT REPORTS

Cornwall Council

Cllr Martyn Alvey had given his apologies as he was ill but if anyone had anything to raise with him he asked them to email him and he would deal with the queries.

9. FINANCIAL SUMMARY & ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

The Clerk circulated the invoice list 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 ROBSON AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

10. BUDGET & PRECEPT LEVEL 2022/23

The Clerk had circulated the recommendation from the Finance & General Purposes Committee.

Cllr Lightfoot explained the reasoning behind the Finance & General Purposes Committee reasoning for their recommendation to balance the budget and add £10K to help reserves.

Cllr J Allen felt although she understood the reasoning behind the recommendation she felt it had been a difficult time for people and the increase recommended was too high.

Cllr P Allen also felt that the increase was too high and had looked at the budget and felt that there were some items that could be removed such as the review of the NDP (not included in this years budget), the renewal of the noticeboards and we could reduce the number of Connect paper newsletters. The review of the Neighbourhood Development Plan was not as urgent now as it once was due to the proposed changes to the planning law now not happening.

The Council requested the Clerk find out more information about the detail of CIL money for infrastructure.

RESOLUTION: THE CHAIRMAN PROPOSED THAT THE DECISION REGARDING THE BUDGET AND PRECEPT LEVEL FOR 2022/23 WAS DEFERRED UNTIL THE DECEMBER MEETING AND A FURTHER EXPANDED FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING HAD BEEN HELD IN NOVEMBER, THIS WAS DUE TO THE COMPLEXITIES INVOLVED IN THE BUDGET, ALL COUNCILLORS WOULD BE INVITED TO ATTEND TO DISCUSS ANY CUTS THAT CAN BE MADE TO THE BUDGET, SECONDED BY CLLR GASON AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

11. LOCAL WARD REPORTS

Feock Ward

Cllr Blake said that work had now started at Retallack Playing Field on the groundworks.

Cllr Blake reported that the pay and display parking machines and ANPR system were shortly being installed at Loe Beach.

Cllr Robson said there had previously been a number of flooding problems at the Mount George Road end of Wrinkling Lane and Cornwall Council had carried out some works there and despite there being very heavy rain recently there had not been any flooding which was good news. The Clerk would feed this back to Cornwall Council.

Devoran Ward

The Chairman reported that the Devoran Councillors had met with residents in Devoran whose bank had been being damaged by very large lorries, Cormac had been out and repaired the bank and the no parking cones by the Quay would soon be replaced as this kept the road clear and made the swing around the bend easier. The Clerk would contact the home owners where the large lorries were going too to advise them about the damage being caused by the lorries in Devoran.

Cllr Kemp said Devoran Quay Preservation Society should be congratulated on the fireworks display which was very well attended after a break of several years.

Carnon Downs

Cllr P Allen said that Pengelly Meadows Recreation Area was now almost finished and we just needed to purchase the benches and trees for the area. The gym equipment was on order and would arrive early in the New Year.

12. PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT

Cllr Blake said that we were still receiving a large number of planning applications and a new Terms of Reference had been circulated which the Planning Committee had agreed which agreed a triaging

system to enable the most complex applications or those which the applicant or agent wished to speak about went to an in person Planning Committee meeting and the other less contentious applications would be discussed via email and the consultee response agreed.

RESOLUTION: CLLR BLAKE PROPOSED THAT THE COUNCIL ACCEPT THE PLANNING COMMITTEE NEW TERMS OF REFERENCE AS CIRCULATED BY THE CLERK, SECONDED BY CLLR THOMAS AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Cllr Blake said that the Planning Committee were very disappointed about Hilary Freeman's resignation as she was a great loss to the Council.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Blake for taking on the role of Chair of Planning after Hilary Freeman's resignation.

13. ACCESS & AMENITIES COMMITTEE REPORT

Cllr Gason reported as follows.

Penpol Farmhouse Public Right of Way modification determination

This modification request had been made 18 years ago. A determination decision had now been made which the Parish Council did not agree with, it was agreed that the Parish Council should appeal the decision and there was a method of appeal in place.

RESOLUTION: CLLR GASON PROPOSED THAT WE APPEAL THIS DECISION, CLLR P ALLEN SECONDED AND THIS WAS CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Pollarding of trees in Devoran Park

Cllr P Allen said he felt we should investigate pollarding the trees in the manner in which we had originally intended.

The Clerk would contact the Forrestry Team and seek advice on if we would be able to pollard these trees.

Pacific Oysters

Cllr P Allen had circulated the report about these invasive Oysters. Volunteers were now removing the invasive Oysters to try to keep them under control. Cllr P Allen was dealing with the Oysters at Carnon Yard.

14. HAIRE & WELLBEING PROJECT

Cllr Hambly-Staite reported that progress was being made with helping the clubs open up again and creating new groups such as a IT Skills club at the pub in Devoran and the organised Walks and Talks. There were issues with the health service who were not able to share data with projects such as HAIRE and this causes us difficulty in identifying people who have a real need and are those people who do not get in touch with the Council or admit they are in need. We are working with Age UK and Volunteer Cornwall to try to break down these barriers.

15. CLIMATE & ECOLOGICAL EMERGENCY BILL

Cllr Cooper reported that she had attended an online NALC conference regarding net biodiversity gain and planning.

It had previously been suggested that we write to Cheryl Mackrory MP to ask her why she is not supporting the CEE bill and explain our concerns about this.

Cllr Hambly-Staite suggested that we also put in a request to Jordan Rowse to arrange a meeting with the Parish Councillors who would like to be involved.

Cllr P Allen said he did not feel it was the role of the Parish Council to get involved in political campaigning. He felt we should expend our energies in finding what we could do in our own community locally in relation to climate and the ecological emergency.

RESOLUTION: CLLR P ALLEN PROPOSED THAT WE DID NOT GET INVOLVED WITH POLITICAL CAMPAIGNING ON THIS ISSUE, SECONDED BY CLLR J ALLEN, A VOTE WAS HELD AND THE MOTION WAS NOT CARRIED.

The second motion was moved as follows.

RESOLUTION: CLLR COOPER PROPOSED WE WRITE TO CHERILYN MACKRORY MP WITH THE LETTER SHE HAD DRAFTED AND CIRCULATED AND WE ALSO REQUEST A MEETING WITH OUR MP, SECONDED BY CLLR HAMBLY-STAITTE, CARRIED BY A MAJORITY, IT WAS NOTED THAT CLLR J ALLEN WISHED IT TO BE RECORDED IN THE MINUTES THAT SHE HAD VOTED AGAINST THE MOTION AND CLLR GASON ABSTEINED.

Community Energy Fund

Cllr Cooper was very keen that we apply for this funding and felt we should ask our residents for their ideas and views on community energy. Cllr P Allen said he felt we did not currently have a view on what our residents feel about community energy and that we should ask this question to ensure we are representing their views accurately.

RESOLUTION: CLLR COOPER PROPOSED WE PUT OUT A SURVEY TO GAUGE SUPPORT FOR COMMUNITY ENERGY PROVISION IN OUR PROVISION FROM THE RESIDENTS AND SOME INFORMATION ABOUT THE FUNDING THAT IS POTENTIALLY AVAILABLE, SECONDED BY CLLR GASON, CARRIED BY A MAJORITY.

It was agreed to include Devoran School in the survey and ask them for their ideas.

People's Climate Energy Festival Funding Request

The Clerk said that a request had been received from the Community Network Panel for funding support of between £50 and £100 per Parish Council to support the People's Climate Energy Festival.

RESOLUTION: CLLR COOPER PROPOSED WE DID NOT SUPPORT THIS FUNDING, SECONDED BY CLLR J ALLEN, CARRIED BY A MAJORITY.

16. FUNDING REQUESTS

RESOLUTION: CLLR STEEL PROPOSED THAT ALL FUNDING REQUESTS BE DEFERRED UNTIL AFTER A DECISION HAD BEEN MADE ON THE PRECEPT AND BUDGET FOR 2022/23, CARRIED BY CLLR LIGHTFOOT AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

17. HIGHWAYS ISSUES

Cllr P Allen proposed that we hold the Local transport plan discussion for an Extraordinary Parish Council meeting. The Clerk had circulated the draft response that Cllr P Allen had put together. The Clerk confirmed the deadline for consultee comments was 24th December 2021.

Cllr P Allen said that he had read through Cormac's Feasibility study on a safer cycle route from Feock out to Playing Place and said he was disappointed that we had not been involved in putting this together. He felt the report that had been provided had not fulfilled the brief and he felt further discussion was needed with Cormac and Cornwall Council Highways.

Cllr Gason said that she would like Cllr P Allen's report to be discussed by the Access & Amenities Committee so that it could reflect that Committee's views as well. Cllr P Allen said all the reports he put forward were draft and for comment by the Council and were not a final version and he welcomed other Councillors input.

18. REMOVAL OF FLOWER BED ON FORTH COTH, CARNON DOWNS

It was noted that this piece of land on Forth Coth was highway, Cllr Blake explained how this land fitted into a planning application for the replacement of a commercial unit with a small dwelling and the Planning Officers comments that due to the size of the proposed dwelling a parking space was not required and as the land at the front was highway a car could be parked there, this was despite this meaning that people would have to walk out into the traffic and put themselves in danger to go around a parked car which the Parish Council did not feel was acceptable.

Cllr Hambly-Staite suggested that a condition be put on any planning permission that the owner should remove the flowerbed and reinstate the surface back to a pavement.

19. QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE BEACON & CELEBRATIONS

It was agreed to defer this item to a future meeting.

The Clerk left the meeting due to the next item relating to staff salaries including her own.

Due to the following items being of a confidential nature, members of the public were requested to leave the meeting.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.55pm.