

MEETING No.1349

Minutes of the meeting of the Access & Amenities Committee of Feock Parish Council
held on Tuesday 17th June 2024 at 6pm at
the Parish Council Office, Market Street, Devoran

Members present: Cllr Anne Allen, Committee Chair, Devoran Ward
Cllr Rick Bowers, Feock Ward
Cllr Phil Allen, Carnon Downs Ward
Cllr Jan Allen, Carnon Downs Ward
Cllr Rick Bowers, Feock Ward
Cllr Keith Hambly-Staite, Feock Ward
Cllr Corrine Dyke, Feock Ward

In attendance: Debbie Searle, Assistant Parish Clerk

1. INTRODUCTION BY CHAIR

The Chair welcomed those present and reminded members of the civility and respect pledge and to only discuss and agree actions on items on the agenda.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Brian Yates and Cllr Beverly Johnson.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLUTION: Cllr Brickell proposed the minutes, with the correction to the list of members present, of the meeting of the Access & Amenities Committee of 21st May 2024 as a correct record of the material decisions made and be signed by the Chair. This was seconded by Cllr Bowers and carried by the meeting.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received.

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No members of the public were present.

6. CARNON GATE ROUNDABOUT

Cllr P Allen advised that an update on the planting of the roundabout would be reported at the next meeting.

7. HEALTH & WELLBEING

Members read through the report previously circulated from Cathy Whitmore, Information & Wellbeing Adviser. The paper copies of the July What's On were distributed between Councillors for them to deliver.

Cllr P Allen provided a summary report on the HAIRE project. He identified principal actions and key points that he hoped the Council would agree on as policy statements at a future meeting of the Council.

These were: Individual support, which is important for many older residents and the Parish Council should provide resources for this on an ongoing basis. Information regarding activities and services which is extremely important, and the Parish Council should both extend its range of information methodologies and also support those provided within the community. The loss of personal transport options can be very difficult for older people and the Parish Council should actively support alternative options via the volunteer car service, working to improve the bus service and supporting the community bus. Meeting places such as the Village/Church halls and other places housing community services are very important and the Parish Council should encourage and support these through active support and the planning process. Older people particularly value community groups and cultural organisations active within the Parish and the Parish Council should seek to encourage a wide range of these groups. It had been recognized that older people value the distinctive heritage, landscape and environment within the Parish and the Parish Council should develop programmes which both protect and sustain these aspects whilst making them more accessible for all residents. The Parish Council provides an

important first port of call for residents navigating local government and public services, and it should continue to actively liaise with other councils, schools, health services and other public services in order to provide appropriate information to residents.

Discussion followed in which Cllr P Allen stated it was a draft document and he welcomed input to enable a good discussion at the next full Parish Council meeting. Cllr Hambly-Staite stated that much of what was contained in the report enabled the appointment of the Health & Wellbeing Advisor. Cllr Dyke questioned if the report would be expanded to include actions that could be measured. Cllr P Allen replied that this was the type of comment he hoped to receive from this first draft, and he encouraged input.

ACTION: HAIRE Project summary report to be on the agenda for the next full PC meeting.

8. SMALL GRANTS

The Chair gave details of the application for a small grant of £200 made by the Carnon Downs Memory Café. Cllr J Allen felt it wasn't appropriate to support the application and discussion followed in which Cllr Hambly-Staite felt that if it was another club that wanted funding towards a day out he would agree, however he felt that in this circumstance it would meet with the wellbeing agenda. Cllr P Allen stated that traditionally the Council have limited funding to capital projects however they have before now provided money towards a trip for the Scouts. The Chair read out the criteria stated for the grants scheme. Cllr Bowers disagreed with Cllr J Allen stating that he had worked in dementia care and felt that an outing like the one proposed could bring enormous help to members and their carers, and he would warmly support the application. Cllr Dyke agreed with Cllr Bowers view. Cllr Brickell gave details of a previous day trip he had been involved with and felt it was a worthwhile activity. Cllr Hambly-Staite stated that the application had the support of the Health & Wellbeing Advisor. The Chair proposed that an amendment be made to the criteria for the scheme.

RESOLUTION: Cllr Hambly-Staite proposed that a £200 grant is awarded to the Carnon Downs Memory Café towards the cost of coach travel to support their proposed outing in September. This was seconded by Cllr Bowers and carried unanimously.

ACTION: The criteria of the Small Grants Scheme to be reviewed at a future meeting of the Committee.

9. TRAM ROAD FIELD

The Chair advised members that agreement needed to be reached on the purchase of benches and picnic tables, together with a cycle rack, for Dyson's field in order to complete the transfer of the field. Discussion followed in which Cllr J Allen suggested that the cycle rack be red or yellow. Cllr Bowers expressed concern on a practical point that if the rack was a colour rather than galvanized then the paint may chip and it may look unsightly.

RESOLUTION: Cllr P Allen proposed the Parish Council proceed with the purchase of 2 x benches and 2 x picnic tables from Celtic Garden Furniture (subject to checking the seat height of the benches which needed to be 17/18") together with the purchase of a 4 hoop, galvanized cycle rack from broxap. This was seconded by Cllr Brickell and carried unanimously.

The Chair advised members that agreement needed to be reached on the opening event. Discussion took place regarding the type of event and who should be invited to open it. Cllr Hambly-Staite felt it had already been agreed that it would be a soft opening and a low-key event with invited local people and he estimated that around 20 people would attend. Proposed dates for the opening were discussed.

RESOLUTION: Cllr Brickell proposed the arrangements for the opening of Dyson's field as: The field is opened at 2pm on Saturday 13th July 2024, the Dyson family to be invited and a member of the family to open the event and pass the gift of the field to Cllr Brickell as Chair of the Parish Council. Representation from Restronguet Creek Society, Feock Eco Group and Devoran Quay Society will be invited to attend. Cllr Martyn Alvey and John and Edwin Lanyon will also be invited and Cllr Keith Hambly-Staite asked to speak. This was seconded by Cllr Hambly-Staite and carried unanimously.

The drafted sign of Do's and Don'ts to be placed within the field was reviewed. Discussion took place regarding the issue of ticks and the need for this to be included within the sign. It was agreed that it should not be included within this sign, however a separate sign could be put up. Following discussion amendments were made to the draft copy. The provision of a dog waste bin was discussed. It was agreed that a bin would not be installed now but one can be put in later if necessary.

RESOLUTION: Cllr P Allen proposed that subject to the draft sign being amended as agreed, the sign can be ordered by the Clerk. This was seconded by Cllr Bowers and carried by the meeting.

The Chair summarized the current situation regarding the funding of the management of the field. She felt that there were groups that wished to be involved and was particularly aware that Feock Eco Group would like to be involved in the field's management but wished to clarify that as it is Parish Council land, people should contact the Clerk before arranging any activity/maintenance in the field. It needed to be clear that no one should be making any decisions without the rest of the Council knowing. Cllr Hambly-Staite provided relevant history and stated that the initial plan for the field was drafted by John Lanyon, taking account of the local heritage and providing a range of trees that could be used for educational purposes. Edwin computerised those ideas, and it became clear that having someone like that to work with our contractors would be ideal, we discussed with CALC how a nominal payment could be made to Edwin so that he would be able to continue to manage the field. There have been several activities involving volunteers which have taken place. He would like to invite Edwin to the next committee meeting to discuss the framework for the management plan. He further stated that the Clerk is establishing a link between Edwin and our contactors. Cllr Bowers questioned the amount of the gift to Edwin and it was confirmed by the Chair as £250 per year, allocated as Chairman's Allowance.

RESOLUTION: Cllr Hambly-Staite proposed that Edwin Lanyon be invited to a meeting of the Access & Amenities Committee to discuss how he sees the field going and how we can put in a management plan. This was seconded by Cllr Bowers and carried unanimously.

The Chair advised the meeting that Cllr Hambly-Staite had drafted a letter to the Pre-School/Devoran School to advise them of the field.

ACTION: The Chair asked Cllr Hambly-Staite to send a copy of his drafted letter to the parents of Devoran Pre-School to the Clerk. The Clerk will then circulate to the Council for agreement.

10. LETTER TO TRAM ROAD RESIDENTS REGARDING HEDGE CUTTING

Cllr P Allen provided a draft letter and asked for comments from members in order that it could be sent out to residents.

RESOLUTION: Cllr P Allen proposed that his draft letter is sent to all Councillors for their feedback and comment and it be on the agenda for the full Parish Council meeting on 9th September so that it can be agreed and sent out following that meeting. This was seconded by Cllr Bowers and carried by the meeting.

11. ACTIVE FEOCK PROJECT

Cllr P Allen provided a report on active travel and felt that there should be reasonable walking links between communities as all the parish villages were within 3 miles of each other and wished members to discuss whether they thought this should be included within the Active Feock project remit. He proposed that the report should be sent to Mark O'Brien to be included within the Active Feock feasibility study. Discussion followed regarding the appropriateness of the report being included in Active Feock. Cllr Hambly-Staite stated that he agreed with the summary which focuses on a new activity however the Active Feock project was designed as a project for the less able. When we are looking for funding we are looking for prioritisation with what already exists and the issue here is if you develop things for the less able everyone can they use it, if you design things for the able then the less able can't use it, it doesn't work in reverse. So this would not be of primary interest to the less agile. Cllr A Allen questioned if something could be added, to look and see what footpaths they have which would specifically allow the less able to use. Cllr Dyke commented that less able is a very wide term and if you took out

an obstacle for example a style you could make it accessible for people. She felt to make it fully accessible for people that could not do much at all would be excluding a lot of people. Cllr P Allen stated that the cycle route isn't designed for the less able and the 30-minute walks weren't originally designed for the less able but in consultation thought they should be equal opportunity. He felt there were some routes that practically cannot be made fully inclusive. Cllr A Allen felt that some of the routes could be for the less able and they would know where they could go. Cllr P Allen confirmed that his report was a draft and was a starting point. He felt that there should be a route between Feock village and Point and Penpol that is available to all capabilities. Cllr Hambly-Staite expressed concern that the report hadn't been consulted on and had no public comment. Following further discussion Cllr P Allen withdrew his proposal. Cllr Bowers stated that he felt it was a good plan for looking at the footpaths and felt it was a shame to lose the opportunity and would like to be involved in a project that involved non car driving and Cllr P Allen's report would be a good starting point. Cllr Dyke proposed that a new project based on the report should be started. The Chair suggested a working party that could look at these issues.

ACTION: The report to be considered again and on the agenda for an autumn meeting.

Cllr P Allen provided a leaflet from a company dealing in recycled plastic benches, they were maintenance free and comfortable and would like them put forward as an emblem of Active Feock. He felt they were something that gives the right impression and a standard style of bench seat fits that bill, they look the same as the ones outside the shop in Carnon Downs. He further suggested that there will be a number of bench seats coming up for renewal and suggested that these be the corporate sign of Feock. Cllr J Allen questioned if they could have the Feock emblem on them and it was confirmed they could.

RESOLUTION: Cllr P Allen proposed that the Access & Amenities committee recommend to full Council that, as a potential corporate decision, the plastic recycled benches be used. This was seconded by Cllr Hambly-Staite and carried unanimously.

12. CLERKS REPORT

The Assistant Clerk provided a report which stated that clear self-adhesive film covering is being ordered to cover the Passing Place Only signs for the Tram Road passing places (needed before signs can be put up) and that the other actions from the previous meeting had been discussed as agenda items in the current meeting or at the full Parish Council meeting on 10th June.

The Chair advised that Coades had been commissioned to start work on the registering of the common land.

13. HIGHWAYS

The Chair advised that the overgrown hedges/verges at the entrance to Devoran had been reported to Cornwall Highways and they had subsequently confirmed that they would deal with it. Also, the condition of the road to the graveyard had been reported to Cornwall Highways on behalf of St Feock Church, however Highways did not consider action was currently necessary, but they will carry out routine inspections.

Cllr Hambly-Staite stated that the bus timetables at the bus shelters had been removed.

ACTION: Ask Cornwall Transport why the bus timetables have been removed from all bus shelters in the Parish.

14. PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

Cllr P Allen stated that there was money left in the Enhanced LMP fund. The reserve items to do if possible were putting in a handrail at Herons Creek, the hedge at Tresithick/Tregoose and the ramp at Carnon Yard beach and he would like these matters advanced within the next few weeks. He would like information to be extracted from the contractors to enable this to be progressed.

ACTION: The additional works required to be funded by the remaining Enhanced LMP fund to be on the agenda for the full Parish Council meeting on 22nd July.

15. LAND & PLAYING FIELDS

The Chair advised members that there was an issue regarding an overflowing cesspit connected to one of the cottages and located within Point Orchard. Cllr P Allen explained that the owners of the cottage were very helpful and concerned, and they advised him that they would have to close that part of the orchard until the issue was resolved so wished it to be remedied as soon as possible. He advised that he is putting in progress a noninvasive inspection. Cllr P Allen informed that he had taped the area off for the Regatta at the weekend however, if it is going to be weeks/months more substantial fencing may be needed. Cllr Brickell felt that the cottage owner should stand the cost of any fencing needed and was concerned about liability. Discussion followed in which Cllr Brickell offered to have a look and it was agreed that he should. Cllr J Allen stated that the orchard should be cut regularly and tidied up. The Chair agreed that it could not now be used, she understood why people wanted some areas of long grass but there should be areas for children to play, she asked Cllr P Allen as the Parish Council's representative on the Point Quay Association (PQA), to speak to the committee. Cllr P Allen stated that he would speak to them but did need an agreed mandate on the Parish Council's position. The Chair asked Cllr Bowers his view on the cutting, he stated that he agreed with the cordoning off of the cesspit area but with regard to the cutting he thought the PQA had their own plans and we should find out what their plan was. The Chair agreed that they should be asked what their plans were for maintaining the Orchard. Cllr Dyke referred back to the issue of the cesspit and questioned the PQA's situation regarding this, Cllr P Allen advised that they have a lease on the land and whilst the cesspit issue has been passed back to the Parish Council, he confirmed that the cutting of the orchard is with them as the lessee. He stated that as there was not a planned meeting of the PQA he would have to communicate with them by email, he would formulate an email and ask Cllr A Allen and Cllr Brickell to help him amend it if they felt it was necessary. He clarified that it would be drafted regarding the issue with the sewerage and how it is being dealt with and would wish to know their management plan for the rest of the orchard for the future.

ACTION: Cllr P Allen to draft a letter to ask Point Quay Association (to be referred to Cllr A Allen and Cllr Brickell for comment) what their plan is for maintaining the Orchard.

Cllr Hambly-Staite asked that the matter of the PQA updating their lease, in regard to their change of status, be referred back to the Clerk as it had not been advanced but could be an opportunity for the Council to make it clear how we would like it managed. Cllr J Allen felt it should be taken back by the Council if it is not managed in a way that allows people to use it.

ACTION: When the new lease comes up the Council to review what is expected of the management of the Orchard.

The Chair advised members that the contractor who had quoted for carrying out the required works to Restronguet Point had now advised that he did not feel able to do the work and the Chair quoted some of the reasons given for this. She stated that they could find another contractor to do the works in the Autumn but in the meantime a tidy up job could be undertaken, and she was aware of a couple of volunteers that had come forward and may be able to carry this out. Cllr Hambly-Staite expressed disappointment at the situation and stated that the Clerk had confirmed that she will look for another contractor. Discussion followed regarding the condition of the area and the boats.

ACTION: Cllr P Allen and Cllr Bowers will leave notices on all the boats with fair notice that boats will be removed (wording along the lines of the notices used for boats at Carnon Yard). Also, to ask the Clerk to ask Ewen Abram-Moore (Feock Garden Services) to do his normal cut at Restronguet Point and inform him that action will be taken about the boats and advise him that later in the year we will be asking him to help with tidying up the area.

Cllr Bowers wished notices to be placed on all boats to ask people to advise the Parish Council of their intentions with their boats and it was agreed that the wording for these notices should be looked at.

16. RISK ASSESSMENTS

Deferred to the next meeting.

17. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting was agreed as 6pm, 23rd September 2024. Any urgent items are to be taken to the full Parish Council meeting on 22nd July 2024 if necessary. It was agreed that all future committee meetings would be scheduled 2 weeks after the full Parish Council meetings.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.50pm.

DRAFT