

## MEETING NO.

**Minutes of the FEOCK PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> July 2020 at 6.30pm held remotely via Zoom meeting**

Present:	<b>WARDS</b>	<b>CARNON DOWNS</b>	<b>DEVORAN</b>	<b>FEOCK</b>
		K Gason	M Steel	C Blake
		C Kemp	B Thomas	K Hambly-Staite
		P Lightfoot	A Allen	H Freeman
		P Allen	S Parker	B Robson
		R Brickell		

In attendance: Cornwall Councillor Martyn Alvey  
Debra Roberts, Parish Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer  
Debbie Searle, Assistant Parish Clerk

CHAIRMAN: Councillor Lightfoot

### 1. INTRODUCTION BY CHAIRMAN

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### 2. APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Cllr Andrew.

### 3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 8<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2020

**RESOLUTION: CLLR THOMAS PROPOSED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 8<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2020 AS CIRCULATED BY THE CLERK, BE SIGNED BY THE CHAIRMAN AS A TRUE AND ACCURATE RECORD OF THE MEETING, THIS WAS SECONDED BY CLLR ALLEN AND WAS CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY THE MEETING.**

### 4. CO-OPTION TO CASUAL VACANCY FOR FEOCK WARD

Bee Robson from Feock was in attendance and said she was interested in filling the Feock ward vacancy. Bee gave a short introduction to herself and her background and what she felt she could bring to the Council.

**RESOLUTION: CLLR BLAKE PROPOSED BEE ROBSON BE APPOINTED TO THE PARISH COUNCIL TO FILL THE FEOCK WARD VACANCY, SECONDED BY CLLR HAMBLY-STAITHE AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

As the meeting was being held virtually the Clerk would arrange for the Acceptance of Office form and Register of Interests to be completed by Cllr Robson as soon as possible after the meeting.

### 5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Kemp declared an interest in Item 20 Holiday from Rent Payments due to being the manager of the Pre-School who were a tenant of the Parish Council.

### 6. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no members of the public present and the Clerk confirmed that no questions had been received from the public.

## **7. CLERKS UPDATE ON MATTERS ARISING**

Cllr P Allen has contacted Vicky Fraser at Cornwall Council re our bid for money for improvements to the cycle route and how this fitted with the work that our new MP was hoping to bring forward on the Truro to Falmouth cycle route.

The Clerk reported that additional dog fouling notices had been put up at La Vague.

The Police had been contacted about social distancing and their email response had been circulated. The insurance policy had been renewed as agreed.

## **8. MATTERS FOR REPORT**

Cllr Brickell had been in contact with Carnon Downs Village Hall who would not be re-opening until September 2020 due to Covid 19. Cllr Thomas confirmed that Devoran Village Hall would also not be opening for the same reasons but there would be increased food vans visiting from this week to provide an outdoor market, social distanced event.

Cllr P Allen had raised with Cornwall Council and the Countryside Access Forum about the issues with verges being blocked by stones etc. and would take this forward on behalf of the Parish Council. He had also raised with the Mining Trails Forum the Green CIL funding available through Cornwall Council and would be carrying out a survey of the Carnon Valley. The issue regarding the lease/agreement for the Carnon Valley woodland had been chased with Mark O'Brien.

## **9. CURRENT REPORTS**

### **Cornwall Council**

Cllr Alvey said that he had raised the issue on behalf of Kea Parish Council about the method used to allocate the highways funding budget as they felt that their application would also benefit children from Carnon Downs and Feock who attended Kea School, only 25% of children at Kea School actually lived in the parish. They felt strongly that this was an important safety issue and would benefit families and children who live in a wide area and were disappointed that their bid had not been given a higher priority. There were also concerns from both Kea and Feock Councils about the priority being given to those bids made by the Cornwall Councillors over the Parish Councils, especially when some of these projects were made by Cornwall Councillors without consultation with the City Council whose area the projects were in.

The Parish Council's comment on the application at Topsails, Feock had been submitted and Cllr Alvey had been contacted by a number of residents with concerns about this application.

There had been concerns raised by residents in Carnon Downs about the extension to working times that was agreed by Planning for the new Quenchwell Road development and their disappointment that this had been agreed without any consultation with residents.

Cllr Alvey had a meeting with Cherilyn Mackrory MP in the next few days and was happy to raise any issues on behalf of the Parish Council that they wished.

Cllr Brickell said there had been information published recently regarding agricultural holdings in AONBs being looked upon favourably where farmers needed to convert traditional farm buildings into houses for farm workers which he welcomed. However he had concerns about this system being abused where very large, allegedly redundant steel buildings were now being converted in to dwellings and he asked if this was in the spirit of this legislation.

### **Devon & Cornwall Police Report**

The Clerk advised the 'Your area' crime mapping page had now been taken down to allow the Police to concentrate all their efforts on the issues caused by the Coronavirus.

## **10. LOCAL WARD REPORTS**

### **Feock Ward**

There were no issues raised.

### **Devoran Ward**

Cllr Thomas said that Yummy Scummy opened recently and had been reported to Environmental Health by persons unknown as there had been a lack of social distancing reported between customers but this had now been remedied.

Cllr A Allen said the road at the Tram was closed due to a water leak and SWW were currently working there. Cllr A Allen asked if there was any progress with the installation of the water point at Point Quay. There were concerns raised about having this installed now due to the risk of cross contamination of the virus of a water point that would be used by members of the public. Cllr P Allen would find out the lead in time for installation for the water supply to be installed so it could be in place but not in use until such time we felt it was safe and a tap/refill point could be added.

### **Carnon Downs Ward**

There were no issues raised.

## **11. FINANCIAL SUMMARY & ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

The Clerk had circulated to those present, prior to the meeting, the list of accounts for payment since the last meeting. 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 THOMAS PROPOSED THE ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT BE APPROVED AND SIGNED BY THE CHAIRMAN, SECONDED BY CLLR STEEL AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

## **12. WELLBEING & HAIRE PROJECT REPORT**

Cllr Hambly-Staite said that a report from Bex Rawbone had been circulated to all Councillors giving an update on the work she had carried out so far on the HAIRE project. The Steering/Advisory Group was being put together and was almost complete and included representation from outside of the Parish Council, they would meet quarterly. A management group from the Parish Council that would meet monthly with Bex Rawbone and was made up of Cllrs Hambly-Staite, A Allen, Blake and the Parish Clerk. Cllr Hambly-Staite suggested that a strap line was needed to go underneath the HAIRE Project title to make the purpose of the project clearer and more local.

Cllr Hambly-Staite said that he would hope that all Parish Councillors would be involved in the Neighbourhood Analysis. Cllr P Allen said that he would like to thank Cllr Hambly-Staite for all the work that he had put in getting the HAIRE project up and running. Cllr Hambly-Staite said he would like to thank the Clerk and Assistant Clerk for all the work that they had put in on the administration side of the project as this was very complex in relation to EU funding.

## **13. CLIMATE EMERGENCY PROJECT UPDATE**

Cllr P Allen had written an article to go out in the next Connect paper newsletter which was planned to be distributed during the third week of July. The Clerk would send out the list of articles to all

Councillors that that we hoped to cover regarding Climate Emergency and asked that Councillors write a piece to be included if they could.

The Clerk had arranged for Covid safe guidance signs to be erected on the gates of all the parks to enable them to be reopened safely. There had been some suggestion that anti-bac hand gel should be provided at the parks but it was felt this was not necessary and the onus should be on parents/carers to bring their own to the park and ensure they washed their hands when they got home.

Cllr P Allen said the passing places along the Tram Road needed to be cut out again and requested permission to have this carried out (this would only be the passing places as it was bird nesting season and the hedges should not be cut).

**RESOLUTION: CLLR THOMAS PROPOSED ARRANGEMENTS BE MADE TO CUT OUT THE PASSING PLACES ON THE OLD TRAM ROAD, SECONDED BY CLLR P ALLEN AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Pengelly Meadows – there was some discussion about groundworks needed at Pengelly Meadows, although the field was looking good it was felt that it did still need levelling and even without that substantial works would be needed to put in the pathways. This would be discussed again by the Access & Amenities Committee.

Traffic through Carnon Downs - Cllr P Allen raised that we had written previously to Nigel Blackler regarding our concerns about traffic and the reply was that this would be looked at when the detailed planning for the Langarth development was submitted but we haven't yet seen any evidence of this being done. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to Nigel Blackler regarding this.

Cllr Brickell said that Cornish Mutual had issued confirmation of liability on the landowner with regards to issues on footpaths.

**15. PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT**

The Assistant Clerk had circulated the latest planning report to everyone. The Penpol Boatyard application had been approved and the Parish Council's request for a site visit had not been able to be arranged by Cornwall Council, the reason given was that due to the Covid restrictions site visits were not able to be held. The application on St John's Terrace had been resubmitted with a much smaller building in the garden which it was hoped would be more acceptable to neighbours. The application at Pentui was still ongoing and there had been a lot of objections submitted by neighbours.

Cllr P Allen said he was very disappointed about the situation where the Planning Officer was going to recommend approval for the application for a new agricultural barn in Feock on the same site where a barn had recently been sold with permission to be converted to a house as it was no longer needed for agricultural use. Cllr P Allen felt he could unfortunately no longer continue on the Planning Committee.

Cllr Hambly-Staite felt that we should suggest that the AONB in Feock should be removed due to the abuse of this by the Planning Department, the AONB did not appear to count for anything when planning applications were decided there was no correlation between Council policies and the decisions being made. Cllr Blake was very concerned about the number of TPO's being breached or protected trees being given approval to be removed.

Cllr Alvey said that following the AONB meetings held with Parishes last year a meeting and review of the contentious cases was due to be held right at the start of the lockdown and this was now being rearranged. He felt the AONB was recognised by Planning but that the issue was that the balance of

protecting the AONB was not always being achieved successfully when looking at planning applications.

#### **16. CORONAVIRUS RESPONSE & VOLUNTEER HELP SYSTEM**

The Clerk asked the Council if they wished to have a separate fund set up for applications to support groups through Covid. The Council agreed to deal with applications for support as they were received.

#### **Devoran Quay Preservation Society**

The Quay Preservation Society had seen a dramatic reduction in income due to cancellation of fundraising events and weddings due to the pandemic. There was a discussion regarding the history of the purchase of the quay. Cllr P Allen disagreed with the version given by Cllr Thomas and said that the Parish Council had tried very hard to purchase the quay but due to various factors this unfortunately the purchase had not been able to be completed.

Cllr P Allen left the meeting.

**RESOLUTION: CLLR B THOMAS PROPOSED THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL FINANCIALLY SUPPORT DEVORAN QUAY PRESERVATION SOCIETY AT THE PRESENT TIME, SECONDED BY CLLR A ALLEN, CARRIED BY A MAJORITY (7), RICHARD AND HILARY ABSTEINED.**

Cllr A Allen said that some residents were disappointed about the amount of money spent on the health and safety fencing of the garden area which could have been used to pay for the insurance where there now appeared to be a shortfall.

Cllr Thomas apologised if he had incorrect information about the background to the purchase of the quay and certainly did not wish to cause any upset. Cllr Gason said that she felt the Quay Association should make sure they get the best possible price for their insurance and then come back to us if they still had a shortfall after they have completed their fundraising.

Cllr Alvey said he would check if there were any funds left in the Community Chest funding and if he could assist the Quay Association.

#### **17. LOCAL GOVERNMENT PENSION SCHEME**

The Clerk said that one of the terms and conditions of employment was membership of the Local Government Pension Scheme. The HAIRE Project Co-ordinator wished to join and the Clerk advised that the Pensions Team at Cornwall Council required a resolution to be passed by the Parish Council to enable enrolment.

**RESOLUTION: CLLR BLAKE PROPOSED THE HAIRE PROJECT CO-ORDINATOR BE ENROLED IN THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT PENSION SCHEME, SECONDED BY CLLR THOMAS AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH ONE ABSTENSION (DUE TO QUERY OVER THE DATE WHEN ENROLMENT SHOULD START).**

The Assistant Clerk confirmed that the members of staff were eligible to join the pension from the start date in their role not from the end of their probationary period.

#### **18. CYCLE TO WORK SCHEME**

The Clerk had circulated details of a Cycle to Work scheme to the Council as a member of staff wished to join it. The Council did not feel they had enough information to make a decision and asked for this item to be deferred to the September meeting and for the Clerk to provide additional information.

**19. PARISH COUNCIL MEETING DATES**

The Clerk had circulated a list of meeting dates for the coming year, all were generally on the first Monday of the month.

**RESOLUTION: CLLR THOMAS PROPOSED THAT THE MEETING DATES AS CIRCULATED BE APPROVED, SECONDED BY CLLR LIGHTFOOT AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The following items are confidential and were discussed in the closed session. There were no members of the public or press present.

**20. HOLIDAY FROM RENT PAYMENTS**

The Clerk advised that there had been previous discussions regarding a suggestion to give a rent free period to our tenants to support them during the pandemic. Following discussions the following resolutions were passed.

**RESOLUTION: CLLR THOMAS PROPOSED THAT THE PRE-SCHOOL RENT IS FROZEN FOR 12 MONTHS AT THE CURRENT LEVEL AND BE REVIEWED IN 12 MONTHS TIME, NO RENT HOLIDAY OR DISCOUNT TO BE GIVEN TO THE PRE-SCHOOL IN RELATION TO COVID, SECONDED BY CLLR FREEMAN AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**RESOLUTION: CLLR LIGHTFOOT PROPOSED THAT SEKOYA BE GIVEN A 12 WEEK RENT FREE PERIOD FOR THE COVID LOCKDOWN PERIOD AND A FORMAL TENANCY AGREEMENT BE PUT IN PLACE, SECONDED BY CLLR THOMAS AND CARRIED BY A MAJORITY.**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9pm