Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 ("the 2020 Regulations") permits Parish Council meetings to be held by remotely.

# Minutes of virtual Parish Council meeting Held on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2021.

**COUNCILLORS VIRTUALLY PRESENT**: Mr M Gingell (Chairman), Mr G Francis (Vice Chairman), Mrs Hazel Cartledge-Claus, Mrs Penny Mathers, Mr N Owen, Dr S Walker,

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs K Heald, CC Jesse Foot and five members of the public

The Chairman opened the meeting at 7pm

### **OPEN FORUM**

The following comments were raised:

The Pedestrian bridge across the A38: Could the Council look into cleaning the bridge. The Chairman agreed the Council should look into addressing the issues but raised concerns over volunteer health & safety measures. It was highlighted approximately two and a half years ago the Council looked it having the bridge repainted and it was agreed the Council favoured racing green. CC Jesse Foot suggested the Council contact Highways England. Action: The Clerk to review previous correspondence.

Climate change and Environmental issues were discussed, and a request was made that an agenda item titled 'Environment & Sustainability' is included as a standing item on the agenda (replacing the title of 'Climate Change'.

**Cornwall Councillor candidates**: The Chairman invited Mr Sam Tamblin, who will be standing as a Cornwall Councillor for the Saltash Division to introduce himself. Mr Martin Worth, who is also standing as a candidate and was given the opportunity to introduce himself at the previous meeting, was also present in the meeting.

#### 1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies received from Cllr Barton and Cllr Knowles.

The Chairman announced apologies had also been received from Cllr Knowles. He has been in regular contact with Cllr Knowles and keeping him up to date on Council business. Due a combination of health, technical issues and the sad loss of Margaret Knowles, Cllr Knowles' wife, the last meeting Cllr Knowles was able to attend was on 14<sup>th</sup> July 2021. As this was the sixth month (see footnote¹) in which Cllr Knowles had been unable to attend a meeting the Chairman requested a resolution is passed to approved Cllr Knowles reasons of absence and the Council support Cllr Knowles wish to remain a Landrake with St Erney Parish Councillor.

who were appointed to advise the authority on any matter relating to the discharge of their functions, and attendance as representative of the authority at a meeting of any body of persons, shall be deemed for the purposes of subsection (1) above to be attendance at a meeting of the authority.

¹ Vacation of office by failure to attend meetings - <a href="https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1972/70/section/85">https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1972/70/section/85</a>
(1)Subject to subsections (2) and (3) below, if a member of a local authority fails throughout a period of six consecutive months from the date of his last attendance to attend any meeting of the authority, he shall, unless the failure was due to some reason approved by the authority before the expiry of that period, cease to be a member of the authority.

(2)Attendance as a member at a meeting of any committee or sub-committee of the authority, or at a meeting of any joint committee, joint board or other body by whom for the time being any of the functions of the authority are being discharged, or

It was proposed by Cllr Owen and seconded by Cllr Francis that the Council approves Cllr Knowles reasons for absence. The motion was unanimously supported by all Councillors present in the meeting. **Resolved**.

# 2. Declarations of interest on any agenda items

None received.

3. Approval of minutes from the Parish Council meeting held on 12 January 2021 It was noted the open forum referred to Penny Knowles instead of Penny Mathers. Subject to this amendment it was proposed by Cllr Francis and seconded by Cllr Owen the Council approves the minutes of the meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> January 2021. The motion was supported by all Councillors. **Resolved.** 

# 4. Any matters arising from the minutes which are not agenda items No matters raised.

# 5. Resignation of Parish Councillor

The Chairman announced that following last months meeting, he had received an email from Cllr Foote offering his resignation. It was proposed by the Chairman the Council accepts Mr Foote's resignation and on behalf of the Council, the Clerk should write to Mr Foote thanking him for his service. The motion was seconded by Cllr Savery and agreed by all Councillors in the meeting. **Resolved** 

The Council discussed the process for casual vacancies. It was agreed the Clerk would contact Cornwall Council regarding the process for advertising casual vacancies. Action: Once confirmation has been received from Cornwall Council the Clerk will advertise the vacancy on the Council's website and the local community facebook page.

### 6. Recreation Field

The recreation field is being well used. The Chairman had noticed, during the lockdown, due to lack of availability on public spaces, dog walkers had been disappointed over the need to travel to walk their dogs. The Chairman has been having discussions with a local farmer and also asked for Councillors thoughts whether it would be worthwhile exploring the option of a fenced walkway around the football field. The Councillors felt this would be costly, there were concerns over creating a narrow space and in another nearby parish this has been done but the area can get very boggy.

# 7. Sir Robert Geffrey Memorial Hall

Having had discussion with Cllr Knowles, the Chairman reported:

- There has been some damage in the hall which requires general maintenance, this
  includes broken panes of glass.
- The water has been switched off during the Covid period.
- Correspondence has been received from Cornwall Council regarding the elections.
- Sanitisers have been purchased.
- The committee have received a £6,000 grant.

# 8. Village playground and village maintenance

Pressure washing of the seating still needs to be completed.

# 9. Climate Change

As requested by Cllr Walker 'Environmental Sustainability will be included on the future agendas as a standing item. The following Councillors agreed to be part of a newly

formed Environmental Sustainability Working Group: Cllrs: M Gingell, G Francis, N Owen, P Mathers, H Cartledge-Claus and S Walker.

# 10. Community Network Panel

An update was provided by Cllr G Francis. The Community Network Panel will be meeting by Teams on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2021. Cllr G Francis read the agenda items, which included:

- Devon and Cornwall Police updae
- Census 2021
- Tamar Crossing summit
- Update on Community Network Highway Schemes
- Climate Change working group proposal
- Town & Parish Council updates
- South East Cornwall Economic Development Sub-group update
- Community Network Panel priorities:
  - Water Transport Working Group Update
  - A38 update

# 11. Saltash Area Road Safety (SARS)

**Update from Cllr Mathers:** 

- The PCSO in Saltash is due to retire. The post will not be filled.
- Discussion took place on the highway schemes and traffic calming.
- A survey has taken place regarding the cycle lane in Hatt and a feasibility study has been completed
- A vote took place regarding the speed limit coming up to Carkeel. Following discussion it was agreed the limit for this area should be 50mph.
- Discussion on the Landulph 20mph speed limit.
- Resurfacing of the Brunel bridge
- Walking and cycling routes in Saltash
- 'Fix my Street' how to report a potholes.
- Public footpaths

# 12. Usage of designated Council email addresses

Cllr Francis reported, following discussions with Westernweb, the Councils website provider, he had set up his official Councillor email address.

Action: Clerk to resend the instructions for Councillors to set up their email addresses.

# 13. National Association of Local Councils (NALC) – elections & remote meetings

The Councillors discussed the issues relating to face to face meetings and it was felt due to a number of factors, such as not social distancing measures for Councillors and members of the public and whether everyone will be fully *vaccinated* by 7th May 2021, legislation to allow remote meetings should continue.(see Footntote 2) Cllr Francis offered to produce letter to be send to local MP and other organisations, which will be circulated to all Councillors for feedback and approval. It was proposed by Cllr Cartledge-Claus and seconded by Cllr Walker that the Council writes to its MP regarding the Councillors' concerns.

The Council discussed the Annual Parishioners meeting. Due to Coronavirus there was no Annual Parishioners meeting last year. It was agreed to include whether the Council

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 (legislation.gov.uk)

These Regulations apply to local authority meetings and police and crime panel meetings that are required to be held, or held, before 7th May 2021.

wishes to host an Annual Parishioners meeting on the agenda for the March meeting.

### **Finance**

#### Update regarding the bank application to Unity Trust and to agree the bank a) signatories.

Cllr G Francis and Cllr N Owen agreed to be signatories for the bank account.

#### b) Review of the Council's financial regulations / donations and /or grants

The Clerk raised her concerns regarding the procedures for grants and donations stating if there had been procedures in place it may have led to less confusion regarding the offer of an allowance to the Parochial Church Council. The Clerk said many Councils have grant policies in place but there should be something in the Council's Financial Regulations stating terms of grants / donations, particularly if the grants over a certain amount (say £500). Previously, organisations have written to the Council during the year but decisions on whether to offer donations or grants funding have been during the February meeting.

Action: Clerk to put forward suggested draft terms for approval in the next Council meeting.

#### **Review of the Clerks finance report** C)

The Clerk's finance report was noted.

#### d) Approval of payments as detailed below

Recipient	Details	Amount payable
Paul Lamerton	January 2021 – Village maintenance	£339.84
Sir Robert Geffery		
Memorial Hall	BT invoice – internet for the defibrillator	£189.60
Westernweb	Website amendments	£ 90.00
Karenza Heald	Clerk's mileage – Nov 2020 – Jan 2021	£ 33.75

It was proposed by Cllr Francis, seconded by Cllr Cartledge-Claus and agreed by all Councillors that the Council approve the payments, as listed above. **Resolved**.

#### 15. War Memorial

Cllr Savery reported she had asked a volunteer to clean the war memorial. Following feedback from Cllr Savery, it was proposed by Cllr Cartledge-Claus, seconded by Cllr Walker and agreed by all Councillors that the Council should continue with the procedures regarding the war memorial. Resolved.

# Planning - Cornwall Council decisions and updates Nothing to report.

# Dog poop bins / dog poop bag dispenser stations

The Council discussed whether to purchase dog poop bag stations and it was agreed, as bags are often left lying around not to proceed with this.

The Clerk had provided prices for a new dog poop bin from Glasdon UK. (£238.57 plus fixings). It was proposed by Cllr Cartledge-Claus, seconded by Cllr Savery and agreed by all Councillors, that the Council purchases a green bin, to be situated in West Lane. Resolved.

Action: Clerk to order the bin. Delivery to the Chairman. Mr Paul Lamerton will be asked to install the bin.

# 18. Local maintenance partnership

The Council discussed the recent communication regarding the Local Maintenance Partnership and it was agreed the Clerk would write to Mr Wood, the Countryside Officer for Cornwall Council invited him to the next Council meeting.

# 19. Cyber Crime presentation

Posters will be printed and laminated for a Cybercrime presentation, being held by Zoom, on Tuesday 23rd February 2021. Speakers will include Grahame Mace and Laura Cowie, Cyber Protect Officers from Devon and Cornwall Police

# 20. Correspondence

Parochial Church Council: Future donation request

Cornwall Council Streetworks Team: Prohibition of traffic 1st to 5th February 2021 at

Tarten House to Lantallack Cross

Cornwall Council Streetworks Team: Prohibition of traffic 1st to 5th February 2021 at

School Road to Notter Bridge

**Cornwall Council** 

Great Western Railway: Stakeholder report

# 21. Items for discussion and requests for future agenda items Nothing to report.

# 22. Date of next meeting - 9th March 2021

Meeting closed at 8:56