



MINUTES

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held on 22nd December 2020 at 7.00pm via Zoom.

1. PRESENT: Geoffrey Hollow (Vice-Chairman, Chairing the meeting), , Mr Jonathan Brookes, Mr David Carr, Mr Leslie Hollow, Mrs Annie Philip **IN ATTENDANCE:** Mrs Emily Fraser (Clerk), Cllr Andrew Mitchell (County Councillor) **APOLOGIES:** Mrs Judith Evans (Chair), Mrs Jenni Thomas-Davey PCSO Terry Webb

2. TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY & OTHER INTERESTS, RELATING TO ANY AGENDA ITEM, AND TO DETERMINE REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION WHERE APPLICABLE

Councillor Leslie Hollow holds the contract for grass cutting at Towednack Parish Cemetery. Councillor Brookes is Chairman of Zennor Parish Council, on the Executive Committee of the Penwith Landscape Partnership and on the Dark Skies Policy Group.

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (restricted to agenda items only)

There were two members of the public present.

A member of the public provided an update on church matters. Towednack Parish Church would be open for Christmas services on Christmas Eve afternoon and at midnight as usual. A Christmas Day service would be held at Zennor Church at 11am. The member of the public thanked the parish council for their efforts in installing the Christmas tree at Nancedra.

A member of the public spoke on the helicopter flights run by Adventure 001 which take place over the summer from Bussow Farm. The member of the public reported that monitoring equipment had recorded 511 helicopter movements during the period that they had been operating over the summer. This was greater than any of the licenced aerodromes within Cornwall. He pointed out that the take off site was close to a European protected site which contained a rare lichen which was on the Biodiversity Action Plan Species list. The lichen was sensitive to atmospheric conditions; requiring very high air quality to survive. A wildlife officer had inspected the site and stated that the prevalence of that lichen had decreased since the helicopter flights had been in operation.

The member of the public pointed out that changes to legislation to extend permitted development rights to 56 days would make the imposition of an Article 4 Direction much harder. He added that the donation to the Cornwall Air Ambulance was not a material consideration in this matter.

He further added that by not using a licenced aerodrome, Adventure 001 was not required to pay Take Off and Landing (TOL) fees and this money was not therefore going back into the local economy. The flights also disturbed the tranquility which was a protected characteristic of the AONB.

4. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 24th November 2020

It was **RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY** that the minutes were a true and accurate record of this meeting.

5. MATTERS ARISING

None.

6. PLANNING

a) Applications

i) PA20/09860 | Replacement of existing dwelling | Bohemia Access Track To Bohemia Nancledra TR20 8LP

Councillors noted the Cornwall AONB Unit's response to the application. The Council noted that the proposal would extend very substantially beyond the footprint of the existing building. The Council felt that the size of the building and proposed materials were not inkeeping with the surrounding area and inappropriate in the AONB area. The proposed site is adjacent to a well used path and Councillors felt that the proposed changes would be out of character and conspicuous. The amount of glazing proposed was also of concern with regard to light pollution – a particular concern in the context of the Dark Skies initiative which was underway in West Penwith. It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY to object to the proposal on these grounds.**

b) Decisions: None

c) Appeals: None

d) Pre-apps: None

e) To consider any other planning matter received at or before the start of the meeting

i) PA20/01327 | Conversion and Extension of Outbuilding to Form Annexe and Associated Works | Lower Penderleath Road Between Penderleath Common And Penderleath Penderleath TR26 3AF

Further amendments to this application had been received after the agenda for the meeting had been published. Due to technical issues with Cornwall Council's Planning Portal which had prevented access to the amended plans and reports in good time, Councillors did not feel that they had had sufficient opportunity to consider and scrutinise the amended application. It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY to request an extension to the response period to allow Councillors to consider the proposals in detail and request further information as appropriate.** It was further **AGREED that this matter would be considered in full at the Parish Council's January 2021 meeting.**

7. COUNCILLORS REPORTS

a) Chairman's Report

None.

b) Cornwall Councillor's Report

Cllr Andrew Mitchell drew the Council's attention to the report that he had circulated ahead of the meeting. He reported that he had signed off the Council's application to his Community Chest fund for the purchase and installation of bollards to ensure access to the defibrillator. He added that he had been approached for financial assistance via the Commiunty Chest fund, by the pre-school following their closure due to COVID-19.

c) Any Other Councillor Reports

Cllr Philips reported that she had attended a Community Network Panel Meeting where new plans for Loggans Moor roundabout had been discussed. The Panel had also received an update from Dr Ruth Goldstein, Principal Consultant in Public Health in Cornwall, regarding efforts to control COVID-19 in the county. She reported that the locally led track and trace initiative had been operating successfully and had a high detection rate. A recent outbreak at a Cornish tulip factory had been taken up nationally as an example of good practice in infection control. It was anticipated that the infection rate numbers would go up in the county however.

The Clerk reported that Cllr Evans wished to pass on her thanks to the whole Council for their dedication and for their team work over the year. She wished the whole Council a merry Christmas and happy New Year.

8. CLERK'S REPORT

The Clerk presented the updated Action Tracker.

The Clerk reminded the Council that she would be taking two weeks leave over Christmas. She would be back in the office on the 11th January 2021.

9. PARISH MATTERS

a) To consider a response to the Cornwall AONB Management Plan Survey

Following a discussion, it was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** that the current AONB Management Plan was effective and Councillors did not have any additional suggestions or comments. It was further **AGREED** that the Clerk would respond to the survey as such.

b) To consider quotes for legal advice regarding the restrictive covenant on Cledry Meadow and the lease agreement for the Community Shop

The Clerk explained that she had approached four local law firms for a quote and had received quotes from two which had significant difference in cost. The Clerk stated that she would like to make some queries regarding the quotes already received and attempt to obtain a further quote before putting a formal proposal before the Council. It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to defer this matter to the January meeting on this basis.

10. FINANCIAL MATTERS

a) To receive a summary of accounts and approve invoices for payment

A summary of accounts was circulated and is attached as an Appendix to the minutes. Payments totaling £396.82 were **approved** for payment from the General Account. Payments of £160.00 were approved for payment from the Cemetery Account. There were no receipts.

Cllr L Hollow left the meeting

b) To consider the proposed budget for 2021/22

The Clerk had circulated a further iteration of the budget prior to the meeting for Councillors to consider. Councillors noted current guidance on general reserves for smaller councils which stated that reserves equivalent to 3 to 12 months operating budget should be held. It further stated that the smaller the council, the closer the reserve levels should be to 12 months operating budget.

Councillors noted the proposed increase to the Council's annual precept from £7172 to £10000. After all the proposed expenditure for 2021/22 had been discharged this would leave the Council with approximately 6 months worth of general reserves. The proposed increase to the precept would result in a Band D charge of £52.36. Taking into account the increased tax base for 2021/22 due to the boundary changes, this represented a rise of £2.87 on the 2020/21 Band D charge of £49.49.

The budget was proposed for approval by Cllr Philips and seconded by Cllr Brookes. It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to accept the proposed Budget for 2021/22.

Cllr L Hollow returned to the meeting

11. TO RECEIVE CORRESPONDENCE

a) Standards Matter 2: Public Consultation and Public Sector Surveys

A discussion took place on the questions raised by this consultation during which Councillors expressed concern about the effect that the actions of senior members of Government had on the trust that the public had in all levels of public life. It was noted that the Standards Board did not have powers to sanction those considered guilty of misconduct and that an example should be set by the highest level in government. It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** that the Clerk would draft a response based on these comments for the Council to approve and sign off ahead of the consultation deadline on the 15th January 2020.

b) Letter from Derek Thomas MP Re: helicopter flights and Adventure 001

Noted.

c) To consider a draft of joint letters to Derek Thomas MP and Cornwall County Council re: helicopter flights and Adventure 001

The Council **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to sign both letters reiterating their support for an Article 4 Direction.

12. HIGHWAY MATTERS

a) To note action taken following issues reported, at or since the last meeting

Cllr Thomas Davey had reported a leaning telegraph pole between Embla Vean and Embla. Highways had attended and appeared to have made repairs to the wrong pole. A further report had been made and Highways had agreed that remedial action was required but work had not yet taken place.

b) To consider any other highway issues that require reporting

The Clerk reported that the road surface on Coldharbour Lane had been repaired following a report from the last meeting.

The potholes at Chypons had been reported but the Clerk had not received an update or acknowledgement at the time of the meeting and would follow up with Highways on this.

Cllr G Hollow reported that there was an issue with an overflowing ditch at Amelwidden and he was meeting with the landowner to discuss the best way forward.

Cllr Carr reported that Penderleath Lane regularly flooded as a result of the drainage to a neighbouring field being blocked. The Clerk agreed to report this to Highways.

Cllr Carr complained that there was a great deal of mud on the road from Colharbour to just past Nancledra School as a result of the verge growing in and onto the road. Large vehicles such as tractors were disturbing the encroaching verge causing mud to be strewn on the road. It was **AGREED that the Clerk would discuss this issue with Highways to see if anything could be done to alleviate this issue.**

Cllr Carr also reported that on the road between Penderleath and Nancledra School, the culvert by the bridge had not been cut out and was causing flooding in heavy rain. It was **AGREED that the Clerk would report this issue to Highways.**

13. CEMETERY MATTERS

a) Repairs to Church Road

Cllr G Hollow pointed out that there were 3 or 4 significant potholes in Church Road and suggested that a substantial plan was required to make the road good for the longer term. Cllr L Hollow suggested that the church should be approached for a contribution to the costs of any resurfacing required. Following a discussion, it was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY, that the Clerk should make enquiries and request quotes for both immediate repairs to Church Road and more substantial resurfacing that would ensure the road was more robust for the long term.** It was further **AGREED that this would form the basis of discussion about a longer term maintenance plan at a future meeting in 2021.**

14. FOOTPATH MATTERS

a) To note any issues that have been reported

None.

15. DARK SKIES

No further updates.

16. POLICE REPORT

PSCO Terry Webb had provided a report. There were two crimes to report in this period.

1	x	HARASSMENT – Put in fear of violence	Under investigation
1	x	BURGLARY Dwelling with intent to steal	Undetected

17. AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

Councillors to contact the Clerk no later than Friday 15th January 2020 with items they wish to be included.

20. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Tuesday 26th January 2020.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting.

Signed: _____ Chairman Date: _____

DRAFT