



## MINUTES

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held on 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2021 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, Mrs Jenni Thomas-Davey **IN ATTENDANCE:** Mrs Emily Fraser (Clerk) **APOLOGIES:** Mrs Judith Evans (Chair), 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 Brookes is Chairman of Zennor Parish Council, on the Executive Committee of the Penwith Landscape Partnership and on the Dark Skies Policy Group.

Cllr Hollow Snr declared an interest in Item 21c as the contract holder for the grass cutting at Towednack Cemetery.

### **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. A diocese-wide initiative was underway to plan for the future. A full plan was expected by July 2021 and it was possible that this would mean that there were fewer clergy and some churches may need to close. The member of the public offered to update the Council in due course.

### **4. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 26<sup>th</sup> January 2021**

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

### **5. MATTERS ARISING**

#### **a) Signpost for footpath 119/37/4**

The Clerk reported that the broken footpath sign had been reported to Cornwall Council.

### **6. PLANNING**

#### **a) Applications**

None.

#### **b) Decisions**

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

It was noted that the the Parish Council had objected to this application but planning officers at Cornwall Council recommended the application for approval. It was noted that Cornwall Council had written to Towednack Parish Council asking if they wanted to request the application be sent to the Planning Committee. It was further noted that, following an email discussion, Councillors had "agreed to disagree" with the planning officers' recommendation.

**c) Appeals:** None

**d) Pre-apps:** None

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

None.

**7. COUNCILLORS REPORTS**

**a) Chairman's Report**

Cllr Hollow Jnr reported that he was continuing to take up the role of Chairman in Cllr Evans' absence.

**b) Cornwall Councillor's Report**

None.

**c) Any Other Councillor Reports**

Cllr Philips reported that she had attended the Community Network Panel Meeting. The panel had received an update from Richard Haycock, Waste and Recycling Community Support Officer, on changes to waste collections in the County. Cornwall Council planned to start collecting food waste later in 2021 and general waste and recycling collections would then move to collections every other week.

Derek Thomas MP had also updated the panel on the A30 Action Group activities and their efforts to create a Case for Change for an A30 bypass between Camborne and Penzance.

The panel had also received an update on the upcoming Census.

Cllr Brookes reported that Zennor Parish Council was currently reviewing its Parish Plan and looking at practical actions the Parish could take to affect climate change. Cllr Brookes drew Councillors' attention to a webinar on what councils could do to support the effort against climate change.

**8. CLERK'S REPORT**

**a) To consider requirements for a return to face to face meetings in May 2021**

The Clerk explained that legislation which allowed for Parish Council meetings to take place remotely would expire in early May. There was a lobbying effort underway led by the National Association of Local Councils to persuade the Government to extend the legislation to allow remote meetings to continue to take place. However, there had been no public indication from Government that they were minded to do this.

The Clerk had had an initial conversation with the Gilbert Hall who had indicated that they would be happy to allow the Council to meet again in the larger room. However, the Clerk expressed concern that it may not be possible to ensure sufficient social distancing between Councillors. This is not even taking into account the space required to offer unrestricted access to the public as the Council was required to do. The Clerk also noted that the Roadmap announced by the Prime Minister on 22<sup>nd</sup> February did not appear to allow for meeting indoors by May 2021.

Cllr Brookes stated that he did not feel the Council should meet face to face while there was any risk to the Council or the public. Cllr Carr added that online meetings had been successful and that there had been a good level of public engagement which was comparable to face to face meetings.

The Clerk stated that it was a very real possibility that meeting remotely may no longer be an option for the Council from the beginning of May. Cllr Philips proposed that the Council attempt to complete as much essential business as possible in the March and April meetings in case the Council found itself unable to meet in May. This was seconded by Cllr Thomas-Davy. It was **AGREED unanimously that the Council would bring forward as much essential business as possible to the March and April meetings.**

The Clerk reported that CALC had asked Town and Parish Councils to write to their MPs to express their views about the return to in person meetings and request an extension to the legislation. Following a short discussion, it was **AGREED unanimously to write to Derek Thomas MP to ask him to press the Government to extend the**

legislation that allowed local councils to meet remotely.

**b) Clerk's report/Action tracker**

The Clerk presented the updated Action Tracker.

The Clerk highlighted that she had received an invitation to a meeting with the Service Director for Planning and Sustainable Development at Cornwall Council regarding the Adventure 001 helicopter flights and the request for an Article 4 Direction. It was **AGREED unanimously that Cllr Thomas-Davy would also attend that meeting as a representative of Towednack Parish Council.**

**9. PARISH MATTERS**

**a) To discuss possible improvements to Cledry Meadow**

Following a short discussion, it was **AGREED that Councillors would visit Cledry Meadow individually or in pairs (adhering to Government guidance on social distancing) and consider ideas for improvements.** It was further, **AGREED that Councillors would discuss the matter informally with a view to putting forward ideas for possible approaches at the next meeting.**

It was noted that there should be public consultation on the way forward at the appropriate point.

**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. Receipts of £2,164.46 to the General Account were **approved.** Payments totaling £760.82 were **approved** for payment from the General Account.

**b) To consider options for funding Church Road Repairs**

Indicative costings for the repair of the road suggested the cost for a full resurface would be in the region of £7000-£8000. Councillors reiterated their support for full resurface to avoid having to continually patch the road.

The Clerk outlined options for funding a full resurface. There was £1000 budgeted for repairs to Church Road in the 2021/22 budget. This could be supplemented with funds from the Cemetery account and £2500 from the Council's general reserves in order to achieve the full sum. This would take the Council below the recommended level of reserves for a small council. Alternatively, it was possible for councils to take out a loan to spread the cost of capital projects. However, permission would need to be obtained from the Secretary of State and this could take some time.

**The Chairman temporarily suspended the meeting to allow a member of the public to speak.**

A member of the public stated that the Church would be open to a discussion about contributing to the cost of repairing the road.

**The Chairman thanked the member of the public for their contribution and reconvened the meeting.**

Following a discussion, it was **AGREED unanimously that the Clerk would approach the Church Council to ascertain whether they would be willing to discuss a contribution to the cost of a full resurface of Church Road.**

Following a discussion in which Councillors acknowledged the time it could take to obtain permission and then apply for a loan, it was noted that the Council need not ultimately draw down a loan if funds were available from elsewhere. It was **AGREED that, the Clerk would obtain the necessary paperwork to apply for the loan and begin the process of applying for permission from the Secretary of State.**

It was further **AGREED that repairs to Church Road would be put on the agenda for the March meeting.**

## 11. TO RECEIVE CORRESPONDENCE

### a) Derek Thomas MP – Camborne to Penzance A30 Action Group

The Council noted correspondence from Derek Thomas MP regarding the Camborne to Penzance A30 Action Group and their request for support and funding for a “Case for Action”. It was **RESOLVED unanimously that no further action was required.**

## 12. HIGHWAY MATTERS

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

The Council noted the response received from Rupert Spencer, Highway & Environment Manager (West) at Cornwall Council, regarding flooding on the road at Penderleath which stated that the water appeared to be discharging and subsiding adequately. Cllr Carr contended that the road remained flooded and was taking over a week to subside at any time. It made the road impassible to walkers. It was **AGREED that Cllr Carr would supply pictures of the road for the Clerk to pass on to highways.**

### b) To consider any other highway issues that require reporting

Cllr Hollow Snr reported that there was a large pothole at Towednack Turn which needed repairing.

Cllr Hollow Jnr reported that the road surface was crumbling outside Georgia Bottom Cottage creating a series of potholes.

It was **AGREED that the Clerk would report both issues to Highways.**

## 13. FOOTPATH MATTERS

### a) To note any issues that have been reported

Cllr Thomas-Davy reported that she had been approached by a member of the public regarding a lack of signage on a number of footpaths in the parish. It was **AGREED that Cllr Thomas-Davy would ask the member of the public to email the Clerk so the matter could be followed up with Cornwall Council.**

## 14. CEMETERY MATTERS

The Council noted that the burial of Kenneth Andrew Guiver would take place at Towednack Cemetery on 5<sup>th</sup> March 2021.

## 15. G7

Councillors noted that beyond announcement of the Major Police Operation around G7, there was little additional information about how the event might affect the parish. It was **AGREED that this item would remain on the agenda for discussion as further information became available.**

## 16. DARK SKIES

Cllr Brookes reported that the survey phase had taken place with metre readings well within the required limits. The report had been submitted to the Dark Skies main body for consideration.

## 17. POLICE REPORT

There were two crimes to report in this period.

- Send letter/Communication/Conveying false information - photo was taken in a public place of a person then placed on Social media. Relevant advice was given to the offender and it was removed.
- Criminal damage to property under £5000 - Vehicle in storage had parts removed. No viable lines of enquiry. Filed as Undetected.

**18. AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING**

Councillors to contact the Clerk no later than Friday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2021 with any further items they wish to be included.

**19. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2021.

**20. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC:** It was **RESOLVED** unanimously that in accordance with the **Public**

**Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 (as extended by s.100 of the Local Government Act 1972) the Press and Public be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following business owing to the confidential nature of that business.**

**21. CONTRACTS FOR PATH AND GRASS CUTTING**

**a) To discuss the tendering process for Footpath cutting and authorise any action**

It was **RESOLVED** unanimously to extend Tyrone Martin's contract for the footpath cutting for a further 3 years. The Clerk would sort out the necessary paperwork.

**b) To discuss the tendering process for the Coast path cutting and authorise any action**

It was **RESOLVED** unanimously to extend Tyrone Martin's contract for cutting the South West Coast Path for a further 3 years. The Clerk would sort out the necessary paperwork.

**c) To discuss the tendering process for Cledry Meadow and the Cemetery Grass Cutting and authorise any action**

Councillor L Hollow declared an interest in this item and took no part in the discussion.

It was **RESOLVED** unanimously to extend Tyrone Martin's contract for cutting the grass at Cledry Meadow for a further 3 years.

It was **RESOLVED** unanimously that Councillor L Hollow would continue to cut the Cemetery grass at a cost of £200 per annum for a further 12 months. The Clerk would issue a contract accordingly from 1st April 2021.

**d) To consider quotes for repairs to Church Road**

Quotes for resurfacing and patching the road were shared and discussed. A further quote was still pending. It was **AGREED** to discuss further at the next meeting when additional quotes had been received and the Council had decided on the funding approach.

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

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Chairman

Date: \_\_\_\_\_