

**MINUTES OF THE ST NEOT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
WEDNESDAY, 13TH MARCH 2019 AT 7:30PM IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM,
ST NEOT SOCIAL CLUB, ST NEOT**

Present: Councillors Dr L Jones (Chair), C Smith, H Bunt, P Critchon, A Bellringer, G Rogers, R Berrett and D Lucas.

Cornwall Councillor M Eddy
Sue Blaxley (Parish Clerk)

The Chair opened the meeting at 7:30pm.

Public Participation

None

The Chair thanked Councillor C Smith for chairing the February meeting of the parish council.

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillors N J Ball and O Burrows.

2. To confirm the minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 13th February 2019, having previously been circulated, were agreed as an accurate record subject to the omission of "£815.02" from the last line of minute number 9c.

3. Declarations of interest in items on the agenda

Councillor G Rogers declared an interest in item 14 on the agenda where it related to the garden area in front of the Pavilion.

4. To receive a report on any matters arising from the previous meeting

Councillor C Smith explained that the handrail on the steps into Water Meadow has been repaired. He said the steps are in good order.

5. To receive the Chairman's Communications

The Chair said that she had been corresponding with Heather Taylor and Andy Daniel over an issue with an advertiser in St Neot News. She said that she will report to the next meeting if it is necessary. She said that progress is being made on the Kerdroya Project and that it is reported that positive feedback is being received. She said that the planning application is expected to be

submitted to Cornwall Council in the next 6 weeks. She reported that Heather and Judith Taylor have offered to plant Cott wall.

6. To answer any questions from Councillors, previously notified to the Clerk

None

7. To receive a report from the Clerk

None

8. Councillor Surgery at Local Produce Market

To receive feedback from the Councillor surgery on Saturday 2nd March 2019 and to appoint a volunteer for the next surgery on Saturday 6th April 2019

It was noted that Councillor P Critchon had attended the market on Saturday 2nd March 2019. She said that there was one issue raised regarding the poor state of the road between West and Middle Lewarne but she said this is an unadopted part of the road. Councillor Dr L Jones volunteered to attend the market on Saturday 6th April 2019.

9. To receive reports from -

a) Cornwall Councillor M Eddy

Cornwall Councillor M Eddy said that a consultation took place on 8th and 9th March 2019 regarding the future of Liskeard cattle market. He said that Cornwall Council has set the budget for 2019 - 20 and has raised council tax by 1.99%, £17 million of which will be allocated to adult social care. Cornwall Councillor M Eddy thanked those who had helped with the orchard maintenance. Cornwall Councillor M Eddy said that he and Paul Allen had inspected the highways in the parish including the Carnglaze Caverns road and the road to Woodlands Farm. He said that they had looked at the coping stones at Lampen Bridge which are falling in the river and had contacted the owner of a fallen tree on the Carnglaze Caverns road. He said that he had also reminded Paul Allen of the need to widen Tremaddock Bridge. He said that they had also looked at the parking issues outside the school and the possibility of imposing additional speed restrictions outside the school. He said that the road to Colliford Lake has been patched although Councillor R Berrett said there is a significant amount of water lying on the road. Cornwall Councillor M Eddy said that he had met with the St Neot United Charities trustees and discussions had taken place as to how the charity operates and how it can be accessed by parishioners.

b) Goonzion Commoners

None

b) Bodmin Moor Parishes Group

None

c) Liskeard Looe Community Network Panel

Councillor D Lucas said that some group in the parish are enquiring about having a community bus for the parish. Councillor D Lucas said that the CNP members' concensus view is that the provision of a community bus is a huge commitment in terms of finance and legislative requirements and unless there is a big requirement for it, the commitment may be too onerous. He said that the question of demand for a community bus could be raised in St Neot News or the matter could be discussed only if those who have raised the issue insist on pursuing it further. Councillor P Critchon said that the Seaton and Dowederry community bus is not run by the parish council. She said that those who run it said that it involves a lot of work and there are lots of legislative and operational requirements but the decision has to be determined to a large extent by demand. She said that some community buses are a great success. Councillor H Bunt said that the school has shown an interest in the concept of a community bus and that it could be run by a group in the village and not necessarily by the parish council. Councillor R Berrett said that if the matter is to be pursued, the parish council should proceed with caution. Cornwall Councillor M Eddy said that a community bus is an enormous commitment and that it will be another asset for the parish council, the operation of which will inevitably fall on an individual parish councilor. He said that if a community bus is to operate in the parish, it should be run by a committee of volunteers. Councillor C Smith said that a 16-seater bus will not meet the demand that may exist. He said that purchasing a bus is not the issue but the running of it, especially in terms of the legislative requirements, is onerous. He said that a voluntary transport service whereby all parishioners help each other is a preferable option. Councillor G Rogers said that the parish council has enough assets and business to deal with. Councillor A Bellringer said that a community bus is not an asset as it will decrease in value and will involve a massive cost and commitment. He said that it may be used by some groups in the village but will not meet the demands of all of them. It was proposed by Councillor Dr L Jones and seconded by Councillor R Berrett that the parish council takes no further action in respect of this matter at the present time as it is not considered to be a wise venture. All Councillors voted in favour of this proposal. It was agreed that the parish council will continue to collate information on the provision of such a bus.

10. To authorise the signing of orders for payment, including –

Julie Ball (Toilet and Pavillion cleaning – March 2019) - £188.50
South West Water (Water for Toilets) - £100.23
South West Water (Water for Pavillion) - £14.29
Western Web Limited (Renewal of website domain) - £28.80
Poppy Critchon (Eco Litter Bin) - £287.98
Mrs S Blaxley (3 month's salary and expenses) - £2156.58
HMRC (PAYE) - £21.97
Homeleigh Garden Centre (Memorial Bench for Bevil Bunt) - £594.99
St Neot Village Hall (Room rental) - £122.10
Julie Ball (Cleaning Cott Yard) - £62.50
Restormel Insurance Services (Insurance Premium) - £5,937.63

It was proposed by Councillor C Smith and seconded by Councillor Dr L Jones that all of the above orders for payment be authorized. All Councillors voted in favour of this proposal.

11. To receive correspondence from -

a) **Cornwall Council**

None

b) **Others**

None

12. Finance Report

To receive a current financial statement of the accounts and to review income and expenditure against budget

The Clerk reported that this month we have received income of £136.50 from Menheniot Post Office for rental of the Pavillion, £11.67 interest, £37.20 rent for Goonzion Downs and £708.48 from Cornwall Council for the second installment of the PROW maintenance grant. The accounts balance at £66,762.26. The Chair signed the cash book.

13. External Redecorating of Parish Council Buildings

To receive and consider quotations for the external redecoration of parish council buildings

The Clerk reported that she had obtained quotations for the works to Cott Yard, public toilet, bus shelter and the multi tower play equipment in accordance with specifications prepared by Councillor C Smith. The contract for the work to Cott Yard to clean down all external steel and woodwork and to stain all windows, doors and beams to the underside of the canopies was awarded to A Baker in the sum of £854.00 in accordance with a proposal made by Councillor C Smith and seconded by Councillor D Rogers and which all councilors voted in favour of. Quotations from Kolor, Jason Shaw and Arthur Hooper were also received. It was noted that A Baker's quotation was the second cheapest after that submitted by Arthur Hooper but it was agreed that as A Baker is a painter and decorator by trade and his work is known to be very good as he has undertaken work in public buildings in the village, his quotation would be accepted. Councillor G Rogers said that the rainwater goods in Cott Yard are powder coated cast iron and that painting them will not be beneficial as after two years, the paint will start to peel. The quotations for the works to prepare and paint the fascias, soffits and cast-iron guttering were discussed and contract for these works was awarded to A Baker in the sum of £660.00 in accordance with a proposal made by Councillor C Smith and seconded by Councillor D Rogers and which all councilors voted in favour of. However, it was agreed that the painting of the rainwater goods should be omitted from the quotation as these just require cleaning. Quotations from Kolor, Jason Shaw and Arthur Hooper were also received. It was noted that A Baker's quotation was the second cheapest after that submitted by Arthur Hooper but it was agreed that as A Baker is a painter and decorator by trade and his work is known to be very good as he has undertaken work in public buildings in the village, his quotation would be accepted. The contract for the work to the public toilets to clean down and paint the exterior walls was awarded to Arthur Hooper as his was the cheapest quotation in the sum of £144.00 in accordance with a proposal made by Councillor Dr L Jones and seconded by Councillor P Critchon and which all councilors voted in favour of. Quotations from Kolor, Jason Shaw and A Baker were also received. The contract for the work to the bus shelter to clean down and paint the exterior walls and paint the woodwork was awarded to Arthur Hooper as his was the cheapest quotation in the sum of £214.00 in accordance with a proposal made by Councillor Dr L Jones and seconded by Councillor P Critchon and which all councilors voted in favour of. Quotations from Kolor, Jason Shaw and A Baker were also received. The contract for the work to the multi tower play equipment to clean down and paint the equipment was awarded to A Baker as his was the cheapest quotation in the sum of £764.00 in accordance with a proposal made by Councillor Dr L Jones

and seconded by Councillor P Critchon and which all councilors voted in favour of. Quotations from Kolor, Jason Shaw and Arthur Hooper were also received.

Councillor G Rogers, having previously declared an interest, left the meeting during discussion of the first item of minute 14.

14. Doorstep Green and Playing Field

To receive and consider quotations for works to the garden area in front of the Pavilion and for pruning the conifer trees in St Neot car park

The Clerk reported that quotations for the above-mentioned works had been sought from Oscar Oates, Gary Rogers and Lanhydrock Gardening Services. Oscar Oates had not submitted a quotation. It was proposed by Councillor Dr L Jones and seconded by Councillor A Bellringer that the quotation submitted by Gary Rogers in the sum of £200 be accepted as this was the cheapest quotation and the standard of work is known to be good. All Councillors voted in favour of this proposal.

Councillor G Rogers returned to the meeting.

To receive and consider a report on any other matters arising relating to Doorstep Green and the Playing Field

Councillor C Smith explained that there are a number of trees alongside the river in the playing field that need trimming and which he has marked accordingly. He explained that he had met the following contractors on site and asked them to provide quotations for the work: Lanhydrock Gardening Services, Ben Porter-Jones and Dave Soady. It was noted that Ben Porter-Jones had not submitted a quotation. It was proposed by Councillor C Smith and seconded by Councillor Dr L Jones that the quotation submitted by Lanhydrock Gardening Services in the sum of £650 be accepted. Whilst the quotation from Dave Soady was more reasonably priced, and his work is known to be of a good standard, he has no relevant insurance. All Councillors voted in favour of this proposal.

Councillor H Bunt said that there seems to be a need for additional dog faeces bins as dog faeces in bags have been left in the playing field and Doorstep Green. He said that he has purchased two bins at a cost of £50 each which could be located at Lampen Bridge and inside the gate to the orchard. Councillor C Smith said that the existing bins are not being used. Councillor G Rogers commented that dog owners may not be aware that the bins accept litter and dog waste. Councillor P Critchon said that a notice needs to be put on the bins to notify the public that they accept dog waste. Councillor C Smith said the cost of emptying them will be £117/bin/year plus VAT. It was proposed by Councillor C Smith and seconded by Councillor Dr L Jones that the bins be purchased at a cost of £100 and be used for the disposal of general waste and dog faeces, that

Councillor P Critchon be authorised to purchase signs for the bins saying they are for litter and dog waste and that Councillor C Smith be authorised to empty the bins for a two-month period to ascertain if they are being used properly. All Councillors voted in favour of this proposal.

Councillor D Lucas said that he has three signs acknowledging funding for the adult fitness equipment. It was agreed that all three signs would be affixed to the side of the pavilion. Councillor P Critchon commented that balls continue to be kicked into the river and suggested the erection of a fence alongside the river. It was agreed that this would adversely affect the ambience of the playing field and that the area inside the fence on the riverside will become untidy and unsightly. Councillor P Critchon said that a parishioner had suggested the creation of a beach alongside the river. Councillor C Smith said that this is not within the remit of the parish council as they do not own the river and banks.

15. Toilets and Car Park in St Neot

To receive and consider quotations for the creation of additional parking spaces in St Neot car park

The Clerk said that she had sought quotations from James Thomas, Loveny Construction and Cormac. She said that the only quotation received was from Loveny Construction in the sum of £1,795.00. It was proposed by Councillor A Bellringer and seconded by Councillor Dr L Jones that this quotation be accepted. All Councillors voted in favour of this proposal. Some discussion took place regarding re-surfacing and re-white lining the car park but it was agreed that the car park will be monitored in this respect.

To receive and consider a report on any other matters arising relating to the toilets and car park in St Neot

None

16. Cott Yard

To receive and consider a report on any matters arising relating to Cott Yard

Councillor C Smith said that it seemed that the heating is now repaired as it has been fully functioning for two weeks.

17. Remembrance Sunday

To receive and consider the procedures for Remembrance Sunday

Councillor Dr L Jones said that the vicar had hoped that a member of the parish council would read out the names of those who had died in the world wars at the Remembrance service in November of each year. Some discussion took place regarding this matter. Councillor H Bunt said that a member of the History Club would be honoured to be asked to undertake this role. Councillor D Lucas said that he would like to undertake this task if asked. It was proposed by Councillor A Bellringer and seconded by Councillor Dr L Jones that the Clerk contacts the vicar and explains to him that the parish council is happy for the Church to continue with this responsibility and that they should ask anyone they wish to undertake the role and that there is a willing volunteer on the parish council, should the Church chose to ask him. All Councillors voted in favour of the proposal.

18. Asset Register

To adopt the asset register

It was noted that the asset register had been circulated in advance of the meeting. It was proposed by Councillor G Rogers and seconded by Councillor Dr L Jones that the asset register be adopted for 2019/20. All Councillors voted in favour of the proposal. It was noted that one of the signs on the adit on Goonzion saying "Danger – Mine Shaft" needs replacing.

19. Co-option

To receive and consider applications for co-option onto the parish council

None

20. Date of next meeting

To agree the date of the next meeting on Wednesday 10th April 2019

The date of the next meeting of St Neot parish council will be on Wednesday 10th April 2019 commencing at 7:30pm.

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 9:15pm.