

MINUTES OF THE ST NEOT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 10TH APRIL 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 Crighton, A Bellringer, G Rogers, R Berrett, O Burrows, N J Ball and D Lucas.

Cornwall Councillor M Eddy, Tracy Hooper
Sue Blaxley (Parish Clerk)

The Chair opened the meeting at 7:30pm.

Public Participation

None

1. Apologies

None

2. To confirm the minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 13th March 2019, having previously been circulated, were agreed as an accurate record subject to an amendment to minute 10 changing Julie Ball to Julie Rowe where the payment referred to cleaning Cott Yard, an amendment to line 1 of minute 9c changing "group" to "groups" and an amendment to minute 14, line 2 changing Oscar Oates to Isaac Oates. In addition, Councillor G Rogers said that in some places in the minutes, he is referred to as D Rogers as opposed to G Rogers. Councillor O Burrows said that he would like the minutes in draft form as soon as they have been published on the website.

3. Declarations of interest in items on the agenda

None

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

Councillor C Smith reported that the new bin has been installed by the school and that he emptied it two weeks after its installation at which time it was one third full, primarily with dog faeces. Councillor P Crighton said that the signs for the new bins are being progressed. She said that it may cost £60 for two new signs. Councillors agreed that she had been authorized to progress this matter at the last meeting. She said that she may ask some school children to design a plaque for the new bins.

5. To receive the Chairman's Communications

The Chair said that she had spoken to the vicar regarding the procedure for reading out the names of those who had died in the world wars at the annual remembrance service in November. She said that he has agreed to write to the parish council in October of each year and ask for a volunteer to undertake this task. However, she said that the vicar accepts that this is his responsibility.

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

None

7. To receive a report from the Clerk

The Clerk said that she has installed a telephone message system so that callers to her number are asked to email her at stneotpc@hotmail.co.uk

8. Councillor Surgery at Local Produce Market

To receive feedback from the Councillor surgery on Saturday 6th April 2019 and to appoint a volunteer for the next surgery on Saturday 4th May 2019

It was noted that Councillor Dr L Jones had attended the market on Saturday 6th April 2019. She said that there was one issue raised regarding the removal of notices from the notice board by the church and the notice board by the school prior to events taking place. It was agreed that the Clerk would put a notice in the next edition of St Neot News asking parishioners not to remove notices before events have taken place. The Chair said that a resident of Great Meadow had also raised concerns about the trees in Great Meadow being overgrown and overshadowing. The Chair said that she had explained to them that the trees are not the responsibility of the parish council and had suggested that the parishioner writes to Western Power and Devon and Cornwall Housing regarding this matter. Councillor C Smith said that a parishioner had commented that the notice board by the school is rotten and not fit for use. Councillor P Crighton volunteered to attend the market on Saturday 4th May 2019.

9. To receive reports from -

a) Cornwall Councillor M Eddy

Cornwall Councillor M Eddy said that a residential caravan had been moved onto the site at Colliford which he has been assured by Cornwall Council will be covered by the enforcement notice on the site. He said that he had been contacted by Malcolm Woodward as Bookers (now Tesco) had informed him that

they would not deliver to his shop if his order was less than £1,000. Cornwall Councillor M Eddy said that other local shops had also been told this. He said that he had spoken to the company regarding this matter and they have now undertaken a u–turn on this policy. He said that he has also made other community networks in Cornwall aware of this issue. He said that Cornwall Council has set aside £250,000 for the Kerdroya project. He said this is part of a £4 million investment programme by Cornwall Council in SE Cornwall. He also said that Flybe are now operating flights from Newquay to Heathrow. Cornwall Councillor M Eddy said that Cornwall Council has declared a climate change emergency and has undertaken a pledge to become carbon neutral by 2030. He said that a strategy is being prepared for Cornwall Council to reduce emissions from its buildings and vehicles. He said that he is following up the highways matters that he raised with Paul Allen.

b) Goonzion Commoners

Councillor H Bunt reported that a controlled burn had been undertaken at the north end of Goonzion. Councillor P Critchon suggested that it may be a good idea to give more notice in the future of an intended burn. The Chair asked what the decision process is for undertaking a burn. Councillor H Bunt explained that Goonzion Commoners decide what and when to burn without reference to the parish council as the commoners manage the land on behalf of the parish council. The Chair said that the parish council needs to be better informed of the process for making this decision on land which the parish council owns.

b) Bodmin Moor Parishes Group

None

c) Liskeard Looe Community Network Panel

Councillor D Lucas said that there had not been a meeting but that the parish council may wish to declare an expression of interest in the funding on offer by Cormac for highways matters. It was agreed that Councillor D Lucas and Cornwall Councillor M Eddy would liaise regarding this matter and that the works that could be eligible for funding include the highways improvements outside the primary school, the re-painting of the speed limit on the road in Ley, the speed limit on Tripp Hill and works to the Carnglaze Caverns road. Councillor P Crighton said that the pavements could be made more conducive to use by mobility scooters.

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

Julie Ball (Toilet and Pavilion cleaning – April 2019) - £ 195.00
HPSL (Works to Heat Pump) - £178.42
HPSL (Works to Heat Pump) - £660.28

HPSL (Works to Heat Pump) - £271.85
Mrs S Blaxley (Answer phone telephone) - £19.99
EDF Energy (Parish Lighting) - £108.71
Julie Ball (Cleaning Cott Yard) - £50.00
Playsafety Ltd (Play Equipment Inspection) – £115.80
David Lucas (Signs for Playing Field) - £21.60
Christian Smith (Sign for Mine Shaft) - £57.60

Councillor C Smith explained the detail of each of the HPSL invoices. It was proposed by Councillor A Bellringer and seconded by Councillor C Smith 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 Pavilion. The accounts balance at £57,231.32. The Chair signed the cash book.

13. Doorstep Green and Playing Field

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

Councillor O Burrows said that he will organise a working party for a spring tidy up of Doorstep Green. He said that Colin Alford will undertake the works to the amphitheatre and the area surrounding the chess set in due course. Councillor C Smith said that he was now in possession of the title deeds relating to Doorstep Green. He said that the site of the former boardwalk requires a topographical survey and the parish council needs to consider ideas for its re-development. He said that it would be a good idea for the project to take a collaborative approach with the community. In this respect, he said that parishioners should be asked for their views and ideas on how the site should be

re-developed and that some of the smaller work on the project could be undertaken by members of the community. Councillor P Crighton said that there is a considerable amount of ivy growing around the Western Power transformer in the playing field. She said that, currently, whilst the parish council employs a cleaner for the pavilion, the scouts provide toilet rolls, paper towels and soap. She said that it would be a good idea if the parish council provided these items. Some discussion took place regarding this matter and it was proposed by Councillor Dr L Jones and seconded by Councillor D Lucas that the parish council asks Julie Ball to ensure that the pavilion has an adequate stock of toilet rolls, paper towels and soap and the parish council will pay for these items. All Councillors voted in favour of this proposal. Councillor P Crighton said that some children would like an additional goal installed at the other end of the playing field. It was agreed that this was not required as the ball wall serves the purpose of a goal.

Councillor C Smith reported that ROSPA had undertaken its annual inspection of the play equipment and had produced a report which had highlighted several issues of concern: one of the benches on one of the picnic tables is cracked on the studding and the bolts need tightening, the post on the A frame of the basket swing needs to be replaced or repaired as it is rotting, potential hazardous trip areas on the rubber matting due to the gaps in it and the small gate at the far end of the playing field has a bottom rail missing. He said that they have also advised that the large removable post in the bottom gateway be removed permanently and be replaced with a latch and bolt on the gate instead. Councillors C Smith and O Burrows said they would ascertain if they could undertake the recommended works or whether professional tradesmen are required.

Councillor C Smith said that St Neot Taverners Cricket Club are offering free taster sessions for womens' soft ball in the playing field on Friday 12th April 2019, Friday 19th April 2019 and Friday 26th April 2019. It was agreed that they could use the toilet facilities in the pavilion free of charge during these events.

Councillor C Smith reported that Lanhydrock Gardening Services had cut the grass in the playing field and Doorstep Green and it will be cut again in the next two weeks. He said that they intend to cut the smaller trees in the next two weeks and the larger ones at the beginning of May. He said that painting of the tower play equipment will commence in July and will be completed before the school summer holidays. Councillor H Bunt said that he will be installing the new bench in Doorstep Green in due course.

15. Toilets and Car Park in St Neot

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

Councillor C Smith said that he had emptied the donation box in the toilets. He said that work to provide the additional car parking bays in the car park will commence next week.

16. Cott Yard

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

Councillor C Smith reported that the external redecoration works will commence in July. Councillor H Bunt said that the memorial bench for Bevil will be put in situ on the first anniversary of his death. The Chair thanked Judith and Heather Taylor for planting Cott wall.

17. Climate Change Emergency

To consider how the parish council should take forward the Climate Change Emergency declared by Cornwall Council

It was noted that a copy of the minute from Cornwall Council dated 27th January 2019 declaring a climate change emergency had been circulated prior to the meeting. The Chair said that there needs to be a “push” from many sectors in society to address this issue as “business as usual” cannot continue. She said that some thought needs to be given as to what the parish can do to ensure that everything in our lives is more sustainable and to ensure that a “bottom up” approach to the issue is implemented.

18. Co-option

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

Tracy Hooper said that she had submitted a brief synopsis to councillors prior to the meeting which had detailed her background and work experience. She said that she had worked as a transport planner with Cornwall County Council and that she had led on policy development including policies on the environment and sustainability with Cornwall Council. She said that she has acquired a wealth of experience in her professional life to bring to the parish council. She explained that she has good links with the community but that she would like to learn more about the community and become more involved in it and contribute more to it. She said that she is also happy to work “hands on” with various tasks that the

role may require. It was proposed by Councillor G Rogers and seconded by Councillor D Lucas that Tracy Hooper be co-opted onto the parish council. All Councillors voted in favour of this proposal.

19. Date of next meeting

To agree the date of the next meeting on Wednesday 8th May 2019

The date of the next meeting of St Neot parish council will be on Wednesday 8th May 2019 commencing at 7:30pm.

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 8:55pm.