

**MINUTES OF THE ST NEOT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 12TH JANUARY 2022 AT 7:30PM IN ST NEOT VILLAGE HALL, ST NEOT**

**Present:** Councillors H Bunt, C Smith, G Rogers, M Rowe, T Thrussell, N Ball, T Hooper, H Webb, D Glanville, N O'Neill and S Stevenson.

Cornwall Councillor P Seeva

Sue Blaxley (Parish Clerk)

The Chair opened the meeting at 7:45pm. He confirmed that no one was recording the meeting.

**Public Participation**

None

**1. Apologies**

None

**2. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> December 2021**

The minutes of the meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> December 2021, having been previously circulated, were agreed as an accurate record.

**3. Declaration of interest in items on the agenda**

None

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

Councillor N Ball said that he had not yet replaced the toilet seat in the public toilet but will do in due course. He said that he had mended the tap in Cott Yard. Councillor T Hooper reported that she had inspected the gully to the rear of Cott Yard and that it did not require cleaning. Councillor G Rogers said that he had sprayed the courtyard at Cott Yard. The Chairman reported that the YFC intend to discuss the BBQ at their next meeting. Councillor N Ball reported that he had spoken to the owners of Carlyon House who have said that they no longer pump water from their cellar onto the road. Councillor C Smith said that the tree surgeon will attend to the tree on Tripp Hill in February. In terms of highways matters, the Chairman said that Cormac have said that it is not permissible to remove the raised triangle of land at the junction with Goonzion and the road to Polmenna. In addition, it was noted that no action has been taken in respect of the leaves on the hill from the Halfway House pub, the surface water on the Carnglaze Caverns' road or the strimming of the bank adjacent to the orchard.

## **5. To receive the Chairman's Communications**

The Chairman reported that he had received an email from John Keast saying that the shovel is missing from the salt bin at Pantersbridge. Councillor C Smith said that he will fill the bin with salt and replace the shovel. Some discussion took place regarding celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. It was agreed that Councillors T Hooper and C Smith will liaise with Kath Strang. It was agreed that the occasion should be acknowledged and celebrated.

Councillor G Rogers said that when planning permission was granted for the conversion of Carlyon Cottage into two dwellings, the approved plans delineated parking being provided for the residents on land at the rear of Cott Yard. He said that vehicles are not being parked at the rear of Cott Yard but are being parked outside the property and on the pavement. Councillor C Smith said that he would speak to the owners of the property.

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

None

## **7. To receive a report from the Clerk**

None

## **8. Pavilion**

### **To receive and consider any matters relating to the Pavilion**

Councillor C Smith said that quotations are required for painting and maintenance works to the Pavilion. It was noted that there are three interested contractors and he suggested contacting them and giving them a job description.

## **9. Doorstep Green and Playing Field**

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

It was agreed that parish councillors would meet at Doorstep Green on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2022 to clear up the leaves. It was noted that the rubble from the area that was dug out when the new wet pour was laid is being stored at the far end of the playing field for use as hardcore in the drainage gully.

Councillor D Glanville said that a contractor has said that he will undertake mobile aeration of the grass in front of the goal. It was agreed that Councillor D

Glanville should instruct the contractor to go ahead and aerate a 14m x 20m strip of land in front of the goal.

Councillor G Rogers said that the hedge adjacent to Lampen Lane requires cutting. The Clerk said that she would contact Lanhydrock Gardening Services and ask them to do this.

Councillor C Smith said that quotations are also needed for replacing the fence alongside the pathway into Doorstep Green adjacent to the school.

## **10. Cott Yard**

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

It was reported that a pile of wood chippings has been placed outside the garage belonging to Cott and whilst a pallet has been put against the wall, the owners of Cott should be asked to move the wood chippings as soon as possible.

Councillor C Smith said that the 7-year contract under the Rural Heat Incentive Scheme has now ended so the payments have ceased. He said that the heating charges to the tenants should therefore be reviewed. It was agreed that this matter would be discussed at the next meeting of the parish council. Councillor C Smith said that the repairs had been completed following the incident with the lorry reversing into the wall of Cott Yard. However, he said that there was a problem with matching the paint on the fascia and gutter with the existing paint. It was agreed that the best option was to ask the contractor to paint the whole length of gutter and fascia.

## **11. Toilets and Car Park**

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

None

## **12. St Neot Orchard**

**To receive and consider a quotation for labels for the trees in the orchard**

Councillor S Stevenson produced a sample of a brass plaque with black lettering detailing the owner of the tree, the variety of the apple and the use for the apple. He said that the cost for 25 of these, 6 inches x 3 inches, would be £200. They would each have holes at the top corners so they could be fixed to the trees with wire. It was proposed by Councillor N Ball and seconded by Councillor N O'Neill that Councillor S Stevenson be authorised to purchase these plaques. All Councillors voted in favour of this proposal.

## **To receive and consider a report on any other matters arising relating to St Neot Orchard**

Councillor C Smith said that the trees will need pruning in February. Councillor H Bunt said that he would arrange for this to be done.

### **13. Advertisement for Expressions of Interest**

#### **To consider the advertisement for expressions of interest for contractors who could undertake works in the parish**

Councillor N O'Neill had circulated a draft advertisement to all councillors prior to the meeting. It was agreed that this advertisement would be put in St Neot News and on Facebook. Interested contractors will be asked to contact the Clerk who will send them an Expressions of Interest form, as agreed at the last meeting. Upon completion of the form, the parish council will decide if their response is satisfactory and if it is, the contractor will be added to the approved list. Councillor C Smith said that he was concerned that potential contractors might find the form too complicated. Councillor T Hooper said that a member of the parish council could ask the contractors the questions and complete the form on their behalf which would then just require the contractor's signature.

### **14. Farmer's Market**

#### **To receive and consider a report from the councillor who attended the farmer's market on 8<sup>th</sup> January 2022 and to appoint a representative to attend the farmer's market on 5<sup>th</sup> February 2022**

Councillor N Ball attended the market and parishioners raised the following issues: flooding on the Carnglaze Caverns' road, only carrier bags of clothing should be put in the recycling bin in the car park as black bags do not fit, the Royal Mail post box requires painting and at Gillhouse, the gate has been closed across the PROW as the cattle are chasing the walkers. In addition, he said that Nick Hinchcliffe had asked if the scouts could clean the Holy Well and collect the money which is deposited in the well for their funds. It was proposed by Councillor C Smith and seconded by Councillor N O'Neill that the scouts be authorized to clean the well and collect the money for their funds. All Councillors voted in favour of this proposal.

Councillor T Thrussell volunteered to attend the market on 5<sup>th</sup> February 2022.

### **15. To receive reports from -**

#### **a) Cornwall Councillor**

Cornwall Councillor P Seeva said that he will be undertaking a tour of the parish with Will Glassop from Highways on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2022 and that

councillors can attend if they wish. Councillor G Rogers said that he would attend. Cornwall Councillor P Seeva said that at the next Full Council meeting, one of the motions is to request to make Newquay airport carbon neutral. He said there is also a proposal to ban trail hunting. He explained that the budget meeting will be in February. He explained that he has allocated some of the Community Chest Fund to the primary school but there is a considerable sum still available. It was agreed that Community Chest funding would be applied for in respect of the following: octagonal picnic table and bench for the playing field, a BBQ and the tree plaques for the orchard.

Councillor T Thrussell asked about the proposed Tamar bridge tariff increase. Cornwall Councillor P Seeva said that various bodies are involved in discussions relating to this matter including the Secretary of State.

Councillor S Stevenson asked if there will ever be a cap on council tax and other tax. He said that Cornwall Council should put pressure on central government in this respect for the sake of the younger generations. He said that central government has raised national insurance for social care so questioned why Cornwall Council is increasing Council Tax by 1.99% for social care. Cornwall Councillor P Seeva said the former is for the NHS whereas the latter is for Adult Social care. Councillor S Stevenson said that when Cornwall Council repaid the RBS loan early, it incurred a huge penalty and asked if tighter control will be exercised over these financial blunders. He also asked Cornwall Councillor P Seeva why Cornwall Council is taking 74 asylum seekers and housing them. Cornwall Councillor P Seeva said that he did not know the answer.

It was noted that notification from Cornwall Councillor P Seeva as to what the enforcement team are working on is awaited.

#### **b) Goonzion Commoners**

Councillor C Smith said that Matt Barberly will replace the fence around Mr and Mrs Wilton's property in February. Councillor T Hooper said that some of the commoners have suggested environmental schemes for Goonzion, such as ponds to reduce flooding or tree planting. It was agreed that the full support of the commoners is required in this respect. Councillor N Ball said that the gorse needs cutting especially next to Jane William's house. However, it was agreed that bird nesting and weather conditions have to be considered.

#### **c) Liskeard Looe Community Network Panel**

Councillor T Thrussell said that there is not a meeting until later this month.

### **16. To authorise the signing of orders for payment, including –**

Julie Ball (Toilet, Pavilion and Cott Yard Cleaning – January 2022) - £271.62  
Cornwall Pension Fund (Pension for Clerk) - £131.99

Cornwall ALC Limited (Code of Conduct Training) - £48.00  
St Neot News (Expenses Aug/Sept/Oct/Nov 2021) - £763.00  
EDF Energy (Electricity for Pavilion) - £67.33  
Jenny Hart (Waymarker Signs) - £198.00  
Table Tennis 365 (Table Tennis Table) - £2,399.95  
St Neot Social Club (Cleaning Materials for Toilets) - £53.01

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

## **17. Finance Report**

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

The Clerk reported that income of £129.50 had been received from Menheniot Post Office as rent for the Pavilion and £105.00 from Mr and Mrs Wilton for rent on Goonzion. The accounts balance at £119,769.22. The Chairman expressed congratulations, on behalf of the parish council, to Gary Walters, on receipt of his BEM for services to the community.

## **18. Date of next meeting**

### **To confirm the date of the next Parish Council meeting which will be on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2022**

The next meeting of the parish council will be on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2022 commencing at 7:30pm in the Committee Room, St Neot Institute.

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