

**MINUTES OF THE ST NEOT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 28th SEPTEMBER 2022 AT 7:30PM IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM, ST NEOT INSTITUTE, ST NEOT**

**Present:** Councillors H Bunt, C Smith, D Glanville, G Rogers, T Thrussell, S Stevenson, T Hooper and M Rowe.

Sue Blaxley (Parish Clerk)

Councillors stood for one minutes' silence to respect the recent passing of HRH Queen Elizabeth II.

The Chair opened the meeting at 7:30pm. He confirmed that no one was recording the meeting.

**Public Participation**

None

**1. Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Councillor H Webb and Cornwall Councillor P Seeva.

**2. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> June 2022**

The minutes of the meeting held on 31<sup>st</sup> August 2022, having been previously circulated, were agreed as an accurate record, subject to an amendment to minute 18 (b) changing the width of the gate proposed by Sam Tett from 600mm to 900mm.

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

None

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

The Chairman said that no response had been received from the emails sent to Cormac and Cornwall Council regarding hedge cutting in the parish, cleaning out the cattle grids, the removal of abandoned road signs, bus services or housing allocation. The Clerk said she would follow up these matters. It was noted that the works in the public toilet, which Councillor N Ball will attend to, have not yet been undertaken.

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

None

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

Councillor T Thrussell said that a new Dark Skies Steering Group has been set up and they have asked if they could display a notice on the village notice board. It was agreed that this would be acceptable.

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

None

**8. Standing Orders, Financial Regulations, Financial Risk Assessment and Internal Financial Controls**

**To approve the Standing Orders, Financial Regulations, Financial Risk Assessment and Internal Financial Controls**

It was proposed by Councillor C Smith and seconded by Councillor T Hooper that the Standing Orders, Financial Regulations, Financial Risk Assessment and Internal Financial Controls for 2022-23 be approved. All Councillors voted in favour of the proposal.

**9. Pavilion**

**To receive and consider a report on any matters arising relating to the Pavilion**

Councillor C Smith said that CJR Building Ltd had started the works on the Pavilion. He said that the works will be slightly delayed as they are awaiting the delivery of materials. He said that he and Councillor G Rogers regularly inspect the work. He said that the Post Office will still attend during the building works. Councillor C Smith said that the green light outside the Pavilion is the emergency lighting.

**10. Doorstep Green and Playing Field**

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

Councillor C Smith said that the new play equipment has been installed and the new play train will be installed in October 2022. The Chairman said that he had received a query concerning the height of the hoops and explained that the equipment was age specific. He confirmed that the play equipment was chosen

as a result of a request from St Neot School. Councillor C Smith said that moving the goal post is serving to protect the grass. The Chairman said that the Autumn tidy up in Doorstep Green will take place on 8<sup>th</sup> October between 9:30am and 12 noon.

### **11. Cott Yard**

#### **To consider renewing the Historians Licence for the archive**

The Clerk explained that the Historians occupy the archive under licence from the parish council for a nominal fee of £1/pa. She said that the lease has now expired. It was proposed by Councillor H Bunt and seconded by Councillor T Thruswell that a new licence be issued under the same terms, backdated to the expiry date of the original licence. All Councillors voted in favour of the proposal.

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

Councillor C Smith reported that CJR Building has yet to re upright the granite post and install the drain to the rear of Cott Yard. Councillor C Smith said that the tenants had reported that several telephone sockets in the upstairs office were not working. He said that these relate to the tenant's data system and they are looking into rectifying the matter. Councillor C Smith said that the PIR sensor at the top of the stairway needs replacing.

### **12. Toilets and Car Park**

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

None

### **13. St Neot Orchard**

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

It was agreed that pruning the trees in the orchard should be arranged. The Chairman said that he would ask Caradon Orchard Group. It was noted that the land transfer is still in the hands of the solicitor. Councillor T Hooper said that she would inform parishioners, via Facebook, that there are apples in the orchard to which parishioners can help themselves.

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

**To receive and consider a report from the councillor who attended the farmer's market on 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2022 and to appoint a representative to attend the farmer's market on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2022**

It was reported that concerns have been raised regarding the number of artificial flowers at the war memorial. It was agreed that there are numerous artificial flowers being placed there which are not necessarily appropriate for the memorial. It was agreed that the two pots containing artificial flowers on either side of the memorial could remain in situ but the others should be removed in time for Remembrance Sunday. It was suggested that two living plants could replace the artificial ones. Councillor S Stevenson said that he would attend the market on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2022.

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

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

Councillor S Stevenson said that he is a regular reader of Cornish Stuff and has noted that one of the Cornwall Councillors has admitted that Cornwall Council's finances are "in a hole". He said that he has also noted that Cornwall Council has agreed to match fund any charity money raised for refugees and asylum seekers in Cornwall which will inevitably result in an increase in Council Tax. He commented by saying that the more that is done at a local level, the less central government will do.

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

Councillor M Rowe said that he had not yet asked the Commoners for their views on burning the bracken. He said that he had reported the presence of a stallion on Goonzion to the Commoners Committee. Councillor M Rowe said that the cattle grid at Luna has still not been repaired. Councillor C Smith said that there is an overhanging branch on Bush Hill which requires removal.

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

Councillor T Thrussell said that, at the recent meeting, the discontinuation of the bus services was the main topic for discussion. He said that the CNP have asked Cornwall Council for the rationale behind this decision and has asked for a review of this decision in 8 months' time. Councillor T Thrussell said that the highways' funding scheme is under review.

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

Cornwall Pension Fund (Pension for Clerk) - £134.34  
Sue Blaxley (3 months' salary and expenses) - £2275.23

St Neot News (April, May and June expenses) - £529.00  
Western Web (London Bridge Down announcement) - £90.00  
J Abbins (Deposit for parish map) - £250.00  
Lanhydrock Gardening Services (Grass cutting 12/08/22) - £258.00  
EDF Energy (Electricity for Pavilion) - £112.04

It was proposed by Councillor G Rogers and seconded by Councillor M Rowe 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 said the accounts balance at £75,291.45, with income having been received as follows: £126.000 from Menheniot PO for rental of the Pavilion, £571.50 from Heather Taylor for rental of Cott Yard and 32p interest.

### **18. Co-option**

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

None

### **19. Date of next meeting**

#### **To confirm the date of the next Parish Council meeting which will be on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2022**

The next meeting of the parish council will be on Wednesday 12th October 2022 commencing at 7:30pm in St Neot Institute

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