

MINUTES OF THE ST NEOT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 11th SEPTEMBER 2024 AT 7:30PM IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM, ST NEOT INSTITUTE, ST NEOT

Present: Councillors G Rogers (Vice Chair), H Bunt, N Ball, H Webb, A Tamblyn, T Thrussell and D Glanville.

Sue Blaxley, Clerk and RFO.

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

Public Participation

None

1. Apologies

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors T Hooper, C Smith and L Jones and from Cornwall Councillor P Seeva.

2. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 14th August 2024

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 14th August 2024, having been previously circulated, were agreed as an accurate record subject to an addition to item 14 stating that Councillor H Bunt reported that a parishioner was concerned that the 100 steps footpath is overgrown. In addition, the date of the next meeting should read as 11th September 2024

3. Declaration of interest in items on the agenda

Councillors G Rogers and N Ball declared an interest in item 16 on the agenda.

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

The Vice Chair said that he had sent photographs to Cornwall Council regarding the collapsed section of the Two Valleys Walk. Councillor N Ball said that he had not yet replaced the tap in Cott Yard. The Clerk reported that the donations in the box in the public toilet amounted to £127.55. In respect of the alterations which have been made to land owned by the parish council adjacent to the house under construction at the top of Tripp Hill, Councillor D Glanville reported that the owner was not at home when he and Councillor T Hooper visited but that Councillor T Hooper will visit again. The Vice Chair thanked those who had helped to tidy Doorstep Green prior to the Carnival and Smite competition.

Councillor T Thrussell said that he had had 10 parish maps printed for sale. He said that the maps cost £7 each to print including delivery and that any profits made from the sale of these maps will help cover the cost of the sign board at Colliford Lake which has already been purchased and erected. After some discussion, it was

agreed that the maps would be offered for sale at the farmers' market and at the shop (Councillor H Bunt said he would speak to Country Lane Enterprises regarding this matter). It was proposed by Councillor T Thrussell that the maps be offered for sale at £15 each. There was no seconder. It was proposed by Councillor N Ball and seconded by Councillor H Bunt that the maps be offered for sale at a cost of £10 each. All councillors voted in favour of this proposal. It was noted that additional maps would be displayed at the following locations: Halfway House pub, wall of public toilet in St Neot car park and at Golitha Falls. It was proposed by Councillor N Ball and seconded by Councillor A Tamblyn that Councillor T Thrussell be authorized to have these maps printed. All councillors voted in favour of the proposal.

5. To receive the Chairman's Communications

It was noted that the monthly PCSO report had been circulated to all councillors. The Vice Chair said that some concern had been raised about the vehicle which is parked on the highway outside The Old School as it is inconvenient and dangerous for other users of the highway. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to the owner of the vehicle and ask him not to park in this location. It was agreed that the playing field could be used for overflow car parking, if needed, on 12th September 2024 as there is a funeral at the Church.

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

None

7. To receive a report from the Clerk

None

8. Doorstep Green and Playing Field

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

None

9. Pavillion

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

The Vice Chair said that works are progressing well. He said that the new door on the scout store has been fitted to the rear of the building, the block work for the structure and the ramp is complete and drainage works are being undertaken. Councillor H Webb said that the Pavilion door had been left open with the key in it and no builders were on site. It was agreed that the Vice Chair would contact the contractor and ask them to ensure that the building is kept secure.

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

None

10. Cott Yard

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

None

11. Toilets and Car Park

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

The Vice Chair said that part of the mortar securing the manhole cover in front of the toilet has broken which means that there is a danger of collapse if a heavy vehicle drives over it. It was agreed that the Clerk would ask Colin Alford to undertake the necessary repair.

12. St Neot Orchard

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

Councillor G Rogers said that he had met Warleggan Young Farmers in the orchard and they will cut the hedge adjacent to the road and they will trim both sides of the pathway through the orchard as a community project. He said that the rest of the orchard is very overgrown and it should be cut before the apples fall.

Councillor G Rogers left the meeting.

Some discussion took place as to whether the strimming could be undertaken by volunteers or whether a contractor should be used to undertake the works. There was some concern that volunteers may trim too close to the trees and damage the bark on the trees. The Clerk said that the cost of the works being undertaken by a contractor was approximately £120.00. It was proposed by Councillor N Ball and seconded by Councillor D Glanville that Gary Rogers be asked to trim the orchard as soon as possible. All councillors voted in favour of the proposal.

Councillor G Rogers returned to the meeting.

Councillor H Bunt said that Liskeard Hash Harriers had started a run from Woodlands Farm and had run through the orchard, using the path, into the village. He said that it was good to see the path being used. It was noted that SWW has cut the lane adjacent to the orchard.

13. Asset Inspection Report

To receive and consider the Asset Inspection Report

Councillor D Glanville reported that, on Goonzion, the 'Shaft' sign is missing at the mine nearest the village. He said that the shaft in the middle of Goonzion was not located (3 out of 4 inspected) and whilst the gate into the mine/tunnel was good, there are many fallen trees around the site and the fence is broken. It was agreed that a further inspection of this site will be undertaken to ascertain how the matter can be rectified. It was agreed that Councillor C Smith would purchase some new signs for the shafts. Councillor D Glanville said the base of the bin at the end of Lampen Lane needs replacing. Councillor H Bunt said he would look at rectifying this. Councillor D Glanville said the bench in the orchard is rotten and needs removing. Councillor G Rogers said he would attend to this matter. Councillor D Glanville said some of the rails on the picnic bench near the Holy Well need replacing. The Vice Chair thanked Councillors D Glanville and T Hooper, on behalf of the parish council, for carrying out the asset inspection.

14. Farmer's Market

To receive a report from the councillor who attended the farmer's market on 7th September 2024 and to appoint a representative to attend the farmer's market on 5th October 2024

Councillor H Webb said that many people had shown an interest in the parish map. She said that a parishioner had commented on the overgrown hedges on the road past Colliford Dam. The Vice Chair said that Will Glassop was aware of this matter. It was agreed that the Clerk would report the matter to Cornwall Council. Councillor H Webb said that a parishioner reported that a footpath sign has fallen on School Hill. Councillor G Rogers said he would attend to this matter. It was agreed that Councillor T Thrussell would attend the market on 5th October 2024.

Councillor T Thrussell said that there is very little left of the two burnt out caravans at Colliford Lake. The Clerk said that PCSO has said that it is not the Police's responsibility, but that contact should be made with the landowner or Cornwall Council's Environmental Health Team. Councillor T Thrussell said that the half-moon car park near Colliford Dam is used for fly tipping, and it is not looked after as a community space. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to SW Lakes Trust and ask them to remove the fly tipping and to maintain the space in a reasonable condition.

15. To receive reports from -

a) Cornwall Councillor

Cornwall Councillor P Seeva's report was circulated to all councillors in advance of the meeting. Councillor T Thrussell commented that Cornwall Councillor P Seeva does not attend the CAP meetings. He said that his contribution is needed for the ward in this forum especially as some of the most dangerous parts of the A38 (Glynn Valley Road and Menheniot junction onto the A38) fall in his ward and this topic is discussed regularly at meetings.

Following the Clerk's correspondence with Cornwall Council regarding the parking on the roads at Golitha Falls, it was noted that a response had been received from Cornwall Council saying that they are aware of the problem and suggesting that a bid be made through CAP for funding, possibly for the painting of double yellow lines. Councillor T Thrussell said that he had contacted the CAP Link Officer regarding this matter and there is no more money available for highways schemes until June 2025. He said that many schemes will be competing for this money in June 2025. Some discussion took place as to whether signage would be effective, or whether boulders could be put on the grass verges or whether a collaboration with Natural England might be a way forward. It was noted that Inkys are proposing to host music evenings, and it was questioned as to whether a license would be required.

b) Goonzion Commoners

Councillor H Bunt said that there has been no follow up after the Commoners meeting. He reported that the cattle grid at Linkindale has been cleaned out.

c) SE Cornwall CAP

Councillor T Thrussell reported that works to the Saltash Tunnel will commence in Autumn 2024 and will take one year, during which time, 45–50-minute delays are anticipated. He said that the MP for SE Cornwall is going to be attending a CAP meeting to discuss the way forward in respect of safety on the A38 and the tolls on the Tamar Bridge. He said the next Working Group will be on 17th September 2024.

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

Cornwall Pension Fund (Pension for Clerk) - £189.93
Julie Ball (Toilet, Pavilion and Cott Yard cleaning) - £247.62
Cornwall Council (Business Rates for Cott Yard) - £326.00
St Neot News (Advert in St Neot News) - £10.00
Cornwall Council (Building Regulations Inspection Fee) - £948.00
Brad Bolitho (Building Works – Pavilion) - £26,876.64
Sue Blaxley (3 month's salary and expenses) - £2737.90
Christian Smith (Disabled alarm for Cott Yard) - £51.00
Christian Smith (Fuses for Doorstep Green) - £13.82
Gary Rogers (PROW maintenance – 1st installment) – £825.00
Lanhydrock Gardening Services (Grass Cutting) – £319.20

It was proposed by Councillor H Bunt and seconded by Councillor H Webb that all the above orders be authorized for payment. All Councillors voted in favour, except for Councillors G Rogers and N Ball who, having previously declared an interest, abstained from voting.

The Clerk said that, given the sums of money involved and the frequency of invoicing, authorization is sought for payments to Brad Bolitho Ltd in between meetings. It was proposed by Councillor N Ball and seconded by Councillor H Webb that the Clerk be authorized to pay invoices from Brad Bolitho in between meetings provided the invoices are certified by the PM that the works, the subject of the

invoices, concur with the works completed on site. All councillors voted in favour of the 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 has been received this month as follows: £675.10 (Rent from Heather Taylor for Cott Yard), £1585.50 (Electricity and rent for Cott Yard from CLE), £2000.00 (Shop Steering Group) and £145,000.000 (CLUP Grant) The Clerk reported that the accounts balance at £195,290.53. Councillor H Webb said that as all this money is being held in one bank account, only £85,000.00 of this is protected under FSCS. The Clerk said that she did not consider this to be a high risk as the money will soon be spent on the Village Shop Project.

Under The Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 Sec 1 (2), members of the public were excluded from the meeting at this point due to the sensitive financial and commercial business to be discussed.

18. Cott Yard

To receive and consider the terms of the new lease for prospective tenants for Suites 1 and 2

It was noted that some interest has been shown in the vacant suites. The terms of the lease for the prospective tenant (s) for suites 2 and 3 in Cott Yard were outlined as agreed at the Finance Committee on 27th August 2024. It was proposed by Councillor N Ball and seconded by Councillor T Thrussell that the proposal for the terms of the lease, as agreed by the Finance Committee, be ratified. All councillors voted in favour of the proposal.

19. Date of next meeting

To confirm the date of the next Parish Council meeting on Wednesday 9th October 2024.

The next meeting of the parish council will be on Wednesday 9th October 2024 commencing at 7:30pm in the Village Hall/Social Club meeting room.

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

