

DRAFT MINUTES

At a future meeting the council will consider the accuracy of these minutes so they may be subject to change. Please check the minutes of the next meeting to confirm whether or not they have been amended

Minutes of a Meeting of Tywardreath & Par Parish Council held on Thursday 7th April 2016 at Par Running Track Pavilion at 7.00 pm

Present Cllrs Wildish, Brasier, Hughes, Scrafton, Phillips, Taylor and Waddington

In attendance Parish Clerk, Sally Vincent
1 member of the press

15/165 Apologies Cllr Allen, Cllr Foster, Cllr Fowler
PCSO Rebecca Harris

15/166 Declaration of interests

Pecuniary - None

Non Registerable – None

Dispensations - Cllr Hughes has been granted a dispensation by the Parish Clerk in any matters pertaining to allotments, effective until 2017.

15/167 Public Questions / Police Report

Public Questions

None

Police Report

There had been 6 recorded crimes in March – 1 x burglary, 1 x assault, 1 x shoplifting, 1 x criminal damage 2 x other - and 45 police incidents recorded.

15/168 Minutes of the Meeting held on the 3rd March 2016

It was proposed by Cllr Taylor, seconded Cllr Hughes and RESOLVED that the minutes be confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

15/169 Matters arising not on the agenda (for report only)

None.

15/170 To receive the Cornwall Councillors reports

Cllr Scrafton reported

- I have attended a number of meetings, including Cornwall Council's cabinet and an all member briefing on the forthcoming boundary review of the Council. The boundary review will come into force in 2021. The review will be important for Cornwall. It will be important to ensure the right number of Councillors, given the need not only to represent the interests of the electorate, but also to ensure strong

- democratic governance for Cornwall as the Cornwall Deal is implemented and the Council acquires new responsibilities
- Work on the preparation of a proposal to take Par running track into community ownership continues apace, and the community group involved will, I am now fully confident, have a robust, viable and sustainable plan to put forward at the end of this month. Assuming that Cornwall Council invite the group to work up their ideas further, there will be a good deal of local consultation work undertaken to ensure that everyone's views can be heard. The group were heartened recently to receive unsolicited messages from Fowey Town Council and St Sampson Parish Council, offering support in principle for the effort they are making to assume control of the facility. I have now other town and parish councils in the catchment area, and our local Member of Parliament, to seek similar endorsement from them. This will help demonstrate to Cornwall Council the strength of local support for local control of the facility.
 - I note that a revised application has been submitted, PA16/02503, for the extension of 39, Polmear Road. The Planning Committee will doubtless be taking a view in due course. I should perhaps note that I have attended a meeting there with members of Cornwall Council Planning Department. The revised plans appear to take account of a number of the comments I made at that meeting.

Cllr Hughes – reported

- As mentioned in an earlier Report, The Boundary Commissioners are requiring Cornwall Council to carry out a review of its divisional boundaries, although these will not now come into effect until the 2021 CC elections. The reason for the review is that “they” require that all divisions contain the same number of electors +/- 10%. Because of the geography of Cornwall, this can lead to significant differences in the size of divisions, with some of the larger towns having several Cornwall Councillors, whilst, especially in the north and east, one councillor may cover 8 distinct parishes.
As one of the largest local authorities in the country, both in area and electorate, this will involve a great deal of work, which has already started, with a tight deadline of this time next year. This will include several rounds of consultation with “stakeholders” and the general public. Cornwall Councillors met the Commissioners recently to hear their position and ask questions about the process. They made it clear that, whilst they will give significant weight to the Council's opinion and evidence, their final decision will take into account all representations received and may not coincide with the Council position (so much for democracy)!
As well as reviewing the boundaries, the Council will be considering the number of seats which a future council will have. Prior to the Unitary Council, between the County and six District Councils, the public had some 550 elected representatives, now there are 124. There are those who would like this to be reduced as low as 60. Whilst I acknowledge that there a minority of councillors who do not, in my opinion, “pull their weight”, I believe that most try very hard to represent the individual needs of their constituents whilst also playing their part in the strategic development of Cornwall and in holding the “executive” to account. With so many support services being cut or curtailed, it is ever more difficult for the “man in the street” to know where to turn for help and advice and, quite

reasonably, they turn to their local councillor, even when the matter is not strictly Cornwall Council business. This is likely to increase, especially with “devolution” of more health and care matters to the local area.

Whilst I might accept some minor “tinkering” with numbers, I believe that any significant reduction in the number of councillors would be a bad thing. Firstly, the general public would have less support and representation: secondly, the number of elected representatives with local knowledge would be diluted: thirdly, there is a serious risk that pressure of work on those remaining would be such that the level of scrutiny of decision-making would deteriorate, both of the executive, and also of un-elected officers, who are themselves under pressure due to staffing cuts and increasing interference from Westminster.

Whilst I accept that this is a personal opinion, I do not consider that it represents self-interest as I do not expect to be a councillor when these changes are implemented. I would urge everyone to involve themselves at every level of consultation in order to help shape a workable, democratic Cornwall into the future.

I would urge the Parish Council, and any interested individuals, to visit the Local Government Boundary Commission web-site, read the instructions and complete a submission giving their views.

- At the last Cabinet Meeting it was agreed that Cornwall Council would offer up to £1.5 million of capital as match-funding to secure a very much larger sum of Government and European money towards the cost of one or two projects in Cornwall to demonstrate the feasibility of geothermal power. One of the two initial sites may well be at Eden. This is a very exciting project to develop cheap, flexible, renewable, non-carbon energy which could generate huge economic benefits, both direct and indirect for Cornwall. It has been suggested that, if successful, Cornwall could be generating up to 20% of UK total requirements from geothermal in the future. It must be stressed that the money being committed is Capital, which could not otherwise be used to offset government cuts.
 - It has been confirmed that Wainhomes are going to appeal on the Par/Biscovey application on the grounds of “non-determination. This is in Doug’s division but Roy and I have been active in questioning the appropriateness of this application and will no doubt speak at the appeal. Although not in our parish, this proposed development would impact on Tywardreath, not least because of its impact on views westward from the village, especially from within the Conservation Area and from the Grade II* Listed parish church. It would occupy almost all the area of green across the valley which separates us visually from St Austell. We may well be calling on local residents to support us in our campaign.
- Cllr Taylor** – reported
- **CC Environment Service.** I attended a briefing from the CC Environment Service. It is investigating means to raise additional revenue through sponsorship, sales and advertising. It occurs to me that we should be aware of the potential to raise an income from some of the parcels devolved to us.

- **CC members remuneration.** I was interviewed as a committee chair by the Independent Remuneration Panel that CC is obliged to appoint and later chooses to ignore the findings of every four years.
- **Boundary review.** I have been busy as usual and attended several meetings, including the cabinet and a member briefing on the current boundary review. The elections due in 2017 will not be affected by the current boundary review. The commissioners are looking to the following elections in 2021. Given the new powers that the Westminster government have promised in the Deal for Cornwall, strong governance will be essential for the authority in the coming years. I attended the PBCT meeting last month but was unable to be at the PBBL meeting the following day.
- **Updates.**
 1. A390 level crossing closure. A report will be going to the Transportation PAC in May with a view to formulating policy to place controls on the activity of Network Rail with regard to similar repairs or replacements in the future.
 2. Kilhallon landslip. Work is expected to commence on a permanent repair this month. Update awaited.
 3. The Roundhouse. The Feasibility Study is progressing well and I was pleased to attend a site visit to the turntable.
 4. Motion re parking at Schools. Will be on the 26th April Transportation PAC agenda. Members are probably aware that the zig zag lines at schools are only advisory. I have no wish to prejudge the outcomes from that meeting but I understand that this spring the DFT are to make it possible for these markings to be made mandatory without a specific traffic order. Signage will have to be provided but this could help and may be achievable within existing budgets. Should this all be achieved, enforcement will be the next hurdle and I have already asked what plans could be put in place.
 5. St Blazey Police Station. Is once again likely to be purchased (subject to contract) by St Blaise TC.

15/171 To receive reports from Parish Council Representatives

None.

15/172 To receive and note minutes of Parish Council Committees

Planning – minutes noted

Environment – minutes noted

Finance – minutes noted

15/173 Correspondence List

The correspondence list was ‘left on the table’ for Cllrs attention

15/174 Accounts for Approval

Cllr Phillips proposed, Cllr Hughes seconded and it was RESOLVED that accounts to the value of £1,569.35 approved. Cllr Hughes proposed, Cllr Phillips

seconded and it was RESOLVED that the minutes should record that the parish council was fully supportive of the Parish Clerk claiming overtime for the additional hours worked in connections with the allotments.

15/175 Resolutions from Councillors

None

15/176 Public Conveniences in the Parish

Cllr Phillips proposed, Cllr Scrafton seconded and it was RESOLVED that quotes from Healthmatic for integral charging doors and from Routleys for building work should be accepted for the refurbishment of the Par Beach facilities, with work starting on 18th April. Some disruption was inevitable but the builders would keep this to a minimum. Cllr Phillips had read the meters with Cornwall Council following completion.

15/177 Tywardreath Allotments

Cllr Phillips proposed, Cllr Wildish seconded and it was RESOLVED 1) The Fowey Town Council tenancy agreement lease format be adopted 2) The cost of new plots should be £5 per rod and all new plots should be half plots (5 rods). 3) Parish residents should be given priority when allocating plots. 4) Annual tenancies to run from 1st April each year. Cllr Hughes abstained from voting. The Clerk reported that she had sent out tenancy agreements and invoices to what appeared to be the current allotment holders at Upper Poldrea and Woodland Avenue and was awaiting responses. The Cornwall Council records were incomplete and clearly had not been updated for several years so it was going to be a difficult process. Furthermore, there appeared to be a very long waiting list despite the fact that there were several vacant plots. It was agreed that Cllr Phillips would organise for a JCB to clear the Lower Poldrea site, prior to marking out the new plots. When this work was complete the Clerk would allocate them from the waiting list in line with the parish council policy.

15/178 Par Bay Skatepark Project

No update

15/179 Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr Allen had almost completed the Heritage Lottery grant application.

15/180 Par Beach Play Area

Cllr Scrafton reported that concerns had been raised about Clause 3 of the proposed wayleave, which restricted the parish council's ability to raise or lower the level of the land or install a structure likely to interfere with the pipe. He personally felt that the clause was acceptable but would talk to Park Leisure to see if it could be modified to address the concerns.

15/181 Tywardreath Butte rmarket

Cllr Foster had submitted an enquiry to the Land Registry in relation to ownership.

15/182 Land at Vine Place

No update.

15/183 Parish Councillor's Reports

It was noted that the parish council would be meeting with Trudy and Josh Taylor from Newhouse Farm to hear their plans. It was agreed that this should take place after the planning/environment committee meeting on 21st April.

Cllr Wildish reported that there was flooding on the road by Trenython again. Cllr Hughes would report.

Date of Next Meeting Annual Parish Meeting – 5th May 2016
Annual Meeting of the Council – 5th May 2016

Meeting Closed 8.03pm