

## Quethiock Parish Council

### Minutes of the meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2020 via a “virtual” meeting

**Present:** Councillors: John Blatchford ( Chair ), Roy Vass, Stephen Hobbs, Vic Welch, Tim Lynch and Alison Jeffrey. Clerk Matthew Wald. Also present Chris Healey.

**Apologies:** None

**Declarations of Interest:** Cllr Vass mentioned that he has a relative who is a pupil at Quethiock School – the Chairman said this was not sufficient to amount to an “interest” for the purposes of this meeting.

#### **1. Co-option**

Chris Healey was co-opted onto the Council.

#### **2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting:**

The minutes of the meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2020 were approved.

#### **3. Matters arising from the Minutes of the previous meeting:**

- (i) **Signposts:** in view of the lack of progress in this matter by Cornwall Council (“CC” ) the PC is considering replacing signposts itself. The Clerk is not sure how many will be required – maybe 6 ? Financial provision has been made in the budget, although he is still awaiting a quote for a specimen. Councillors discussed the type of sign which would be appropriate: the type recently put up by the solar farm is regarded as unacceptable, in some places wood or a good metal replica type might be required. The Clerk said he had in mind that different types might be required, depending on location, importance and cost. Cllr Jeffrey did not favour a plastic sign at the school crossroads.
- (ii) **Road flooding by the solar farm:** The Clerk has reported the issue, without result. The problem appears to have been caused by the landowner(s) but the Clerk considers that it would be futile for QPC to take this up with them – it is Cornwall Council’s road which is affected and only they have the power to do anything about it. The Council expressed its continuing frustration with this issue and instructed the Clerk to try again.
- (iii) **Devolution of assets:** The Clerk reported all now ready, except that CC now awaiting approval by the Secretary of State.

#### **4. Planning:**

The Council is in favour of Application PA20/09248 ( replacement agricultural building at East Quethiock Farm ). The Council asked the Clerk to pass on to CC its view that this building, and any others like it, should be fitted with solar panels.

#### **5. Financial :**

The Clerk had circulated by e-mail an up to date statement of the cash position, together with the underlying 2020-21 ledger sheets detailing income and expenditure in the current financial year to date.

The Clerk had also circulated a further version of the draft budget for 2021-2 (attached).

The budget had previously been discussed by councillors via email, but at the meeting the following points were discussed:

- Election expenses: Cllr Jeffrey confirmed that these are not recoverable. The £300 provision is regarded as appropriate if the election is uncontested: if ( unexpectedly ) it is contested the cost would be considerably higher. The Clerk commented that if that happens it would be reflected in the next year's budget.

*[ Note: since the meeting CC has notified the Clerk that its estimates are £226 (uncontested) £1030 (contested)]*

- Defibrillator: Cllr Vass said that it is likely that the defibrillator pads ( two sets ) will need renewing in June 2021. The Clerk said there was an unused provision in the 2020-21 budget for this, so no need for anything further in the 2021-22 budget. Cllr Vass said the £200 provision should be adequate.

The Budget was approved unanimously by the Council ( proposed Cllr Welch, seconded Cllr Vass ).

#### **6. Community Benefit Fund:**

- i. The Council approved meeting the quotation for repairs to play equipment at the school from Sam Moore of 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2020 for £1,995 from the Community Benefit fund.
- ii. The Council discussed supporting the school's proposed outdoor learning facility from the Community Benefit fund. There was general agreement that the school was of great importance to the community as a whole, and that the project should be supported. The majority of councillors did not consider however that the fund should meet the entire cost.

It was resolved that the Council should offer £3,000 from the fund ( proposed Cllr Lynch, seconded Cllr Hobbs ).

- iii. The rubbish bin in the cemetery has lost its lid and is being used for general rubbish, including dog waste. The Council approved the Clerk obtaining a replacement metal rubbish bin, with lid attached, for the cemetery, to be funded by the Community Benefit fund.
- iv. The Council discussed getting a dog waste bin to be placed somewhere appropriate along the road by the cemetery ( but not in the lay-by right opposite ). The need was recognised. The Clerk is to obtain a quote for a bin and then ascertain whether if QPC buys the bin CC will agree to add it to the regular rubbish collection round.

#### **7. Climate Change Plan:**

Cllr Healey has prepared a first draft which had been circulated shortly before the meeting. It will be considered at the next meeting – comments meantime please.

Cllrs Welch and Vass both observed that “a number of small initiatives” may be the best way forward.

**8. Footpaths:**

The Clerk said that the works that were commissioned have been carried out and paid for. However, £230 remains unspent. He asked that the contractor be instructed to carry out a further cut of the Hepwell Farm bridle path, which is growing over between about 6 and 9 feet up ( ie in the way of a person on a horse ), within that budget. This was unanimously approved.

**9. Public Participation:**

There were no members of the public present.

**9. Any Other Business:**

None.

**Next meeting – 8<sup>th</sup> February 2020 at 7.00pm, virtually.**

Signed Chairman .....

Date .....

## Quethiock Parish Council – Draft Precept budget 2021-2022

	<b>2020-21 Budget £</b>	<b>2020-21 Projected spend £</b>	<b>2021-22 Budget £</b>
<b>Income</b>			
Precept	9155.85	9155.85	9101.36
CTS Grant	154.87	154.87	116.24
LMP Footpath grant	550.00	550.00	579.86
Interest	1.00	1.00	1.00
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>9861.72</u></b>	<b><u>9861.72</u></b>	<b><u>9798.46</u></b>
<b>Expenditure</b>			
Clerk	4680.00	4800.00	4900.00
Stationery, postage, admin	250.00	300.00	300.00
Insurance	265.00	257.60	265.00
CALC subscription	217.72	263.67	265.00
Footpath maintenance	550.00	550.00	579.86
Audit	500.00	240.00	350.00
Grounds maintenance ( provision )	1000.00	nil	nil
Room Hire Blunts	40.00	nil	nil
Bus shelter maintenance	50.00	nil	50.00
Seats/Noticeboards	100.00	nil	100.00
Quethiock News	173.60	nil	173.60
Gmail account	295.00	496.00	550.00
Website, IT support	500.00	500.00	600.00
Devolution of assets	566.00	566.00	nil
RBL Wreath and donation	40.00	40.00	50.00
Provision for inflation etc	335.00	nil	315.00
Defibrillator ( provision )	200.00	nil	nil
Training costs	100.00	nil	nil
Signposts	nil	nil	1000.00
Election	nil	nil	300.00
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>9861.72</u></b>	<b><u>8013.27</u></b>	<b><u>9798.46</u></b>