

**Minutes of the meeting held on 14th September 2021
at Quethiock Parish Hall at 7.00pm**

Present: Councillors: John Blatchford (Chair), Roy Vass, Vic Welch, Tim Lynch, and Alison Jeffrey. Clerk Matthew Wald.

Apologies: Steve Hobbs, Chris Healey

In attendance: Richard Winstone

1. Declarations of Interest:

None

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting:

The minutes of the meeting on 5th July 2021 were approved (proposed Cllr Jeffrey, seconded Cllr Vass).

3. Matters arising from the Minutes of the meeting of 5th July 2021 and Clerk's Report:

The clerk reported that:

3.1 Signposts: He has made some more progress with this project:

Tilland: Two signposts now refurbished, one more made and awaiting installation, one more new one still to make.

Coombe junction: He is part way through refurbishing the signpost

"Triangle": Two new ones made, but awaiting some further lettering before they can be installed.

Pounda: He has started making a new signpost.

Lastly, that will leave the cast iron sign near Blunts still to be dealt with – he is planning to repaint it.

3.2 New litter bin near Penpol Farm and bench in Trehunist: The litter bin is now in place, and is being used. Cllr Jeffrey will deal with obtaining a plaque for the new bench to commemorate the late Mr and Mrs Welch.

3.3 Cemetery: The grass has now been cut.

3.4 Quethiock News: is due to be published imminently.

3.5 Flooding by solar farm - Cornwall Council reference W2155407:

Nothing further has been heard from Cornwall Council.

In addition the following were considered:

3.6 School outdoor play equipment: The Council considered whether to instal surfacing around the play equipment - see minute 5.4 of 17th May which read as follows:

“5.4 School outdoor play equipment: The Chairman has now painted it with a non-slip paint. He suggested also creating a bark surface around it, to make it more usable in muddy conditions. The Clerk has spoken to Sam Moore who recently repaired it, who roughly estimated a cost of about £1200-2500. A rubber alternative is thought to be more expensive. The Council adjourned to the site: a major element of the cost is earth removal and it appears feasible to deposit earth behind the fence at the bottom of the school field, thus at least saving the cost of a skip. It was decided to defer a decision to the next meeting.”

Following discussion, the Council concluded that a bark surface was not required as a safety measure, and decided not to pursue this proposal further.

3.7 Shed by the village hall: Cllr Jeffrey reported that this has now been treated.

3.8 Feedback to Cornwall Councillor Barry Jordan: The Clerk will draft a response addressing concerns about:

- Elections
- Communications with Cornwall Council
- Devolution/Localism

3.9 Footpaths:

- i. The Clerk said that he had been told by the Udys that there are various repairs required along the footpath network, and that he had had a specific complaint from a member of the public about the Penpol-Blunts path. The Council recognised that while in law these are a Cornwall Council [CC] responsibility, in practice CC are unlikely to be able to remedy the situation and that if anything was to be done it would be up to the Parish Council. The Clerk will co-ordinate a survey to ascertain exactly what is required.
- ii. The Clerk has had a complaint that gates have been installed across the Hepwell Farm bridle path, and are difficult to open/close from horseback. The remedy would be two “hunting catches” (cost about £20.00) and the Council approved paying for them.

4. Hedge cutting:

4.1 The hedge along Hay Lane needs cutting. The Clerk is to contact the landowners about this [*Note: shortly after the meeting the hedges were cut back*].

4.2 Cllr Jeffrey advised that she had received complaints about hedge cutting opposite Hammett Cottage. It turns out that this required to accommodate a combine harvester. The hedge has grown back and the complainants are now reconciled to this.

4.3 Cllr Jeffrey added that there will soon be a requirement for landowners to deal with dead/dying ash trees in hedges.

5. Finances:

The Clerk reported that these remain healthy. Budgeted non-Community Benefit expenditure for the year is £9798. The current cash balances are as follows:

<u>i. Business Bank Instant account:</u>	£ 2,227.44 as at 9 th August (plus £0.02 interest monthly)
<u>ii. Treasurer's (current) account:</u>	£19,224.78 as at 1 st September 2021
<u>Less paid out since, or due to be paid out</u>	Salary £410.00 Stationery etc £7.92 Signposts £41.45 Gmail £41.40 Uncleared cheques £393.30 Due to Community Benefit a/c £1995**
<u>Net</u>	£16,335.71
<u>iii. Community Benefit Account:</u>	£5016.46 (of which £625 for church grass cutting and PC sum £500 for Hall kitchen already allocated, and to which should be added £1995 due from current account** which would leave £6886.46 unallocated)
<u>Total:</u>	<u>£25,449.61</u>

*** To reverse sum previously transferred in error twice from CB a/c to Current a/c*

6. Community Benefit Fund:

6.1 Cllr Vass reported that having investigated the problem arising from a leak in the kitchen of the village hall it turns out to be less serious than had been feared: the provision of £500 in respect of potential costs can be dispensed with.

6.2 The Council approved:

- i. an increase in the existing allocation for churchyard grass cutting to £750, to fund three grass cuts in the churchyard (this autumn, and next spring and autumn); and
- ii. the acquisition of a dog bin for Trehunist (cost c. £100, and provided that someone In Trehunist will take responsibility for emptying it, and that a suitable site can be found) – proposed Cllr Jeffrey, seconded Cllr Welch.

6.3 Richard Winstone advised that the two weeping ash trees in the churchyard, which are dying, will need attention soon. He is seeking quotes. The Council recognized that this is a safety issue and approved allocating a PC sum of £1500 from the fund towards the potential costs (proposed Cllr Welch, Seconded Cllr Vass).

7. Recreation ground:

The Clerk reported that he had learned of a field which may become available to rent as a village recreation ground, particularly for the numerous dog walkers. The Council approved his continuing to explore this possibility.

8.Public Participation:

Richard Winstone advised that:

8.1 the Coryton trust has now been wound up and its funds of £1810.94 transferred to the Callington Food Bank;

8.2 the diocese is paying for the churchyard to be geo-mapped, which will be of use to those researching their ancestry.

9. Any Other Business:

9.1 Cllr Jeffrey reported that the school alarm went off recently but the procedure for dealing this seems unclear. The Clerk is to contact the school to find out the position.

9.2 The Chairman asked the Clerk to write a formal letter regarding the unauthorised parking of a boat in the Blunts carpark.

9.3 The Clerk mentioned that the later date of the meeting had proved helpful as it more or less coincided with receipt of up to date bank statements. The Council agreed to move future meetings from the first Monday of the month accordingly.

Meeting concluded at about 8.45pm.

Next meeting – 15th November 2021 at 7.00pm, in the Village Hall.

Signed Chairman

Date

Cash Balances Schedule

iii. Business Bank Instant account: £ 2,227.38

iv. Treasurer's (current) account: £18,298.30

lii. Community Benefit Account: £4285.67

(unallocated Community Benefit funds, taking into account expenditure approved at this meeting, are £1065.67)