

**Quethiock Parish Council**  
**Minutes of the meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> November 2022**  
**at Quethiock Parish Hall at 7.00pm**

**Present:** Councillors: John Blatchford ( Chair ), Vic Welch, Nigel Gaskell, Tim Lynch, Steve Hobbs and Alison Jeffrey. Clerk: Matthew Wald.

**Apologies:** Councillor Chris Healey, Cornwall Councillor Sharon Daw

**1. Declarations of Interest:**

None

**2. Minutes of meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2022**

The Council approved the minutes of the previous meeting ( proposed Cllr Hobbs, seconded Cllr Jeffrey )

**3. Matters arising from the meeting of 10<sup>th</sup> October 2022**

3.1: Defibrillator in Trehunist: The Chairman has met the Stonemans and it has now been agreed that the defibrillator will be sited on the wall by the post box and notice board, supplied by power connected via a new meter to the Udys' supply. A volunteer from Trehunist has offered to meet the cost of installation of the power supply if necessary. The supply should be in by the New Year. The Clerk should therefore place the order for the defibrillator itself with a view to delivery and installation say in mid to late January 2023.

**Action Clerk**

3.3: On the matter of new road signs suggested by Cornwall Councillor Daw at the May meeting, on 14<sup>th</sup> October Cllr Daw advised that she was awaiting a response from the relevant Cornwall Council officer.

3.4: Litter/dog waste bins: Cornwall Council are now emptying them. The Chairman mentioned that there is a problem of persistent fly-tipping in the Blunts layby.

3.5: Quethiock Telephone box: The Clerk and Cllr Gaskell will paint the box.**Action Clerk/Cllr Gaskell**

3.6: Traffic speed in Trehunist and Blunts: The Clerk reported that he has submitted "expression of interest" forms to the Community Network Panel Highway Scheme in relation to speeding through both Blunts and Trehunist. Cllr Jeffrey mentioned that in the meantime a cat has been killed by a speeding vehicle in Trehunist.

3.7 Potential Housing at Den's Meadow: Councillors were agreed that it was desirable to see the remainder of the affordable housing development at Den's Meadow be completed. The Chairman will contact Andrew George of the Community Land trust to see what can be done to achieve this. **Action Chairman**

3.8 Planning Enforcement: the caravan at Trecorme has been reported to Cornwall Council

**4. Planning**

There were no applications.

## **5. Community Benefit Fund**

There were no applications for funding.

## **6. Finance**

The Clerk had circulated a summary of the financial position prior to the meeting ( see Appendix 1 to these minutes ).

The Clerk reported that he had submitted the precept request for 2023-24 to Cornwall Council, as approved at the last meeting.

## **7. Footpaths and Bridle Paths**

7.1 The council discussed the problems with footpaths etc. They are:

- Missing signage
- Obstructions
- Dilapidations ( eg to stiles, footbridges, etc )

7.2 It was acknowledged that:

- These are “highway” matters and therefore the responsibility of Cornwall Council;
- But it is unrealistic to expect Cornwall Council to put them all right, or indeed to do anything significant about them at all, although it may be possible to persuade them to provide some funding or materials;
- Putting them right will require negotiations with multiple landowners, and significant works. The parish council would need to employ contractors as well as volunteers – we do not have the expertise to do all the necessary work, and might risk liability if we undertook works without the necessary skills.
- Funding ( unless provided by Cornwall Council ) would have to come from reserves and/or precept funds. The Clerk advised that he considers the Community Benefit fund cannot be used, because it is not to be used for “statutory activities” ( which highway maintenance would be.

7.3 The council agreed the following principles:

- Where it can, the council will try to put defects right
- Where it can't, or it would be too expensive, then the issue will be reported to Cornwall Council
- And where there is a danger, the matter will be reported to Cornwall Council in any event.

7.4 Outstanding path survey forms should be returned to the Clerk so that he can compile a schedule of works and materials required. **Action councillors**

7.5 Meanwhile the Clerk will contact Cornwall Council to ascertain their policy about this.  
**Action Clerk**

## **8. Any other business**

8.1: Community Network Review: The Review had been circulated to councillors prior to the meeting. Councillors were concerned about apparent complexity of the network's procedures, and that whatever changes might be made this parish's voice might still not be heard, because it is so small compared to bigger parishes and town councils. However, it was recognised that the council would have to work with whatever system might be in place.

The Chairman reported that he had attended a "Zoom" briefing and that the council needed to respond to two specific questions arising from the review:

- (i) Should there be 19 network panels ( as now ) or 12 ( as proposed ) ? By a majority, councillors preferred 19.
- (ii) Should Quethiock be in the "Cornwall Gateway" panel [ roughly, Liskeard, Looe, Saltash, A38 and south coast ] or the Launceston/Tamar Valley panel ? Unanimously, councillors preferred the former.

The Clerk will respond accordingly to the consultation. **Action Clerk**

8.2: Cllr Jeffrey reported that a parishioner wants to hire the school field for a private party with a marquee for a day or two next summer and asks whether the parish council consents. Councillors did not object, but the school's consent will also be required as they are tenants. **Action Cllr Jeffrey to respond accordingly**

8.3: The Chairman asked the Clerk to check with the school what safety checks they carry out in relation to the play equipment. **Action Clerk**

8.4: Cllr Lynch referred to his plan to set up a "heritage page" on the website ( see Minute 5.3, 10<sup>th</sup> October meeting ). In practice, he has received little fresh material and it makes more sense to defer action either until more material is received, or the current "heritage" project is ready to be also put on line.

8.5 The Chairman and Cllr Hobbs asked the Clerk to write to the person responsible for leaving a trailer on the Blunts car park without prior consent requiring him to remove it. **Action Clerk**

8.6 Cllr Welch mentioned the flooding by the solar farm. The Clerk said he reported this a long time ago but nothing has been done. He will write to Cormac again chasing for progress. **Action Clerk**

8.7 The Council resolved to acquire two new, larger, noticeboards for Blunts and Trehunist: the Blunts board is too small, and that in Trehunist is too small, and decayed. ( The positioning of the Trehunist board will need to accommodate the defibrillator. ) ( Proposed Cllr Blatchford, seconded Cllr Welch ). **Action Clerk**

**There being no other business, the meeting concluded at about 9.00 pm.**

**Date of next meeting: Monday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2023, 7.00pm, in the Village Hall.**

Signed Chairman .....Dated.....

## Appendix 1 - Finances:

1. The latest available bank statements show the following:

Business Bank Instant account: £ 2,227.91 as at 10<sup>th</sup> October 2022

Treasurer's ( current ) account: £14,158.63 as at 1<sup>st</sup> November 2022

Community Benefit Account: £14,306.53 as at 14<sup>th</sup> October 2022

Total: £30,693.07

2. These balances however need to be adjusted. Following the last meeting the Clerk attempted to transfer £7,774 from the current account to the business account, this being funds he did not think would be needed in the near future and in order to earn a little interest on them - the rate on the business account has recently gone up from 0.01% to 0.05%.

Unfortunately, owing to a clerical error on his part, the funds were transferred not to the business account, but to the community benefit account. They will be transferred back to where they belong following this meeting [ *now done* ].

3. The position therefore ought to have been ( and will be once the correcting transfer has been processed ) as follows:

Business Bank Instant account: £10,001.91 as at 10<sup>th</sup> October 2022

Treasurer's ( current ) account: £14,158.63 as at 1<sup>st</sup> November 2022

Community Benefit Account: £6532.53 as at 14<sup>th</sup> October 2022

Total: £30,693.07

4. **The up to date position**, after correcting the error, and taking into account uncleared cheques etc is as follows:

**Business Bank Instant account:** £10,001.91 as at 10<sup>th</sup> October 2022

**Treasurer's ( current ) account:** £14,158.63 as at 1<sup>st</sup> November 2022

Less uncleared cheques/STOs £(1013.07)

Add: due from CB account £ 660.87

Net as at 14<sup>th</sup> November 2022 **£13,806.43**

**Community Benefit Account:** £6532.53 as at 14<sup>th</sup> October 2022

Less: due to current account: £(660.87)

Net as at 14<sup>th</sup> November 2022 **£5871.66** of which

Already allocated £(2340)

Unallocated funds £3531.66

**Net cash at bank** **£29,680.00**

5. **Further income:** In addition, due to come in are:
- The LMP payment from 2021-22 £580;
  - This year's LMP payment £604;
  - A VAT refund – He has yet to claim this but perhaps £400 odd,  
making a total expected further income this year of about £1,600 odd.
6. **Budget position:** Precept expenditure ( ie excluding the community benefit funds ) this year so far is £6355.20 out of a budget of £9728.06 – ie, about 65% of the budget, which is broadly about where it should be.