Quethiock Parish Council
Minutes of the Meeting held on 13th January 2025
at Quethiock Parish Hall at 7.00pm

Present: Councillors: John Blatchford (Chair), John Warren, Tim Lynch, Vic Welch, Steve Hobbs, Chris Healey and Alison Jeffrey. Clerk: Matthew Wald.

Apologies: None

In Attendance: Nigel Gaskell

1. Declarations of Interest: None

2. Minutes of meeting on 18th November 2024

The Council approved the draft minutes of the previous meeting (proposed Cllr Warren, seconded Cllr Lynch)

3. Matters Arising from meeting of 18th November 2024

3.1 Blunts 30mph limit (minute 4.2): The Clerk has written to Phil Seeva about thisand will report once he has a response.

3.2 Cast Iron Signpost at Blunts (minute 4.3): The Clerk has bought paint he and Cllr Warren will repaint it when weather permits.

3.3 Quethiock News distribution (minute 4.4): The Clerk reported that he now has over 80 email addresses and he will again advertise for them in the next QN. Unfortunately the electoral roll copy obtained by the Chairman does not list all electors so we do not have a readily available address list. However Cllr Jeffrey said that she has an old list of addresses in the parish, so it should be possible to mailshot parishioners. The Chairman will see whether this can be done cost-effectively via the Royal Mail, failing which the Clerk will try to organise volunteers to do so. Once this has been done, we will go over to email.

4. Planning:

4.1 The Council had prior to the meeting considered application PA24/08455 (listed building consent for installation of flue at Treweese Farmhouse). This was supported.

4.2 The Council noted recent advice from Cornwall Council indicating that the Neighbourhood Development Plan will need to be reviewed in the light of proposed Government building targets. The Council will keep this under review in the light of developments (proposed Cllr Jeffrey, seconded Cllr Healey).

5. Parish Hall:

Cllr Jeffrey reported that the management committee currently have about £7,400. The Hall continues to be well used. Use of the school car park is working well. Unfortunatelythe recent Pub Night was poorly attended, because it clashed with the final of “Strictly” on television – a lesson for future dates to avoid similar clashes !

Cllr Lynch asked whether payment for the fire extinguisher maintenance should be made

by the Council or the Management Committee. . The Clerk said that the current arrangement is that the Committee are responsible.

The Council discussed a proposal that the Hall should acquire a WiFi connection. The Clerk reported that it appears this might cost somewhere between £25-40 per month. The Council is generally supportive of the proposal, which it referred back to the Hall Management Committee to consider and then let the Council know what it wants to do.

It had also been suggested that the Hall acquire a projector. Currently one is hired at a nominal cost when required. The Council did not support this idea.

6. Community Area Partnership:

Cllr Blatchford had attend the recent meeting. Much was said about road issues. There will be changes between Saltash and Trerulefoot involving new speed limits and a roundabout in the Stoketon Cross area – these are still at the design stage we do not yet know exactly what to expect.

Some smaller councils had expressed the view that their views on planning matters were just being ignored.

7. Community Benefit Fund:

Cllr Jeffrey said that there are plans to commemorate the 80th anniversary of VE Day, and asked whether the Council would be willing to provide support from the fund ? The Chairman said any proposals would be considered.

8. Finance:

The Clerk had circulated a note of the current balances (attached as Appendix 1). He will re-circulate details of how to register for internet banking, the "signatories" to be Cllrs Blatchford, Lynch and Warren.

9. Any other business:

9.1 The Council noted the erection of a gate across the entrance to "Trecorme", blocking a footpath. The Clerk will investigate.

9.2 Nigel Gaskell said he had been asked to bring to the Council's attention persistent barking by a dog at East Quethiock Farm - is this a matter for the Council ? The Chairman said that noise abatement is a matter for Cornwall Council – the Parish Council has no powers in that respect. Cllr Welch said he would however mention the concern to the farmer.

9.3 The Clerk reminded councillors of the elections due in May and asked any existing councillor who is not intending to stand to let him know so that soundings can be taken to see who might stand. He will put a note about the forthcoming elections in the next "Quethiock News".

There being no other business, the meeting concluded at about 8.30 pm.

Next meeting: Monday 3rd March 2025, at 7pm in the Parish Hall.

Signed Chairman……Dated……

Appendix 1: Financial:

Current financial position:

i. Business Bank Instant account:	**£17,286.60** as at 9th December 2024
ii. Treasurer's (current) account:	£8213.24 as at 30th December 2024
Less payments due or paid, cheques drawn but uncleared, and STOs due, to 30th October	£(663.47)
Net	**£7,549.77**
iii. Community Benefit Account:	**£9,326.91** as at 15th October 2024 *[unallocated £8,332.91]*
Total:	**£34,163.28**

iv. Overall position:

Total precept funds are £24,836.37. Against that, budgeted expenditure for the year so far unspent is c. £4,250, , leaving "reserves" of about £21k, plus the £9k in the Community Benefit fund. The claim for VAT paid since Jan 2023 of £521 mentioned last time has now been received.