Quethiock Parish Council
Minutes of the Meeting held on 16th September 2024
at Quethiock Parish Hall at 7.00pm

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

Apologies: None

1. Declarations of Interest: None

2. Minutes of meeting on 15th July 2024

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

3. Matters Arising from meeting of 15th July 2024

3.1 Tree cutting opposite village hall (minute 3.1): Now done

3.2 Parish Hall steps (minute 3.2): Now done

3.3 Stream by Well Cottage, Quethiock (minute 3.3): Cllr Jeffrey reported that nothing has been done and she is dubious whether it will be, however she will review in October.

3.4 Abandoned vehicle (minute 3.4): The Clerk reported that has now been removed.

3.5 Clapper Bridge (minute 3.5): The Chairman has reported the damage to the coping to Cornwall Council, who have said it will be dealt with in due course.

3.6 Heritage Trail Notice Board (minute 7): Cllr Jeffrey reported that the History Society have not had time since the last meeting to consider this, but will do so at their next meeting.

3.7 Flooding by solar farm (minute 12.1): The Chairman has reported it to Cornwall Highways, but they do not consider it sufficiently bad to warrant any action.

4. Financial:

4.1 The Clerk had circulated a summary of the current balances (see Appendix 1).

4.2 Cllrs Blatchford, Hobbs and Lynch agreed to apply for registration with Lloyds for online banking – the Clerk should seek to ensure that electronic payments require approval by two Councillors.

5. Planning:

The Council considered application PA24/06606 (works to trees subject to a TPO at "Avondale", Quethiock) to which it had no objection.

6. Parish Hall:

6.1 Cllr Jeffrey reported that the Hall Committee had about £8,000. Events at the Hall are going well: it is well used, and by a wide range of people.

6.2 The Clerk drew attention to impending legislation requiring the operators of premises open to the public to take precautions against terrorist attack ("Martyn's law"). NALC have recommended that those responsible for village halls take the ProtectUK online "ACT" course. The Clerk has done this and recommends other councillors also do so, as should the Hall Management Committee. Cllr Healey will also review and draft/update the Hall's current Health and Safety policy.

7. Community Area Partnership:

The Chairman reported that he had attended the last meeting, at which there was a presentation about forthcoming road works, namely:

- Flood prevention works at Notter Bridge, for nine weeks from now;
- Renewal of the lane control system in the Saltash Tunnel and on the bridge. These will reduce the available lanes, leading to delays of potentially 45-60 minutes over the crossing, and will last from November to next July;
- There is a possibility that average speed cameras will be installed next year on the A38 between Saltash and Trerulefoot.

The 20mph limit programme is continuing, albeit against some resistance. Recognising that there is little prospect of 20mph limits being introduced in this parish in the near future, the clerk was instructed to seek a 30mph limit through Blunts, where the limit is currently 60mph.

Action Clerk

8. Community Benefit Fund:

The Council approved payment from the fund of the Udy's account for church grass cutting to date in the sum of £400.

9. Rusty Signpost at Blunts junction:

The Chairman has spoken to Cornwall Highways about this longstanding eyesore. They have no budget/capacity to repaint it, but have no objection to the PC doing so. The Council decided that it should do so, and authorised expenditure on any necessary materials (proposed Cllr Lynch, seconded Cllr Hobbs).

10. Quethiock News Distribution:

The Clerk said that currently outlying residents are not receiving a copy, and distribution of paper copies depends on volunteers tramping the streets to do so, which may not be sustainable in the long term. He suggested the PC move to distribution by email rather than paper, plus posting on noticeboards and the website, and paper copies to those who are unable to receive emails. This would also reduce paper use and printing cost.

The Council agreed that this was a good idea. The Clerk is to speak to Rachel Winstone, the Editor, to sound out her views ***[now done, she agrees with the idea]*** and the Chairman will obtain a copy of the Electoral Register ***[also now done]*** so that residents can be notified of the intended change and asked to send in their email addresses.

11. Any other business

11.1 Cllr Jeffrey mentioned that there will be some election costs next year.

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

Next meeting: Monday 18th November 2024, at 7pm in the Parish Hall.

Signed Chairman……Dated……

Appendix 1: Financial:

Current financial position:

i.	**Business Bank Instant account:**	**£17,228.95** as at 9th August 2024
ii.	**Treasurer's (current) account:**	£6,208.56 as at 28th August 2024
	Less payments due or paid, cheques drawn but uncleared, and STOs due, to 30th September	£(1,267.00)
	Net	**£4,941.56**
	[*Total precept funds: £22,170.51* **]**	
iii.	**Community Benefit Account:**	**£10.076.91** as at 12th August 2024
	Total funds:	**£32,247.42**

1. **Community Benefit Fund:**

Currently **£9516.91** not yet allocated.