Quethiock Parish Council
Minutes of the Meeting held on 18th November 2024
at Quethiock Parish Hall at 7.00pm

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

Apologies: Councillor Chris Healey.

In Attendance: John Warren

1. Declarations of Interest: None

2. Co-option:

The Council resolved unanimously to co-opt John Warren as a Councillor to fill the vacancy. The Clerk will organise his official e-mail and other paperwork. John Warren then signed the Declaration of Acceptance of office and the Chairman welcomed him to the Council.

3. Minutes of meeting on 16th September 2024

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

4. Matters Arising from meeting of 16th September 2024

4.1 Stream by Well Cottage, Quethiock (minute 3.3): Cllr Jeffrey reported that nothing has been done and the stream is still overflowing towards Well Cottage's garage.

4.2 Blunts 30mph limit (minute 7): The Clerk reported that he met PCSO Edser who recommends that support is enlisted from Phil Seeva. The Clerk will contact him about it.

4.3 Cast Iron Signpost at Blunts (minute 9): The Clerk will buy paint *(now done)* and Cllr Warren offered to help him repaint it.

4.4 Quethiock News distribution (minute 10): The Clerk reported that he has had about 30 odd email addresses notified to him so far, and he will again advertise for them in the next QN. Cllr Jeffrey said that some people have told her they would prefer a paper copy to an email one. To be reviewed at next meeting in the light of the take-up by then.

5. Planning:

5.1 The Council considered application PA24/08190 (proposed bat house at Goodmerry Farm). This was supported. Cllr Lynch has some supplementary comments which he will send to the Clerk.

5.2 Cllr Jeffrey reported on correspondence with Cornwall Council regarding the current works to the derelict barn at East Quethiock. They say that the works are to stabilise the building and are not in breach of planning control.

6. Parish Hall:

Cllr Jeffrey reported that the management committee currently have about £7,400,

having paid for insurance and electrical work. The Hall continues to be well used. She is notifying the school monthly about events so they are aware when parking may be needed.

7. Community Area Partnership:

Cllr Blatchford will attend the forthcoming meeting.

8. Community Benefit Fund:

The Council approved payment from the fund of a grant to the Horticultural Society of £994 towards the cost of hiring a marquee for the 2025 Horticultural Show (proposed Cllr Welch, seconded Cllr Hobbs). The Society has decided against buying its own marquee because of manpower and insurance issues.

9. Finance:

The Clerk had circulated a note of the current balances (attached as Appendix 1) together with a first draft budget for 2025-26. This provided for an increase of the precept by about 6.6%. Following discussion, it was resolved that the Clerk should adjust the budget to reduce that increase to about 4.9% (proposed Cllr Blatchford, seconded Cllr Welch).

10. Any other business:

Cornwall council has notified the Parish Council of its intention to sell the development land at Den's Meadow, Blunts, which it no longer considers viable to develop. The Parish Council does not intend to take any further action in this respect.

There being no other business, the meeting concluded at about 8.15 pm.

Next meeting: Monday 13th January 2025, at 7pm in the Parish Hall.

Signed Chairman……Dated……

Appendix 1: Financial:

Current financial position:

i. Business Bank Instant account:	**£17,257.75** as at 9th October 2024
ii. Treasurer's (current) account:	£8726.55 as at 1st November 2024
Less payments due or paid, cheques drawn but uncleared, and STOs due, to 30th October	£(147.80)
Net	**£8578.75**
iii. Community Benefit Account:	**£9,326.91** as at 15th October 2024 *[all unallocated]*
Total:	**£35,163.41**

Overall position: Total precept funds are therefore £25,836.50. Against that, budgeted expenditure for the year so far unspent is c. £5,000, and in addition a claim for VAT paid since Jan 2023 of £521 has been made, leaving "reserves" of about £21k, plus the £9k in the Community Benefit fund.