

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting

Date	13 December 2016
Location	Reading Rooms, Mary Tavy
Those present	Cllr M Fife Cook, Cllr J. Hill, Cllr G Hill, Cllr P Jarvis (Chairman) and Cllr R Page (5)
Others present	Mrs K Higham (Clerk), plus four members of the public.

Proceedings

Parishioners' Time A member of the public stated she had read in the Jubilee News about parcels of land put forward for possible development. She wished to know what the Parish Council's response was to this information. Cllr Fife Cook informed the Parishioner that the information was taken from a Strategic Housing Needs Assessment carried out in 2014 and was not something DNPA had asked for comment on at this time. A separate, more recent ongoing consultation was taking place at present and more land was being sought. However, as in 2014, the PC has no say on the land put forward or whether it was accepted by DNPA. In addition, being part of the list does not mean that development is guaranteed. Cllr Fife Cook suggested the most appropriate time to contact DNPA with any comments or objections was once a full planning application had been made.

The Chairman declared the meeting open at 7.30pm.

13/12/2016/1 Apologies for absence
There were no apologies for absence.

13/12/2016/2 Declarations of interest
Agreed that disclosure of pecuniary and other interests that may affect items on this agenda would be declared as they arise during the course of the meeting.

13/12/2016/3 Approval of Meeting Minutes

3.1 Council meeting, 8 November 2016

The minutes were approved.

Decision Proposed Cllr Fife Cook, seconded Cllr J Hill, all in favour. Cllr Page abstained as he did not attend this meeting.

3.2 Planning meeting, 8 November 2016

The minutes were approved.

Decision Proposed Cllr Jarvis, seconded Cllr J Hill, all in favour. Cllr Page abstained as he did not attend this meeting.

13/12/2016/4 Matters arising

Lawnmower - The Clerk informed the Council that the information requested by the insurance company in relation to the lawnmower claim had been forwarded. She waits to hear further.

As Cllr Page was absent from the last meeting he requested information on several items.

6.2.d Cllr Page declared an interest in this item, he wished to know if any comments would be forwarded to WDBC in regard to recent changes to the cost of disposing certain items at Tavistock Recycling Centre. He felt the charges would only encourage fly tipping which he has experienced on his land. Cllr Page suggested he email the Clerk his thoughts, which could then be put into a letter and forwarded to WDBC. Cllrs were in agreement to this.

7.1 Cllr Page asked Cllr J Hill about the situation regarding salt for roads. Cllr J Hill informed the PC that he had a stockpile of salt and that more had been delivered and distributed around the Parish. Cllr Page suggested the bags along roadsides be regularly checked, perhaps fortnightly. Cllrs were in agreement, Cllr J Hill will do this.

8.4 Lastly Cllr Page asked what response the PC had given in regard to the pre-planning advice for a radio mast receiver/mobile telephone base station. He was informed that the PC had decided to make no comment until a full planning application was received.

13/12/2016/5 Finance

5.1 Authorisation of payments

All payments were authorised.

Proposed Cllr Page, seconded Cllr J Hill, all in favour.

Decision Total provisional outgoings £1246.58. Total income £7144.27.

5.2 Review and approval of monthly Financial Report

The Financial Report was approved.

Decision Proposed Cllr Page, seconded Cllr G Hill, all in favour.

5.3 Review and approve 2017/18 budget

The Finance Working Group met on December 2nd to iron out the layout of the document in question and make minor adjustments to figures. For instance the exact cost of the poppy wreath is now known and following information from WDBC on the cost of elections, a reduction to the amount set aside for the coming year was agreed. The budget for 2017/18 was approved.

Decision Proposed Cllr G Hill, seconded Cllr J Hill, all in favour.

5.4 Finance – Other

There was nothing to discuss under this item.

13/12/2016/6 Correspondence

6.1 Update on previous correspondence

6.1.a Community Right to Bid

Discussion Cllr Fife Cook declared an interest as a Trustee of the Jubilee Group.

The meeting was suspended in order to allow a member of the public to speak.

The Jubilee Group wrote to the PC as it has been 12 months since this item was first discussed. The Jubilee Group informed the PC that Central Government guidelines state that - If the nominated asset is properly nominated, is in the local authority's area, meets the definition, and is not excluded, the local authority must list it. The Jubilee Group is positive all the properties and land nominated meet all requirements and it is not the responsibility of either the PC or Jubilee Group to contact the owners/occupiers of the asset. Further to this both Central Government and WDBC's guidance states the local authority must make a decision in response to a nomination within eight weeks of receiving it. This timescale has clearly been exceeded. The Jubilee Group requested the PC remind WDBC of their obligations.

Cllr Page proposed the Clerk write to WDBC and enclose details of their own regulations and that of Central Government. The letter should also be copied to the Clerk for WDBC in order that the item be raised as correspondence in a meeting of the relevant committee. If this proves unsuccessful the PC should seek advice from the Communities and Local Government Minister.

Decision Proposed Cllr Page, seconded Cllr J Hill, all in favour.

Action Clerk to draft a letter and circulate to Cllrs prior to mailing.

6.1.b Other previous correspondence

Speeding on the A386

Discussion Mr Phil Ferris, after copying the PC into an email sent to DCC Highways last month, wrote to inform the PC that he had not received a response from Highways, other than to say they will deal with his enquiry within 20 working days. He added that he had witnessed a car being overtaken on the zebra crossing and several other cars causing the Vehicle Activated Sign (30mph) to light up. Cllrs asked the Clerk to thank Mr Ferris for keeping them informed and advise that he report such occurrences using the non-emergency telephone number or online.

Decision Proposed Cllr Page, seconded Cllr J Hill, all in favour.

Action Clerk to write to Mr Ferris.

6.1.c Speedwatch

The Clerk reported she had received an email from PCSO Chapple confirming he would contact Mr Tony Ingram who had enquired about joining the Speedwatch volunteers.

6.2 Receive any recent correspondence or messages passed to the Parish Council

6.2a Headstones

Discussion At the last meeting the PC made the decision to relax the Cemetery Regulation specifically dealing with types of stones for use as headstones in the Parish Cemetery. Mrs Duke wrote to the PC to thank them for making the decision as she had very much wanted a stone other than the usual grey granite for her late husband. She informed the PC that this decision meant a great deal to her.

6.2.b Horndon Green Group
Discussion Cllr Fife Cook informed the Clerk that the notice informing the public of the PC's intention to adopt the land known as Horndon Village Green had been removed from their notice board. The Clerk contacted the group and supplied a new notice, requesting they post it immediately and explained the importance of keeping the notice visible at all times.

6.2.c Avian flu
Discussion Cllr Fife Cook reported that a member of the public had spoken to him on the issue of avian flu. Cllr Fife Cook informed the PC that DEFRA have advised owners of poultry to keep them inside however, many people keep small numbers of birds in their gardens and have nowhere inside for them to go. Therefore the advice is not enforceable.

6.2.d Leaf litter
Cllr Fife Cook had been asked by a member of the public if the PC could help with the issue of leaf litter along the A 386 between the Methodist Hall and CJ Downs. He has been attempting to clear up the leaves which have blown from the opposite side of the road onto the pavement himself. Cllr Fife Cook suggested the Clerk find out who owns the land in the first instance. The Clerk stated that Land Registry make a small charge of a few pounds for every enquiry and asked if all Cllrs were happy to pay this from Parish funds. Cllr Jarvis proposed that the PC should pay as the gentleman has already gone out of his way to keep the pavement clear.

Decision Proposed Cllr Jarvis, seconded Cllr Fife Cook, all in favour.

Action Clerk to request information from Land Registry.

6.2.e Brentor & Moor Compassionate Neighbours
This group is now looking for volunteers and asked Cllr J Hill if an advert asking for volunteers could be added to the PC website. All Cllrs agreed to this.

13/12/2016/7 Reports from Councillors and outside organisations

7.1 Emergency Warden and Snow Warden
Discussion Cllr J Hill reported that he wishes to source funding for a gritter, which can be towed on the back of a quad bike. Its use would be limited to ensuring bends and slopes remain passable in adverse weather. He confirmed the Hill family will ensure roads are clear in the event of snow. The Lengthsman has been busy in the village but encountered problems with a number of drains on Bal Lane, which he could not clear.

7.2 Southern Parishes Link Committee representative
Cllr G Hill reported that at a recent meeting the crime figures were supplied. Crime overall has gone up 11.9% throughout West Devon with burglary and shop lifting seeing significant increases. TAP funding applications were submitted by several parishes including a request from Bere Alston for a night landing site for the air ambulance. £2,750 was awarded to this project. Cllr Jarvis believed that before Mary Tavy could consider a similar application for TAP funding more information is required, such as, what are the requirements of Devon Air Ambulance and what type of access is needed to the site by land ambulances? Cllr Jarvis proposed the Clerk contact Devon Air Ambulance and find out the specifications.

Decision Proposed Cllr Jarvis, seconded Cllr G Hill, all in favour.

Action Clerk to contact Devon Air Ambulance.

Cllr Fife Cook reminded Cllrs that last month it was decided that the PC would contact other parishes to ask about their situation regarding invasive weeds with a view to applying for TAP funding to have them removed. The Clerk informed the PC that initial enquiries suggested other parishes did not have a significant problem but she would now write formally to Peter Tavy, Brentor and Lydford PC's.

Action Clerk to write to neighbouring parishes.

7.3 Dartmoor National Park Authority representative
Cllr G Hill attended a meeting on November 25th. He reported that Cristow Parish Council had set up a Community Benefit Trust in order to build 14 dwellings with the express wish that they only provide accommodation to local, young people who could not otherwise afford to live independently. Of the 14 dwellings, 12 would be let at 80% of the market value, the remaining 2 properties would be sold. Each property had been fitted with solar panels. It was believed the cost of heating the properties to a liveable temperature would be between £50 and £100 per year.

7.4 Coronation Hall representative
Cllr J Hill reported that the CHADS production of Aladdin would take place on December 17th. The AGM was held recently which was attended by some members of the public. Negotiations over the lease were progressing. Cllr J Hill advised that the heaters in the hall

were not working. Funding to have them rectified or replaced was being sourced. Cllr Fife Cook enquired if progress had been made regarding the potholes. The Clerk informed a report had been made to DCC Highways but had heard nothing further.

Action Clerk to chase Highways

7.5 Police report
There is no report.

7.6 Webmaster
The Clerk reported documents were now up to date. Cllr Fife Cook asked if the recent problems with updating the site had actually been rectified, the Clerk said that it worked only occasionally. It was agreed that Ali Fife Cook could be asked to look into the problem if necessary. Cllr J Hill reported he had looked into setting up an automatic mailing list but found it to be more onerous than he had first thought. The Clerk's training on the web to continue shortly.

7.7 Reports from outside organisations
There were no reports from outside organisations.

13/12/2016/8 **Planning**

8.1 Notification of new planning applications from DNPA
0610/16 – Wringworthy Farm
A planning meeting was held on Tuesday 13 December 2016.

0625/16 – Thatch Croft
A planning meeting was held on Tuesday 13 December 2016.

8.2 Notification of decisions on previous applications received from DNPA
0550/16 – Glencairn
The Clerk received notification that this application has been granted conditional permission.

0486/16 - Henscot Farm
The Clerk received notification that this application has been granted conditional permission.

Tree works
16/0053 - Torside
No Tree Preservation Orders were placed.

8.3 Planning – other

8.3.a Base station
Discussion Cllr Fife Cook enquired whether anything more had been heard regarding the pre-planning advice for a base station/mobile telephone mast. The Clerk was asked to email and explain that the PC would not be making any comment at this time. The Clerk advised she had not yet done this but would make it a priority.

Action Clerk to email.

8.3.b Telephone box consultation
Discussion Cllr Fife Cook asked the Clerk to enquire why the telephone box on Church Road was not on the list received from DNPA detailing which telephone boxes had been approved for removal or objected to by Parish Councils. The Clerk confirmed she had contacted DNPA and was informed that the box in question was never part of the consultation, therefore not at risk of closure.

- The meeting was suspended in order for a member of the public to speak.
It transpired that the notice in the box on Church Road advertises the box as available for adoption. If someone were to adopt the box the telephone would be removed. Cllr Fife Cook asked the Clerk to contact BT and ask why this box is available for adoption.

Action Clerk to contact BT.

8.3.c Local plan
Discussion Cllr Fife Cook reminded the Council that the deadline for comments about the proposed 'Local plan' must be with DNPA by the 16th December. The PC needed to decide what response, if any, should be made. Cllrs Jarvis and G Hill believed the comments should include the Council's feelings towards the lack of notice given by DNPA regarding the recent 'drop in' session. They felt that DNPA should establish the need for housing in Mary Tavy before asking land owners to put land forward for inclusion in any consultation or needs assessment. Specific land placed on a list two years ago came into question. Cllr G Hill informed the PC that land on Brentor Road included and accepted onto a list of potential development sites should not have been accepted. Many years ago the land was granted planning permission only to have it revoked. As nothing about the land, which

includes the 'King's Way' has changed it should have been declined. By including the site it was causing residents unnecessary concern. Cllr Fife Cook argued that this type of comment was not what DNPA were asking for and the PC had no authority to influence or change the sites listed on the SHLAA conducted in 2014. He insisted DNPA were looking for comments on the pre-consultation document produced in time for the recent 'drop in' session. Cllrs Jarvis and G Hill accepted Cllr Fife Cook's point however, believed that despite this the PC had a duty to inform on the facts which included pointing out to DNPA the historical issues with the proposed site on Brentor Road. Cllr Jarvis also wished to point out that no official housing needs survey has been carried out by DNPA and therefore potential development sites should not be made public until the need for housing has been established. It is likely the site currently under development (Blackdown Garage) and the potential development of CJ Downs are sufficient for our village. Cllr Fife Cook refuted this argument and strongly believed making comments of this nature would achieve little if anything.

Cllr Page proposed the comments made should include the truth and facts about the two sites in the centre of the village the PC want to see developed and the positive impact this would make on the community, informing them that the PC believes if the two site were developed it would meet any immediate housing need as we understand it, whilst also informing DNPA of the issues surrounding other sites.

Decision Proposed Cllr Page, seconded Cllr J Hill, all in favour.
Action Clerk to formulate response to DNPA.

13/12/2016/9 **Cemetery**

9.1 **Report from Burial Clerk**

The Burial Clerk had no report to make this month.

9.2 **Review and approve changes to the Cemetery Rules and Regulations**

Cllr Jarvis reported having reviewed the current wording in the regulations regarding headstones, there was no need for a change. Currently the PC 'recommends' stone sourced locally, therefore the PC can already apply discretion on this matter. Further to this Cllr Jarvis recommended removing the line allowing purchasers to choose their own plot. The decision on this was made some time ago. All Cllrs were agreeable.

13/12/2016/10 **Maintenance**

Cllr Fife Cook reported that Craig Gardiner will start work on the Cemetery fence this month which means materials need to be ordered. Before work on the fence can be completed an amount of earth needs to be removed, Cllr Fife Cook suggested writing to the owner of adjacent land to ask if it could be moved to a neighbouring field. He had received many positive comments on how much better the Parish looks. Cllr Page reported that a number of leats had been cleared by WDBC and maintenance work had taken place on the bridle path next to Little Place.

Action Clerk to write to the landowner reference removal of earth from the Cemetery.

13/12/2016/11 **Grants and Donations**

Donations of £29.90 each have been awarded to The Royal British Legion and Help for Heroes. West Devon Citizens Advice requested a donation and Cllr Page proposed an amount of £100.

Decision Proposed Cllr Page, seconded Cllr Jarvis, all in favour.

13/12/2016/12 **Member subscriptions**

12.1 **DALC**

The Clerk reported that since monitoring interaction with DALC began a few months ago she has had little or no need to communicate with them. Cllr G Hill proposed allowing the subscription to come to an end without renewal.
Proposed Cllr G Hill, seconded Cllr Jarvis, all in favour.

12.2 **Dog Warden Scheme**

Cllr Fife Cook proposed allowing the subscription to end without renewal and instead, invest in two new dog waste bins. Cllr Fife Cook asked that the Clerk contact WDBC and ask what the requirements for access to bins for waste removal in order to establish appropriate sites. He also requested the Clerk find out the cost of waste removal if additional bins were added to the Parish.

Decision Proposed Cllr Fife Cook, seconded Cllr Page, all in favour.

Action Clerk to contact WDBC.

13/12/2016/13 **Other projects**

13.1 **Signs and parking at Mary Tavy and Brentor School - Highways**

An application for TAP funding has been made and will be decided at the next SPLC

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meeting in March.

13.2 Beating the Bounds

Cllr Page reported that the weekend of 12th August is the proposed date of the event. He has spoken with members of the community adept at organising such events and will report further as information becomes available.

13.3 Defibrillators

Cllr Fife Cook asked Mary Tavy PO & Stores if they would allow the defibrillator to be sited on the side of their building and Cllr Fife Cook confirmed they had said yes.

13.4 Christmas Tree Festival

Mrs Sylvia Baish reported to the Clerk that 16 organisations had participated in the Christmas Tree Festival including 2 new organisations who had not participated in previous years. She thanked all groups and organisations and all those who helped to steward the event. A final figure raised was not yet available. Cllr Fife Cook thanked the Clerk for her work in making decorations and dressing the PC tree.

13/12/2016/14 Communication with Parishioners

Cllr Jarvis will, as always, make a submission to the Blackdown News.

13/12/2016/15 Councillor & Clerk matters

The Clerk awaits her final certificate for completing ILCA.

13/12/2016/16 Other matters for discussion

16.1 Remembrance Day

Cllr Jarvis reported that Remembrance Day was very successful and many positive comments had been received. The Parish was fortunate to have a Police Officer present to stop traffic. Cllr Jarvis had written to the Officer in question on behalf of the PC to thank him. Over 100 residents attended the Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial, 75 stayed for the service in the Methodist Chapel and around 40 sat down to refreshments afterwards. The event had been well timed and handled well throughout.

16.2 Reading Rooms – Humidity

Following the offer from Cllr Page a humidity tester was placed in the meeting room for this meeting and at its peak read a humidity of 79%. Cllr Fife Cook commented that this was unacceptable and could not be good for the fabric of the building.

13/12/2016/17 Next meeting

17.1 Items to be brought forward for inclusion on the next agenda

Reading Rooms

17.2 Date of next meeting

The date was confirmed as 10 January 2016, 7.30pm, Reading Rooms.

There being no further business the Meeting closed at 10.40pm.

Minutes prepared by Mrs Kerri Higham, Clerk to Mary Tavy Parish Council.

Signed: Cllr P Jarvis
Chair of the Parish Council _____

Date _____