



PUBLIC MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

Wednesday 25th August 2021

Present: Councillor Edwards (Chairman) & Willey (Vice Chairman)
Councillors Ellis, Fletcher, Oakes, Robinson & White.

Also in attendance: Christopher Cook - Parish Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer

Members of the public: 18

Members of the public were permitted to speak on each Agenda item for a period of 3 minutes. This meeting was advertised as a Public meeting and as such could be filmed or recorded by broadcasters, the media and members of the public. The public were advised that whilst every effort is taken to ensure that members of the public would not be filmed, it could not be guaranteed.

Minutes 25th August 2021

801/2021 Chair's Welcome & Announcements

Cllr Edwards (Chairman) welcomed residents to the Public Meeting of the Parish Council and delivered Health and Safety housekeeping rules. No members of the public intended recording the Public Meeting. Social distancing and Covid-19 measures were observed.

802 Public participation

A resident commented that it was pleasing to hear the resumption of Bell-ringing on Sunday morning at St. Mary's church.

Councillors **Resolved** to note. All agreed.

803 To receive Apologies for Absence and approve the reasons given

There were apologies from Cornwall Councillor Martin Worth.

Councillors **Resolved** to note.

804 Declarations of Interest

Councillors **Resolved** that no Councillors declared pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests.

Councillors **Resolved** that no Councillors were liable for written Dispensations or Gifts.

All noted and agreed.

805 Minutes of the Public Meeting 28th July 2021

The draft Minutes were a true record of the Meeting.



Proposed Cllr Fletcher, seconded Cllr Willey (Vice Chairman)

Councillors **Resolved** to note. All agreed.

806 Matters arising from the draft Minutes for report purposes only.

There were no matters arising.

Councillors **Resolved** to note. All agreed.

807 A Report from Cornwall Councillor Martin Worth

There was no report from Cllr. Martin Worth.

Councillors **Resolved** to note. All agreed.

808 Finance

A Accounts for Payment

Cllr Oakes proposed and Cllr White seconded the approval of the Accounts for payment.

Councillors **Resolved** to approve the accounts for payment. All agreed.

B Direct bank Payments & Receipts for information

Bank Receipts were reported as **£3,570.57** Total receipts 2020/2021 **£16,204.00**

Councillors **Resolved** to note. All agreed.

C Bank reconciliation and Earmarked Funds (EMF)

The General Account balance was reported as **£11,818.39** and the Earmarked Funds as **£25,071.56**.

The Responsible Financial Officer (RFO) pointed out that the following transfer between accounts had been made and recorded in the Reconciliation account.

- (a) Local Elections 2025 **£3,000**
- (b) Big Event Vat recovery amount 2019/2020 **£405**

Councillors **Resolved** to note the transfer of sums from Account 1 to Account 2 (Earmarked reserves). All agreed.

D Monthly budget monitoring balances report

Councillors **Resolved** to note the report.

E Public Works Loan Board Statement August 2021

Councillors **Resolved** to note. All agreed.

809 Planning

New Planning Applications – None received



Councillors **Resolved** to note this action. All agreed

Planning Application Decisions – Four received

Application PA21 / 05836

Proposal Single storey rear extension

Location 14 Carlton Villas A388 Between Junction south of the Cardinals
Hatt and Hatt Roundabout Hatt PL12 6PS

Applicant Mr & Mrs Cox

Grid Ref 239739 / 61996

Approved with conditions 30th July 2021

Application PA21 / 03618

Proposal Replacement conservatory

Location Bicton Farmhouse, road from junction south of West Kingsmill to
Hazelmere Hatt PL12 6NA

Applicant Mr & Mrs Hamish Anderson

Grid Ref 239949 / 62268

Approved with conditions 3rd August 2021

Application PA21 / 05405

Proposal Rear extension

Location 6 Sunnybanks Hatt PL12 6SA

Applicant Mr R Dickson

Grid Ref 239505 / 61987

Approved with conditions 5th August 2021

Application PA21 / 02720

Proposal Construction of building for storage and distribution (B8) and
installation of soakaways and septic tank

Location Land South of Roodscroft Hatt PL12 6PJ

Applicant Mr Simon Congdon

Approved with conditions 30th July 2021

Councillors **Resolved** to note. All agreed.

Planning Application for Information – None applicable

Councillors **Resolved** to note. All agreed.

Planning Applications received after the Agenda published – None received

Councillors **Resolved** to note. All agreed.



810 Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP)

www.botusflemingandhattndp.com

Report deferred until 22nd September 2021.

Cllr Fletcher pointed out that the Cornwall Network representative Catherine Thomson had still not advised who the new appointee to manage the NDP programme was.

Councillors **Resolved** to note. All agreed.

811 Parish Plan

Report deferred until 22nd September 2021

Councillors **Resolved** to note. All agreed.

812 Recreation Field

Cllr Edwards (Chairman) advised councillors on the suggested security measures and the need for removable bollards to be inserted when the main gate was renewed. He acknowledged and thanked residents for donating timber for this purpose.

Mr Brian Venables had offered by way of the Roodscroft landfill site, to provide clean landfill and topsoil formed into a bank, which would run along the full length of the wire fence on the field side. Boulders would be used to replace the temporary "Lego" concrete blocks in place at the field entrance. This project was an important ongoing project and would vastly improve the current security measures for the Recreation Field.

Cllr Edwards (Chairman) advised that Vicky Lintern was prepared to offer substantial play equipment to the Council as long as they dismantled it and sited it at the Recreation Field.

Mr Marc Solomon had provided a report to the Council concerning the extent of equipment being offered and suggested that it would require some remedial repair to replace rotting wood at a cost of approximately £600. The value of the equipment was estimated at about £4,000.

Cllr Willey (Vice Chairman) suggested that an area of the Recreation Field should be fenced off to accommodate new play equipment in the future and to promote a 'play area'.

Councillors **Resolved** to note this report. All agreed.

Action - The Parish Clerk to approach Zurich Municipal concerning insurance and an engineer's safety check.

813 Councillors Reports

A Cllr Sally White - Maintenance

Cllr White advised that the picnic benches, originally taken away from the Recreation Field in order to avoid receiving any potential malicious damage from Travellers, had not been returned to their position. Cllr Edwards (Chairman) advised that the benches would be returned to the picnic area soon.

Councillors **Resolved** to note the monthly Audit maintenance report.

B Cllr Malcolm Fletcher – Bio diversity



Cllr Fletcher updated Councillors regarding three aspects-

Roundabout

Following the unplanned and unwanted cut it got from Cormac in June this year, there has been a welcome recovery of flowers, including red clover, birdsfoot trefoil, vipers bugloss, toadflax, mallow, cut-leaved cranesbill. These are not “showy” flowers, but they are vital resources for our native pollinators.

It is a mistake to think that wildflower verges will always be a blaze of colour like traditional borders full of bedding plants. The crucial thing is that they are helping to restore some of the damage that has been done by years of mismanagement. We have to get used to appreciating the finer detail of our native flora. Taking time to stand, look and marvel at. Its worth remembering too that the visual impact of wildflower verges and meadows is simply a bonus side effect. Insects pollinate some 84% of EU crops.

Honeybees are just one of the insects that do this. The majority are wild bees, beetles, flies, wasps, moths and butterflies. These need wild flowers to tide them over between commercial crops. Their larvae need a much larger variety of wild plants, including many “weeds” such as nettles, on which to develop.

As an aside, it is worth considering the carbon footprint of a tray of annual bedding plants from a garden centre:

- Plastic tray
- Often imported from Holland
- Compost often contains peat, therefore better to grow your own from seed, especially if they are self-seeding annuals that just do their own thing and save you the trouble. Or buy/raise from cuttings perennials that will give you years of pleasure and turn out cheaper. Everything you plant and keep in the soil will help to sequester carbon dioxide.

Ragwort

The Parish Council reported the growth of several clumps of Ragwort along the verge of the A388, which borders the Recreation Field to Cornwall Council Highways (Cormac).

Cormac has replied that following an inspection, it was not deemed to be a problem, and no action was required. BFPC challenged this decision, but by reply were told that Highways policy now is that no action is taken to control Ragwort if it is more than 50 metres from cattle pasture or fodder crops, and that moreover it is a valuable source of pollen for pollinators. Councillors questioned the 50 metres distance, and it was agreed to check this.

Trees

The plantation along the A388 has had a mixed year. The species that are doing well appear to be the birch, hazel, oak, beech, hawthorn and the dogwoods. However, the rowan (mountain ash) seems to have been attacked by “fire blight”. This is caused by a bacterium. Leaves turn yellow, then brown. Unfortunately, there is no cure, and we will most likely lose them. However, there will be an opportunity to replace them with donations of self-sown trees from residents’ gardens this autumn.



Last year there had been very little regrowth of “weeds” and brambles around the trees. After the sterling work done by our groundsman Nick there was little time for them to recover. However, this year they have really taken off. Not so much the brambles, but grass, thistles, fleabane, trefoil, hemp agrimony and others have taken advantage of the clearance to germinate and proliferate. While a few of us have done battle, the earlier lockdowns and Covid restrictions have often made it difficult. We need a new plan for the long-term maintenance.

Councillors **Resolved** to note this report. All agreed.

C Cllr Malcolm Fletcher – Climate Change Emergency

1. Cllr Fletcher advised that Cornwall Gateway Community Network Panel has highlighted "climate change and environmental sustainability" as a key issue and from this it was agreed that a Cornwall Gateway Climate Change Working Group should be established. The aim will be to share ideas, information and create a platform for networking. The first Zoom meeting will be held on 16th September 2021, and Cllr Fletcher will attend.
2. Both Councillors Ellis & Fletcher have enrolled on Cornwall Council’s Climate e-Learning course with the intention that the scheme will be rolled out to members of relevant community groups in the autumn. This would be of interest to BOTHER.

Councillors **Resolved** to note this report. All agreed

D Cllr Mervyn Ellis – **BOTHER**

Cllr Ellis mentioned the on-going wish to proceed with the cycle/walk way between Hatt to Carkeel roundabout. Cllr Fletcher advised Councillors over BOTHER’s position regarding the following:-

1. After pressure from BOTHER, Sustrans have agreed to produce the final report on the feasibility of a Walk/Cycle Way from Hatt to Carkeel by mid-September at the latest (earlier if possible).
2. Saltash Town Council have asked for a copy of the report to discuss at their next full council meeting in October.
3. BOTHER has asked Sustrans for an estimate of the cost of a further report for obtaining land consents, and also the construction costs of the path.
4. St. Mellion Parish Council have also now shown interest in BOTHER’s project, given that the proposed path would complete the link from the earlier proposal surveyed from Callington to Hatt.

Councillors **Resolved** to note this report. All agreed.

E Cllr Dave Willey (Vice Chairman) - Signage

Cllr Willey (Vice Chairman) advised that no signs would be put up until the new security measures had taken place at the Recreation Field, but he had sourced a sign manufacturer at South West Signs. New aluminium signs would be discussed with Councillors.

Councillors **Resolved** to note this report. All agreed.

F Cllr Dave Edwards (Chairman) – Play equipment funding

Mrs Sarah Edwards reported that a ‘Picnic in the Park’ was planned at the Recreation Field 4th September 2021 as an attempt to raise the profile of fundraising. Becky Escott explained



that a marquee would be set up and residents would have the opportunity to discuss how they might like the Recreation Field and Play equipment developed in the future. Sarah advised that Grant funding applications were still to be completed, and it was hoped that through Cornwall Council, the Parish may secure some Community Grant funds. A resident (Jane Hutton) suggested that to engage with the Community and raise funds, 'swap & sell goods' stalls could be set up along with plant sales and cakes for purchase.

Councillors **Resolved** to note this report. All agreed.

G Cllr Dave Edwards (Chairman) – Post Office

Cllr Edwards (Chairman) reported that the owner of the Post Office was seeking to open the shop and post office on a full-time basis 7 days a week.

The Parish Council's response is as follows-

*Mr Kanagartnam Thanabalasingham
Premier Convenience Store
Hatt Service Station
Callington Road
Hatt
Saltash
PL12 6PW*

25th August 2021

Re. Post Office Services

Dear Thana

Botus Fleming Parish Council (BFPC) are very encouraged with the news that you intend to reintroduce your post office services within your convenience store at Hatt.

As we understand it, you intend to offer this service on a 7-day basis from 09:00 to 17:30 and a half-day on Sundays (exact times to be confirmed).

The Parish Council believes that this service will enhance the lives of the residents of Botus Fleming, Hatt and neighbouring parishes. We believe that your post office services will add to the sustainability of our parish that is currently sadly lacking in most facilities.

BFPC wish you well in your endeavours and every success in your business.

We are also aware that our Cornwall Councillor Martin Worth supports your business venture.

Yours faithfully

David James Edwards

Chair

For and on behalf of Botus Fleming Parish Council



814 Clerk's items

No report

815 Public Bodies

The Press and Public were requested to leave the Meeting due to the confidential nature of the following Agenda item and the Interview process.

816 Interviews to co-opt a Councillor

The Parish Clerk left the Meeting during the Interview process.

The Parish Council was heartened that two candidates had applied to fill the vacancy for a councillor position. Dr Trevor Aughey and Marc Solomon were then interviewed to fill the vacancy on the Parish Council for the period up until May 2025.

The Parish Clerk returned to the Meeting to record the vote.

817 Public Bodies

The Press and Public were re-admitted to the Meeting.

By a majority vote, Marc Solomon was unanimously voted to be co-opted to the Parish Council.

The Declaration of Acceptance of Office form and the Register of Interests form for completion would be done so by Marc Solomon at the Public Meeting 22nd September 2021.

Councillors **Resolved** to note the appointment. All agreed.

818 Correspondence

818 (i) Response to Margaret Matthews

Cllr Fletcher referred to the comment at Item 810 above, stating that the NDP may not be active, but it is still an on-going project. He also referred to the Transport Policy.

818 (ii) Response to Becky Escott

The Parish Clerk requested a formal quotation for the cost of the Parish Council to acquire a number of Litter pickers, the cost of which could be financed as a maintenance item.

Details would be presented at the Public Meeting 22nd September 2021 for Councillors to consider.

Councillors **resolved** to **note** this action.

818 (iii) Response to Chris Jarvis

Councillors **resolved** to **note** the response from Mr Jarvis in connection with the Parish Council response in the Minutes dated 28th July 2021 (Item 798 (ii) refers)

819 Date of next meeting

The next Meeting of the Council will be the **Public Meeting** on the 22nd September 2021 at 7:30pm The Meeting will take place at the St. Marys church hall, (covid safe), Botus Fleming.



The Parish Council would continue to follow any instruction from CALC concerning the Covid-19 situation in connection with forthcoming Public Meetings. The choice to meet face to face was now an option with safety guidelines applying.

820 End of meeting 21:45

**Signed
Chairman)**

Date