



## **PUBLIC MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL**

**Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2021**

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

### **Also in attendance:**

Christopher Cook - Parish Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer;

Members of the public: 7

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 8<sup>th</sup> December 2021**

### **873/2021 Chair's Welcome & Announcements**

Cllr Willey (Vice Chairman) welcomed residents to the Public Meeting of the Parish Council and delivered Health and Safety housekeeping rules.

Cllr Edwards was attending the Community Network Panel (CNP) meeting and would attend the Public Meeting later, along with County Cllr Martin Worth.

Social distancing and Covid-19 measures were observed, such as ventilation.

### **874 Public participation**

Becky Escott reported that difficulty was being experienced in applying for Playground equipment funding. A number of Funding organisations had been approached but were unable to provide funds directly into the name of Botus Fleming Parish Council, and much funding was being missed from the likes of Cornwall Community Foundation, Aviva Insurance and Amazon.

Becky requested that the Parish Council agree in principle to a separate Bank Account being set up outside of the Parish Council confines for purposes of acquiring funding for playground equipment.

In future a Charitable status may be set up with the building of a Community Hall in mind. A Constitution would be formalised for this purpose.

All of the above measures would relieve the Responsible Financial Officer of managing the Account as an independent Audit process would be set up.



A separate issue of arranging for the Parish Council to hold a device to accept 'contactless payments' at the Big Event 2022 was also mentioned for consideration, though this could be addressed at a later stage.

Cllr Fletcher suggested that the Parish Council note the above wishes and agree in principle to a separate Bank Account in order to raise funds. Councillors agreed that there appeared to be no disadvantages in progressing this matter, but that the Parish Council could not formally agree to the request until specific information was supplied for consideration.

Councillors **Resolved** to note and agreed in principle to a separate Bank Account being set up.

**Councillors Worth arrived at the Public Meeting.**

**875 To receive Apologies for Absence and approve the reasons given**

Cllr Ellis apologies.

Councillors **Resolved** to note.

**876 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.

**877 Minutes of the Public Meeting 24<sup>th</sup> November 2021**

The draft Minutes were a true record of the Meeting.

Proposed Cllr Fletcher, seconded Cllr Oakes.

Councillors **Resolved** to approve the Minutes.

**878 Matters arising from the draft Minutes for report purposes only.**

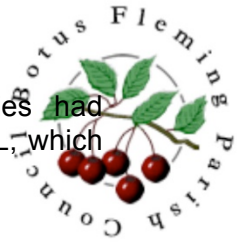
There were no matters arising.

Councillors **Resolved** to note.

**879 A Report from Cornwall Councillor Martin Worth**

Cllr. Martin Worth provided the following updates-

- Cornwall Council budget of £1.2 billion was focused on providing Adult Social Care.
- Cornwall Council capital budget focused on Housing needs and economic growth.
- Central Government to inject £4.5 million into Cornwall Council to support free school meals and to focus on women's services, the environment and children related causes.
- The 20mph scheme and reduction of the 60mph limit in Botus Fleming village remained on the Cornwall radar as did the 20s plenty scheme.



- Leisure Centre possible closures in Cornwall. 9 independent companies had expressed a wish to take on 4 specific Leisure Centres currently run by GLL, which included the Saltash Leisure Centre.

Councillors **Resolved** to note this report.

## **880 Finance**

### **A Accounts for Payment**

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

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

### **B Direct bank Payments & Receipts for information**

Bank Receipts were reported as **£1,275.00** Total receipts 2021/2022 **£34,056.85**

Councillors **Resolved** to note.

### **C Bank reconciliation and Earmarked Funds (EMF)**

The General Account balance was reported as **£17,593.87** and the Earmarked Funds as **£32,298.56**

Councillors **Resolved** to note.

### **D Monthly budget monitoring balances report**

Councillors **Resolved** to note the report.

### **E Public Works Loan Board Statement October 2021**

Councillors **Resolved** to note.

**Councillor Edwards arrived at the meeting.**

**Councillor Edwards proposed that Cllr Dave Willey continue to Chair the Meeting.**

**Councillors noted and agreed.**

### **F Precept & Budget 2022 2023**

Councillors recommended approval of the Precept & Budget for 2022/2023.

Precept £20,000

Budget £25,000

Cllr Fletcher proposed, and Cllr Willey (Vice Chairman) seconded approval of the Precept.

Cllr Fletcher proposed, and Cllr Willey (Vice Chairman) seconded approval of the Budget.

Councillors **Resolved** to approve the Precept and Budget as discussed at the Public Meeting 27<sup>th</sup> October 2021, see also [www.botusfleming.org.uk](http://www.botusfleming.org.uk)



881                    **Planning**

**New Planning Applications – None received**

**Planning Application Decisions – One received**

**Application: PA21 / 08337**

**Proposal: Extension and alteration of existing outbuilding, together with provision of decking**

**Location: Pineapple Farm Moditonham Botus Fleming Saltash**

**Applicant: Michael Tapley**

**Grid Ref: 241853 / 61277**

**Approved with conditions 20<sup>th</sup> November 2021**

Councillors **Resolved** to note.

**Planning Application for Information – None applicable**

Councillors **Resolved** to note.

**Planning Applications received after the Agenda published – One received**

**Application PA21 / 11531**

**Proposal Works to trees subject to a Tree Preservation Order (TPO)**

**Location Bar K Vollards Lane Hatt Saltash**

**Applicant Mr James Avery**

**Grid Ref 239628 / 62005**

This Application was presented to Councillors at the Public Meeting for consideration.

Councillors agreed that the proposal to reduce the height of the said trees by such a uniform extent, would in effect transform the trees into a hedge with little amenity value.

Cllr Fletcher stated that it was important to retain Elm trees as they were decimated many years ago following Dutch Elm disease.

The Town & Country Planning Act specifically states that trees subject to a TPO are of amenity value and add to the landscape value in an area. The proposed work to the TPOs would seriously detract from the amenity value of the trees.

It was accepted that the work to the Ash tree, subject to the Ash Dieback disease, should be carried out.

Cllr Fletcher proposed, and Cllr Edwards (Chairman) seconded that the Parish Council should reject the Planning Application

Councillors **Resolved** to **Reject** the Planning Application. Conditions to the Ash Dieback TPO excepted.

**VOTE**

Support 0

Reject 7

Abstain 0



**882 Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP)**  
[www.botusflemingandhattndp.com](http://www.botusflemingandhattndp.com)

Cllr Edwards (Chairman)

Cllr Fletcher had contacted Mr Rob Lacey in the NDP planning team at Cornwall Council asking what can be done next. A response from the newly appointed Officer was awaited.

Councillors **Resolved** to defer until 26<sup>th</sup> January 2022.

**883 Parish Plan**

Councillors **Resolved** to defer until 26<sup>th</sup> January 2022.

**884 Recreation Field**

Cllr Edwards (Chairman) reported that work continued and it was hoped that work might be completed early in the New Year in connection with the banking works, the seeding of the banks, and the Gate and locks security work.

Saltash United Juniors football club had kindly donated £1,000 to the Parish Council to assist with security improvement measures. Cllr. Edwards pointed out that it was the intention of the football club to start playing again in the New Year.

Cllr Edwards pointed out that with new gate security measures in place at the Recreation Field. Cllr White requested that the football club should be given instructions as to the closing of the gate on match days, and to be responsible for this issue.

Cllr Fletcher requested that the new banking be trimmed back in the pedestrian area as access to the Field was being restricted.

Cllr Fletcher thanked Cllr Ellis for the donation of seeds from the flower fund.

Councillors **Resolved** to note this report.

**885 Councillors Reports**

**A** Cllr Sally White - Maintenance

Cllr White advised that there were no changes to report since the last Audit 24<sup>th</sup> November 2021.

Councillors **Resolved** to note this report.

**B** Cllr Malcolm Fletcher – Climate and Ecological Emergency

Cllr Fletcher reported that –

As alluded to at the Parish Council Meeting of 27<sup>th</sup> November 2021, the Climate Emergency and Biodiversity Reports will in future be combined under a new heading of “Climate and Ecological Emergency Report”, given that the two emergencies are closely related and interdependent.



1. Cllr Fletcher attended the Cornwall Gateway Climate Change Working Group on 3<sup>rd</sup> December. Members of the group shared developments and experiences in their respective parishes.
2. **Landmark Tree** - Planting the English oak went ahead as planned on 27<sup>th</sup> November to mark and celebrate the acquisition of the Recreation Field for the community. A good number of residents attended with their children. The latter each contributed spadefuls of earth to complete the planting. The tree has now been securely staked and has its secure planting cage to protect it from accidental damage. Forest for Cornwall recommends a two to three years maintenance programme, including regular watering, weed removal and checking ties. The tree was donated by Forest for Cornwall and The Woodland Trust as part of the Queen's Green Canopy Project. A weld mesh "cage" at a cost of £54.07 will protect the tree.
3. **Silver birch saplings** - Cllr Ellis kindly used funds from the Cardinal's Hatt quiz "pot" to pay for ten silver birch saplings to replace some of the losses on the tree plantation on the A388 verge. These were planted on 5<sup>th</sup> December.
4. The current Biodiversity Policy will be updated and rewritten to reflect the new Climate and Ecological Emergency Report.

Councillors **Resolved** to note this report.

**C** Cllr Mervyn Ellis - BOTHER

In the absence of Cllr Ellis, Cllr Fletcher delivered the report.

- A meeting was held between BOTHER members and Catherine Thomson (Community Network Panel), County Cllr Martin Worth, James Hatton (Cornwall Council Transport) and Simon Murray (Sustrans), Further funding was agreed in order to meet a shortfall in amending and finalising the Sustrans report.
- Sustrans has undertaken to hand over their final version of the report by the end of January. This will include suggestions for a partial, alternative route on the east side of the A388.
- There have been informal, preliminary discussions with local landowners, and it is hoped that more of these discussions will follow.
- BOTHER requests that the Parish Council contribute to Cornwall Council's revised transport policy (see September's BOTRHER report), and includes a suggestion to strengthen Cornwall's commitment to creating the necessary conditions (infrastructure and legislation) for increasing non-motorised transport and/or walking.

Councillors **Resolved** to note this report.

**D** Cllr Dave Edwards (Chairman) – Play equipment funding

Cllr Dave Edwards (chairman) advised that further donations towards playground equipment in the sum of £1,054.88 were expected.

Cllr Fletcher wished to record that the Parish Council recognised the efforts made by the Community with regards to fund raising and this was much appreciated by the Council.



Councillors **Resolved** to note this report.

**E** Cllr Malcolm Fletcher – Newsletter

The Christmas edition had been produced and Cllr Fletcher thanked those who had contributed to the newsletter.

Cllr Willey (Vice Chairman) enquired as to whether advertising by local companies in the newsletter would reduce the expenditure of its production.

Councillors agreed to review this issue for the next newsletter.

The cost of printing the newsletter amounted to £379.45.

The Budget for newsletter projects stood at £325.00

Cllr. Fletcher proposed through the RFO that the shortfall of £54.45 be met from general reserves.

Proposed Cllr Robinson, and seconded Cllr Solomon.

Councillors **Resolved** to note this report and approve the expenditure of £54.45 from reserves.

**F** Cllr Dave Edwards (Chairman) – Funding Bank Account

Refer to Item 874 above.

Councillors **Resolved** to note this report.

**886 Clerk's items**

No report.

Councillors **Resolved** to note.

**887 Correspondence**

The Clerk/RFO updated the Meeting regarding the Budget & Precept measures taken by the Parish Council (**see also item 845 (F)**), and advised regarding the tax base set by Cornwall Council and the reduction in the Band D charge in respect to the Parish Council element, and highlighted comparisons with other local Parish Councils.

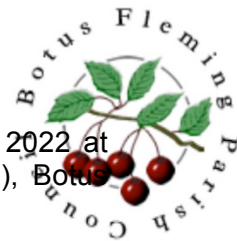
The Clerk/RFO also reflected on the impact of the costs associated to the invasion of travellers at the Recreation Field.

The Clerk/RFO to respond to the correspondence, which was a misleading account of the Parish finances and also misleading for the residents.

The Clerk would upload a briefing note on the budget and precept onto the Parish Council website.

Councillors **Resolved** to note.

**888 Date of next meeting**



The next Meeting of the Council will be the **Public Meeting** on the 26<sup>th</sup> January 2022 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 instructions 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.

**889 End of meeting 21:00**

**Signed  
Chairman)**

**Date**