



ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Wednesday 28th April 2021 – VIRTUAL REMOTE MEETING

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: 6 residents plus observers Sam Tamlin County Councillor (Saltash ward west) & Martin Worth Chairman (Landulph Parish Council)

Residents were invited to speak, without a time restriction, on matters relating to the Parish. This meeting was advertised as the Annual Parish 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 28th April 2021

719/2021 Chair's Welcome & Announcements

Cllr Edwards (Chairman) welcomed residents to the Annual Parish Meeting and delivered Health and Safety housekeeping rules. No members of the public intended recording the Public Meeting. The Chairman explained that the Meeting was being held remotely using Microsoft Teams in which all Residents could participate.

720 Public participation

This Item was moved to item 724 following the Chairman's report.

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

721 To receive Apologies for Absence and approve the reasons given

No apologies

Councillors **Resolved** to note.

722 To approve and sign as a correct record the Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 22nd April 2020. (held remotely with Microsoft Teams)

Proposed Cllr. Willey (Vice Chairman) seconded Cllr. Fletcher

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

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

There were no matters arising.



724 Chairman's Annual report

Cllr. Dave Edwards (Chairman) delivered the Annual report, making specific reference to the purchase of the Recreation Field, Hatt, and the voluntary work carried out by all Councillors.

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

(720) Public Participation

Dr Aughey congratulated the Parish Council on purchasing the Recreation Field, but questioned whether the level of Precept set would finance future loan repayments.

The loan repayment period set was realistic and it was anticipated that reserves would not be exposed in future years or would affect the Council's annual budget in a normal year. The saving on annual rental payments for the Recreation Field equated to approximately 50% of the annual loan repayment amount.

The level of Precept currently set was comparable to other neighbouring Parish Councils with a similar electorate base, however, the Budget and Precept would be kept under review as an annual exercise.

Both Dr Aughey and Mr Turner questioned whether the Annual Parish Meeting had been properly constituted with adequate notice for residents.

The Clerk responded that by Law, the only notice that was relevant was the Notice placed on notice boards dated 1st April 2021 registering a Meeting called by the Chairman. The Agenda is not fixed though would normally include public participation, the Chairman's annual report, and the Responsible Financial Officer's annual end of year finance report, all as registered under the Minutes.

Dr Aughey pointed out that 6 residents could call a Meeting, with a relevant notice period, at any time. The Clerk agreed that this was correct, but also pointed out that the Parish Council were not obliged to hold an Annual Parish Meeting, but must hold the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council. The latter was particularly for 2021 as it followed the Local Elections cycle.

Mr Turner questioned whether a notice on the notice board fulfilled engagement with all the residents. The Clerk pointed out that the Council's website page was regularly updated and also that not all residents engaged with the use of I.T.

Cllr. Fletcher pointed out that under normal circumstances (face-to-face) meetings, the Councillors always ran a surgery before each Public Meeting providing an opportunity for residents to attend and ask any questions or raise matters of concern to them.

Mr Turner suggested that the HattChatBotusFleming (HCBB) facebook page could be better utilised and a page should be dedicated to Botus Fleming Parish Council matters. and offered to help with admin support of the facebook.

Ms Escott, responsible for the (HCBB) administration confirmed that whilst the facebook was widely used, there was negative activity from a few individuals with their posts from time to time. She thanked the Councillors for what their work in the Community. Cllr Oakes agreed that publicity on the (HCBB) could be improved but that there were social pluses and minuses with the interaction. Mrs Edwards also concurred with these points stating that a moaning culture by a few residents was apparent, but nonetheless, thanked all Councillors for their time and effort with Council work.



Dave Edwards (Chairman) gave a brief appraisal of the current (HCBB) facebook strategy and the sort of communication activity taking place.

Dr Aughey suggested that the facebook should not be used to rehearse conversations but simply a tool for information. Cllr Ellis agreed, and had noted that it appeared to be the same small group of residents who were consistently complaining, and that comments should be more measured and not just negative.

Mt Turner questioned the lack of Community activity and involvement and whether this was as a result of the (HCBB) facebook page not being fully utilised.

Cllr Fletcher confirmed that whilst lines of communication can always be improved, the Parish Council had a number of small volunteer groups carrying out tasks for the betterment of the Community in areas such as bio-diversity, and climate emergency change.

Dr Aughey mentioned the Roodscroft Planning Application(s) and enquired why they had not been mentioned on the Agenda 9th December 2020, as by Law they should do. This particular Application affected Mr Jarvis at Cross Farm.

The Clerk explained that the Planning Applications fell in the Saltash Town Council (North Ward) and that the Planning Officer had stated to the Clerk that Botus Fleming PC were informed merely out of courtesy and that a response from the Parish Council was not expected.

County Cllr Sam Tamlin (North ward) had provided representation on behalf of Mr Jarvis, and the Parish Council supported the views of Mr Jarvis. All this information had been passed to the Planning Officer Cornwall Council, and Mr Jarvis had also been in contact directly.

Evidence of email exchanges with the Planning Officer of Cornwall Council, along with information received from Mr Jarvis, and the Parish Council's comments as per the Minutes 27th January 2021, were requested by Dr Aughey and the Clerk provided this information by email 29th April 2021.

725 Statement on the Parish accounts for year ending 31st March 2021

The Responsible Financial Officer delivered the end of year Accounting statement.
Annual receipts £26,973.22 and payments £16,714.89.
General Account balance £14,103.84, Earmarked Funds £16,788.76.
Total Funds £30,892.60

The RFO thanked the internal Auditor for the professional service provided to the Parish Council.

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

726 Date of next meeting

The next Meeting of the Council will be the Public Meeting on Wednesday 28th April 2021 at 7:30pm. This Meeting will take place by Virtual Remote Microsoft Teams.

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.

727

End of meeting 20:05



Signed..... Date.....
(Chairman)