



## **ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2022

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

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

Members of the public: 13 residents plus observer Martin Worth Chairman (Landulph Parish Council & County Councillor)

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 27<sup>th</sup> April 2022**

#### **1/2022 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 Covid safety measures would be adhered to for this Meeting.

#### **2 Apologies for absence**

No apologies received.

**Resolved** to note.

#### **3 To approve and sign as a correct the draft Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> April 2021 (held by virtual remote Microsoft Teams)**

Proposed Cllr White, Seconded Cllr Willey (Vice Chairman). 8 votes approve, 13 votes abstention.

Matters arising – Dr Aughey asked why the Minutes of the last Annual Parish Meeting had not been published. The Clerk said that the draft Minutes referred to had been available to read on the Parish Council's website unapproved in draft for any resident to read.

The Meeting **Resolved** to agree the draft Minutes.

#### **4 To receive the Chairman's Annual Report**

Cllr. Dave Edwards (Chairman) delivered the Annual report.

Cllr Fletcher offered thanks on behalf of the BOTHER Group for the support received from the Parish Council.



The full report can be viewed on the Parish Council website under 'Reports' at [www.botusfleming.org.uk](http://www.botusfleming.org.uk)

**Resolved** to note.

**5 To a Statement on the Parish Council accounts for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022 from the Responsible Financial Officer**

The Responsible Financial Officer delivered the end of year Accounts statement.  
Annual receipts £48,742.31 and payments £30,173.96.  
General Account balance £12,438.86, Earmarked Funds £37,022.09.  
Total Funds £49,460.95

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

The full report can be viewed on the Parish Council website under 'Reports' at [www.botusfleming.org.uk](http://www.botusfleming.org.uk)

**Resolved** to note.

**6 To invite the public to raise any matters of interest**

Dr Aughey offered a brief acknowledgement to the achievements of the Community within the Parish.

Dr Aughey raised several points about the Governance of the Parish Council, especially regarding Transparency. These included-

He felt that the Annual Meeting of the Parish should have been better advertised on Hatt Chat & Botus Banter Facebook and on the Parish Council's Facebook page. Cllr Fletcher pointed out that both Meetings had been advertised on the Parish Noticeboards (as is required), and the Council's website page at [www.botusfleming.org.uk](http://www.botusfleming.org.uk) but that in future the Council would endeavour to post them on to social media too. Cllr Edwards (Chairman) reminded the Meeting that the Parish Council Facebook page is for information only and is not intended for discourse or discussion. Residents can address the matters raised there by writing to the Clerk or posting on Hatt Chat & Botus Banter.

Dr Aughey felt that actions by the Parish Council were often taken without a formal vote on a motion on the agenda. It was pointed out that any matters requiring expenditure (outside of the budget set) by the Council were always subject to a vote. This and other matters raised by Dr Aughey over the years since he had stepped down as a Councillor had been addressed by the Clerk, Chairman and Cornwall Council officers. Much time had been spent reiterating the same points. Cllr Fletcher pointed out that the Councillors gave considerable time voluntarily, honestly and lawfully for the benefit of the Parish. Cllr Willey (Vice Chairman) pointed out that at the Local Elections of 2021 all seven Councillors had been re-elected unopposed, a fact that showed the confidence of residents in their Councillors. The Chairman was pleased to announce that Cllr. Marc Solomon had filled the Council vacancy bringing it up to its full complement of eight Councillors.

Dr Aughey stated that as Climate Emergency matters were of interest to him, he was pleased to see that the Parish Council had supported two recent Planning Applications which were developing sites containing solar panels.



Helena Vallis questioned why the Saltash Youth football team were using the Recreation Field free of charge. No rental payment had been received for over 4 years.

Cllr Ellis stated that the Parish Council wished to support the local football team and that many other pitches are offered free of charge. The disruption caused by the Pandemic and the illegal invasion of the Recreation Field had meant that for much of the time in question no football had been played on the field. The Parish Council had also received a £1,000 donation from Saltash United Juniors to help with the restoration of the pitch following the invasion.

Helena Vallis suggested that the Parish Council adopt a hiring and charging policy for those wishing to use the Recreation Field and offered her own example of wishing to play badminton there. The Parish Council could manage a hiring facility on the website and charge suitable hire charges. To facilitate access for residents, a list of all football matches occurring on the Recreation Field should be listed.

Cllr Edwards (Chairman) noted this wish stating that it was not realistic or necessary request especially as the Recreation Field should be available for anyone including a few youngsters may wish to practice football. The question of rental payments would be looked in to.

Mr John Brookam noted that the speed of traffic from Andrews Way into Vollards Lane was often exceeding the 20s plenty scheme and offered to carry out a speed watch survey. Cllr Edwards (Chairman) welcomed this endeavour stating that the controllers of the speed guns could be members of the public reporting results to the Parish Council.

Mr Brookam & Ms Vallis reported the amount of slurry on the footpath from Newgate lodge to the turf field at Pillaton were very unpleasant to walk, and that slurry was mounting up. Several residents had taken the sensible action to report the matter to the Environmental Officer at Cornwall Council. Developments are awaited as clearly Environmental Regulations are being broken. The Parish Council Chairman agreed with these views.

Cllr Fletcher supported these comments by suggesting that the standards in land management were generally slipping and require addressing.

There were no matters arising not addressed at Item 6.

## **7 Close of Meeting at 19:40**

Cllr. Dave Edwards (Chairman) stated that the Public Meeting for the 27<sup>th</sup> April 2022 would follow on immediately after the Annual Parish Meeting.

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