



Botus Fleming Parish Council

www.botusfleming.org.uk

PUBLIC MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

Wednesday 24th January 2024

Present: Councillor Edwards (Chairman)

Councillors Ellis, Fletcher, Robinson, White & Willey (Vice Chairman)

Also in attendance:

Christopher Cook - Parish Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer.

Martin Worth - County Councillor

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 24th January 2024

1303/2024 Chair's Welcome & Announcements

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

Social distancing and Covid-19 measures were observed, such as ventilation.
No one intended recording the meeting.

1304 Public participation

A resident stated that they had come to the assistance of another resident who was struggling to dislodge the defibrillator apparatus case in order to use the equipment at St. Mary's church hall. (see response at Item 1314 (D)) below.

A resident requested whether Cllr Worth had received any response from Highways concerning the lack of lighting on the Waitrose roundabout Saltash.
Cllr Worth advised that he had chased up this matter again with Highways.

Councillors **Resolved** to note.

1305 To receive Apologies for Absence and approve the reasons given

Apologies from Cllr Oakes (letter of resignation to be submitted 25th January 2024 citing his new work pressures.



The Chairman regretfully accepted notice of Cllr Oakes' resignation and together with his fellow Councillors acknowledged and sincerely thanked the work and service that Cllr Oakes had given to the Parish Council over the past number of years.

1306 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.

1307 Minutes of the Public Meeting held on the 13th December 2023

Minutes 13th December 2023 - Proposed Cllr Fletcher, Seconded Cllr Robinson
5 agreed, 1 abstention.

Councillors **Resolved** to approve the draft Minutes subject to amendment of item 1298 (G).

1308 Matters arising from the draft Minutes for report purposes only.

Cllr Fletcher stated that under the Action point of Minute 1298 (G) no information had been received from the resident at Sunnybanks, describing the timeline of the flood event(s) at their property.

Cllr Worth stated that he happened to be in the area when Cormac Highways were carrying out drain clearance operations. Cllr Worth had then requested that they inspect the drains in Sunnybanks and take any necessary remedial action. Cllr Worth was informed by the Cormac representatives that they would comply.

Councillors **Resolved** to note.

1309 A Report from Cornwall Councillor Martin Worth

Cllr Martin Worth reported.

Cornwall Council Scrutiny Committee and increased funding for Local Government -
The Budget shows the need for £20m to be drawn from Reserves.

The letter from Michael Gove MP (Secretary of State for Levelling up) gives Cornwall Council an approximate £5m improvement.

It had therefore not been possible to progress the matter further.

The final vote on the budget will be at Full Council on the 20th February 2024.

Council tax will be expected to increase by 4.99%.

There are increased demands upon the Cornwall Council for 2024 2025 in respect to adult social care / Children's care, temporary accommodation and Fire & Rescue funding.

The report from the Department for levelling up, Housing & Communities can be viewed at www.botusfleming.org.uk

Meeting the Police – A Neighbourhood Police Group is formed consisting of Officers from the Saltash, Looe, Liskeard & Torpoint areas. The County Councillor is meeting with the Group and liaising over issues in the area, including the recent damage to vehicles in Hatt. The Parish Council Chairman will be updated. The Policing team are monitoring school patrols and the use of vapes and drugs in Cornwall.

Reduction in street lighting - A link to the decision to turn off the lights in Hatt on 15th Jan 2024 can be viewed here. Queries or concerns please do not hesitate to contact streetlighting@cornwall.gov.uk.

[Report a problem with a street light or illuminated sign - Cornwall Council](#)

Tourism issues are being addressed and information can be found following these links.

Tourist tax and sustainable tourism - Sustainable Tourism Inquiry Appendix 1 , item EGSC/40

Sustainable Tourism Inquiry Appendix 2, item EGSC/40

The Economic Growth Manager outlined the following points:

- Inquiry process.
- Visitor Economy – businesses.
- Visitor Economy – gross value added.
- Employees in the visitor economy.
- Accommodation and food services.
- Employees in accommodation and food 2.
- Visit Cornwall – modelled visitor data.
- Seasonality of the Tourism Economy
- Overview of the recommendations.

Questions and discussion points made by the Committee, included the following:

- (i) The importance of encouraging tourism into the lesser known and lesser visited places and the ability for towns to advertise to expand tourism in these lesser visited places.
- (ii) Clarification on how the TV and film industry were being supported.
- (iii) Clarification sought with regards to recommendation 5 and the importance that the LVEP should not, necessarily be business lead, nor any presumptions made on how revenue was generated. It was noted that sustainable, regenerative and inclusive tourism should be good for both business and all those who lived in Cornwall to ensure sustainable, regenerative and inclusivity.
- (iv) The importance that tourism is sustainable for all and not just for tourism and the importance of managing tourism to ensure a sustainable economy and the wellbeing of those who lived in Cornwall.
- (v) Concern at the current VAT thresholds which had a detrimental impact on tax payers.

- (vi) The importance of recognising the negative impacts of tourism including online booking platforms.
- (vii) Consideration to future revenue generating proposals e.g. a tourism tax.
- (viii) Concern at recommendation 8 and the importance that any changes to school timetabling were based on sound educational reasons and not economic growth.
- (ix) Clarification on the ability for hotels/holiday villages to modernise to provide accommodation more tailored to the needs of today's tourists to increase their attractiveness to reduce the need for people to rent out private houses to the detriment of the local population.
- (x) The importance of learning from the National Trust on how it operates.
- (xi) The importance of spreading tourism across the whole year and not just the peak season.
- (xii) Clarification on whether the basic wage for tourism included gratuities.
- (xiii) The benefits of the upgrading the A30 for towns such as Camborne and Redruth.

... [View the full minutes text for item EGSC/40](#)

Councillors **Resolved** to note this report.

1310 Finance

A Accounts for Payment January 2024

Cllr Edwards (Chairman) and Cllr Ellis seconded the approval of the Accounts for payment. All agreed.

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

B Direct bank Payments & Receipts for information

Bank Receipts were reported as **£0.00** Total receipts Account1 2023/2024 **£26,027.78**
Bank Receipts were reported as **£0.00** Total receipts Account2 2023/2024 **£22,845.00**
Total Receipts 2023/2024 **£48,872.78**

C Bank reconciliation and Earmarked Funds (EMF)

The General Account balance was reported as **£17,460.49** and the Earmarked Funds as **£24,943.14**

D Monthly budget monitoring balances report

Refer to Finance report at www.botusfleming.org.uk

Councillors **Resolved** to note items 1294 (B) (C) & (D).



E Public Works Loan Board Statement January 2024

Councillors **Resolved** to note the Loan amount outstanding **£57,697.68**

1311 Planning <http://planning.cornwall.gov.uk/online-applications>

New Planning Applications – Two received

Application PA24 / 00167
Proposal Works to trees under a Tree Preservation Order (TPO)
Reference E2/05/TPO/00022 namely; G2 mature common beech
(Fagus Sylvatica) to fell.
Location St Mary's House Botus Fleming Saltash Cornwall

The Applicant explained that following a tree inspection it was confirmed that the fruiting bodies at the base of the Beech tree was evidence that the Ganoderma fungus is causing disease and reducing the life expectancy of the tree to under 10 years with a risk of failure of the tree during this period. For safety reasons it was reluctantly recommended to fell the tree.

Cllr Fletcher noted that bark was peeling from the Beech and that the decay caused by the fungus can be neither cured nor halted.. Councillors agreed that sadly, the significant tree should be felled.

The Parish Council voted to **SUPPORT** planning Application PA24/00167.
Proposed Cllr Edwards (Chairman), seconded Cllr White. All agreed.

Votes-
Support 6
Reject 0
Abstain 0

Application PA23 / 10177
Proposal The construction of an extension to an agricultural building
to be used to house dairy young stock
Location Villaton Court Farm Hatt Saltash Cornwall

Cllr Worth registered a non-pecuniary interest in PA23 / 10177

Councillors noted that work on the proposed extension was already underway, contrary to what was stated on the application form. The suitability of access to the site from the A388 was also questioned. These points to be included in the Consultee comment.

The Parish Council voted to **SUPPORT** planning Application PA24/00167.
Proposed Cllr Willey (Vice Chairman), seconded Cllr Robinson.

Votes-
Support 4
Reject 1
Abstain 1

Planning Application Decisions – One received

Application PA23 / 07736
Proposal Proposed new dwelling set within the private land ownership
grounds of Villaton Barton. Intended for multi-generational



family occupancy and to remain tied to the main host dwelling.
Location Villaton Barton Hatt Saltash Cornwall PL12 6PP

Planning application REFUSED 12th January 2024

Planning Application for Information – None received

Planning Applications received after Agenda published – None received

Councillors **Resolved** to note all planning matters.

1312 Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) & Parish Plan

www.botusflemingandhattndp.com

The Clerk reported that WesternWeb (maintainers of the Council's NDP website) had informed the Council that this website was created in 2017 and that the coding requires updating to ensure that the website is encrypted and the connection secure, and a new SSL certificate issued. The cost of the update at £180 + vat and an annual charge of £13 + vat was noted by Councillors.

Cllr Edwards suggested that the Council allow the upgrade to pass, subject to the NDP programme being revisited and renewed over the next few months.

Councillors Resolved to note.

ACTION: The Clerk to advise WesternWeb of the Parish Council's decision.

1313 Recreation Field & Playground fencing

Cllr Edwards (Chairman) advised that the playground fencing being manufactured by Zaun would be delivered by early February 2024.

The design plans for the Hatt Community Centre and the report from Mr Bearham of the South West Community Builds project should be received soon.

Councillors **Resolved** to note.

1314 Councillors Reports

The full Council reports for Items 1314 (A) can be viewed under 'Reports' at www.botusfleming.org.uk

A Asset Audit

The lid of the salt bin located at Sunnybanks Hatt is not closing firmly. The bin lid to be inspected for remedial repairs before the purchase of a new bin is considered.

Cllr White reported that there was some deterioration and soil erosion at the foot of some of the play equipment. The areas concerned have already been earmarked by the Council for repair by Ally Hill (Contractor) as soon as the weather conditions improve.

All other assets reported in order.

Councillors **Resolved** to note.

B Climate and Ecological Emergency

Cllr. Fletcher stated that several residents had contacted Councillors concerning the amount of mud and slurry left on the lanes in Hatt and on the A388 around Hatt Roundabout and heading north. The slurry seemed to be because of agricultural vehicles spreading slurry in the fields in Hatt and Villaton. Several photographs were taken of the mud and/or slurry on the tyres deposited on the Highway resulting from vehicles leaving the fields.

Whilst Councillors had sympathy with the fact that farmers had to go about their agricultural work, a significant amount of slurry was left on the roads on this occasion. Cormac had also been advised of the incident occurring in week ending 19th January 2024.

Councillors **Resolved** to note.

ACTION: The Council to send a letter to a landowner stating the dangers of leaving mud etc on the Highway and noting details of the Road Safety Acts 1980 and 1988. Any further incidents of this nature would be reported directly to Cormac, given that this is the second time BFPC has had occasion to write to the landowner concerned.

C BOTHER

Margaret Matthews of the BOTHER working group described the plans for 3 options for part of the route for a walk/cycle path, as mentioned in the correspondence at item 1316. Whilst accepting that Cornwall Council's budgets were hard pressed and it was unrealistic to think that a walk/cycle path could be constructed in the near term, it was nevertheless important to try and ensure that no obstructions were in place that could prevent construction in the longer term. Progress on the project has stalled and support from the Parish Council with a letter to the Cornwall Council Principal Planner (Treledan development case officer) Mr S Kirby was requested.

Cllr Edwards (Chairman) has already been in contact with Mr Kirby, and he has requested further maps of the planned routes. Cllr Edwards pointed out that the maps already produced with Sustrans in conjunction with Cormac should suffice.

Cllr Worth advised that the Treledan development (stage 2) had slowed due to the lack of houses being sold and that this would also impact upon any infrastructure development at the Stoketon Cross and area.

Cllr Worth also suggested that as it was Saltash Town Council who vote on the development and progress of the Treledan Planning application (phase 2), and that Botus Fleming Councillors should also attend any Meetings where Treledan is discussed in the future.

Councillors **Resolved** to note.

ACTION: Cllr Edwards (Chairman) to produce new maps with assistance from BOTHER.

ACTION: Cllr Worth to request with Bloor Homes (developers of Treledan) those Botus Fleming/BOTHER representatives are included in any Zoom meetings in the future.



D Defibrillator

Cllr Fletcher reported that following the recent use of the defibrillator, a resident had had difficulty in dislodging the apparatus from the mounting. A resident also noted that the device was tight and required some loosening.

South West Ambulance Service Trust (SWAST) are due to replace the pads in the defibrillator and will also adjust the apparatus cover. Defibrillator training will be advertised and organised soon.

Councillors **Resolved** to note.

ACTION: The Clerk to advertise the locations of the defibrillators at Hatt garage and the St. Mary's church hall on the website www.botusfleming.org.uk

ACTION: Cllr White to display a Notice on the notice boards detailing the locations of the Council defibrillators.

1315 Clerk's items

None.

1316 Correspondence

1316 (i) This item was discussed at item. 1314(c).

1317 Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960

To **Resolve** that pursuant to Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 the public and press leave the meeting because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

1318 Casual Vacancy applications

Councillors appointed Mr Brian Venables to fill the vacancy by co-option to the Parish Council.

Proposed Cllr Edwards (Chairman), seconded Cllr Willey (Vice Chairman).

Councillors **Resolved** to make the appointment and all agreed.

1319 Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960

To **Resolve** that the public and press be re-admitted to the meeting.

1320 Date of next meeting.

The next Meeting of the Council will be the **Public Meeting** on Wednesday 28th February 2024 at 7:30pm at the St. Mary's 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.
Please refer to www.botusfleming.org.uk for further details.

1321 End of meeting 21:15

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**Signed
(Chairman)**

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Date