



PUBLIC MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

Wednesday 27th March 2024

Present: Councillor Edwards (Chairman)

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

Also in attendance:

Christopher Cook - Parish Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer.

Members of the public: **9**

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 27th March 2024

1341/2024 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.

Cllr Smith signed the Acceptance of Office Form. The Register of Interests Form was completed.

1342 Public participation

No Public participation.

1343 To receive Apologies for Absence and approve the reasons given

No apologies.



1344 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.

1345 Minutes of the Public Meeting held on the 28th February 2024

Minutes 28th February 2024 - Proposed Cllr Willey (Vice Chairman), seconded Cllr Smith.

All agreed.

Councillors **Resolved** to approve the draft Minutes.

1346 Matters arising from the draft Minutes for report purposes only.

None.

1347 A Report from Cornwall Councillor Martin Worth

Cllr Martin Worth reported.

“Beryl Bikes” Launched in Saltash area (10 minutes free use as introduction)

Growing number of non-working and retired people than the UK average, which means that Cornwall takes far more out from Whitehall (HMT) than it puts in!

Fewer residents of working age compared to the UK average = Cornwall puts less into Whitehall (HMT) than it takes out!

Expressed in numbers, this means approximately £770m net revenue budget and approximately £2.1bn capital investment.

Cabinet agenda on 8 May includes:

- 2024/25 Budget adjustment (incl. the target of £20m new ‘in-year’ (ideally recurrent) savings and revised demand management strategies)
- Transformation review and preview (incl. 3D’s: decarbonisation, decentralisation and digitalisation + target operating model)

Emergency Accommodation, Home to School Transport and Children’s Social Care Demand Management Strategies unlikely to count towards the savings targets above due to escalating demand in excess of budget estimates – but need to keep within



budget uplifts for 2024/25

Tamar Crossings Update – Cornwall Councillors resolved to support the Tamar Toll Action Group with the proposal to abolish tolls and tags.

The “Call for Sites” is a way to suggest sites that might be available for development in the future. This is a normal part of plan making. Previous calls may be found on our Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) pages.

The Council is currently exploring how the next Local Plan will deal with growth in Cornwall to 2050. Any revised plan will need to identify enough land to meet future requirements. This includes:

- new homes and employment space
- community infrastructure and tourism
- sites for Biodiversity Net Gain and Nutrient Neutrality mitigation and/or nature-based initiatives.

Our call for sites will be open initially between 20 February and 22 April 2024.

Please follow this link to submit a site: Call For Sites 2024 (urbanintelligence.co.uk)

From <<https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/planning-policy/call-for-sites/>>;

Community Infrastructure Levy - CIL Funding - Apply here - Deadline 30th April 2024
<https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/developer-contributions/cil-fund/>

Councillors **Resolved** to note this report.

1348 Finance

A Accounts for Payment March 2024

Cllr Edwards (Chairman) proposed, Cllr Fletcher 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 **£13,036.39** and the Earmarked Funds as **£19,461.06**. Total Funds **£32,497.45**.

D Monthly budget monitoring balances report

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

Councillors **Resolved** to note items 1348 (B) (C) & (D).

E Public Works Loan Board Statement March 2024

Councillors **Resolved** to note the Loan amount outstanding **£55,571.29**

1349 Planning <http://planning.cornwall.gov.uk/online-applications>

New Planning Applications – None received

Planning Application Decisions – One received

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 PL12 6PX

Approved with conditions 9th March 2024

Planning Application for Information – None received

Planning Applications received after Agenda published – None received

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

1350 Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) & Parish Plan

www.botusflemingandhattndp.com

Cllr Smith has been collating historic (NDP) information from previous Council Minutes. Cornwall Council has issued up to date guidance on the new (NDP) instructions under a Neighbourhood Priority Statement and how this links in with the National Planning Policy Framework.

Cllr Smith requested consultation with Landulph Parish Council over their existing (NDP) Plan. Cllr Martin Worth agreed to provide the Councillor contacts and support with this project.

Councillors **Resolved** to note this report.



1351 Recreation Field & Playground fencing

Cllr Edwards (Chairman) thanked and commended Steve Holman and Ed Norris for completing the excellent installation of the playground fencing during very adverse weather conditions.

Cllr White thanked Cllr Willey (Vice Chair) for erecting the dog waking signage to the Recreation Field gate.

Councillors **Resolved** to note.

ACTION: Clerk to convey thanks from the Parish Council to Messrs Holman and Norris.

1352 Councillors Reports

The full Council reports for Items 1352 (A) can be viewed under 'Reports' at www.botusfleming.org.uk

A Asset Audit

Cllr White advised that remedial repair works on the playground area remained outstanding due to inclement weather. The Contractor Ally Hill will complete repair works when the weather improves.

Other Assets on the monthly checklist were reported in order.

Councillors **Resolved** to note.

B Climate and Ecological Emergency

Cllr. Fletcher reported-

1. Eleven more whips planted on the A388 tree verge this week. Ten dog-wood (*Cornus alba*) derived from cuttings taken from the hedge surrounding the playing free, i.e. free! One goat willow (*Salix caprea*) self-sown from my garden, so another freebie! Planting possible because Ally (Contractor) had trimmed off invasive brambles. Once the trees are well established this kind of maintenance will only be needed infrequently. Some of the birch from the first plantings in March 2020 are now nearly 4 meters tall. The ground is very, very wet, but must suit the birch, willow, alder and hawthorn as they seem to be thriving.
2. The PC received a group email from a group calling themselves Farmers Movement Cornwall, saying they opposed "green policy overreach" and government policies aimed at reaching environmental targets. Cllr. Fletcher agreed that "No farmers = no food", but also pointed out that:



- “No soil, no pollinators = no food.”
- Modern farming methods are rapidly depleting both the quantity and quality of our soils. Sowing crops like maize that leaves much of the soil surface bare results in top soil being washed in to water courses. Every time a field is ploughed the stored carbon is released into the atmosphere.
- There are now proven ways to direct drill seed into the ground without ploughing. Slurry can also be drilled into the ground, thus avoiding much of it being washed away.
- Without pollinators the only plant foods we would have would be cereals, as they are wind pollinated, and potatoes which are tubers. Fruit and vegetables would be unattainable as their flowers would not be pollinated. To ensure a diverse range of pollinators we need to restore marginal land, hedgerows and ponds in the countryside to their former state as havens for invertebrates.
- Government needs to provide much more advice, support, and money to farmers to help them to adopt more sustainable farming methods. It also needs to protect them from trade deals that open our doors to imports of cheap, lower quality food.

Councillors **Resolved** to note.

C BOTHER

Cllr Ellis stated that no response had been received from Woodside Stables regarding the BOTHER letter of request to site a cycle path in this area.

Cllr Martin Worth agreed to mention this subject at the next Treledan development meeting he attends.

Councillors **Resolved** to note.

D Defibrillator

Cllr Fletcher reported that 12 volunteers recently received defibrillator training and another training session was planned for the Autumn 2024.

Councillors **Resolved** to note.



E Cornwall Area Partnership (CAPS)

Cllr Fletcher attended the last (CAPs) Meeting and reported –

CAP Meeting, 03/03/2024

- The Priority Action Plan for this CAP was voted through. I was disappointed that:
 - Given the fact that Cornwall Council's Local Transport Plan gives the highest priority to walking and cycling, there was NO mention of this!
 - No mention of biodiversity in the section on Environment and Climate Change!
- National Planning Policy Framework was updated last year. NDP group should therefore get one?
- Cornwall's Climate Emergency Development Plan Document was adopted in 2023 and will impact on planning decisions.
- Planning changes are coming in November this year, e.g. Mandatory Design Template.
- Neighbourhood Priority Statements will come in alongside NDPs.
- Public participation will take place in areas such as: housing needs, the environment, the economy and public spaces.
- I asked about the status of settlement boundaries now. This can be examined as part of the process of developing the NDP. It was suggested that we contact the NDP team to discuss this. Apparently nationally on appeal, planners tend to be sceptical about settlement boundaries!
- Health Hubs intended to reduce the number of visits to Health Centres and GP appointments
- Development of average speed cameras throughout Cornwall
- Proposal / Petition form from Cllr Colin Martin regarding 'free' Tamar bridge crossings.



Councillors **Resolved** to note this report and that Cllr Fletcher would replace Cllr Edwards (Chairman) as the Parish Council representative on the (CAPs) Committee. Cllr Edwards (Chairman) would remain on the Transport Working Group as the Parish Council representative.

1353 Clerk's items

None

1354 Correspondence

None

1355 Date of next meeting

The next Meeting of the Council will be the **Annual Parish Meeting** on Wednesday 24th April 2024 at 6:30pm at the St Mary's Church Hall.

This Meeting will be immediately followed by the **Public Meeting** on Wednesday 24th April 2024 at 7.30pm at the St. Mary's Church Hall (covid safe).

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.

1356 End of meeting 20:25

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Signed
(Chairman)

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Date