



PUBLIC MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

Wednesday 27th November 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.

Martin Worth – Cornwall 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 27th November 2024

1473/2024 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.

1474 Public participation

A resident mentioned the Christmas Tree and lights in the Village (Stuart's Way) which would be lit up 1st December 2024. Funds raised from the event would benefit The Cinnamon Trust and Dr. Barnardo's. As the Parish Council were arranging the event and accepted that third party risks were minimal and assessed, the Council would indemnify the Highways from Public Liability risks by extending their own insurance cover should any claims arise from the event. Approximately 100-150 residents were expected to attend.

Proposed Cllr Edwards (Chairman), seconded Cllr Smith. All agreed and **resolved** to approve of the insurance arrangements for the Christmas event.



Cllr White mentioned that she had been told that a resident had happened to speak to the previous landowner of the Recreation Field, who had praised the Parish Council for the maintenance of the field and development of the play ground equipment area. Parish Councillors were grateful to receive this compliment.

A resident thanked the Parish Council for the Remembrance Day display that had been constructed on the Hatt Roundabout.

A resident thanked Cllr Martin Worth for ensuring that the Waitrose roundabout lighting is now functioning correctly.

A resident requested that the Hatt roundabout be cut in a suitable fashion for the VE Day 8th May 2025 Memorial-day, and that space be given to provide for the new range of Soldier Silhouettes. Cllr Fletcher confirmed that grass cutting arrangements for May 2025 would be noted.

Councillors **Resolved** to note this report.

1475 To receive Apologies for Absence and approve the reasons given

No apologies.

1476 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.

1477 Minutes of the Public Meeting 23rd October 2024

Draft Minutes 23rd October 2024 - Proposed Cllr White, seconded Cllr Fletcher. All agreed.

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

1478 Matters arising from the draft Minutes for report purposes only.

None.

1479 A Report from Cornwall Councillor Martin Worth

Cllr Worth reported as follows –

- Cornwall Council Budget 2025 / 2026 can be viewed at 'Let's Talk Cornwall'.
- Assumption that the Council Tax rate will be capped at 4.99%.
- The Tamar Tunnel redevelopment works to commence in Spring 2025. Highways England are reviewing the situation.
- Stoketon Cross roundabout development planned for April 2025 along with a change to traffic patterns from Gilston Road Saltash and Waitrose roundabout.
- Carkeel pedestrian safety works to commence in 2025.
- Tamar Tolls charges to alter from February 2025.
- Devolution deal for Cornwall (Level 2) still active and more Communities will have a Mayoral status.



- Government funding for Cornwall will improve Bus services in the County. Councillors **Resolved** to note this report.

1480 Finance

A Accounts for Payment November 2024

Cllr Edwards (Chairman) proposed, Cllr Willey (Vice Chairman) seconded the approval of the Accounts for payment. All agreed.

Councillors **Resolved** to approve the accounts for payment for November 2024.

B Direct bank Payments & Receipts for information

Bank Receipts were reported as **£0.00** Total receipts Account1 2024/2025 **£23,681**.

Bank Receipts were reported as **£0.00**. Total receipts Account2 2024/2025 **£0.00**
Total Receipts all Accounts 2024/2025 **£23,681**

C Bank reconciliation and Earmarked Funds (EMF)

The General Account balance was reported as **£18,226** and the Earmarked Funds as **£19,461**. Total Funds **£37,687**.

D Monthly budget monitoring balances report

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

Councillors **Resolved** to note items 1480 (B) (C) & (D).

E Public Works Loan Board Statement November 2024

Councillors **Resolved** to note the Loan amount outstanding **£53,422.57**

F Budget & Precept 2025 / 2026

MOTION - To set the Budget & Precept for 2025 / 2026 (Draft report 23rd October 2024).

Budget £30,500 & Precept £22,000.

Proposed Cllr Smith, seconded Cllr Fletcher. All Councillors agreed to support the MOTION

Details of the draft Budget and Precept figures can be viewed at www.botusfleming.org.uk

1481 Planning <http://planning.cornwall.gov.uk/online-applications>

New Planning Applications – None received



Planning Application Decisions – One received

Application PA24 / 06619
Proposal Submission of details to discharge condition 3 in relation to Decision notice PA19/05565 dated 8.10.2020.
Location Residential Development Land at Hatt

Planning Application PA24 / 06619 S52/S106 and discharge of condition apps.18/10/2024

Planning Application for Information – None received

Planning Applications received after Agenda published – None received

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

1482 Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) & Parish Plan www.botusflemingandhattndp.com

No report.

1483 Recreation Field

Cllr Fletcher enquired as to whether boulders could be moved into the Recreation Field entrance leading to the private lane in order to deter members of the public from parking on the private land there. Cllr Venables would action this request. The boulders would stop car parking especially on football match days.

A list of Saltash United Junior Football Club fixtures ending 31st December 2024 is required by the Clerk for purposes of rental collection.

Councillors **Resolved** to note.

1484 Councillors Reports

The full Council reports for Item 1484 (A) can be viewed under 'Reports' at www.botusfleming.org.uk

A Asset Audit

Cllr White thanked Cllr Smith for pressure washing and cleaning down the Bus Shelter.

Councillors **Resolved** to note.

B Climate and Ecological Emergency

Cllr Fletcher reported as follows -



1. On 29th October I had occasion to write to Highways regarding a serious problem of mud on the A388 north of Hatt. The mud was at the point where the access is to the cattle holding sheds and proposed new slurry tank on the west side of the road.

Further deposits were opposite another gateway on the east side of the carriage way from a recently ploughed field. The coating of mud was evident all along the road as far as Leigh Lane. Similar problems were being experienced by residents transiting Villaton Lane.

I updated Highways about a further problem on the same stretch of the A388 in mid-November.

Highways say they have liaised with the landowner, have placed some temporary warning signs on the verges, claim that the landowner has made some attempt to clean the highway and that they will continue to monitor the situation on an ad hoc basis.

The 1980 Highways Act makes it an offence to deposit materials on the road that would interrupt other users of the highway, and that should the person concerned not clean the highway, the local authority has the power to clean the highway and recover the cost from the offender.

I propose to reply to Highways on the Parish Council's behalf saying that we are not convinced the landowner is taking the necessary steps to address this issue, and that we expect to see an end to or marked improvement in the cleanliness of the highway at both locations.

2. **Community Area Partnership Climate and Ecological Network.**

I attended this meeting on 15th November, where a presentation was given by Clare Moody of Cornwall Low Carbon Energy Advice Network. She described the work of the network on providing advice about saving on heating your home. The presentation has been uploaded to Hatt Chat and Botus Banter Facebook page. There is a link to book a free retrofit advice home visit.

<https://cep.org.uk/futureproof-your-home/contact-low-carbon-team/>

A representative from Millbrook Parish Council shared how they had received wildflower seeds from Highways and benefitted from a more nature friendly mowing regime like that proposed by BFPC for our roundabout that was rejected. I asked that the Network chair use her good offices to request that the Millbrook initiative could be more widely implemented.

3. **Nature Recovery Consultation.**

There is currently an invitation to participate in a consultation regarding Cornwall's updated Nature Recovery Strategy until 6th January 2025. See link below.

<https://letstalk.cornwall.gov.uk/ciosnaturerecovery>



4. Ash Dieback.

No action yet on the trees along the Bicton Lane.

Cllr Fletcher has requested resident Mr Wayne John to share with the Public Meeting 22nd January 2025, the progress on the project to attract swifts to nest in Botus Fleming.

This was noted and agreed.

Councillors **Resolved** to note this report.

C BOTHER

Cllr Ellis advised that Margaret Matthews (BOTHER) had provided the following update regarding the Group -

Dear Chair and Councillors,

I'm writing to inform you that, with regret, and after consulting Malcolm and Mervyn, I'd like to pronounce BOTHER defunct. The group has been entirely unsuccessful in attracting new members, despite more than one appeal, and at the same time the original group, which was always small, dwindled. Our focus shrank accordingly to that of a single issue: the campaign for a walk-cycleway from our parish to Carkeel, and I think that we have now taken that as far as we can. The ball is now in the court of Cornwall Council, who will hopefully incorporate the structures necessary to facilitate such a path when they redesign the area around Roods Corner, and eventually construct it when the pressure on public finances eases.

We would like to thank BFPC for their valuable support for that project, and to suggest that the cycle/walkway replaces BOTHER as a standing item on the agenda, in case CC needs further prompting in future. Meanwhile I am personally willing to take on any related task which councillors may from time to time identify as useful, such as correspondence or information gathering.

Thank you again,

Best wishes

Margaret Matthews

As a result of the above update, the cycle/walkway topic would be included in the (CEE) report in future. Councillors noted and agreed. The Clerk pointed out that the BOTHER budget would be retained for the time being and into 2025 / 2026.

Councillors **Resolved** to note this report.

1485 Clerk's items

The Meetings schedule for 2025 had been circulated to all Councillors, posted to the Notice boards and the Council website www.botusfleming.org.uk



The Council Tax precept calculator had been circulated to all Councillors, ahead of the Budget & Precept briefing note.

Duchy Defibrillators are offering 'Bleed Kit' packages. Councillors felt that the purchase of the packs, on-going maintenance and replenishment costs were cost prohibitive to the Council, and that the packs were mainly intended for larger Town Councils.

Councillors **Resolved** to note.

1486 Correspondence

A resident had written to the Parish Council in respect to Planning Application PA19/05565 (Heckberry Barn) pointing out that a section of hedge on the land adjacent to Heckberry Barn had been removed and the entrance to the field tarmacked over.

Councillors noted that whilst the original Planning Application had been rejected by the Parish Council and subsequently the Cornwall Planning Department, the Application had, under appeal, had been successful. The Clerk had written to the resident advising of the appeal situation and hence the commencement of redevelopment works along Vollards Lane.

Councillors **Resolved** to note.

1487 Date of next meeting

Cllr Edwards (Chairman) mentioned that several of the Councillors would probably be unavailable to attend the next planned Public Meeting on 18th December 2024, and as it was in such proximity to this meeting 27th November 2024, he proposed that the meeting on the 18th of December 2024 might be cancelled. This was seconded by Cllr Smith. All agreed and it was **Resolved** to have the next meeting on Wednesday 22nd January 2025 (see Schedule of Meetings for 2025).

The next Meeting of the Council will be the **Public Meeting** on **Wednesday 22nd January 2025** 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.

1488 End of meeting 20:25

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Signed
(Chairman)

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Date