MEVAGISSEY PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at the Mevagissey Activity Centre

On Thursday 22 August 2024 at 7pm

Present Cllrs. M Facey (Vice-Chairman), G Barham, L Burdett, J Gann, K Prynn, G Shephard, J Whatty,

G Williams.

In Attendance P Howson (Clerk to the Council), 1 member of the public.

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*UNRATIFIED UNLESS SIGNED*

1. Apologies for absence had been received from Cllrs. Roberts (Chairman), Brown, Simpson, Morgan, and Mustoe (Ward Member). Cllr. Facey took the Chair and, on behalf of the Council, wished Cllr. Roberts a speedy recovery.

2. There were no Declarations of Interest or Gifts.

3. Public participation. No member of the public wished to speak.

4. Proposed by Cllr. Shephard, Seconded by Cllr. Prynn that the minutes of the meeting held on 18 July 2024 be accepted. Carried.

5. Proposed by Cllr. Prynn, Seconded by Cllr. Shephard that the minutes of the planning meeting held on 19 July 2024 be accepted. Carried.

6. The Clerk reported that:

* Cllr. Williams had resigned from the Climate Emergency Working Group;
* The monthly update from Ocean Housing on the outstanding issues from the October site meeting had been forwarded to the Housing Working Group;
* Regarding the proposed limit of the 20mph zone on Valley Road, Cornwall Council (CC) Highways had confirmed that traffic calming measures might include 'build outs' and 'cushions' but not the 'dragons teeth' which are currently there;
* An intention notice had been received for the closure of School Hill between Penlee and Pencarrow between 26 October and 3 November between 7.30 am and 6pm, weekends included, for sewer connection work at Pencarrow. Pedestrian and vehicular access would be maintained to properties;
* An intention notice had been received for the closure of Fore Street between nos. 14 (Cofro) and 18 (The Cake Hole) between 11 November and 19 November, 24 hours including weekends, for the undergrounding of service cables by National Grid. Pedestrian access would be maintained to properties;
* He had written to Noah Law MP with details of the Council’s main concerns and a meeting had been arranged for 13 September.
* The external auditor (BDO LLP) had given the Council a ‘clean bill of health’ and their report would be presented for acceptance by the Council at the next meeting.

7. In the Ward Member's absence the Clerk read out his monthly report which can be seen on the Council’s website.

8. To approve the monthly finances.

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| Bills to Pay | Seasonal attendants at PCs 29/07/24 - 04/08/24 (paid) | £ | 823.68 |  |  |
|  | Seasonal attendants at PCs 05/08/24 - 11/08/24 (paid) | £ | 640.64 |  |  |
|  | Clerk's training (paid) | £ | 36.00 |  |  |
|  | Room hire June (paid) | £ | 68.70 |  |  |
|  | Room hire July (paid) | £ | 68.70 |  |  |
|  | Valley Rd PC electricity 02/07/24 - 01/08/24 (paid) | £ | 49.50 |  |  |
|  | West Wharf PC electricity 02/07/24 - 01/08/24 (paid) | £ | 52.59 |  |  |
|  | West Wharf PC water 03/07/24 - 01/08/24 (paid) | £ | 180.32 |  |  |
|  | Valley Rd PC water 03/07/24 - 01/08/24 (paid) | £ | 384.53 |  |  |
|  | Seasonal attendants at PCs 12/08/24 - 18/08/24 (paid) | £ | 640.64 |  |  |
|  | July staff costs | £ | 1,697.24 |  |  |
|  | Service bottle bank 18/07/24 | £ | 226.80 |  |  |
|  | Service seasonal litter bins 22/07/24 - 29/07/24 | £ | 185.76 |  |  |
|  | Operate West Wharf PC August 2024 | £ | 1,407.88 |  |  |
|  | Operate Valley Road PC August 2024 | £ | 1,432.89 |  |  |
|  | IT support August 2024 | £ | 54.86 |  |  |
|  | West Wharf PC hygiene services 08/09/24 - 07/12/24 | £ | 374.72 |  |  |
|  | TOTAL | £ | 8,325.45 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Accounts | Amount available to spend as of last meeting | £ | 130,792.87 |  |  |
|  | Expenditure last month | £ | 6,573.13 |  |  |
|  | plus Seasonal litter bins 01-15/07/24 | £ | 278.64 |  |  |
|  | Councillor training | £ | 36.00 |  |  |
|  | Mevagissey Activity Centre (grant for remote locks & CCTV) | £ | 2,500.00 |  |  |
|  | Mevagissey Activity Centre (grant to cover 3 month shortfall) | £ | 4,500.00 |  |  |
|  | Mevagissey FC (grant for pitch cutting 2024/25) | £ | 1,125.00 |  |  |
|  | Seasonal attendants at public conveniences 22-28/07/24 | £ | 572.00 |  |  |
|  | West Wharf PC card reader receipts (net) | £ | 502.66 |  | Received |
|  | West Wharf PC cash receipts | £ | 890.00 |  | Received |
|  | Available to spend | £ | 116,600.76 |  |  |
|  | Bank Statements (30/07/2024) |  |  |  |  |
|  | Current Account |  |  | £ | 91.97 |
|  | Deposit Account |  |  | £ | 116,508.79 |
|  | TOTAL |  |  | £ | 116,600.76 |

Proposed by Cllr. Prynn, Seconded by Cllr. Shephard that the accounts be accepted and the bills paid. Carried.

9. Cllr. Facey reported that there had been a spate of toilet roll thefts from the public toilets; that six advertising spaces had been sold; and that the wall in front of the West Wharf block had suffered damage from vehicle impact, for which an estimate of repair costs was awaited.

10. Cllr Gann reported that the questionnaire for the Housing Working Group’s housing survey had been put into an online user-friendly format by Cllr. Brown and would be circulated to members for feedback after the holiday period.

11. Cllr. Burdet presented his report from the Climate Emergency Working Group:

* Helped Mevagissey School to arrange a ‘Climate change and farming’ workshop with Cornwall Climate Care in preparation for the next school term. This workshop will link with the school’s Spring 2 Geography topic where they will be covering arable and pastoral farming and its impacts of the landscape and environment;
* Facebook post on behalf of Forest for Cornwall for people to let them know if they’re interested in planting single trees, hedges, orchards etc (funding is available), all linked-in to contacting our Tree warden for advice on planting locations & maintenance plans within the parish etc;
* Met with Luci Isaacson, director of Climate Vision who is starting the Climate Resilient Mevagissey Project (£280,000 project to naturally manage fluvial flooding), and promoted her “active listening” campaign on our FaceBook; informal drop-in events at Ship Inn & She Sells. Resulted in her getting 6 leads for further interviews. Agreement to promote her more formal events over the next few months;
* Feast week committee respectfully declined the opportunity to collaborate with us on assessment report of Feast week firework finale show v’s laser light show;
* Tree Warden - Traditional Hedge Laying – PC funded £500 of £700 required - Struggling to find grant for the remaining £200 funding required for activity (opportunity to learn new skills, make friends & benefit the environment). One final request submitted & waiting to hear back. This project is in some doubt due to the lack of funding. Also needs first aider (more on that next);
* Tree Warden - Withy cutting and Obelisk making event - to learn about this traditional craft of making structures using withies, with willow being a renewable/sustainable resource. Includes planting new willows. Experienced trainer in mind at no cost. First aider needed. Potential Heligan alternative exists too;
* First aider course options: Around £300 for one person to attend a one day course with St John Ambulance in St Austell or £1000 (+ MAC room hire) for a training company to run a course in Meva for 10/12 people could be offered to members of the parish at a third of the price. Paul Mason (tree warden) would be the attendee. Cert valid 3 years according to Paul.

12. Cllr. Shephard, reporting for the Asset Working Group, thanked Cllr. Williams for his work on Risk Assessments (RAs) and other members who had written RAs for their own areas. All RAs and associated documents were now complete. He suggested that the Group should continue in order to provide support for the devolution package being negotiated, and that the RAs should be reviewed in January or February next year in advance of the Council elections.

Proposed by Cllr. Shephard, Seconded by Cllr. Gann that the RAs be approved and placed under formal management. Carried.

13. Cllr. Facey reported that the provision of seasonal litter bins had raised no issues this month, and the current capacity was still sufficient.

14. To review the decision to allow a commercial waste bin to be sited alongside the seasonal litter bins in the River Street car park. Cllr. Facey reported no issues and this will be reviewed again next month.

15. The Ward Member’s monthly report included feedback from the meeting with the Highways Manager, including revised signage limiting the size of goods vehicles, and the siting of a pedestrian crossing on Valley Road. Proposals from the Highways Manager are awaited.

16. Proposed by Cllr. Shephard, Seconded by Cllr. Gann that last month’s proposal to start negotiations for the transfer to the Parish Council of the Mevagissey Activity Centre and all the associated land should be ratified. Carried.

17. It was noted that the details of service level agreements (SLAs) on existing contracts requested from CC’s devolution officer were still awaited. Cllr. Gann said that if CC maintained their assets to a satisfactory standard, then the income from the River Street car park would probably balance the required expenditure. Cllr. Shephard said that the current offer from CC was unattractive and should not be agreed to in its current form. Proposed by Cllr. Gann, Seconded by Cllr. Shephard that Cormac should be asked what they would charge the Council to provide services directly under the current SLAs. Carried.

18. Cllr. Simpson had reported that the ‘Speak Cornish’ working group had yet to meet owing to the holiday high season, but hoped to provide a preliminary update at the next meeting.

19. Following direction by the Clerk, the proposal by Cllr. Burdett to rename the Climate Emergency Working Group to the Climate Action Working Group was not pursued.

20. Proposed by Cllr. Gann, Seconded by Cllr. Barham that the sum of £1,000 be granted to St. Peter’s Church to be put towards the cost of repairs and refurbishment of the church building, under the power granted by LGA 1972 s 137.

Carried.

21. To consider what action might be taken to address the ongoing issue of intimidation of residents of School Hill (Cllr. Shephard). Proposed by Cllr. Prynn, Seconded by Cllr. Shephard that LiveWest should be asked to provide details of their policies for managing difficult tenants and disputes between tenants, and should be asked to meet the Council to discuss the issues. Carried.

22. The meeting ended at 8.25 pm. Date of next meeting: 19 September 2024.

Signed ......................................................................................... Dated ....................................