MEVAGISSEY PARISH COUNCIL

[mevagissey-pc.gov.uk](http://mevagisseyparishcouncil.co.uk/)

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

On Thursday 19 September 2024 at 7pm

Present Cllrs. M Roberts (Chairman), G Barham, L Burdett, J Gann, J Morgan, K Prynn, G Shephard, P Simpson,

J Whatty.

In Attendance Cornwall Cllr. J Mustoe (Ward Member), Luci Isaacson (Climate Vision), 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 Cllr. Facey (Vice-Chairman).

2. There were no Declarations of Interest or Gifts.

3. Luci Isaacson of Climate Vision presented the next steps for the Tackling Climate Change Project, Herbal Ley and the new Natural Flood Management (NFM) project. Luci gave a brief overview of this project document: <https://climatevision.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/TCC-Project-Report-2024-1.pdf> ; asked members to put this date in their diary: Climate Resilient Meva Project Launch on 28 November, 7pm – 8.30 pm in the Main Hall of the Mevagissey Activity Centre; and invited everyone living or working in Mevagissey to complete the 8 minute survey (which leads to an event invitation with a pasty supper) at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ResilientMeva>

4. Public participation. No members of the public wished to address the Council.

5. Proposed by Cllr. Prynn, Seconded by Cllr. Shephard that the minutes of the meeting held on 22 August 2024 be accepted. Carried.

6. Proposed by Cllr. Burdett, Seconded by Cllr. Shephard that the minutes of the planning meeting held on 23 August 2024 be accepted. Carried.

7. The Clerk reported that:

* Ann Trevarton (Cormac - Environment, Operations & Asset Manager) will be responding by the end of the month with a complete breakdown of service levels and what they would charge for services provided directly to the Council. They are only contracted to do grass cutting now because there is no money for plant beds, etc;
* Thanks had been received from St Peter's PCC for the grant awarded towards the cost of repairs and refurbishment;
* Copies of the tenancy management policy and anti-social behaviour policy had been received from LiveWest and circulated to members with a suggested time for a meeting, but nothing had been arranged due to a lack of response;
* Negotiations for transfer of the MAC had been requested, and Scott Sharples (CC Devolution Officer) had said they are taking soundings from service colleagues on that and will report back once received;
* The Old Chapel was being marketed, but Scott Sharples had said it is still on the table for a devolution package;
* Ocean Housing's monthly update had been forwarded to the Housing Working Group (WG);
* A virtual meeting with the Cormac Infrastructure Group re. B3273 speed reduction had been arranged for 3pm on Wednesday 25th September;
* Notes from last Friday’s meeting with Noah Law MP had been circulated.

8. The Ward Member presented his report which can be seen on the Council’s website.

9. To approve the monthly finances.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Bills to Pay | Seasonal attendants at PCs 02/09/24 - 08/09/24 (paid) | £ | 640.64 |  |  |
|  | Valley Rd PC electricity 02/08/24 - 01/09/24 (paid) | £ | 55.33 |  |  |
|  | West Wharf PC electricity 02/08/24 - 01/09/24 (paid) | £ | 54.83 |  |  |
|  | West Wharf PC water 02/08/24 - 02/09/24 (paid) | £ | 243.76 |  |  |
|  | Valley Rd PC water 02/08/24 - 02/09/24 (paid) | £ | 557.82 |  |  |
|  | Valley Rd PC hygiene services 29/09/24 - 28/12/24 | £ | 315.82 |  |  |
|  | August staff costs | £ | 1,697.24 |  |  |
|  | IT support September 2024 | £ | 54.86 |  |  |
|  | Service seasonal litter bins 19-26/08/24 | £ | 306.83 |  |  |
|  | Service bottle bank 09/08/24 | £ | 208.80 |  |  |
|  | Meeting room hire 13/09/24 | £ | 30.00 |  |  |
|  | Operate West Wharf PC September 2024 | £ | 1,407.88 |  |  |
|  | Operate Valley Road PC September 2024 | £ | 1,432.89 |  |  |
|  | Office costs (printing) | £ | 38.63 |  |  |
|  | TOTAL | £ | 7,045.33 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Accounts | Amount available to spend as of last meeting | £ | 116,600.76 |  |  |
|  | Expenditure last month | £ | 8,325.45 |  |  |
|  | plus Seasonal litter bins 05-12/08/24 | £ | 185.76 |  |  |
|  | Seasonal attendants at public conveniences 19-25/08/24 | £ | 640.64 |  |  |
|  | External audit fee | £ | 504.00 |  |  |
|  | St Peter's PCC (grant) | £ | 1,000.00 |  |  |
|  | Seasonal attendants at public conveniences 26/08/24 - 01/09/24 | £ | 640.64 |  |  |
|  | Inland foopaths (2nd cut) | £ | 529.73 |  |  |
|  | Meeting room hire August | £ | 75.00 |  |  |
|  | West Wharf PC card reader receipts (net) | £ | 710.51 |  | Received |
|  | West Wharf PC cash receipts | £ | 1,020.00 |  | Received |
|  | Available to spend | £ | 106,430.05 |  |  |
|  | Bank Statements (31/08/2024) |  |  |  |  |
|  | Current Account |  |  | £ | 590.75 |
|  | Deposit Account |  |  | £ | 105,839.30 |
|  | TOTAL |  |  | £ | 106,430.05 |

Proposed by Cllr. Shephard, Seconded by Cllr. Prynn that the monthly finances be approved. Carried.

10. Proposed by Cllr. Whatty, Seconded by Cllr. Morgan that the External Auditor’s report be accepted. Carried.

11. The Chairman reported on Cllr. Facey’s behalf that there were no issues with the operation of the public conveniences other than the usual low-level vandalism and pilfering of toilet paper.

12. Cllr. Gann presented his report from the Housing WG:

* The online questionnaire for all residents of Mevagissey Parish were being put on social media and on the Council’s website and members were asked to encourage as many people as possible to complete this within the next month;
* Cllr. Brown had attended a Cornwall Council meeting where questions to Members of the Cabinet were answered. Cllr Ollie Monk was advising that Cornwall Council “still have money to build houses….. and have purchased 50 houses on the open market across the county and have money to buy more.” He suggested that Cllr. Monk be invited to Mevagissey to look at potential houses to purchase in the Parish;
* Ocean Housing continues to provide updates on the various issues around the Parish, but progress is painfully slow.

12a. Proposed by Cllr. Gann, Seconded by Cllr. Barham that Cllr. Gann should draft a letter to Cllr. Monk as suggested.

Carried.

12b. Proposed by Cllr. Barham, Seconded by Cllr. Prynn that a meeting with David Hooper of Ocean Housing should be requested, with agenda items to be advised. Carried.

13. Cllr. Burdett presented his report from the Climate Emergency WG:

* Climate Resilient Mevagissey – Survey FB post at request of Luci Isaacson, director of Climate Vision, who's running the Climate Resilient Mevagissey Project (same survey she sent to all us Clls), before her launch event in the late Autumn.
* Revised topic of next “ask an expert” to Community Energy & Planning Law. Await dates from Stephen Scown (will likely seek budgeted spend approval for refreshments & any other costs to next meeting, once date known).
* Seeking resolution to approve budgeted spend of £108 on a ‘Cornwall training’ provided 1 day ‘Emergency First Aid’ course for our Tree Warden Paul - which would cover Paul for the hedge laying course. Cost is less than half the price of St. Johns (£228), and less than Cllr Facey’s recommended £300 (3 day) course as view point diving cornwall (This will take your related overall approved spend to £608, and hopefully cover most if not all without need for any other grants).
* Issue of Insurance for hedge laying course. Both the funding body and Cornwall Council require all participants to be covered by insurance before they can agree to the activity/fund the activity. Tree warden & public confirmed by Clerk as not covered by PC insurance, and it be temp extended for this specific event? – If so, seeking approval for Insurance cost (or at least for quote of costs).
  + Note: National Tree Week (a Tree Council event) is at the end of Nov. beginning of Dec. so hedge laying event date would be around then.
* Progress has been made by Tree Warden regarding the memorial trees (in valley Road recreation park), located correct Heather Cox & has had walk & talk around the park to discuss maintenance, but has hit a sticking point over approvals. With Cllr James M’s help he’s speaking with Rebecca Dickinson of Cormac in hope of sort this out.

o Note: Same approvals could hopefully be used for Tree wardens willow tree planting idea, along the stream bank in the same park (this could be future Meva primary “school link” family friendly event - TBC)

* At request of tree warden – raised the possibility of a “Footpaths officer” / warden, in relation to overgrown hedges, blocking footpaths, at a time when our group is encouraging walking (inc. recent walking to school). Acknowledged that officially this is a Cornwall Country Council (CC) matter, as their legal duty to inspect and maintain. Cllr Burdett has also raised specific issues with Cllr James M in the past when overgrown hedge on school hill was reported to him by parent with pushchair, which he helped resolved. Alternatively, we (climate group) could become a focal point for footpath issues which we can follow up and report to Cllr. Mustoe? (discuss how would be advertise this – PC & Climate website?)

[Note: the Clerk has confirmed that volunteers involved in activities approved by the Council are covered by the Council’s insurance).

13a. Proposed by Cllr. Barham, Seconded by Cllr. Gann that the spending of £108 on a first-aid course provided by Cornwall Training be approved. Carried.

14. Cllr. Shephard said that CC assets to be included in any devolution package should be risk assessed as soon as possible.

15. Cllr. Gann reported that two collections per week of the seasonal litter bins had been requested but the supplier was unable to provide more than one, so problems from over-filling were being dealt with as they arose.

16. 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. Gann reported no issues and this will be reviewed again next month.

17. To receive an update on negotiations for a devolution package.

A report had just been received from Scott Sharples but it did not include a lot of detail. It was noted that the battery and areas around it should be added to the asset list. Scott will be asked to add these areas and advised that Cormac has been asked to provide contract details (see Clerk’s report above). A further meeting will then be arranged.

18. The Council’s Safeguarding Policy was reviewed. Proposed by Cllr. Shephard, Seconded by Cllr. Morgan that the Safeguarding Policy requires no amendments. Carried.

19. Proposed by Cllr. Shephard, Seconded by Cllr. Whatty that the Council is satisfied with Cornwall Council’s Code of Conduct Review and no response is required. Carried.

20. Cllr. Simpson reported that the Speak Cornish WG comprises himself and Cllrs. Whatty and Facey. They are gauging local opinion prior to considering options and will report at the next meeting.

21. To consider whether the current provision of dog waste bins is sufficient. This was prompted by a report of waste bags being abandoned along the multi-use trail by the football field. It was noted that this is the responsibility of Sustrans, who have a contract with Cormac, and that Cormac should be asked to provide a solution. Also, the locations of existing bins in the parish will be confirmed and the Council will consider at the next meeting whether more are required.

22. Cllr. Burdett questioned whether the Council’s current General Privacy Notice is adequate for GDPR compliance, and his concerns will be investigated. He was also concerned about security of the Council’s data, and Cllr. Whatty will discuss this with the Council’s IT Support Provider.

23. Cllr. Gann reported that Alex Williams is working on a new website to promote businesses / events in the parish.

This is a commercial enterprise and there will be a cost for those advertising. A public meeting to discuss the challenges and possible actions will be held on Monday 11th November at the Mevagissey Social Club Function Room, time to be confirmed. The meeting will feature Visionary Insights from Visit Cornwall, Mevagissey Marketing, and Expert Business Mentors.

24. The meeting ended at 9pm. Date of next meeting: 17 October 2024.

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