

At a future meeting the Council will consider the accuracy of these minutes, so they may be subject to change. Please check the minutes to that meeting to confirm whether or not they have been amended.

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF FOWEY TOWN COUNCIL
ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON MONDAY 2nd MARCH
AT FOWEY TOWN HALL @ 11.30am.**

Minutes taken by Cllr Mrs Frances Day

Present: Cllr Mrs Lynn Simms (Chair), Cllr Mrs Rhianna Cooke, Cllr Mrs Frances Day, and Cllr Mrs Ruth Finlay.

1} **To receive apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Patrick Hughes and Cllr Scott Griffin.

2} **Declarations of interest**

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|---------------------------|--|
| (a) Pecuniary: | None |
| (b) Non pecuniary: | None |
| (c) Dispensations: | A dispensation had been extended to Cllr Finlay to participate in any discussion pertaining to the Fowey allotments. |

3} **Public Participation/Questions**

There were none.

4} **Minutes of the meeting held on 4th November 2019**

It was proposed by Cllr Cooke, seconded by Cllr Finlay and RESOLVED that the Minutes of the previous meeting be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

5} **Matters arising from the Minutes not on the Agenda**

There were no matters arising.

6} **To receive the report of the Tree Warden (Cllr Day)**

Cllr Day reported: It is good news that Cornwall Council inspected the Monterey Pines at Fowey Hall and found them to be in reasonable health and not an immediate danger to the public. Thanks to Cornwall Councillor Andy Virr for arranging the inspection so quickly after the concerns expressed at the January Council meeting. Fowey Hall does have its own programme of inspecting the trees, which is reassuring. The Forest for Cornwall, conceived by Cornwall Council, is an ambitious tree planting project with the principal aim of fighting climate change. When complete it should cover approximately 8,000 hectares - that's about 2% of Cornwall's land area. The Forest for Cornwall is not a single area of new forest, but in different areas throughout the Duchy.

7} **Specific areas of responsibility**

Reports on the following specific areas of responsibility were received as follows:

- Old Grammar School Gardens: Cllr Finlay:* Cllrs Finlay and Simms had visited the neighbours to discuss the poor state of the wall between their garden and the Old Grammar School Gardens. It had been agreed that a large ivy in the neighbouring garden would be removed. Peter Underwood had been asked to examine the wall and had recommended its replacement. It was thought the cost of this work would be in the region of £1,500 and commissioning the work was therefore deferred to the next financial year, although it was thought the work should be carried out as soon as possible. The metal donations box was showing signs of wear and tear, and Paul Finlay would be asked to see if its condition could be improved. The efforts of Gwen Cussans, who lives in the property the other side of the gardens, in emptying the box and banking the contents, were much appreciated.

- *Piggy Lane Triangle: Cllr Finlay:* Gardener Sally Pearce had planted lots of bulbs there, which were looking good. Cornwall Council had planted an oak tree at Piggy Lane, but it had died. Cllr Day would contact them to ask if they would consider replacing it.
- *Pretty Bus Stop:* No update available.
- *Allotments: Cllr Finlay:* Bee-keeper Peter Hunt would visit the allotments on 6th March to show those interested how to set up a hive. It was hoped some bee-hives might be set up at the allotments and some bee-boxes at Squires Field. A walk-about would be held on 20th March, and the AGM for the Allotments Association on 26th March.
- *Fowey in Bloom: Cllr Day:* Dates of events for the coming season:
- Tuesday 14th April @ 2.00pm: Annual General Meeting at Squires Field.
- Wednesday 6th May from 11.00am Plant Sale, 29 Tower Park, Fowey
- Saturday 23rd May from 10am - 12: Coffee morning at Royal British Legion
- Friday 17th July: Garden Competition Judgment day, with Sharon Moses from Radio Cornwall's Garden Line as this year's Judge.
- *Local maintenance partnership: Cllr Finlay:* This was care of the local footpaths. Lanhydrock Garden Services would continue to maintain them at an agreed annual cost of £544.
- *Agency agreements, weed killing/grass cutting: Cllr Finlay:* Also to be maintained by Lanhydrock Garden Services, bearing in mind the Committee's wish to find greener solutions to controlling weeds.
- *Squires Field green areas/children's playground: Cllr Cooke:* Andy Harper from Playground Solutions had quoted for ongoing maintenance, and a quote had been requested from Cormac. Cllr Cooke would chase them up.

8} **Squires Field Playground**

A meeting at Squires Field to canvass public opinion on the future of the upper playground had been well attended. The most popular option was a pump track. Much enthusiasm had been expressed, but expectations must be managed as the expenditure required to deliver the preferred solutions would be considerable. The Working Party currently consisted of Cllrs Simms, Cooke and Finlay. It was felt this should be expanded and Luke Pascoe, Karen Taylor, Stephen Miller and Heather Hunt would be asked if they would join. Heather Hunt had been instrumental in obtaining grants for the Squires Field Community Centre, and her expertise in seeking funding for the playground would be invaluable. Regrettably, the Junior Football Club would close in June and the future of the Pavilion would need to be considered, perhaps by moving the Library there.

9} **Environmental Growth Plan**

Cllr Simms circulated a document entitled *Climate Emergency - What next?* compiled by Gary King from St Austell Council. This was a very comprehensive document, outlining a wide range of possible initiatives to combat climate change. A number of Councils had already declared states of climate emergency. It was proposed by Cllr Simms, seconded by Cllr Finlay and RESOLVED that a Working Party on climate change be set up. Tim Jones from Community Energy and Tasha Davies from Cornwall Council would attend the Annual Parish Meeting on 15th April. Tim Jones would speak about fuel poverty.

10} **Budget**

A budget for 2020-21 of £20,236 had been approved for the Environment Committee. This was up from £8,500 the previous year, and reflected the addition of Squires Field, including the playground but excluding the car park, to the responsibilities of the Committee. Specific expenditure items included: OGS/Piggy Lane: £1,410, footpaths: £544.60, grass cutting: £2,320, weed killing: £1,410. Squires Field: £10,641.44 (£2531.93 for The playground £8,109.51 Cormac). The total bill was £16,326.04 so far. There was a further bill expected for grass cutting from LGS.

11} **To receive reports from members**

There were no reports from members.

12} **Proposed dates of next meeting**

Monday 6th April 2020 @ 11.30am.

There being no further business, the meeting closed @ 12.30.

