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**MINUTES OF A REMOTE MEETING OF FOWEY TOWN COUNCIL
ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE HELD VIA ZOOM ON
THURSDAY 13th AUGUST @ 9.00am.**

Minutes taken by Cllr Mrs Frances Day

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

1} **To receive apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Mrs Rhianna Cooke.

Cllr Scott Griffin and Cllr Patrick Hughes did not attend the meeting.

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 8th June 2020**

It was proposed by Cllr Finlay seconded by Cllr Simms 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)**

The pruning/pollarding of the trees along the Parade had been approved. Cllr Simms had contacted the Fowey Schools and they had expressed interest in planting more trees in their surroundings. The pre-application for Fowey Hall includes removal of many of the Monterey pines which although beautiful, are aged and had shed branches in recent storms. A meeting to discuss the pre-application would take place shortly.

7} **Specific areas of responsibility**

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

- *Old Grammar School Gardens:* Cllr Finlay: The wall at the bottom on the left hand side still needed replacing. The vegetation on the cliff edge needed considerable pruning. During lockdown, gardener Sally Pearce had found evidence of human waste in the area, and also at Piggy Lane. Cllr Finlay had instructed her not to dispose of it. However, the official procedure would be to report fly tipping which was not thought to be a satisfactory solution.
- *Piggy Lane Triangle:* Cllr Finlay: Gardener Sally was keeping the area in good order and carrying out safety checks regularly both here and at the Old Grammar School Gardens.
- *Pretty Bus Stop:* During lockdown, much of the foliage had been cut down and the waste left in the area. This would need to be properly removed.
- *Allotments:* Cllr Finlay: Much activity during lockdown. Stone chippings had been laid to repair the track.

- *Fowey in Bloom: Cllr Day:* The Garden Competition had had to be postponed due to the covid health and safety requirements. The team were maintaining the flower beds and pots and tubs around the Town and much appreciation had been expressed by passers-by.
- *Local maintenance partnership (footpaths): Cllr Finlay:* The footpaths had become very overgrown due to the spring weather, but had now been trimmed.
- *Agency agreements, weed killing/grass cutting: Cllr Finlay:* This was being carried out by Lanhydrock Garden Services and to date the Council had paid £580 for grass cutting.
- *Squires Field green areas/children's playground:* A report had been received from Cllr Cooke. The playground had now reopened with the appropriate signage. Ragwort had been removed and a litter pick had taken place. The fence had been repaired. It was good that both adults and children were using the playground responsibly. Cllr Cooke had reported that outstanding repairs were not considered dangerous. Cllr Finlay mentioned that Cornwall Council would be removing the recycling bins at Squires Field on 24th August. The reason for this was misuse, but it was feared that fly tipping may result.

8} **Budget 2020/21**

- *To review expenditure to date against budget:* There was little excess in the current budget. However:
- A quotation had been received from landscaper John Truscott to repair the wall in the Old Grammar School Garden for £700. It was proposed by Cllr Finlay, seconded by Cllr Day and RESOLVED that this quotation be accepted.
- A further quotation had been received from John Truscott to trim back the vegetation on the cliff edge for £150. It was proposed by Cllr Finlay, seconded by Cllr Day and RESOLVED that this quotation also be accepted.
- Lanhydrock Garden Services had quoted £636 to remove the bamboo causing problems at Hill Hay. It was proposed by Cllr Simms, seconded by Cllr Finlay and RESOLVED that this quotation be accepted. But there was not sufficient wherewithal in the current budget to cover this expenditure, and it was further proposed by Cllr Simms, seconded by Cllr Day and RESOLVED that the Finance Committee be asked to agree extra funding to finance this work. It was understood that the Town Clerk had been reassured by the residents concerned that once the Town Council had dealt with the bamboo, they would then remove the adjacent bamboo in their gardens and to take steps to ensure it does not come back.

9} **Environmental Growth Plan**

Both Fowey Schools had agreed to Cllr Simms' offer to supply trees from the Woodland Trust for their outside areas. Cllr Simms would follow this up once the Schools were back. It was good news that the Forum had undertaken to renovate benches around the Town. Some work had taken place on Lostwithiel Gardens at the top of Lostwithiel Street during lockdown, but it was now becoming overgrown once again. Appeals via Fowey News and Facebook were suggested to recruit volunteers to help with this and similar projects under the umbrella of the Environmental Sub Committee. Councillors were asked to bring further ideas to the next meeting.

10} **To receive reports from members**

There were no reports from members.

12} **Proposed dates of next meeting**

Monday 7th September 2020 @ 10.30am, by Zoom if social distancing was still in force at that time.

There being no further business, the meeting closed @ 10.00am.