

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 REMOTE MEETING OF FOWEY TOWN COUNCIL  
ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE HELD VIA ZOOM ON  
MONDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> NOVEMBER @ 10.30am.**

Minutes taken by Cllr Mrs Frances Day

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

1} **To receive apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Patrick Hughes.

2} **Declarations of interest**

- |                           |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| <b>(a) Pecuniary:</b>     | None   |
| <b>(b) Non pecuniary:</b> | None   |
| <b>(c) Dispensations:</b> | 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 7<sup>th</sup> September 2020**

It was proposed by Cllr Finlay seconded by Cllr Cooke 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 stated that there were reports in Cornwall of sweet chestnut trees being under threat from disease. A large ash tree in Polvillion Road, suffering from ash dieback, was due to be felled in the next couple of days. Cllr Finlay had put a notification of the work on Facebook.

7} **Specific areas of responsibility**

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

- *Old Grammar School Gardens:* Cllr Finlay: Neighbours near the Gardens had requested that some Cornish palms be removed. A quote of £400 had been obtained. The neighbours would pay for their removal and replacement with something smaller. It was hoped that this work could be carried out in the near future, to be included in expenditure for this financial year.. A further quote of £200 had been received from John Truscott for repair on the wall on the right hand side of the Gardens, going towards the sea. It was proposed by Cllr Finlay, seconded by Cllr Simms and RESOLVED that this quote should be accepted.
- *Piggy Lane Triangle:* Cllr Finlay: All well.
- *Pretty Bus Stop:* Cllr Hughes: Nothing to report.
- *Allotments:* Cllr Finlay: One allotment had been relinquished, and there was a new allotment holder in place, taken from the waiting list. The Allotments Annual General Meeting would take place that afternoon.
- *Fowey in Bloom:* Cllr Day: Autumn planting had taken place around the Town during October.
- *Local maintenance partnership (footpaths):* Cllr Finlay: Maintenance had taken place as scheduled.

- *Agency agreements, weed killing/grass cutting:* Cllr Finlay: This was being carried out by Lanhydrock Garden Services. It was recognised that the continued use of glyphosphates was problematic, and Cllrs Simms, Finlay and Griffin all offered to seek alternatives.
- *Squires Field green areas/children's playground:* A report had been circulated by Cllr Cooke. Cormac inspected the playground regularly and there were some repairs recommended. New signage was needed to reflect the latest Covid situation, and Cllr Cooke would review the risk assessments accordingly.

## 8} **Risk Assessments**

*Review and sign off all Risk Assessments for submission to the Finance Committee:* Cllr Simms “screen shared” the current risk assessments. She subsequently circulated them to members of the Committee. In addition to Cormac monitoring the playground, gardener Sally Pearce assessed Piggy Lane and the Grammar School Gardens and reported back fortnightly. Cllr Simms would arrange for the risk assessments to be updated for 2021-22 and it was felt little change was needed.

## 9} **Budget 2021/22**

*To review expenditure to date against budget:* It was felt that, on the basis of current expenditure, the budget for the year should not be exceeded.

## 10} **Budget 2020/21**

*To formulate a budget for 2021/22 for submission to the Finance Committee:* Cllr Simms circulated a draft budget for the coming year. Donations to the Old Grammar School Gardens were estimated @ £350. Income from Cornwall Council totalled £1,820. Proposed expenditure totalled £20,543. This included contingency provision for the Old Grammar School Gardens on the boundary wall of £1,000. There was also an amount for landscaping of OGS cliff edge and shrub removal of £500 and a further £500 for ivy removal at the Bus Stop and Whitehouse shelter. Major items were £4,617 for the maintenance schedule at Squires Field, £3,605 for waste management, also at Squires Field, and £4,000 for repairs to the playground. Acceptance of the budget was proposed by Cllr Day, seconded by Cllr Cooke and RESOLVED that it be recommended to the Finance Committee.

## 11} **Environmental Growth Plan**

*To discuss feedback from the NALC's Rebuilding Communities webinar:* Cllr Simms had attend this and found it most useful. She had circulated a report compiled by Friends of the Earth to members. An important point was not to neglect implementation of small steps in trying to improve the environment. Involvement of the Community was vital. A meeting might be convened locally at an appropriate time to get local organisations involved. An alternative solution to the chemical eradication of weeds was desirable, as was the reduction of litter.

## 12} **To receive reports from members**

Cllr Finlay had been contacted by a local resident expressing concern about the removal of a beech tree from the Lostwithiel Gardens. It was not known why this had happened, although the Gardens were the responsibility of Cornwall Council. The Gardens did seem rather neglected despite lockdown activity from some local people. “Guerrilla” gardeners had been operating recently in various areas of Fowey, and the Committee felt it was important that their activities should be monitored and only carried out in liaison with the Council and/or the Forum.

## 13} **Proposed dates of next meeting**

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021 @ 1pm, by Zoom if social distancing was still in force at that time.

There being no further business, the meeting closed @ 11.25am.

