

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 AT FOWEY TOWN HALL ON
MONDAY 1st NOVEMBER @ 6.30pm.**

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, Cllr Scott Griffin and Cllr Patrick Hughes.

1} **To receive apologies for absence**

There were no apologies for absence.

2} **Declarations of interest**

- | | |
|---------------------------|--|
| (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 7th September 2021**

It was proposed by Cllr Hughes 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 reported that trees had grown over the roof of the garage at Squires Field Community Centre and needed cutting back before the roof was damaged. Cllr Simms offered to speak to Cormac to ask them to carry out this work.

7} **Specific areas of responsibility**

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

- *Old Grammar School Gardens:* Cllr Finlay: All well, except the wall at the bottom of the garden would need repair shortly.
- *Piggy Lane Triangle:* Cllr Finlay: There was some subsidence in the stone circle which would need digging out and rectifying in the Spring.
- *Pretty Bus Stop:* Cllr Hughes: This is looking good, and a lot of work had been carried out by the new team.
- *Allotments:* Cllr Finlay: An inspection had been carried out by the Allotments Committee on 23rd October. Some allotments were somewhat neglected and the holders of those plots had not responded to exhortations to improve their maintenance. The Committee was seeking greater powers to sort this out. A plan of the allotments would be displayed at the site to encourage holders to keep their plots in good order. A digger would be used to clear some paths where maintenance responsibilities were not clear. The orchard was doing well.
- *Local maintenance partnership (footpaths):* Cllr Finlay: Maintenance was carried out according to the schedule.
- *Agency agreements, weed killing/grass cutting:* Cllr Finlay: This was being carried out by Lanhydrock Garden Services. It was suggested that for the following year only one lot of weed killing should take place rather than the two previously done.

- *Squires Field green areas:* Cllr Griffin had received complaints about the length of the grass and felt it would be helpful if Cormac could notify the Council every time it was cut. The Council paid for 12 cuts per year. Cllr Simms offered to contact Sandra Crawford of Cormac to ask that the grass be kept to a reasonable length, and to report back on when it had been cut. Grass cutting was paid for as one payment each year, of £3,605. Ground maintenance was paid monthly, and £2,000 had been paid so far year to date.
- *Squires Field children's playground:* Cllr Griffin had removed the defective goal post, which had rotted through at the bottom. Russell would be asked to cut off the damaged parts and see if the post could be put back in situ.

8} **Budget**

Cllr Simms circulated some information about the current budgetary situation. A total of £10,583 had been spent since the financial year began in April. This included £1,692 for Piggy Lane/Grammar School Gardens, £544 for footpaths, £2,088 for grass cutting and £6,257 for Squires Field.

9} **Squires Field Play Area**

Cllr Cooke had obtained a number of quotations for the replacement of the toddler Multi Play Unit. She had consulted Andy Inglefield and looked at other units.

- (i) Andy Inglefield had quoted £188 to repair current defects to the play equipment identified in routine inspections.
- (ii) £944 was the price quoted by Rhino Play for the removal and disposal of the existing Toddler MPU prior to the installation of the new one. Andy Inglefield quoted £390.00 for the same. To purchase and install the Rhino MPU in the lower area would be £7,986 including surface repair. Alternate play equipment of the type required could cost around the same price.

It was proposed by Cllr Cooke, seconded by Cllr Griffin, RESOLVED and unanimously agreed that Andy's quote for £188 (i) above should be recommended, and that the Rhino MPU was the preferred option for the replacement of the toddler MPU. At the September Environment Meeting, the Committee said that they would be able to fund up to £5,600 to replace this unit. Cllr Cooke will prepare a proposal to ask the Finance Committee at the November meeting to approve extra funds for purchase and installation of the Rhino MPU. The setting up of another public consultation and a working group were discussed.

10} **Risk Assessments**

Copies of the current risk assessments were circulated by Cllr Simms. It was proposed by Cllr Hughes, seconded by Cllr Griffin and RESOLVED that these assessments should be carried forward without modification for the next year.

11} **Budget 2022/23**

Cllr Simms circulated a proposed budget for 2022/23. Although it had been agreed to reduce the weed killing to one instance instead of two, alternative use would be found for the sum saved. It was suggested that a further £1,000 should be added for contingencies, to take into account inflation. This would bring the total to £21,440. It was proposed by Cllr Griffin, seconded by Cllr Hughes and RESOLVED that this budget recommendation be submitted to the Finance Committee for approval.

12} **Environmental Growth Plan**

A Climate Action Meeting would be held on 27th November, in the Town Hall, during the Christmas Market weekend. This would give an excellent opportunity for maximum publicity. The local schools were keen to participate. Fowey River Academy would provide poems and artwork to illustrate positive aspects of their climate work. The Friends of Fowey Harbour, Fowey Harbour Commissioners and Edible Fowey would be involved. Information from Exeter University's Climate Action Workshop emphasised the need for positivity. Action already taken, for example the Community Larder, should feature.

13} **Rachael Sculpture**

As the Lime Kiln garden had been found to be unsuitable structurally for the installation of the Rachael sculpture, alternative sites were sought. Caffa Mill and Berrills Yard had been rejected by the Harbourmaster. The Old Grammar School Gardens or Alldays Fields were put forward as possibilities. Cllr Simms would go back to the donor with these suggestions.

14} **HRH The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Wildflower planting**

Wildflower seeds in red, white and blue had been obtained. It was agreed they might be planted along the entrance road to Fowey, near the Tristan Stone. It was accepted that creating the requisite wildflower meadow was not straightforward. Cornwall Councillor Virr had indicated that to plant the seeds on land maintained by Cormac for Cornwall Council would be acceptable. Cllr Day would contact Rebecca Dickson, who dealt with floral matters for Cormac, as there had been an offer from Cormac to assist with ground preparation. Fowey in Bloom would plant their pots in the same celebratory colours next Spring, and it was hoped the troughs on Town Quay would follow too.

15} **To receive Reports from Members**

There were no reports from members.

16} **Proposed date of next meeting**

Thursday 24th February 2022 @ 10.30am in the Town Hall.

There being no further business, the meeting closed @ 8.05pm.