

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  
THURSDAY 24th FEBRUARY 2022 @ 10.30am.**

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 Scott Griffin and 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, although 2 members of the public were in attendance.

4} **Minutes of the meeting held on 1st November 2021**

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 reported that she had recently attended an on line Tree Warden training course. Details had been forward to colleagues on the Council. She had found parts of it extremely useful. A resident had recently requested assistance in obtaining a Tree Preservation Order and Cllr Day had forwarded the appropriate forms to her with a brief explanation of the procedures. There was some concern at several recent applications for the demolition of several trees at Fowey Hall, and these had been referred to Cornwall Council's Tree Officer for detailed appraisal.

7} **Specific areas of responsibility**

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

- *Old Grammar School Gardens:* Cllr Finlay: A new bench had been installed and was looking good. Gardener Sally Pearce regularly assessed the health and safety aspects of the Gardens.
- *Piggy Lane Triangle:* Cllr Finlay: There had been some fall of debris from the wall into the property below. Sally Pearce was monitoring this. There was some subsidence in the stone circle which would need digging out and rectifying in the Spring.
- *Pretty Bus Stop:* This was looking good, and the new team had added more books and magazines and completed a new design.
- *Allotments:* Cllr Finlay: Several allotments had recently changed hands. The maintenance of the public areas was difficult and an additional charge was being considered to keep the paths clear and the grass cut. A notice board had been installed to keep allotment holders up to date with any requirements.
- *Local maintenance partnership (footpaths):* Cllr Finlay: Maintenance was carried out according to the schedule. A grant of £720 from Cornwall Council was paid towards this.

- *Agency agreements, weed killing/grass cutting:* Cllr Finlay: This was being carried out by Lanhydrock Garden Services. It had been suggested that for this year only one lot of weed killing should take place rather than the two previously done.
- *Squires Field green areas and children's playground:* Cllr Cooke: The new Multi Play Unit had been well received and it was pleasing to see a range of different ages of children enjoying it. The gate by the Pavilion was in need of repair and might need replacement. It was agreed to ask Russell if he could fix it for now, as the development of the Pavilion would probably involve a rethink of the space out of the front of the building, at which point it might be worth replacing it for something different. Cllr Cooke had moved a waste bin blown off its hard standing in the recent gales to safety. A working party would be established to discuss the future provision in the play area, and an appeal for participants would be put in *Fowey News*.

#### 8} **Budget**

Cllr Simms circulated some information about the current budgetary situation. It was thought by the end of the year at the end March, the budget would have worked out on target. The total Environment budget for the coming year to the end of March 2022 was £20,387.43. For the year April 2022-March 2023 the budget is £21,440.

#### 9} **Local Maintenance Partnership**

Renewal of the LMP agreements for the coming year was discussed. Details had been circulated to Councillors ahead of the meeting. These included the devolved land and waste collection and cleansing services by Cornwall Council at Squires Field, Cormac maintenance including some grass cutting and the agreement with Lanhydrock Garden Services for grass cutting and weed killing. The Cormac agreement now included an obligation for the Council to report any findings of Japanese Knotweed. It was proposed by Cllr Day, seconded by Cllr Finlay and RESOLVED that all these agreements should be renewed.

#### 10} **Rachael Sculpture**

More options for the siting of the Rachael Sculpture were discussed, as in its present proposed form it was thought to be too large and heavy to be placed with its plinth in the top area of the Old Grammar School Gardens. A smaller version of the sculpture with a lighter base might be possible and Cllr Simms offered to explore this option further. The only alternative would be in the Lime Kiln Garden, but with a smaller statue and plinth than previously proposed. Piggy Lane was considered but was not felt to be suitable.

#### 11) **Footpath from Lower Vicarage Meadow to New Road Hill**

Cllr Simms had been contacted with regard to an application for witnesses in respect of actual use of this footpath in order to ascertain if a public right of way subsists. However, as no formal application had yet been received, it was agreed this could not be considered at this time.

#### 12} **Environmental Growth Plan**

Options for a rewilding project by Lanhydrock Garden Services were discussed. As part of the Platinum Jubilee celebrations it had been agreed to plant wild flowers beside the Tristan Stone. Cllr Simms proposed that with the saving on the reduction in weed killing, a further wild flower area could be established beside the Windmill. When established, insect houses and/or bird boxes might be added. It would be delightful if the schools could be involved in this project.

#### 13} **To receive Reports from Members**

There were no reports from members.

#### 14} **Proposed date of next meeting**

Tuesday 26th April 2022 @ 12.00pm in the Town Hall.

There being no further business, the meeting closed @ 11.30am.

