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**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF FOWEY TOWN COUNCIL
ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE HELD AT FOWEY TOWN HALL ON
MONDAY 20th FEBRUARY 2023 @ 6.00pm.**

Minutes taken by Cllr Mrs Frances Day

Present: Cllr Mrs Lynn Simms (Chair), Cllr John Berryman (ex officio), Cllr Mrs Rhianna Cooke, Cllr Mrs Frances Day, Cllr Mrs Ruth Finlay, Cllr Scott Griffin and Cllr Alan Harris-Guerrero.

In attendance: One member of the public

1} **To receive apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Patrick Hughes.

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 14th November 2022**

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 observed that there was more evidence of work outside the boundary of 2 Saffron Close. Cllr Finlay had not heard back from Cornwall Council concerning a possible breach of planning regulations at this property, when it had been noted that a large tree outside the property's rear fence had been felled.

7} **Specific areas of responsibility**

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

- *Old Grammar School Gardens:* Cllr Finlay: Peter Underwood had cut back the vegetation along the cliff edge for a charge of £200. This would need doing twice a year, and he would be asked to do another cut shortly.
- *Piggy Lane Triangle:* Cllr Finlay: Nothing to report.
- *Pretty Bus Stop:* This was looking good.
- *Allotments:* Cllr Finlay: A member of the public had asked permission to place 2 bee hives at the allotments. There were 2 existing hives, which were in the orchard area, well away from footpaths and the plots. These contained Cornish black bees, which were a very desirable species. The potential new hives held the same type of bees. It was felt there was space for them in the same orchard area. Advice from the National Association of Allotments states that hives located on the periphery of the orchard well away from the allotments in use, would fall well within the guidelines. Anyone owning hives in the allotment area must have insurance, have had training if required and be a member of the British Bee Keepers Association. This was specified in the allotment rules. The acceptance or otherwise of the additional hives would be resolved by the Town Clerk and the Allotment Secretary.
- *Local maintenance partnership (footpaths):* Cllr Finlay: Gold path 2 would have be cut earlier than the rest to allow passage for pushchairs etc. A map was circulated showing the locations of the footpaths. Lanhydrock Garden Services look after the footpaths, and it was noted that their charges were normally very reasonable.

- *Agency agreements, weed killing/grass cutting: Cllr Finlay:* All happening as it should.
- *Squires Field: Cllr Cooke/Cllr Griffin:* A working group had been established to consider future plans for Squires Field, which was a long term project. The group was due to meet again the following week.

8} **Squires Field Play Area**

Cllr Cooke had a quotation for repairs to the equipment from Andy Inglefield of £148.50 to repair fencing and for work not already quoted to fix ROSPA reported defects. It was proposed by Cllr Griffin, seconded by Cllr Finlay and RESOLVED that this quotation should be accepted.

9} **Local Maintenance Partnership**

A quote from Cornwall Council had been received, for £768 plus £114. Acceptance was proposed by Cllr Finlay, seconded by Cllr Cooke and RESOLVED that it should be taken up. VAT can be reclaimed on this sum. Fowey in Bloom should be thanked for their recent clearing of vegetation by the Marie Curie daffodils near the Tristan Stone.

10} **Squires Field Waste Management**

A quote had not yet been received for waste collection and cleansing for 2023/24 on Squires Field Recreation Ground and car park. It was essential that this work was carried out on a regular basis. This would be discussed at the next meeting, if the quote had arrived by then.

11} **Review Budget 2022/2023**

Cllr Simms circulated some budgetary information. £1,959 was still available, but there were various items outstanding, including the plaques and the work on the cliff edge. It was thought that by the end of the financial year in March, the total budget of £21,440 would have been spent.

12} **Environmental Growth Plan and Hedgehog Highway project**

It was felt that any benefits to hedgehogs might be incorporated into the Environmental Growth Plan. The Hedgehogs R Us highway surrounds were thought impractical to implement. Cllr Day would contact Prickles and Paws for suggestions for hedgehog welfare. A higher profile with the public on environmental work was desirable and Cllr Harris-Guerrero offered to investigate the possibility of an interactive video. Apart from the hedgehogs, Edible Fowey, the Plantation Gardens and Surfers against Sewage might be featured, along with the environmental work done by Claire Hoddinott of Fowey Harbour Commissioners.

13} **To Receive Reports from Members:** There were no reports from members.

14} **Proposed date of next meeting**

It was agreed that the next meeting should take place on **Monday 27th March 2023 @ 6.00 pm.**

There being no further business, the meeting closed @ 7.05 pm.

