

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 26th FEBRUARY 2024 @ 6.00pm.**

Minutes taken by Cllr Mrs Frances Day

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

1} **To receive apologies for absence**

None received.

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 9th October 2023**

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)**

Some local residents had expressed concern about the recent felling of trees along Passage Lane. Cllr Day understood this was done at the request of Cornwall Council to improve the edges of the road where the trees had been overhanging. Cllr Day was pleased to report that the hornets' nest on a very old tree along the Parade had disappeared during the winter months.

7} **Specific areas of responsibility**

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

- *Old Grammar School Gardens:* Cllr Finlay: Fowey Town Council had now been asked to remove ivy from the walls of OGS Garden by the Grammar School Foundation Trustees. This was because they wished to carry out a Schedule of Dilapidations. This had been referred to the full Council. The Mayor had received a bill for £223 from Tom Chapman for cutting the large hedges in the garden. It was proposed by Cllr Finlay, seconded by Cllr Simms and RESOLVED that this expenditure should be approved, although there would be capacity for it to be covered in this year's budget. A bench at the back of the garden should be relocated on health and safety grounds, and Cllr Day would check that this had taken place.
- *Piggy Lane Triangle:* Cllr Finlay: Nothing new to report.
- *Pretty Bus Stop:* This had been taken over by a new band of volunteers. It was being replastered. During the work the door had been blocked off, which was regrettable during the recent very wet weather.
- *Allotments:* Cllr Finlay: A number of new plots had been taken over this year, many of which had remained untouched for some time with a build up of rubbish, dilapidated sheds etc. The cost of hiring a skip would cost £500. This expenditure had been agreed at the previous Environment Committee meeting.
- *Local maintenance partnership (footpaths):* Cllr Finlay: To be discussed under item (10).

- *Agency agreements, weed killing/grass cutting:* Cllr Finlay: Agency Agreement (Grass cutting) Cornwall Council pays £1,203 for 4 cuts and Fowey Town Council pays for 5 cuts per annum by Lanhydrock Garden Services. The cost had increased as the Lambs Barn area was now included.
- *Squires Field green areas:* A tree root had been reported as causing a hazard and consideration would be given to putting signage up warning of the issue. The gas pipe work had been completed.
- *Squires Field: Cllr Cooke:* To be discussed under item (9).

8} **Review Budget**

Cllr Simms circulated an updated summary of expenditure to the end of January. This showed estimated funds of £5,550 still available to spend before the end of the financial year at the end of March. Repair of the disabled swing was about to be carried out by Andy Inglefield, and this could come out of this year's budget.

9} **Squires Field Play Area**

Cllr Cooke was applying to the Football Foundation for the purchase of replacement football goalposts and nets. If approved, the grant would be for 75% of the cost, £709 without VAT. This would mean that £236 would be needed from the Council. Happily, there were sufficient funds available from those allocated to the Playground to cover this. A new agreement for ROSPA work would be coming through shortly. Cllr Harris-Guerrero would attend the next Squires Field Committee meeting on 4th March to hear their views on a possible café there. The Squires Field Working Group would meet again at the end of March.

10} **Local Maintenance Partnership**

Joining the Local Maintenance Partnership for the 2024/25 scheme year would involve an increased amount to be reclaimed under grant funding - £806 plus VAT, up from £612 previously. Acceptance was proposed by Cllr Simms, seconded by Cllr Cooke and unanimously RESOLVED that this be agreed.

11} **Environmental Growth Plan**

Cllr Simms had been in contact with the local primary school, who had shown great interest in this project. The fish created at the Environmental Awareness Day might be increased in number by the children and then used as a display or exhibition. Tina Robinson was doing well with her harbour wall tiles, which had been installed in several places. It was suggested that she be invited to do a presentation at the Annual Meeting, which would be a welcome new initiative.

12} **To Receive Reports from Members**

There were none.

13} **Proposed date of next meeting**

It was proposed that this should take place on a date to be confirmed.

There being no further business, the meeting closed @ 6.50 pm.

