

**Peter Tavy Parish Council – APPROVED**

**Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2021 at 7:30pm at the Chapel Meeting Room**

Present: Cllr. J. Jeffery, Cllr. A. Barton, Cllr. E. Dodd, Cllr. K. Ball, Cllr. W. Lane, Cllr. P. Randall & Cllr. M. Stephens

Others Present: The Clerk, Cllr T. Pearce (W.D.B.C)

**1: Apologies for absence**

Cllr. P. Sanders. (DCC)

**2: Declarations of Interest**

Church Cottages & Finance Cllr. J. Jeffery.

**3: Approval of previous Minutes & matters arising**

The minutes of the part II meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> August 2021 were agreed to be a true and correct record. These were duly signed by Chairman J. Jeffery. Proposed Cllr. K. Ball, seconded Cllr. W. Lane all in favour

Mr. V. Nail submitted via email some paragraphs proposed to be taken out of the draft minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on 11 August. This was because in his view, the discussions were beyond the proper business of the Parish Council. After discussion the Parish Council wanted the paragraphs left in as the discussions took place and should be recorded for future reference.

The Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> August 2021 had the following amendments:-

Terry Pearce (WDBC) - Item 5, paragraph 2 should read “The Southern Links need a reliable Clerk and West Devon are considering asking parishes to donate a small amount each year towards this. It could be somewhere in the region of £10 to £15 per year for a Parish our size. It was agreed that this would be ok from Peter Tavy Parish Council”.

Once amended these were approved as a true and correct record.

Proposed by Cllr. M. Stephens seconded by Cllr. W. Lane, all in favour & signed as a true record by Cllr. J. Jeffery.

**Matters arising:** Cllr. T. Pearce (WDBC) discussed an investment account that Parish Council’s can use for their reserves of capital, however this would involve tying up the funds for a number of years.

**4: Reports from outside Bodies**

Cllr. W. Lane reported on the proposed works to the Church tower. The project is slowly progressing and is proving to be a huge undertaking. No work will start until after October 16<sup>th</sup> and scaffolding not likely until sometime nearer Christmas when the gouging of old grout can take place and in the near year hopefully the re-pointing can commence. There has been a very comprehensive report from the Diocese as to what happens and at what time. There are strict rules to follow in the report.

Some Councillors questioned the timing of the re-pointing due to frost risk, and thought it prudent to get clarification of the re-grouting timetable.

There is to be a celebration of bell ringing on the 16<sup>th</sup> October.

Cllr. P. Randall gave an update on the Village Hall that the first instalment of LEAF funding had been received with another grant to follow. The hall is now fully operational and open.

**5: Correspondence**

Various correspondence had been received and copies given to Councillors before the meeting together with any subsequent replies from the Clerk.

Changes to the electoral register for Gatehouse Cottage and Langsford Barn had been received.

Notification of roadworks starting on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> September and the associated diversion had been received.

**6: Covid-19**

Cllr. T. Pearce (WDBC) reported that Devon had been made an Enhanced Response Area which means extra advice to wear masks in enclosed public areas, keep up with handwashing etc. In the local area there have been three hot spots identified however, the rates do this week appear to be stabilising.

**7: Mill Pond**

The Mill Pond is currently fairly full.

On the subject of wild camping at the Coombe the landowner (Duchy of Cornwall) does not wish to actively encourage this because of the risk of further damage to the site. The Clerk was asked to email the Peter Tavy Inn a copy of their thoughts so that people are not recommended that area in particular. The Dartmoor National Park is going to carry out a review of areas where wild camping is permitted and the coombe is going to be part of that review. This should take place in the near future.

The Duchy has plans to plant trees along the diagonal path currently used by walkers to get up to sharpitor and farmers who use the coombe for stock. The Clerk was asked to email the Duchy and ask that this path be kept free of trees as it always has been. The Parish Council strives to keep the area tidy and currently removes any debris that would obstruct the path for public and commoners access to the path area. There is a lot of local support to keep on maintaining the pathway for public use.

The Clerk was asked to email Rob Taylor (DNP) to see if not a ramp/slope then as an alternative a step created in front of the large stones. These are difficult to get over for people and horses from the Coombe bridge up towards the Mill Pond, making access difficult for some Parishioners. This spoils the public access and enjoyment of the coombe. It could be created from the bridge itself out of hardcore and gently slope up towards the stones. A ramp or slope to the side of the large stones would it was felt cause too much disturbance to the site.

The Millpond will need repairs and maintenance ongoing and Cllr. A. Barton is going to forward details of grant schemes which the Clerk could investigate further to see if there are funds available to help with this work.

**9: Playing Field**

The Clerk was asked to contact Charlie Nankivell and ask him to strim behind the goal posts on the Chubb Farm boundary and to cut it right back tight to the hedge. Could he also keep the hedges done tighter back in future.

The Clerk was asked to chase a date for the inspection. After the inspection has taken place the Parish Council will need two quotes for the repairs required to the play equipment.

The Clerk was asked to contact Alistair Guy for a response to the alternative materials that could be used in the future for play equipment.

**9: Highways**

Tom Lee of Highways had not as yet scheduled a meeting, to go through various parish problems with either the Parish Lengthsman, or Cllr. P. Sanders (D.C.C) or Cllr. T. Pearce (W.D.B.C).

**11: Planning**

Cllr. W. Lane is standing down as head of the planning sub-committee and it was proposed that Cllr. M. Stephens take over this role.

Planning applications that were discussed this month :-

Harford Bridge Holiday Park –Put up a car port and storage building, and to install solar PV panels to the south elevation of the reception building.

Langsford Barn – Create a new opening from two existing openings in the east elevation and increase the size of an existing opening to the south elevation.

In both cases the Parish Council supported the applications without further comment.

A letter from Dartmoor National Park Planning department had been received stating there had been an increase in planning applications and the case loads were now too high for planning officers to be free to discuss potential planning applications. Parishes must clearly state their reasons for responses to planning applications and try not to discuss these with planning officers.

**13: Church Cottages**

The Clerk has chased the electrician for his quote for new heaters etc. and builders to get a firm time frame for the works to start at Church Cottages. We are still waiting on these responses.

The spare keys (in case of an emergency) had still not been cut, the clerk was going to try again to achieve this and will write to both tenants again, after she has obtained advice from Sophie the housing officer at WDBC.

The Council suggested that on a day when the builders are there doing the investigations, that some Council members attend and that the full Council should agree on works going forward.

**14: Beating the Bounds**

Cllr. E Dodd gave the Council a full risk assessment for the event, kindly produced in association with Amanda Barton and the Council thanked her for this. One amendment will be that the telephone number for Dartmoor Search and Rescue needs to go on the form and the Clerk will speak to Sandra to arrange this.

An advertisement will go onto the website and the Clerk will ask Sandra for a poster to display on the notice board.

The co-ordinators of the event will be Cllr. E. Dodd and Cllr. A. Barton.

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**15: Ratify Councils' decision made in AOB on 14/7/21 regarding purchase of cold tar.**

Proposed Cllr. M. Stephens, seconded Cllr. K. Ball all in favour.

**16: Finance**

**PRECEPT ACCOUNT** beginning of August                      £21,764.29

Outgoings from the Precept Account

Clerk Salary & use of home office	£	260.30	
Tinhay building supplies (cold tar)	£	30.40	
Stationery	£	61.83	
Stamps	£	5.10	
Microsoft subs	£	79.99	
Parish Lengthsman (strimming at pavement)	£	75.00 + vat	
Income to the Precept Account			
Church Cotts for admin	£	26.66	
(Including sum held for Community hub = £154.62)			balance £21,278.33

**CHURCH COTTAGES ACCOUNT beginning of August £26,607.74**

Outgoings from Church Cottages Account

Admin to Precept £ 26.66

Income to Church Cottages Account

Rent (after increase 366.68 + 324.45) £ 691.13

balance £27,272.21

It was agreed to pay the outgoings of Clerks Salary & UOHO £260.30, Tinhay £30.40, Stationery £61.83, stamps £5.10, Microsoft subs £79.9 and Lengthsman £75.00 + vat from the precept account – Proposed Cllr. E. Dodd, seconded Cllr. W. Lane all in favour.

The bank signatory change will take approximately 10 days to action and has already gone into the bank.

Cllr. T. Pearce (WDBC) is going to forward the Clerks details to the finance department of the Borough Council so they can advise if the reserves can be placed into another higher interest account.

**16. Any Other Business.**

None.

**There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.20hrs.**

**Signed**

**Dated**