

Peter Tavy Parish Council – Approved Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 9th March 2022

7:30pm at the Chapel Meeting Room

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

Others Present: The Clerk and Cllr. T. Pearce (WDBC) Mr. W. Lane.

TIME ALLOCATED BEFORE THE MEETING FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO SPEAK

Bill Lane gave a report on the situation with the Church Tower:-

The Church Tower has been leaking and getting progressively worse over the last 18 months with water running down the walls during wet weather. Conservation Architects and the Diocese agree that this must be tackled.

The plan is for a two-stage approach:

Firstly, to investigate why and how the tower is leaking by putting up scaffolding on the south side and taking a good look at parts of the Tower. Secondly, testing by putting in wooden dowels at strategic points and leaving these for some 6-8 months. This should show the extent of dampness and will go on from May until December this year. After this a decision will be made as to what happens regarding repairs.

The investigation should cost approximately £20,000.00 and while these take place there will be no restrictions on use (ie: bell ringing).

Any works required will likely cost in excess of £100,000.00 and while works take place there will be no Church Bells for approximately 6 months. The costs involved are going to be hopefully met by grant funding and using some of the Church Reserves.

The Church itself needs a complete electrical re-wire to gain its 5 year certificate and this will cost an estimate of £4,000.00

THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL NOW FOLLOWED

1: Apologies for absence

None

2: Declarations of Interest

No.1 Church Cottages - Cllr. J. Jeffery

3: Approval of previous Minutes & matters arising

The Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 9th February 2022 were approved to be a true and accurate record.

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

Matters arising not covered by the following Agenda (None).

4: Reports from outside Bodies

Bill Lane gave a report on the repairs required to The Church before the meeting started.

5: Correspondence

Various items of correspondence were distributed to all Councillors prior to this meeting. Actions resulting are:

The Clerk was asked to chase a response from Western Power.

A letter from Devon County Highways had been received regarding the gate at Lower Mill informing the Parish Council that following discussions with all parties that have access to property on the opposite side of the bridge, it has been decided that the gate will need to be removed. All parties have been informed.

The Clerk was asked to write back to DC Highways to find out if there has been a timeline for this to happen. Proposed Cllr. M. Stephens, seconded Cllr. E. Dodd all in favour.

6: Covid-19

Now that restrictions have been lifted this item will be taken off future Agendas for the time being.

7: Mill Pond

The water level is now empty.

A tree has come down across the exit of the bridge over the Colley Brook to the Coombe. This has been reported to DNP.

Cllr. P. Randall joined the meeting at this point.

8: Playing Field

Cllr. P. Randall briefed the Parish Council on progress with quotes for the Playing Field project. This included approximate prices and the different modules available. There had been a great deal of headway made this month.

After lengthy discussion of Cllr. Randall's report it was decided that Cllr. Randall should go back to the two preferred companies to get detailed quotes for the work required.

The Councillors will need another site visit to finalise the plans.

It is hoped to get the facility open and up and running again by early summer.

Cllrs. Randall and Ball were thanked for all their efforts with this project.

The Clerk was asked to get Charlie to start cutting the grass etc. from the end of this month.

9: Highways

It was noted that the following works had been carried out by Highways recently:

Tarmac at the top of the lane to Lower Mill allowing better mobility access.

Ash trees with ash die back felled at Wapsworthy.

10: Planning

Nothing to discuss.

11: Church Cottages

The Parish Council now have vacant possession of No. 2 Church Cottages. There is still a good deal of work required to get it ready for letting again. Councillors will meet there tomorrow evening to draw up a list of works required and The Clerk will organise these works once agreed.

Cllr. T. Pearce will forward the contact details of the planning officer The Clerk needs to speak to regarding new windows for the Cottage.

The Clerk will inform WDBC that the Cottage is now vacant.

12: The Queen's Jubilee Beacon etc.

The beacon fire will be lit on the Thursday evening of the long bank holiday and it was suggested that this will have to be on top of Smeardon Down so it can be seen from other vantage points ie: (Blackdown, Mary Tavy).

On the Saturday of the long bank holiday a walk to include some boundary stones is in the planning stages.

On the Sunday a joint service and street party are being planned.

As in previous jubilees the Parish Council would like to give commemorative mugs to the Children of the Parish and The Clerk is going to obtain quotes for these.

13: Finance

A report was given as to the bank balances up to date as follows

PRECEPT ACCOUNT - £23,204.47

CHURCH COTTAGES ACCOUNT - £24,919.77

It was agreed to pay the outgoings from the precept account of

Clerks Salary £332.40 & use of home office £26.00

Lengthsman's invoice £2,400.00

It was agreed to pay the outgoings from the church cottages account of

Admin fee to the precept account - £26.66

Proposed Cllr. A. Barton, seconded Cllr. K. Ball all in favour

14. Any Other Business

It was noted that collections of recycling and food waste bins are regularly missed in the Village. The speed the collections happen could be a factor. Cllr. M. Stephens said on Tavistock's collection days the rubbish left on the roads is a matter for concern.

A proposal for the Clerk to contact Steve Carreck about the next edition of the Piper was put forward and a suggested budget of £150 for printing was agreed and will be ratified at the next Parish Council Meeting under a S.137 payment.

Cllr. T. Pearce (WDBC) brought up the Governments plan for £150 to come off Council Tax Bills for those in Band D and below properties within West Devon. As the bills are produced and sent out in March, and the rebate not going ahead until April this will be rebated direct to the Council Tax payer by way of direct bank payment straight into the bill payer's account.

The Chairman asked if there will be reminders sent out this year for the green bag subscriptions as no reminders were received last year. Cllr. T Pearce (WDBC) stated that the reminders should come out to households in March.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.10 hrs.

Signed

Dated