

Peter Tavy Parish Council
Minutes of the meeting
held on Wednesday 9th November 2022, 7:30pm at the Chapel

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

Others Present: The Clerk, Cllr. T. Pearce (WDBC)

1: Apologies for absence

Cllr. R. Myott

2: Declarations of interest

Cllr. J. Jeffery No.1 Church Cottages and quote for the Millpond repairs

3: Approval of previous Minutes & matters arising

Item 9 PLANNING: the two planning committee comments relating to The Oaks and Langsford Barn were inserted into the blank space.

Item 12 A.O.B: Cllr. E. Dodd had been misquoted regarding precept reduction and external audit costs and therefore this sentence was struck out.

Once amended the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 13th October 2022 were deemed to be a true and accurate record. Proposed by Cllr. A. Barton seconded by Cllr. E. Dodd, 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

Mr. W. Lane gave a comprehensive report as to the works being carried out on the Church and Church Tower :-

The rewiring project and updated lighting had brought the church up to current Health & Safety guidelines. The cost of this was £11,153 net. No grants were received for this work.

The 1st stage of the Tower repairs was well under way with the cladding removed and dowels set into the wall, these will stay in situ for 6 months as part of the investigation into the causes of the water ingress. Floor panels in the belfry had to be replaced and so far the cost has been £12,640 net. A grant of £3,000 has come in from the Devon Historic Churches Trust to help with this work. Cllr. P. Randall asked where the balance of the cost will come from and Mr. W. Lane said from the Church reserves. In the meantime, the bells are still in use.

Cllr. A. Barton asked if a Bat Survey had been required prior to the works on the Church Tower and Mr. W. Lane reported that an expert conservation architect had been consulted about the project on the recommendation of the Diocese of Exeter and that no such survey was deemed necessary in this instance.

The works to the leaking roof section of the Tower will not take place until next spring and by then the investigation report from the dowels in the walls will be back. Then a decision will be taken as to the next steps. Once a cost has been established the Devon Historic Churches Trust may be able to help once again.

5: Correspondence

A letter has been received from Nina Seez regarding the Plymouth and South Devon community forrest zone expansion and an enquiry as to whether there would be any small piece of land in the village suitable for a community orchard?

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The Parish Councillors discussed various possible sites, but all were deemed either too small or already in private ownership. Unless anybody was willing to donate some land for this purpose the project would be difficult. Cllr. P. Randall said that Orchard Live would be a good source of free advice should this get off the ground. Cllr. T. Pearce stated that Peter Tavy as a parish was lucky in that we are already blessed with lots of trees. It was agreed that a piece be put into the next edition of the Piper to see if anybody would be willing to give up a piece of their privately owned land for the purpose of a community orchard. The clerk will respond to the correspondence.

6: Mill Pond

The pond is currently only partly full and should be emptied out soon ready for winter.

A quote for the proposed works needed for the Mill Pond had come in from Dave Vigers for a worst case scenario of £3,480.21 plus vat. It was discussed that the cost of materials required (cement etc) had risen significantly. Cllr. E. Dodd thought that not so many bags of sand/cement needed to be ordered initially and that a more sensible amount would be 8 aggregate + 56 bags of cement at any one time. It was proposed that the works be given the go ahead. Proposed Cllr. A. Barton, seconded Cllr. K. Ball all in favour.

The Clerk was reminded to inform The Duchy of Cornwall that remedial works to the right-hand wall of the Mill Pond will begin in the near future. Cllr. E. Dodd will speak to Mr. Bellamy regarding access.

The Clerk reported a fallen large tree in the Colley Brook by the Coombe Bridge, there is concern that it may cause the brook to flood, this tree belongs to Mr. Jonathan Bellamy, and he will be notified about it.

7: Playing Field

The next phase of the Playing Field project was discussed and Cllr. P. Randall provided details of some more proposed new equipment. Two pieces of equipment were thought to be suitable for the next phase, with the replacement of the Wendy House in mind. The cost of which will be in the region of £20,000.00. Then matting will be required for the existing pieces and a smaller piece of equipment so the budget would need to be in the region of £28,000.00 for this next phase. The Parish Council could kick off funding with a sizeable donation of £10,000.00 and grant funding would be sought for the remainder. Finances are likely to be tight at WDBC but Cllr. T. Pearce (WDBC) would see what he can do, he will also forward the rural funding newsletter to The Clerk to see what other options might be available. Some outdoor Gym equipment suitable for parents to use was discussed but the ones at Mary Tavy Playing Field were noted to not get much use. It was proposed that the project be given the go ahead Proposed by Cllr. E. Dodd, seconded Cllr. A. Barton all in favour.

8: Highways

It was noted that Devon Highways seem to be cutting back and stopping their programme of highway maintenance in the local area due to budget cuts, however DCC have taken delivery of 37 new gritting lorries at great expense when the climate has been steadily warming up.

At the next superlinks meeting Cllr. John Hart needs to be put firmly in the picture.

The Clerk will try and email our neighbourhood highways officer yet again to see if we can have any commitment on a list of works to be programmed in for the coming financial year.

9: Planning

The Planning Sub-Committees comments on the Planning Application 0400/22 for Boulters Tor were as follows:-

Whilst this is a Permitted Development application, it is perhaps a little surprising the applicants have chosen this route given that the property lies in the National Park, is situated in a fairly

prominent position and is proposing a substantial extension on its South-West elevation. We feel a conventional planning application might have been more appropriate in these circumstances.

Regarding the application 0377/22 for the Chimney at The Oaks the Planning Sub-Committee were surprised that this had gone to a full application and had no objections to raise.

Cllr.P. Randall asked if a projector could be purchased so that planning application plans could be shown at the Parish Council meetings as a lot of Parish Councils now do this. A cost of £300/400 will be discussed at the next meeting.

The Clerk has not been getting planning decisions forwarded and Cllr. T. Pearce is going to forward contact details so she can chase this up.

10: Church Cottages

Cllr. K. Ball has visited (under invitation) No.2 Church Cottages and said how nice the Cottage was looking now with a good tenant who is looking after it and keeping it clean, tidy and well heated and aired out.

The Clerk was asked to compose a piece for the Tavistock Times regarding the Parish Council letting its social housing at No.2 Church Cottage, in light of an article regarding Brentor Parish Council's social housing in the publication recently.

The Clerk was asked to find out if the Tenant of No.1 Church Cottages will sign a new Tenancy Agreement bringing it in line with the up to date one for No.2.

There will be no rent increase this year due to the cost of living crisis.

11: Parish Wreath

The Clerk has collected the Parish Wreath from the Royal British Legion. The cost had not changed at £18.50.

In previous years in the absence of anybody from the Parish Council attending the Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial, the Chairman had requested that either an Ex-Serviceman/Servicewoman or serving Serviceman/Servicewoman lay the Parish Wreath on behalf of the Parish. The Chairman feels strongly that this would mean more to a Service Person than a civilian member of the Parish Council. However, following complaints last year that no Parish Councillor attended this year the wreath will be laid by Cllr. P.Randall during the 1st minute of the two minute silence. Cllr. T. Pearce (WDBC) said it was most unusual for no Parish Councillors to attend the Act of Remembrance in other local Parishes so it will be nice to see a presence this year. The Chairman expressed a wish that a Service Person should lay the wreath next year.

12: Finance

The outgoings from the Precept Account to be approved are:-

The Clerk Oct Salary	345.00
Use of Home Office	26.00
Minues PAYE	- 12.20
	<u>£358.80</u>
HMRC PAYE	12.20
P. Nankivell – Grasscutting	850.00
WDBC dog bin emptying Summer	95.47

Rent to go back into C.Cotts Account 648.90

The Outgoings from the Church Cottages Account to be agreed are:-

Admin fee to precept account Aug 26.66

P. Nankivell – Grasscutting 120.00

It was agreed to pay the outgoings proposed Cllr. K. Ball, seconded Cllr. A. Barton all in favour.

The Clerk gave a report as to the bank balances as at the 1st November 2022 which were:-

The Precept Account £22,372.64

The Church Cottages Account £23,223.23

The proposed precept budget for 2023 was discussed with the following points requiring further discussion at the next meeting:-

Notice Board for Bus Shelter – Clerk to approach DNP to see if they can help.

Next years election costs

The Bell ringers are a local group and a donation towards the tower repairs of say £500 Proposed Cllr. E. Dodd, seconded Cllr. J. Jeffery all in favour.

13. Any Other Business

Mark Bullock may be somebody who can be approached in the quest for hessian sandbags.

Cllr. T. Pearce (WDBC) said there was a push to create warm rooms within the Borough Parishes and WDBC will provide grants towards heating etc. Cllr. Pearce is going to ask Janet Reed the chair of the Village Hall Committee if this is something Peter Tavy have considered.

The Clerk reported that we have a pallet of salt in the shed ready for winter.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.22 hrs.

Signed

Dated