

**Peter Tavy Parish Council
(Draft awaiting approval)
Minutes of the meeting
held on Wednesday 08th February 2023, 7:30pm at the Chapel**

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

Others Present: The Clerk and Mr. Bill Lane.

TIME ALLOWED FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO SPEAK 15 MINUTES: -

Mr. Bill Lane read the following statement: -

“PARISH ELECTION 4 MAY 2023.

The nomination papers for this election must be submitted by 4pm on 4 April which is four weeks from today and before the next Parish council meeting on 12 April.

The Council have been holding a number of Part 2 meetings concerning the Notice of Adverse Possession but there has been no information given to the parish as to what this is about. I am concerned that any parishioner who is considering standing in the election and is not on the present Council will not know if there is some problem which will be carried over to the next Council or whether the matter has been resolved. Will the Council be making some information available about this to the parish before the closing date for nominations.

I believe that this Notice of Adverse Possession must be the application by Mr and Mrs Nail to possess the registered small parcel of land adjacent to their property. I cannot understand why this has been treated under Part 2 but obviously the Council must have had their reasons. The intention of a Notice of Adverse Possession is that the applicant should obtain Possessory title to the land. This does not mean purchase and nor does it give ownership, but the intention is to exclude the world at large. There is a problem here in that the owner of Gatehouse Mill must have access to their field. However, I believe that there is an agreement or covenant already in place that this access is guaranteed and in any case this is a matter for the owner of the field and in my view not the Council. The Council's duty is to the Parish. A Notice of Adverse Possession is very similar to an Application for Planning Permission. The only real differences are that the Land Registry, as far as I am aware, do not publish any list of Notices of Adverse Possession. The Land Registry notify any parties affected by this application which in this case is the Council representing the Parish. A time limit is set for response. Any objections raised will hold weight and must be considered by the Land Registry before they approve or reject the application. This is unlike the comments of the Council on a Planning Application which are frequently ignored. Any objections should be resolved between the applicant and the objector before the final decision is made.

When considering a Planning Application this Council have a set procedure which includes an opportunity for the public to comment on the application.

However, in this case there is no information available to the parish. I hope that the Council will clarify where we are before nominations for the Parish Council election close.”

The Chairman Cllr. J. Jeffery responded by saying that this matter will now be minuted at this open meeting and refers to Mr. and Mrs. Nail's application for adverse possession of land just beyond the bridge to Lower Mill. Originally the Parish Council objected to a gate being across the public highway at the bridge to Lower Mill, then Devon County Highways enforced the removal of the gate. Recently the Land Registry wrote to the Parish Council with the application for adverse Possession and asked the Parish Council for their comments. The Parish Council have submitted their views back to the Land Registry and it is now in the hands of the Land Registry and is up to them whether they grant the adverse possession or not. This is the end of the matter.

The meeting of the Parish Council now continued as follows: -

Before the meeting could start Councillor M. Stephens asked Cllrs. A. Barton and P. Randall if they knew the dictionary definition of “vindictive”. The two Councillors gave their understanding of the meaning as being deliberately mean/unkind and then Cllr. Stephens read out the actual definition as stated in the dictionary “Maliciously seeking revenge, characterised by spite or ill will”. Cllr. Barton pointed out that the statement said bordering on vindictive and hadn’t accused the Parish Council of being vindictive. The meeting was called to order by the Chairman and the usual meeting followed.

1: Apologies for absence

Cllr. T. Pearce (WDBC) – the Chairman asked the Clerk to send a get-well card on behalf of the Parish Council to Cllr. Pearce.

2: Declarations of interest

Cllr. J. Jeffery No.1 Church Cottages & finance the bill from D. Vigers for maintenance to the Mill Pond.

3: Approval of previous Minutes & matters arising

The minutes of the Parish Council extraordinary part II meeting held on the 24th February 2023 will have to be ratified at the next scheduled Parish Council Meeting because they omitted a statement from two Councillors on the subject of a vote. This will be amended with the actual statement wording and re-submitted for approval on Wednesday 12th April 2023.

The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 08th February 2023 were deemed to be a true and accurate record. Proposed by Cllr. E. Dodd, seconded by Cllr. M. Stephens, all in favour & signed as a true record by Cllr. J. Jeffery

Matters arising: None

4: Reports from outside bodies

Rob Taylor from the Dartmoor National Park is also now responsible for the Okehampton area of the moor and so we do not see him as frequently as we used to. The gate at Beggars Hatch has been reported to him.

The village has held a meeting about the upcoming Coronation of King Charles III. There will be no events on the actual Saturday of the Coronation this will give people chance to watch the ceremony on their televisions. On the Sunday there will be a service and a community bring along lunch event. The Monday will be a community day with emphasis on volunteering, maybe a Millpond, The Coombe clear up or litter clearing event followed by a community BBQ/hog roast. The Parish Council voted to donate £400 towards the cost of the BBQ/Hog roast proposed Cllr. E. Dodd, seconded Cllr. A. Barton all in favour. The Clerk will let Terry Pearce know the community are looking for additional funding.

Cllr. P. Randall has sourced a native Oak tree at a cost of £35/£40.00 to be planted alongside the Platinum Jubilee tree in celebration of the Coronation. The Clerk was asked to seek permission from the Commoners Association. A suggestion of plaques so that people would know why the trees had been planted in the future was agreed to be a good idea.

The Clerk was asked to obtain quotes for mugs to give to the Children of the Parish.

5: Correspondence

The Devon Safety Partnership have sent an Agenda for an upcoming meeting – Cllr. R. Myott is going to attend the meeting on behalf of the Parish Council.

6: Mill Pond

The repairs to the Mill Pond have nearly finished with only approximately two days left. The Parish Council will need to buy some more materials at a cost of around £500. Proposed Cllr. E. Dodd, seconded Cllr. A. Barton all remaining Cllrs. in favour (Chairman declared an interest and did not vote).

The Chairman thanked Cllrs. E. Dodd and M. Stephens for helping with this project.

7: Playing Field

Cllr. P. Randall has started an application process with the National Lottery Community Fund for applications up to £10k and The Clerk will assist with the application as soon as possible as it takes them around 3 months to make a decision.

Once the work is finished to the Millpond the Councillors will look at dismantling the old Play Equipment ready for the next phase of the project.

Cllr. K. Ball asked if anybody had been to inspect the play equipment lately. No Councillors had been there lately so Cllr. P. Randall and Cllr. K. Ball will look monthly with Cllr. Randall looking in March and Cllr. Ball looking in April.

8: Highways

The Chairman has had a meeting with Brad Elliott our NHO. Mr. Elliot has emailed The Clerk with a list of works that are outstanding in the Peter Tavy Parish however he had missed a few out and the Clerk will reply to him with the Road into Radge, subsidence at Harford Bridge (however Mr. Elliot reported this immediately at the meeting and the Clerk will thank him for this) and the junction with the main road A386. The problem with the junction is that Devon County Highways will only do something about this dangerous junction if all actual accidents and all near misses are reported to them. The Clerk is going to put a piece in the piper regarding this. Mr. Elliot could not promise that any works will be done because of budget constraints, however he was happy to agree solutions to the problems but let The Chairman know that projects on main roads would have to be a priority.

9: Planning.

The DNP planning website is still having issues.

The application at The Oaks regarding a chimney has been approved.

The DNP held a webinar, but it mainly related to settlements that already had services.

The DNP have lost funding for their tree and landscape Officer which could be a problem in this rural area with incidents of ash dieback.

10: Church Cottages.

The Clerk reported that Messrs. Worths builders are going to come out after the next wet spell of weather, but they are going to let her know when they can come out to look at Church Cottages. Cllr. K. Ball is going to accompany them, the Clerk will let him know which day they are coming out and let the tenants have adequate notice. The Clerk was asked to get them to quote for double glazing and secondary glazing while they are out.

No fencing quotes are in yet.

11: Finance

The clerk reported the balance on the Precept Account at the 1 st of March stood at	£18,057.06
The Clerk reported the balance on the Church Cottages Account at the 1 st March stood at	£26,210.16

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

The Clerk Dec Salary	345.00
Use of Home Office	26.00
Minues PAYE	- 12.20
	<u>£358.80</u>
HMRC PAYE	£12.20
Duchy of Cornwall rent on millpond	£ 30.00
David Vigers millpond repairs	£3,906.25

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

Admin fee to precept account Jan	£26.66
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It was agreed to pay the outgoings proposed Cllr. A. Barton, seconded Cllr. K. Ball all in favour.

12. Any Other Business

The Parish Council were sad to learn of the passing of former Councillor Patrick Cashell who had done lots for the Parish and the Village Hall during his time living in the Parish.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 20: hrs.

SIGNED

DATED.....