

Launcells Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held in the Parish Hall on Friday 21st May 2021 at 7.30pm

Present: Alan Whittle (chairman), Brian Pollard, Margaret Cleave, Trevor Elliott, Sheila Minter, Andrew Hargreaves, Paul Wingard, Maxwell Allin, Graham Tape, Matthew Stokes, Ian Saltern, Nicky Chopak (Cornwall Council), Pamela Brewer (Clerk) and 10 members of the public

319.21/05: Welcome – As this was first meeting since local government elections a warm welcome was extended to new member Matthew Stokes, to new Cornwall Council ward member Nicky Chopak and to newly appointed clerk Ian Saltern who will take over from present clerk at end of May. Tribute was also paid to long standing councillor Peter Harwood, who was unsuccessful at the elections.

320.21/05: Declarations – All councillors signed Declaration of Acceptance of Office forms prior to start of meeting. All councillors had been issued with Register of Interest forms.

Declarations of Interest – Alan Whittle declared an interest in items concerning “Barnhurst” and “Thorne Farm” and took no part in discussions or decisions.

321.21/05 Minutes: The minutes of meeting held on 9th April 2021, which had previously been distributed, were approved for signature

322.21/05: Matters arising

Street Trading Renewal – Hobbacott Layby: Alan Whittle reported on recent licensing meeting where the applicant was granted a further licence to trade for this year. Conditions were attached but these are such that there is very little on which he will be able to break the agreement. The Parish Council have already received complaints about parking issues within the layby but these are not matters dealt with by licensing department. The Highways Department did not raise any objections to the application but if issues occur (verbal or traffic obstruction), these will need to be dealt with by law enforcement. Nicky Chopak is now on the Licensing Committee and will look into the matter fully before next year’s application is considered.

323.21/05 Election of Officers – Nicky Chopak took the chair for election of officers and asked for proposals. Alan Whittle was proposed as chairman by Paul Wingard, this was seconded by Margaret Cleave and he was unanimously re-elected. The vice-chairman Maxwell Allin was also unanimously re-elected as proposed by Sheila Minter and seconded by Trevor Elliott.

324.21/05 Public participation session – Dan & Deearna of Barnhurst gave a presentation of their proposals for 2 holiday let shepherd’s huts. They had previously placed a pre-application with the planning department and as part of advice given were invited to explain their plans before deciding whether to progress with a full application. Due to the chairman’s declaration of interest, Maxwell Allin took the chair at this point and invited questions which Dan & Deearna answered.

325.21/05 Playing Field: A report on recent AGM, held on the field was supplied for councillors. All officers / committee were re-elected. Small repairs as highlighted in recent RoSPA report were

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addressed and grant applications are outstanding for potential future projects. Fund raising events will be reviewed when government Covid guidelines allow.

326.21/05 Parish Hall:

The Emergency lighting in the main hall has now been sorted out satisfactorily. The under-floor heating in the Archive Room has a meter to check on usage costs so will now be switched on. A working party will get together to trim / cut back edges of the car park so that the chosen contractor will be able to progress with implementation of white lining as agreed.

327.21/05 Planning applications:

PA21/03678 Outline application (some matters reserved) for the erection of an agricultural dwelling for a farm worker on land south of Brays Hill – *The Parish Council cannot support this application: 1. To build a dwelling near to roadside hedge is inappropriate on this site. The number of existing agricultural accesses in the vicinity makes this section of the road quite dangerous. 2. The need for “an agricultural workers dwelling” is questionable as it’s clear from Design & Access statement provided, that the applicant had a similar situation at his other holding in the parish and subsequently sold or rented out original farm dwelling. 3. This should not be considered on agricultural grounds and therefore unacceptable as sporadic development in the countryside.*

The following received between meetings and comments submitted to the planning authority:

PA21/01745 Proposed Eco lodge on land south of Kitts Farm, Stratton - *The Parish Council cannot support this application because:-1. It's not appropriate in an Area of Great Landscape Value(AGLV)2. The use of existing buildings etc is for agricultural/equine use and there would appear to be no agricultural need for residential development 3. Other similar applications have been rejected and to allow this would set an unacceptable precedent 4. Erecting a so called "Eco Lodge" is hiding the reality of possible speculative development 5. The junction of the small unclassified road with the fast section of A3072 is already a hazard without encouraging further residential development close by.*

PA21/02980 Part retrospective – extension to shed to cover existing yard and provide a covered area for a bulk tank on land north of Thorne Farm – *councillors raised no objections provided development is completed as per plans supplied*

PA21/02981 Proposed shed to cover existing manure store on land north of Thorne Farm – *councillors raised no objections.*

328.21/05 Planning Notifications: **EN18/03964** Enforcement issues reference Hayward Units at Red Post – The case officer to revisit the site and assess the situation. Clerk to pass details to Nicky Chopak for help / advice.

EN20/00595 Enforcement issues at Hershams Fields – This matter has been passed to officer who will be contacting the landowner to attempt to resolve the matter. Details being passed to Nicky Chopak for help / advice.

329.21/05 Audit: - The internal audit of accounts for year ending 31st March 2021 was undertaken by Aalgaard Renshaw Business Solutions Ltd and a fully comprehensive report received.

330.21/05 Annual Governance Statement 2020/21: This document was distributed to all councillors following their re-election and approved for signing as proposed by Sheila Minter and seconded by Maxwell Allin.

331.21/05: Code of Conduct: A copy of the new Code of Conduct, adopted by Cornwall Council was distributed prior to the meeting. It was proposed by Andrew Hargreaves, seconded by Brian Pollard and unanimously agreed to also adopt this code. Cornwall Council is currently running training sessions on Code of Conduct and all members are encouraged to join these online sessions.

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Training is also being offered by CALC via Zoom in July at cost of £20 per delegate but this is on a first come first served basis.

332.21/05 Insurance: The clerk had obtained 2 quotes for insurance cover and due to minimal difference in costs it was proposed by Andrew Hargreaves, seconded by Margaret Cleave and unanimously agreed to continue insuring with Zurich Municipal.

333.21/05 Certificate of Exemption: It was proposed by Trevor Elliott, seconded by Brian Pollard and unanimously agreed to apply for exemption whereby there is no requirement to have a limited assurance review or to submit Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) to the external auditor.

334.21/05 Accounting Statements 2020/21: Having confirmed that all figures agreed to records distributed it was proposed by Margaret Cleave, seconded by Sheila Minter and unanimously agreed to sign the document as a true record.

335.21/05 Chairman's Report

Cross Border Health meetings are due to continue post elections and it has been announced that the trial arrangements at Stratton Minor Injuries Unit are to continue for a further 6 months. There are serious issues with health provision services at Stratton, which are being looked into and although an initial project hasn't come to fruition, re-siting of the Medical Centre is to be a priority later in the year.

336.21/05 The Red Post sign: Everyone in the area was disappointed to learn that all the arms of the noted Red Post sign appear to have been stolen – this was first reported on 17th April and despite rewards being offered by local businesses and extensive publicity given to the matter – they are still missing. Highways / Cormac have been informed and “depending on cost of replacement” hopes to be able to assist. Nicky Chopak agreed to find out costs of standard signs in the hope that Cormac may be able to finance this portion. Contact is being made with Peter Harwood, who was instrumental in getting a new arm made 10 or 12 years ago, to see if he would be able to assist with the replacement project and Sheila Minter agreed to act as co-ordinator to get a new sign erected as soon as funding will allow.

337.21/05 Grimscott Estate: Reports of un-notified developments are being looked into. The matter of new parking space created in private garden has been forwarded to Cornwall Council and enquiries are continuing into reported matter of garden shed being used for residential purposes. Nicky Chopak, realising the need for more parking is to investigate the possibility of turning the central grass area into parking spaces.

338.21/05 Finance

It was proposed by Paul Wingard seconded by Trevor Elliott and unanimously agreed to approve the following invoices for payment:

Cornwall Council – repayment of clerk's April salary (inc Admin fee)	£208.00
Aalgaard Renshaw Business Solutions Ltd – Internal Audit fee	£132.00
S & J MacDonald – plants for Grimscott planter	£ 21.00

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G & Y Pears – cleaning of bus shelters & mirrors	£ 30.00
Zurich Municipal – Annual Insurance Premium	£370.83

339.21/05 Other Matters:

Article for Parish News: Sheila

Clearing of dog waste bin: Margaret

Bus timetables – Mr Pears reported that bus timetables within the shelters are out of date – clerk to investigate and action as required

Meeting changes – Nicky Chopak now has 9 parishes in her Cornwall Council area and asked councillors to place on next agenda, changing of meeting days on a permanent basis, suggesting last Thursday in month.

Clerk – As this was Pamela’s last meeting as clerk, councillors presented her with flowers and gift tokens in appreciation of her service over the past 32 years.

Next meeting incorporating Annual Parish Meeting: Friday 25th June 2021