

Launcells Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in the Parish Hall on Monday 06th September 2021 at 7:30pm.

Present: Alan Whittle (Chairman), Maxwell Allin, Margaret Cleave, Trevor Elliot, Sheila Minter, Brian Pollard, Matthew Stokes, Graham Tape, Paul Wingard, Ian Saltern (Clerk), Nicky Chopak (Cornwall Council) and two members of the public.

Apologies: Andrew Hargreaves.

369.06/09 Minutes of the previous meeting:

The minutes of the meeting held on 02nd August 2021, which had previously been distributed, were approved for signature, amended to include Sheila Minter as present. The minutes of the meeting held on 25 June 2021 were approved for signature following amendment to item 353.06/21 Finance to correct the year stated for payment to Cornwall Council (repayment overdue on Clerks salary of £202.01) from 2021 to 2020.

370.06/09 Matters arising:

Alan Whittle reminded those present that Code of Conduct training needed to be completed by all Councillors within six months of the Local Elections of May 2021. Paul Wingard and Matt Stokes confirmed that they were yet to undertake the training.

371.06/09 Report from Cornwall Councillor Nicky Chopak:

Nicky Chopak reported that she had attended a briefing with Cornwall Partnership NHS Foundation Trust. The Launceston Minor Injuries Unit (MIU) is planned to be reopened from 1st October 2021 with new x-ray facilities and modernisation of the hospital – there is pressure to ensure that this happens. Likewise, there is pressure to ensure that the Stratton MIU remains open – the provision of staffing overnight remains a problem.

Nicky reported that there will be a meeting of the Bude/Holsworthy Cross Border Health group on 27th September to which all Councillors are invited.

Nicky reported that Cornwall will become a COVID 'Enhanced Response Area' from 27th August – extra funding will be made available to increase public health protections such as increased testing and vaccination availability.

Nicky reported that she will attend a full in-person Cornwall Council meeting at Truro on 28th September – the first such meeting to be held since the public health restrictions were introduced in 2020.

372.06/09 Declarations of Interest:

There were no declarations of interest.

373.06/09 Public participation session:

See next item.

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374.06/09 Grimscott speeding:

To address the concerns of the two members of the public who had attended the meeting, Alan Whittle asked '*should we be doing more about the issues of speed in the parish and in particular through Grimscott*'. Alan said he had been directed towards Community Speed Watch (communityspeedwatch.org.uk), a web-based educational facility which helps communities reduce speeding traffic. Nicky Chopak commented that tackling speeding as a community requires a range of training and that she believes that current GDPR rules do not allow for the recording of number plates.

Alan asked if something needed to be done led by Launcells Parish Council before the speeding data currently being gathered by CORMAC is available.

Sheila Minter said she wanted something done now, to prevent or pre-empt a serious incident. In particular, there is no footpath between Little Saunders and Morton Lane and this is very dangerous. Alan asked if any Councillors would have time to investigate Community Speed Watch. Sheila said that she would. Alan to send details to Sheila.

Maxwell Allin asked if the 30mph speed limit road signs could be moved further out from Grimscott, to slow traffic earlier on its approach to the village. At Whitstone traffic is slowed by 40mph signs, followed by 30mph signs on the approach to the village. Alan would ask Oliver Jones, Area Manager for CORMAC why the Grimscott 30mph signs are where they are. Alan would also inform Oliver that the 30mph 'live sign' is currently not operational.

Nicky commented that at North Tamerton, the village name sign has the speed limit incorporated into it. Nicky to investigate whether a similar sign could be provided for Launcells. Nicky reported that the Government wants 20mph speed limits outside of schools. She would investigate whether this limit could be applied to Grimscott. Provision of a 'No Footpath' sign could also be investigated.

The members of the public present commented that large lorries regularly pass through the village, although as of January 2021 there had been fewer. The members of the public would volunteer for a speed watch initiative if possible. Nicky commented that St Gennys parish had issues with large lorries and wrote to satnav companies requesting that routes be removed. Brian Pollard commented that this had been tried two years ago.

Graham Tape mentioned that the 30mph speed limit sign on the northern approach to Grimscott is too close to the playing field. Nicky would contact Oliver Jones, to investigate.

375.06/09 White lines in Parish Hall car park

Alan Whittle reported that he had formally asked Graham Tape as Chairman of the Launcells Parish Hall Committee if the white lining could commence. Trevor Elliot had agreed to undertake the work for £200 but reported that costs have risen. The white lining was proposed by Maxwell Allin, seconded by Graham Tape and agreed unanimously. Alan to inform the Trevor when he has the white lining plan in his possession. Trevor to inform Graham when the white lining will commence.

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376.06/09 Red Post – Update (SM) public relations/official thanks

Alan Whittle thanked all Councillors who were able to attend the one-off virtual meeting to agree a sum towards the restoration work for Red Post. Ian Saltern to send the Community Chest application form to Nicky Chopak.

Alan reported that Oliver Jones had said that tracker microchips are problematical and recommended that anti-theft bolts be used to secure the restored post. CORMAC has agreed to repaint the post on-site in future years. Red Post Inn will point a CCTV camera at the restored Post. Additional security measures will also be installed.

Sheila Minter reported that she now has the paint number (Traffic Red 3020) and had sent this to the casting company. Sheila said that the pattens are now made and the ore is to be added next week, including for the finial. The restored Red Post is hoped to be in place by end of October.

Alan suggested that television coverage of the new sign should be sought. Sheila would email ITV Westcountry news.

377.06/09 Individual Councillor tasks

Maxwell Allin – Playing field; Margaret Cleave – Footpaths – ash dieback – Alan Whittle asked if we had any on our footpaths - Margaret would ask Steve Jose; Trevor Elliot – Bus shelters, signs and Red Post; Andrew Hargreaves – Salt bins; Sheila Minter – Commons; Brian Pollard – Launcells Parish Hall car park; Matt Stokes – Graveyards; Graham Tape – Planters, flowerbeds and kiosk; Paul Wingard – Orchard Trust; Alan Whittle – Emergency Plan, Defibrillator. Alan asked if all councillors would email the clerk a sentence on what they understood their roles encompass.

378.06/09 Clerk's report:

a) Darley Oak sapling request – Launcells Parochial Church Council – The Clerk thanked Councillors for giving their agreement to proceed with applying for the sapling on behalf of LPCC. He informed them that further clarification of the request had been requested from LPCC and had now been received. The application would be submitted as soon as possible.

b) Code of Conduct – The Clerk reiterated the need for all Councillors to complete the CoC training within six months of the election (by November 2021).

Finance – The Clerk expressed concern that no invoices for payment had been received over the past three months. He would enquire of Cornwall Council when it would invoice for reimbursement of Clerk's salary.

379.06/09 Chairman's report:

a) Enforcement – Alan Whittle reported that he had made another attempt at addressing the planning enforcement issues. Both he and Simon Beesley (Chair of the Bude Community Network Panel) met (virtually) with Scott Mann MP on 11th August 2021, to discuss enforcement. GDPR remained a problem. Scott Mann confirmed that GDPR rules still applied and therefore little information could be

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shared about the progress of enforcement cases. Scott Mann promised to raise the issue with the Leader of Cornwall Council and Cornwall's MPs.

b) Enforcement - Alan reported that he also met virtually with local planning enforcement officers from Cornwall Council on 12th August, including the Group Leader. A positive meeting which underlined the short-staffing and very difficult circumstances in the department. The department is introducing stricter conditions on those breaching planning regulations. There are currently 37 ongoing enforcement investigations in the Poundstock Cornwall Council Division. Nicky Chopak reported that there has been an increase in enforcement cases during the pandemic. Nicky will seek to secure details of those enforcement cases which have been perused. There are no easy answers – no monthly updates on enforcement cases will be made available.

c) Bude Community Network Panel Activities

Alan Whittle reported that he (as Vice-Chair) and Simon Beesley (the Bude Area Community Network Panel Chair) wish to get out amongst the parishes of the Network to hear concerns and priorities. They are arranging to attend parish meetings to hear respective priorities, including health which remains a crucial issue. Alan and Simon will visit Launcells Parish Council in this role. Alan asked Councillors present to think about key issues to raise at that forthcoming meeting.

Nicky Chopak reported that she had recently attended a Bude-Stratton Town Council (BSTC) meeting as her Division now includes part of Stratton. Nicky felt that BSTC Councillors should visit Parish Councils to hear their concerns. Nicky asked if BSTC Councillors could visit Launcells Parish Council. Launcells Parish Councillors agreed to entertain a visit from BSTC Councillors.

380.06/09 Finance:

There were no invoices for payment. Nicky Chopak to investigate delayed invoices for reimbursement of Clerk's salary from Cornwall Council and the current process of Cornwall Council paying the Clerk, and Launcells Parish Council, in turn, reimbursing Cornwall Council.

381.06/09 Other matters:

Graham Tape raised the issue of replacing the grassed island in the Grimscott estate with parking spaces. Alan Whittle reported that the estimated cost of this was £19,000 and he would send the details to Graham. Nicky Chopak said that the local Bude Community Area Network Highways budget is re-set next month and that this would not, in comparison with other works, be expensive. This issue to be placed on the agenda for October's meeting. Nicky to also investigate grass cutting arrangements.

Next article for Launcells Parish News – Cllr Stokes

Clearing of dog waste bin – Cllr Tape

Next Meeting: Monday 4th October 2021 – 7:30pm