

**MINUTES OF THE ST NEOT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
WEDNESDAY, 11th DECEMBER 2024 AT 7:30PM IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM,
ST NEOT INSTITUTE, ST NEOT**

Present: Councillors T Hooper (Chair), G Rogers, H Webb, A Tamblyn, C Smith, N Ball, M Rowe, H Bunt and D Glanville.

Martin Eddy
Sue Blaxley, Clerk and RFO.

The Chair opened the meeting at 7:30pm and confirmed that no one was recording the meeting.

Public Participation

Martin Eddy said that more interest in the orchard needs to be generated, and he suggested wassailing the orchard. He said this involves making a noise in the orchard to wake up the trees and this could be done early in February 2025 before the blossom breaks. It was agreed that this is a good idea to promote the orchard.

Martin Eddy commented that the traffic on the Ambrose Lake corner travels very fast and suggested that the 30mph speed limit could be extended to include that area. He also said that some of the cars in the car park have been parked there for a long time. He said that Cornwall Council's Off-Street Parking Order applies to the car park which states that vehicles cannot park there for more than 24 hours.

1. Apologies

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors T Thrussell and L Jones and from Cornwall Councillor P Seeva.

2. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 20th November 2024

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 20th November 2024, having been previously circulated, were agreed as an accurate record.

3. Declaration of interest in items on the agenda

Councillor G Rogers declared an interest in item 16 on the agenda.

4. To receive a report on any matters arising from the previous meeting

It was noted that Councillor N Ball has not yet replaced the tap in Cott Yard. In respect of the alterations which have been made to land owned by the parish council adjacent to the house under construction at the top of Tripp Hill, Councillor T Hooper said she has visited the resident who claims that he has put a pathway on top of an existing PROW and that he has erected wooden boards and undertaken planting to prevent the ingress of water into his property. Some discussion took place as to how to proceed in respect of this matter. It was agreed that Councillor M Rowe would

contact Kivells and ask them to do a Land Registry search to ascertain the ownership of the land in question and Councillor C Smith would examine the parish council documents to ascertain if the boundaries are clear on the plans.

It was noted that Colin Alford will repair/replace the manhole outside the public toilet. The Chair said she has had correspondence with Cornwall Council regarding the overgrown hedges on the road past Colliford Dam. She said that they will cut the verges this year and will examine the growth before they decide whether further action is required in the future. She said that the road no longer meets the specification to have a white line in the middle. Councillor T Hooper said that she has not received a response from Cornwall Councillor P Seeva regarding setting up a meeting in respect of the parking at Golitha Falls, the issue with rubbish collection at Mill Town or the road sweeper in the village.

Councillors M Rowe and T Hooper said they would clear out the drain to the rear of Cott Yard. The Clerk said that she has not received a response from Cornwall Council regarding the lorries traveling along the road by Luna. The Chair said that David Lucas has offered his unwanted marquee to the Scouts. It was noted that the donated Christmas tree has been potted and is in the Churchyard. In addition, it was noted that cars are parked in the car park for long periods of time. The Clerk reported that the prospective new tenant for suite 2 in Cott Yard wishes to occupy the suite as soon as possible in the New Year.

5. To receive the Chairman's Communications

The Chair explained that concerns have been raised from the Editor of St Neot News that advertisers are generally not making donations for their adverts, when asked. The Chair said she would highlight this matter in her next article in St Neot News. The Chair said that she had been contacted by a parishioner asking if a salt bin could be located outside his property. Councillor C Smith said that a number of parishioners would like salt bins outside their properties, but the parish council has insufficient funds at the present time.

6. To answer any questions from Councillors, previously notified to the Clerk

None.

7. To receive a report from the Clerk

None

8. Doorstep Green and Playing Field

To receive and consider a report on any matters arising relating to Doorstep Green and the Playing Field

None

9. Pavillion

To receive and consider a report on any matters arising relating to the extension to the Pavilion

Councillor C Smith said that the work is progressing well and that a very good quality job is being done. He said that completion of the main part of the project is anticipated to be the end of the 3rd week of December 2024. He said that the fencing which will be erected between the Pavilion and the playing field has now arrived. The Clerk said that every attempt is being made to secure additional grant funding and an earlier payment of the funds already awarded. It was noted that the shopkeeper is aware of how the project is progressing and hopes to employ refrigeration engineers to install the fridges and freezers over the Christmas period.

Some discussions took place as to the signage that was required for the new shop and community hub, to attract passers by. After some discussion, it was agreed that the following black and white signage be ordered and erected: a sign on the wall of the public toilet directing people to the shop and community hub; a V shaped sign in the car park saying shop and public car park; a directional sign to the shop placed on the wall of Coppins; a sign on the wall of the village hall saying shop and a directional arrow and a temporary sign outside Cott Yard stating the relocation of the shop.

To receive and consider a report on any other matters arising relating to the Pavilion

Councillor C Smith said that some tiles have blown off the roof but this has been patched with some of the existing tiles that resulted from cutting through the roof to join the extension to the existing building. He said that, in time, the Pavilion will need a new roof.

10. Cott Yard

To receive and consider a report on any matters arising relating to Cott Yard

None

11. Toilets and Car Park

To receive and consider a report on any matters arising relating to the toilets and car park

Councillor C Smith said the hand dryer is faulty and he will either repair or replace it.

12. St Neot Orchard

To receive and consider a report on any matters arising relating to St Neot Orchard

It was noted that Martin Eddy will organise the wassailing of the orchard and it was agreed that outstanding works to the orchard will be undertaken in the New Year.

13. 20mph Speed Limit

To receive and consider matters arising relating to a 20mph speed limit

The Chair said that a consultation has been received from Cormac seeking the parish council's views on the proposed 20mph scheme. On Tripp Hill, it is proposed to start the 20mph speed limit where the 30mph speed limit used to start (just after the turning for Ivy Crag). It was agreed that the parish council would like to see the 20mph speed limit start where the 30mph speed limit starts now. On Bush Hill, it is proposed to start the 20mph speed limit where the 30mph speed limit starts now and the same would be the case on the road out of the village past Ambrose Lake. It was agreed that the parish council would like to see the 20mph speed limit start outside the orchard as pedestrians walking out of the village to the orchard pick up the footpath through the orchard at this point. It was proposed by Councillor N Ball and seconded by Councillor H Webb that the amendments to the proposal as put forward by Cormac and detailed in this minute be agreed. All Councillors voted in favour of the proposal.

14. Farmer's Market

To receive a report from the councillor who attended the farmer's market on 7th December 2024 and to appoint a representative to attend the farmer's market on 4th January 2025

Councillor T Hooper said that the market did not take place in December and that she would attend the market on 4th January 2025.

15. To receive reports from -

a) Cornwall Councillor

None. .

b) Goonzion Commoners

None

c) SE Cornwall CAP

None

16. To authorise the signing of orders for payment, including –

Cornwall Pension Fund (Pension for Clerk) - £186.57
Julie Ball (Toilet cleaning) - £247.62
Cornwall Council (Business Rates for Cott Yard) - £326.00
Sue Blaxley (3 months' salary and administration expenses) - £2,726.39
Classic Fire (Fire Extinguisher Servicing – Cott Yard) - £291.60
EDF Energy (Electricity for Pavilion) - £28.62
Gary Rogers (PROW cutting) - £825.00

Tartendown Nurseries (Plants and Compost for Playing Field) – £720.00
SWE (Solar Panels on Extension to Pavilion) – £17,443.26
St Neot Social Club (Cleaning Materials for Toilet) - £24.40

It was proposed by Councillor A Tamblyn and seconded by Councillor H Webb that all the above orders be authorized for payment. All Councillors voted in favour, except for Councillors G Rogers and N Ball who abstained from voting.

17. Finance Report

To receive a current financial statement of the accounts and to review income and expenditure against budget

The Clerk reported that income has been received this month as follows: £675.10 (Rent for Cott Yard from Heather Taylor) and £21,544.28 (VAT refund). The Clerk reported that the accounts balance at £102,880.94.

18. Date of next meeting

To confirm the date of the next Parish Council meeting on Wednesday 11th December 2024.

The next meeting of the parish council will be on Wednesday 8th January 2025 commencing at 7:30pm in the Village Hall/Social Club meeting room.

There was no further business and the meeting was closed at 8:50pm.