

PROBUS PARISH COUNCIL

CLERK: Mrs A Kendall, Foxleigh, Treviglas Lane, Probus, Truro, TR2 4LH
Telephone (01726) 883614 Email probuspc@gmail.com

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Probus Parish Council held on Monday 14th December 2020 Virtual commencing at 7.40pm.

Members Present: Cllrs Gillard, Budden, Goldsworthy, Maskill, Sutherland, Dalton, Deards & Faull.
Cornwall Cllr Egerton.

20/194 Election of Chairman, and if appropriate election of Vice Chairman for remainder of Municipal Year 2020-21.

Proposal by Cllr Maskill to nominate Cllr Sutherland seconded Cllr Goldsworthy.
No other nominations, carried.

It was **resolved** Cllr Sutherland elected as Chairman for the remainder of the municipal year 2020-21.

20/195 Apologies for Absence.

Cllrs Saunders-Fern. Absent Cllr Blayney.

20/196 Declarations of Interest Register both pecuniary and non-pecuniary under the Code of Conduct (to consider if any changes to Declaration of Interest form and declare interests on agenda items).

Cllr Maskill declared a non-registerable interest in Playing Field & Village Hall (committee member).

Cllr Goldsworthy declared a non-registerable interest in Village Hall (committee member)

Cllr Gillard declared a non-registerable interest in Village Hall (partner Chairman).

20/197 Public Participation.

No public present

Due to Cllr Egerton needing to leave early to attend another meeting the Chairman altered the order of the agenda- agreed.

20/198 Cornwall Councillor's report to Council.

Report from Cllr Egerton circulated prior to the meeting; available in file copy.
Summary:

Cornwall Council Tamar Bridge and Torpoint Ferry: it seems that the Government has agreed to provide support funding for the bridge and ferry to cover the Covid shortfall. Therefore, the proposed rises in tolls will not be implemented. Leisure centres: although they are mostly open, there is clearly a continuing problem with the finances as usage numbers have dropped significantly. Hard decisions will need to be taken by Cornwall Council as to whether more support is given to GLL, the operator.

Local issues Community Governance review: Reorganisation order for the various changes to parishes published and sealed by Cornwall Council.
Grampound surgery: NHS Kernow clinical commissioning group has agreed to the doctors' request to close Grampound surgery. They will vacate the premises by Christmas. Cormac incident: the Leader has agreed to the setting up of an independent inquiry into the incident. It will be chaired by a QC and assisted by a health and safety expert, both from outside Cornwall. New Stables junction: request for funding the continued cutting of this verge for highways safety reasons. If the Parish Council would like Grampound to make a contribution, Cllr Egerton will put that case to them.

Probus by-pass speeding and accidents: separate report circulated prior to the meeting. I am awaiting a formal response from Cornwall Council Highways but Cllr Egerton requests the Parish Council consider if they wish to support the principles that he put into the report.

Cllr Maskill felt it was a very good report but stressed the camera needed to cover the junction at Denas Water. Cllr Budden stated he supported most of the report although unsure about recommendation 3, he felt average speed cameras would be better. Cllr Egerton stated he has seen plans for Camelford bypass, and they have approx. 5 roundabouts over the same distance. Cllr Budden was grateful it had been highlighted to Highways. Cllr Egerton stated the Parish Council will need to keep 'banging' away. Cllr Gillard re-iterated his thanks to Cllr Egerton and stated he had been raising this at the Community Network meetings. He has also reported to the Community Network Panel they need to consider the additional users on that junction due to the growth of the Village. Additional radar checks will be undertaken by Cornwall Council speeding.

Cllr Goldsworthy stated the problem appears worse at Denas Water, this is probably due to the cars exiting Tresillian which are speeding up, not necessarily speeding, so it is difficult to judge. Cllr Budden stated the Sustainable Transport Group had also commissioned a safety report on this road, which may inform this report. Need to chase Natalie late January for new data on speeding.

Proposal by Cllr Gillard to support Cllr Egerton's report, seconded Cllr Deards, carried.

The above was duly **resolved**.

Cllr Egerton left the meeting.

20/199 Police report to include Speed watch update.

October crime report; 1 crime of theft on A390 near entrance to Trewithen.

20/200 To confirm the minutes of the meeting of 16th November 2020.

The minutes of the ordinary meetings held on 16th November 2020 were declared as correct by Councillor Deards and seconded by Councillor Maskill, all agreed; the Chairman will sign them as a correct record.

The above was duly **resolved**.

20/201 Matters Arising

- a) 20/060- Climate Emergency Grant withdrawn and replaced with Covid-19 grants, once re-instated Clerk & Cllr Dalton will apply.
- b) 20/0130- Community Network Meeting- Highways Budget, at the last meeting on 17th November and no further update on fixed VAR on St Austell Road although they are supporting, so waiting for installation, Cllr Gillard will check with the CNP if there is an update.
- c) 20/135- Caravan in lay-by- removed.
- d) 20/154- Sunken grave; topped up.
- e) 20/160- Village Hall to Gwell-an Nans Footpath; to update at meeting, try to do before Christmas.
- f) 20/163b- Neighbourhood Watch, sent to magazine for publication, has been published.
- g) 20/177- update from Cllrs Gillard & Goldsworthy on meeting with Trewithen- Cllr Gillard stated no further action to date, Cllrs will arrange to attend.
- h) 20/180- Well Truck Hill, update from Cllr Gillard on whether foliage on overburden needs removing, as approved at previous meeting; Cllr Gillard reported that no action is required at this current time, but he will review in February with Cllr Deards.
- i) 20/183- update from Cllr Gillard on progress of Parish Council taking responsibility of Tregony View Open Space- Cllr Gillard has spoken to Wainhomes and Blenheims who are happy to have a meeting, Cllrs Gillard & Budden delegated to attend any meeting, but Wainhomes will need to finish the works on Phase 1. Cllr Gillard is hoping to have a meeting in January.
- j) 20/185- Village signs- cleaning completed.
- k) 20/186- Members Area on Website- completed. Cllr Budden stated he, the Clerk and VisionICT had a meeting as he felt it fell short. He went through what was required, a folder system, rather than having everything on one page. This is not possible on our current site but can upload a link to another storage area, which will take members to a OneDrive area which will have all the papers. This will be running by January Meeting.

20/202 Finance.

- a) To receive the financial statement of accounts for the year to date, budget sheet, bank reconciliation and to approve payments.
Payments schedule circulated to members totalling £3100.26 for December, monthly forecast sheet against projected and expenditure to budget.

BACS	SWW- toilets	£22.56
BACS	Probus Village Hall- Post Office	£112.00
BACS	Mr A Inglefield- Play inspections	£175.00
BACS	Kernowek Gardeners Ltd- grass cutting	£720.00
BACS	Clayton Bell- Sign cleaning	£50.00
BACS	MA Grigg- compost for cemetery	£10.00
BACS	Phone, Zoom	£47.04

BACS	Staff salaries, expenses & pension	£1,776.86
DD-21 Nov	Cheaper Waste	£55.80
DD- 28 Nov	EDF-Toilets	£9.00
DD-28 Nov	EDF-MUGA	£27.00
	TOTAL	£3,005.26
	Additional payments for ratifying:	
BACS	Tregothnan- Christmas Tree	£95.00
	GRAND TOTAL	£3,100.26

Proposal by Cllr Goldsworthy to approve December payments, seconded Cllr Gillard, carried.

The above was duly **resolved**. Expenditure to budget, bank reconciliation and monthly forecast noted.

2 Councillors checking invoices monthly against bank account as part of Internal Control checks.

- 20/203 Staffing Meeting-** to approve minutes of the Staffing Committee 30th November 2020 and Recommendation: To consider and approve employing weed controller, if approved, to consider, amend if necessary and approve job advertisement and job spec, and to approve additional expenditure above £981 already approved, which is likely to be needed and implications on future Precept. To acknowledge that spraying may still take place in some areas, to confirm areas.
- Documents circulated with the agenda.
- Proposal by Cllr Gillard to approve minutes of the Staffing Meeting 30th November 2020, seconded Cllr Dalton, carried.
- The above was duly **resolved**.
- Discussion took place.
- Cllr Dalton stated that if the Parish Council employed the correct person then this would work.
- Cllr Gillard stated he had read articles on weeding and what comes to light is where Parish Councils have tried to go green, the over whelming majority had an integrated approach. Cllr Gillard stated a working group could clarify areas which would need to be sprayed, as some areas it would not be practical to hand weed.
- The Chairman highlighted the fact a budget would need to be set to enable line managing. Cllr Budden stated he would like to see no weeds in Probus and would like to see the reduction in glyphosate, but not at any price. Cllr Budden also said it was important to let residents know what the Parish Council is doing, it is important to have public engagement. Felt we should delay recruiting, including decision on job advert & spec until a policy is in place.
- Proposal by Cllr Dalton that the Parish Council have a working party to look at

the consequences and prepare a draft policy, working party of Cllrs Dalton, Sutherland, Budden & Deards, Cllr Dalton to lead, seconded Cllr Budden, carried.

The above was duly **resolved**.

20/204 S106- Sustainable Transport Options- to receive update from Working Group, and approve assoc. expenditure (if any).

Cllr Budden report circ. prior to the meeting. Safety review commissioned, Trewithen footpath waiting on Cllrs Gillard & Goldsworthy, new scheme car & cycle parking in The Square to change layout, which will create a safer zone being investigated, CC to report back in the New Year.

20/205 Village Hall report- update from Village Hall representative.

Cllr Goldsworthy reported the Village Hall Committee had met, regular users using the Hall and hopefully some more groups will use the Hall soon. Cornwall Council have offered additional funding of £3,000, waiting to hear back from application.

20/206 Risk Assessments- Play Area to note Risk Assessment.

No issues to report.

Cllr Faull left the meeting.

20/207 Grass Verge New Stables- at present this is financed from Cllr Egerton budget, to consider and resolve whether to include in Parish Council's remit, to approve assoc. expenditure (if any).

Email from Cllr Egerton circulated with meeting papers.

Proposal by Cllr Budden to request Grampound Parish Council share and if agreeable then we share the cost, seconded Cllr Deards, carried.

The above was duly **resolved**.

20/208 Parish Council Portable Office, currently with Doctors Surgery- update from Cllr Budden on insurance and maintenance, to approve any assoc. expenditure. Update circ. With meeting papers- noted.

Doctors are still using it and finding it a very useful space. Query whether we have a preference for colour and are we happy for them to have it for the foreseeable future.

Proposal by Cllr Budden to keep with blue and review in 12 months regarding the Doctors continued use, Cllr Budden to reply to Surgery, seconded Cllr Maskill, carried.

The above was duly **resolved**.

20/209 Dog Bin- request for additional dog bin at entrance to footpath at the bottom of Treviglas Lane, members to note the Parish Council does not own any land in this area therefore permission will be needed from land owner, to approve assoc. expenditure (if any).

Clerk reported there was already a post in situ, but this is not Parish Council

land.

Proposal by Cllr Budden to approve additional dog bin on the proviso land owner is supportive, seconded Cllr Maskill, carried.

The above was duly **resolved**.

20/210 Skate Ramp – to consider noise complaint received, any mitigating actions, and to approve assoc. expenditure (if any).

Complaint from resident circ. with agenda papers.

Proposal by Cllr Sutherland that the Chairman & Clerk responds to the resident verbally the Parish Council will continue to try and mitigate against the alleged noise but if they are not happy with Parish Council actions then they can if they wish report to EPO, who will carry out a noise assessment, seconded Cllr Budden, carried.

The above was duly **resolved**.

20/211 Play Area- to consider and resolve planting adjacent to Bowling Green to aid noise management, also to consider further planting along other boundaries due to noise, to approve assoc. expenditure (if any).

Report circ. with meeting papers.

Discussion took place. A site visit had taken place at the park. Cllr Budden felt additional mitigation may be possible in the ramp structure. It was felt evidence was needed that fencing and hedging had worked elsewhere, but this is difficult to find. This will cost a significant amount of money but unsure it will work. Cllr Maskill stated there is acoustic fencing, which he is happy to do research on, but unsure 2m would be high enough, agreed Cllr Maskill to research. Unsure if Bowling Green fence is causing an echo.

Cllr Gillard stated that the Parish Council has already taken mitigating actions and installed additional sound-proofing, but his view is that whatever we do the noise is not going to go away completely as it is a Play Area, and the Parish Council has not been informed by the EPO there is an issue. Although he was happy to plant hedges as part of our green policy, but not sure if it would help with any alleged noise. Cllr Deards stated that the noise is caused by the skateboards, they should have soft wheels, but this is difficult to enforce.

Proposal by Cllr Budden that we deal with the ramp first and enquire if there is any additional noise mitigation, and do planting as secondary, seconded Cllr Deards, carried. Cllr Budden to contact Cornerstone Building for suggestions.

The above was duly **resolved**.

20/212 Pavilion Plans- update from Cllr Gillard on previous plans. To consider if appropriate to restart the project at this time, and to approve assoc. expenditure (if any).

Cllr Gillard stated the Pavilion Building is not fit for purpose, badly laid out and repairs needed. The Parish Council has had in ear-marked reserves a sum of money for planning. To obtain planning consent the application would need to be reviewed with the Playing Field Committee, Football Club and Bowling Club. Cllr Budden stated he felt as this term was coming to an end, it was not appropriate to start something of this complexity this late in the term. He felt

the Football Club should also be pulling their wait to drive this project he also felt other land elsewhere would be better as this area has been outgrown. Cllr Maskill stated he felt the Football Club did their bit, painting etc. The Playing Field Committee would happily look at the plans but really need to consider if this is the correct place.

Cllr Budden stated a consultation is needed.

Proposal by Cllr Gillard to draw up additional plans with the full support of the Playing Field Committee with a view to obtaining planning permission, seconded Cllr Maskill, carried.

The above was duly **resolved**.

- 20/213 Christmas Tree in The Square** – to ratify the decision taken under urgency, to consider any further actions, and to approve assoc. expenditure (if any).
Proposal by Cllr Sutherland to ratify the decision, seconded Cllr Deards, carried.
The above was duly **resolved**.

- 20/214 Scaffolding -Wagg Lane**, complaints received; Streetworks state permission is granted until April 2021 and road is wide enough- to note.
Noted.

- 20/215 Covid-19-** to consider changes in legislation and impact on Parish Council, if any.
No changes this month.

20/216 Correspondence before despatch of the Agenda

- a. Various emails circulated to members on receipt for information- noted.
- b. SSE- Public Lighting Maintenance Agreement- no faults found; lamp in good condition. Clerk has emailed requesting quote for refurbishment.
- c. Cornwall Council – election expenses projection, this is £2175.15 therefore when the Parish Council next review ear-marked reserves additional funding will need to be placed into this ‘pot’.

- 20/217 To consider and resolve to exclude press & public due to the confidential nature of the business to be discussed.**
No public present.

20/218 Bee-Eco- update.

Email from Bee-Eco circ. with agenda papers, Clerk has responded expressing the Parish Council’s disappointment and our bank details for a refund of the deposit.

Proposal by Cllr Budden to obtain quote for future meeting, seconded Cllr Gillard, carried.

The above was duly **resolved**.

20/219 Items for future Agenda.

- Consultation with residents re seating at Bosnoweth-leave on list due to Covid
- NDP- for future once White Paper has gone through Government.
- Speed watch

- Holy Well- to place on February agenda to check with contractor.
- Ear-marked reserves to review due to election charges.
- Wildflower planting.

**20/220 It was agreed the next Meeting of the Parish Council will be 18th January 2021
(Virtual unless legislation changes).**

The meeting closed at 10pm.

Chairman..... Date.....