MEVAGISSEY PARISH COUNCIL

<http://mevagisseyparishcouncil.co.uk/>

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at the Jubilee Hall

On Thursday 15 July 2021 at 7pm

Present Cllrs. M Roberts (Chairman), M Facey (Vice-Chairman), G Barham, J Gann, C Leiser, G Shephard,

C Tonks, J Whatty, A Williams, G Williams.

In Attendance Cllr. J Mustoe (Ward Member), P Howson (Clerk to the Council), 3 members of the public.

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*UNRATIFIED UNLESS SIGNED*

1. Apologies had been received from Cllrs. Hereward, Morgan and Drake, and Dr Julian Donald.

The Chairman offered congratulations on behalf of members to Cllr. Leiser who had been granted citizenship.

He also said that meetings from August were expected to be held at the MAC following the lifting of pandemic restrictions.

2. There were no Declarations of Interest or Gifts.

3. Dr Julian Donald (Climate Action Group researcher) had sent his apologies and his presentation was made by Cllr. Whatty who explained the background to Dr Donald’s secondment, what had been achieved, and what the next steps were. He then took questions from members and the public.

4. Public participation.

Malcolm Triggs spoke on the recent incident at Portmellon cove (see the Ward Member’s report) and asked how the issues raised might be handled consistently across the coastal communities in Cllr. Mustoe’s division.

Deirdre Allen spoke on agenda item 26 and her intention of forming a group to develop a commemorative event to mark the centenary of the war memorial, for which she may seek funding from the Council.

Jane Barron, on the same item, said it would be good to involve the school in a ceremony of re-dedication on the day.

5. Proposed by Cllr. Shephard, Seconded by Cllr. Whatty that the minutes of the meeting held on 17 June 2021 be accepted. Carried.

6. Proposed by Cllr. A Williams, Seconded by Cllr. Shephard that the minutes of the planning meeting held on 18 June 2021 be accepted. Carried.

7. To receive the Clerk’s report.

* Following the enactment of the Non-Domestic Rating (Public Lavatories) Act 2021, Valley Rd PC business rates have been refunded in full for the two-year period 01/04/20 - 31/03/22 (will appear in next month's accounts);
* The Tregiskey crossroads bank reprofiling under the Community Network Highways Scheme is complete (it was noted that the waste had been dumped in the lay-by, and Cllr. James undertook to chase this up);
* On receipt of my letter regarding inappropriate behaviour in Trewinney Cemetery, the school headteacher kindly agreed to put something in their newsletter:
* Responses from Live West and Ocean Housing detailing their properties in the parish had been received;
* The second cut of the coast path starts this Saturday.

8. The Ward Member presented his report, including that:

* He thanked Cormac for the improved signage installed in good time for the start of the Polkirt Hill temporary one-way system, and thanked in particular the Portmellon residents who have been very unselfish in mostly backing the proposals;
* In light of the greatly improved air quality in Church Street and Fore Street during last year’s temporary one-way system he arranged for air quality monitoring devices to be installed around the village on 1st July to see if there is any measurable difference;
* He obtained Cornwall Council’s agreement to part-fund the village recycling bins for 4 months while also exploring ways to avoid the continued abuse that these facilities have suffered since this council has taken them over. A meeting is taking place tomorrow between Cllr. Facey and CC officers to further these plans;
* He took part in a beach clean at Portmellon and Colona on 27th June, where 9 people turned out to help, and worked with residents on 29th June to clean up Shilly Alley Op. He was pleased to see this council working with Pat Smith to set up a regular Mevagissey-based litter-picking group, which will be meeting on the first Wednesday of every month from now on;
* He has pushed Cormac to expedite the grass cutting regime around the parish, particularly at Trewinney Cemetery, the path from Vicarage Hill to the school and Cliff Park;
* He instigated a devolution meeting between this council and CC officers to discuss outline ideas for a devolution package for Mevagissey;
* He would be pleased to work with the group planning the war memorial centenary event and make a donation from the community chest fund;
* He spoke at the AGM of the Mevagissey Bay Association and thanks Cllr. Williams and the volunteers for their hard work over the past year;
* CC has confirmed that the works to stabilise the land behind the Valley Road public toilets should start at the beginning of August;
* He has been contacted by residents regarding the problem of jet-skis at Portmellon and has passed details to the police and the coastguard;
* He has passed on to the police details of anti-social behaviour around the parish and has learned that 'Beach Patrol' funding has been provided from the Police and Crime Commissioner's Office to resource additional patrols around the coastal stretch from Crinnis to Gorran Haven over the summer months. He urged everybody to report all potential criminal incidents to the police so they can form an evidence base and take action.

The full report can be seen on the Council’s website.

9. To consider issues arising from the Ward Member’s report.

9a. Proposed by Cllr. Facey, Seconded by Cllr. Leiser that Cllr. Mustoe would co-ordinate a meeting of interested parties around St Austell and Mevagissey Bays to address the problem of irresponsible use of powered watercraft and, in the short term, to focus on Portmellon. Carried.

9b. Proposed by Cll. Facey, Seconded by Cllr. Gann that Cllr. Facey would arrange for a suitable barrier to be installed on the Portmellon slipway. Carried.

10. To approve the monthly finances.

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| Bills to Pay | Salaries | £ | 1,000.00 |  |  |
|  | HMRC (PAYE) | £ | 250.00 |  |  |
|  | Attendants at West Wharf PC 27/06/21 - 03/07/21 | £ | 330.00 |  |  |
|  | First cut of inland footpaths | £ | 375.57 |  |  |
|  | Attendants at West Wharf PC 04/07/21 - 10/07/21 | £ | 440.00 |  |  |
|  | River Street car park waste collections 04/06/21 - 13/06/21 | £ | 317.28 |  |  |
|  | River Street car park waste collections 18/06/21 - 27/06/21 | £ | 317.28 |  |  |
|  | June recycling bank collections | £ | 1,171.50 |  |  |
|  | June waste collections from West Wharf PC | £ | 187.44 |  |  |
|  | Operate Valley Road PC July 2021 | £ | 970.34 |  |  |
|  | Operate West Wharf PC July 2021 | £ | 1,111.20 |  |  |
|  | West Wharf PC electricity 02/06/21 - 01/07/21 | £ | 33.10 |  |  |
|  | TOTAL | *£* | 6,503.71 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Accounts | Amount available to spend as of last meeting | £ | 112,262.30 |  |  |
|  | Expenditure last month | £ | 5,891.31 |  |  |
|  | plus Attendants at West Wharf PC 13/06/21 - 19/06/21 | £ | 330.00 |  |  |
|  | Valley Road PC water 06/05/21 - 04/06/21 | £ | 166.50 |  |  |
|  | Attendants at West Wharf PC 20/06/21 - 26/06/21 | £ | 290.00 |  |  |
|  | West Wharf PC entry money | £ | 3,360.00 |  | Received |
|  | Mevagissey Bay Association (towards toilets and waste bins) | £ | 82.12 |  | Received |
|  | Bank interest | £ | 2.77 |  | Received |
|  | Available to spend | £ | 109,029.38 |  |  |
|  | Bank Statements (01/07/2021) |  |  |  |  |
|  | Current Account |  |  | £ | 3,822.98 |
|  | Deposit Account |  |  | £ | 105,206.40 |
|  | TOTAL |  |  | £ | 109,029.38 |

Proposed by Cllr. Gann, Seconded by Cllr. A Williams that the accounts be accepted and the bills paid. Carried.

11. It was agreed that agenda item 26 be brought forward. Proposed by Cllr. Facey, Seconded by Cllr. Gann that the Council would underwrite the proposed war memorial commemorative event by up to £3,000. Carried.

Cllr. Mustoe also indicated that his community chest fund would contribute.

12. Cllr. Facey reported that Cormac had agreed to construct a protective screen behind the Valley Road ladies’ toilet to allow it to re-open safely while they engage with the landowner to stabilise the bank. Meanwhile, Gary Farr was refurbishing the ladies’ toilet in readiness. It was agreed that, to realise the full benefit of the refurbishment, the planned major refit should be deferred until the end of 2022.

13. Cllr. Gann had nothing to report this month on the proposed Community Land Trust.

14. Cllr. Shephard reported that the first meeting of the new Housing Working Group had agreed to invite local, well-connected people to act as ‘champions’ who could identify housing issues at the grass roots level; and that a future meeting would consider how to address these issues.

15. Cllr. Whatty reported that the Climate Emergency Working Group continues to pursue funding for the Planet A assessment of options to reduce CO2 emissions within the parish. Cllr. Leiser recommended a new film looking at the impact of climate change on the fishing industry which could be screened during a future meeting. She will arrange this with the Clerk.

16. Cllr. Gann reported that the system of extra bins in the village centre was running smoothly, and that contributions from businesses towards the cost were expected later this month. Cllr. Facey reported that he and the Clerk were meeting CC waste management officers tomorrow to discuss the proposed part-funded recycling scheme.

17. Clle. Gann reported that the Council’s Facebook group was fulfilling its purpose, with good public feedback, and that contributions would always be welcome. Cllr Facey suggested that, ideally, these should include a photograph and be less than 100 words.

18. Cllr. A Williams reported on the recent litter-picking exercise organised by Pat Smith which had produced 4 sacks of rubbish which Cormac carted away. Cllr. Mustoe thought the group currently had enough equipment, but as more people got involved then more equipment would be needed.

Proposed by Cllr. Whatty, Seconded by Cllr. G Williams that the Council underwrites spend up to £200. Carried.

The group meets in front of the Jubilee Hall at 10am on the first Wednesday of the month, and all are welcome.

19. Proposed by Cllr. Facey, Seconded by Cllr. Gann that a grant of £250 be made to Mevagissey FC towards the cost of pitch drainage works. Carried.

20. The Council considered schemes which might be eligible for a grant from the European Regional Development Fund’s ‘Welcome Back Fund’ and identified extra waste bins and on-site toilet attendants as possible candidates.

The Clerk will pursue this with the Community Link Officer.

21. To consider ongoing problems with the dog-waste bin on Pentillie field (Cllr. Morgan).

Cllr. Morgan had sent apologies and there were varying views from other members, so this item was deferred.

22. The Council considered a response to the request for local councils’ views on Cornwall Council. It was agreed that all members should provide input to the Clerk who would compile a response for approval at the next meeting.

23. CC have insisted that, despite local and Parish Council objections, they will be pressing ahead with safety railings on the sea wall at Portmellon, with or without the support of the Parish Council. Proposed by Cllr. Gann, Seconded by Cllr. Facey that the Council maintains its objection to the scheme. It was a waste of money, would encourage traffic to cross the cove in unsuitable conditions, people would trip over the supporting struts, and it would be an unsightly intrusion into this picturesque cove in the AONB. Carried.

24. The Council considered the development of a devolution package and concluded that details of CC’s costings were required before progress could be made. Cllr. Mustoe will pursue this.

25. It was agreed that Cllr. Leiser would liaise with the Ward Member and the Clerk in applying for a ‘landmark’ tree as part of the Forest for Cornwall programme.

26. Cllr. A Williams reported that unrestricted funding surplus to the requirements of the Mevagissey Support Group was now invested in the new Mevagissey Bay Association Community Fund and could be used for the benefit of the wider community. The fund receives c.£1,000 per month and applications for funding within the community would be welcomed.

27. CC not having altered the wording as agreed on the new pedestrian signs at Cliff Park, it was agreed that Cllr. Mustoe would ask for them to removed completely.

28. The meeting ended at 9.45pm. Date of next (non-planning) meeting: 19 August 2021 (at the MAC).

Signed ......................................................................................... Dated ....................................