

NORTH HILL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 9th NOVEMBER 2020

Via ZOOM

Present:

Mary Budge
Brian Ruby
Adrian Parsons
Richard Randall
David Daniells

In Attendance:

General public – None

A Virtual meeting opened at 7.35pm with the Chairman welcoming all present.

1. RECEIVING APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

- 1.1 Carrie Marshall – No Facilities for Zoom
- 1.2 Maurice Hosking – No available Internet
- 1.3 Mervyn Stephens – No available Internet
- 1.4 Steven Sandercock – Work commitments

2. PUBLIC SESSION

- 2.1 None

3. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

- 3.1 No Declarations of interests – None declared

4. APPROVING MINUTES

- 4.1 Minutes from 12th October proposed and agreed 1st Cllr R Randall 2nd Cllr B Ruby with all Councillors in favour of the Chairman to sign.

5. REVIEW OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- 5.1 No Planning Applications submitted during this period.

6. REVIEW OF CLERKS REPORT

- 6.1 Dog Bins – During the past 3 – 4 weeks the Dog bins have not been collected by Biffa as Tony Milton had suspended all collections until payment had been made. On a recent conversation with the Clerk Mr Milton agreed to reinstate the collections as the Clerk reminded him this is not helping the situation with the Parish Council and residents alike. Councillors on discussion are happy to pay for 2020/2021 annual subscription for the collections, but are not happy in paying for the amount requested by Biffa for 2019/2020 at £2106.00. Further discussions are to be held with Mr Milton and Cllr Parsons will also discuss with Cornwall Council as other Parish Councils are having the same issues.
- 6.2 Ralph Hudson North Hill Climate Emergency Group – It's a pleasure to introduce myself as the new Coordinator of the Parish's Climate Emergency Action Group. I would rather it was not because of Kevin Tharme's health concerns, which I hope he will soon be able to put behind him, but he has kindly recommended me as his successor and I find myself in the privileged position of being able to build on the foundations he has laid. Although many of you will know me, I should start by saying a few words about myself. Diana and I live next door to Mary Budge and have been at Kingbeare since the 80s. Our children used to attend Sunday school at North Hill. For work reasons, we lived near Bath for many years but have now returned and I am one of the many people who now work remotely from home. As

Sign & Date _____

Chairman

an engineer by trade, my climate change credentials come from many years work on solar and other renewable technologies and I am Director of two small companies that conduct research into the application of optics for advanced solar systems.

One of our current investigations may be of interest. Power companies in California have received heavy fines for wildfires started by sparks from their high voltage transmission lines. We offered a low-cost fire detection system that would detect these conditions along long lines of pylons before major fires could take hold in remote areas. We also talked to the Australians. They were less interested, not because they didn't like our solution but because they have no resources to stop the fires; they just let them burn. This is one reason why climate change issues are so important. The longer we let temperatures rise, the more these events will occur and the harder it will be to reverse the damage. Everyone has a part to play.

The Climate Emergency is a global problem with a massive impact on the natural world. The Climate Action Group will not be able to change much on this scale but it can make a difference within our communities as people become increasingly worried about the need for rapid changes in the way we live. My first ambition is to make sure that everything we try and do is relevant and useful to members of local parishes. Climate change may be a crisis, but it is also a chance to take advantage of new opportunities, most of which relate to the growing emphasis on the use of local resources.

I look forward to discussing the possibilities at the meeting on 9 November. Until then, the thoughts below may help frame the discussion and I welcome any comments that members of the Council may have.

Aims of the Group

Provide information that allows people to understand why the climate emergency has been declared and how they may play a part in responding to it.

Encourage ways to make better use of local resources.

Encourage and support climate related projects, many of which are likely to fall within the wider initiatives of Cornwall County Council

Establish links with related projects in other parishes.

Priorities

My personal priority is to get to know everyone that is actively involved in the Climate Action Group and understand the issues that most interest them. I've started!

Another is to make sure that Jill Goodman's outstanding work on the Group's website is being put to good use. There is already a wealth of useful and well-structured information on the website and I hope it will become a first port of call for anyone interested in the local focus on climate change. I would encourage everyone to have a look, keep it on their list of useful links and recommend it to others:

www.northhillclimate.org

There is already an impressive list of actions being taken across the Parish, many built on the success of the outstanding Climate Fayre at the Village Hall. They're on the website under 'We can all make a difference Right Now!'. I don't need to repeat them here other than to emphasise how much I admire these really effective and valuable contributions. I look forward to finding new projects that will attract active support and deliver outcomes that are also genuinely appreciated.

Other Business

On more mundane matters, the Group is likely to be acting as an Unincorporated Association and it would be sensible to agree a suitable Constitution over coming weeks. We will have to ensure we have the right indemnities and disclaimers in place and I will keep the Council informed as I check that all the essentials are covered.

Finally, thank you for setting up this Group and for helping to mobilise the community in its response to a climate emergency that is unfortunately very real. North Hill Emergency Climate Group members are Jane Terry, Jackie Radford, Nicola Barker Jill Goodman and Ralph Hudson.

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Chairman

6.3 “We Are Watching You” Cornwall Council Anti Dog Fouling Campaign – The Parish Councillors do not wish to “sign up” for this event at the minute.

7. REVIEW OF CLERKS REPORT

7.1 Camera’s Village Hall – Councillors B Ruby and D Daniells have suggested they would like to see the Parish Council install CCTV Camera’s up on the Village Hall, as they feel this would stop the issues of Dog Fouling, Criminal Damage. Councillors agreed to look into the cost and Cllr D Daniells to get a quote to install 2 x 360 degrees cameras to be placed 1 x at the front of the Hall and 1 x at the Back covering the rear car park.

7.2 Website– Councillor Randall has advised the Council the new Website will be up and running by the 23rd November. All the information has been taken off the old website and Cllr Randall asks Councillors to review the website before going “live”. Cllr Randal is happy to give the Clerk a “crash” course on up-loading information.

7.3 Football Nets – This item has been deferred until the New Year.

7.4 Notice Boards – Cllr Randall has fixed the Notice Board in Middlewood and the replacement Notice board for Berrio will be installed shortly.

7.5 Conker Tree Congdons Shop – The Chairman has requested the Clerk to retrieve a quote from Mr R Hosking to cut back the Conker Tree at Congdons Shop.

7.6 Salt – Councillors wish the Clerk to order another palette of Salt and another Salt Bin to be placed in Lynher Way in Bathpool.

8. FINANCES

8.1 Authorisation of expenses – Proposed Cllr B Ruby 2nd Cllr R Randall with all Councillors in favour.

Mrs A Jones Zoom Subscription, Notice Board, Ink, Postage, Paper £243.65

Kivells Land Registry £300.00

Community Heartbeat Subscription Tel System £120.00

Building of Website £528.00

Biffa Dog Bin Collection £2169.18

8.2 Wages – A Jones £539.02 (inc Mobile Phone Contract, Rm Rental, Internet)

8.3 Update of Current Account - as of 28 October 2020 £24781.46

8.4 Monthly Budget Sheet – Shared document for Councillors to view for their information.

9. MEETINGS

9.1 Next Meeting – Monday 14th December 2020 at 7.30pm

Sign & Date _____

Chairman