

NORTH HILL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 11th April 2022

Present:

Mary Budge
Brian Ruby
David Daniells
Steve Sandercock
Adrian Parsons
Mervyn Stephens
Stuart Maher
Ralph Hudson
Courtney Walters

In Attendance:

Mrs A Jones (Clerk)

The Parish Council meeting held in the Village Hall with the Chairman welcoming all present.

1. RECEIVING APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

1.1 Councillor R Randall – Apologies sent

2. PUBLIC SESSION SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO SPEAK

2.1 No members of the Public in attendance.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

3.1 No Councillors declared an interest.

4. APPROVING MINUTES

4.1 Minutes from 14th March 2022 proposed and agreed 1st Cllr R Hudson 2nd Cllr C Walters. All Councillors in favour of the Chairman to sign.

5. REVIEW OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS

5.1 No Planning has been received during this period.

6. REVIEW OF CORRESPONDENCE

6.1 Kompan – Cllr Randall has reported to the Councillors (via email), Kompan will be carrying out the necessary works as stated in the recent Play Area inspection at no cost to the Parish Council

6.2 Plusha Junction – A meeting was held on 17th March, the presentation and question sessions were led by Ed Halford of National Highways. Prominent speakers were Adrian Parsons and John Conway:

The safety concerns about the Plusha junction have been well understood since before 2000 and are not in doubt. The junction does not meet modern safety standards.

The sensitivity of local people, who knew several of the people killed or injured at the junction over the years is respected. The community will be involved in any decision.

Sign & Date _____

Chairman

The problem is that any expenditure at Plusha has to be approved from a national budget within national priorities. There is no highways budget for Cornwall.

Plush itself is unlikely to rise up the priority list but Highways England are modelling the 8 km section around it and taking account of journey times, local traffic, carbon footprints and access for emergency services. This increases the likelihood that Plusha will receive attention. Several options are being considered. No decision has been made.

Interim solutions may be considered, but this point attracted scepticism that limited spending would lead to further spending to complete the improvement.

There was one voice suggesting that simply closing Plusha would be an acceptable price to pay for better safety but Councillor Parsons made it clear how important the B3257 turning is to local businesses and access to Callington.

Examples at Kennard's House (took a long campaign) and Pathfinder Village (was closed for safety reasons but had to be re-opened in response to outcry) were quoted.

Note that services improvements at Plusha are unlikely to be approved because any increase in demand will increase traffic levels and therefore make the situation worse.

A grade separated junction (underpass or overpass) could cost between £50m and £100m.

National Highways will share the basis of their decision making with the LCNP.

In summary, the picture was discouraging. There was nothing to suggest that better modelling or any other aspect addressed by National Highways will do anything other than delay a decision, even with support from Scott Mann as the local MP. No specific solutions were offered, nor was there any sign that Plusha could win backing for investment in a safer junction. The only positive outcome was that the LCNP clearly has a constructive and ongoing line of communication with National Highways.

- 6.3 PKF Littlejohn – Information has been received from PDK Littlejohn and 2021 2022 Audit. Clerk has already started this process.
- 6.4 Mr M Stephens Coads Green – Mr M Stephens has requested a Grant from the Parish Council to help with the Grass Cutting at Coads Green for £250. All Councillors are to support Proposed 1st Cllr A Parsons 2nd Cllr C Walters.
- 6.5 Biffa – The Clerk has received an email from Mr T Milton of Biffa, he has stated that the VAT was omitted of the prices from 2019 and wishes for the Parish Council to pay. On the Clerk speaking to Donna Latham of CCC, it is suggested the Parish Council does not pay the VAT, but to update the account with paying the outstanding charges and from this point pay the VAT. Councillors fully support this Proposed 1st Cllr S Maher 2nd Cllr R Hudson £2676,38 monies outstanding current charges £222.72 Coads Green £222.72 Bathpool £1113.60 North Hill Proposed 1st Cllr R Hudson 2nd Cllr C Walters with all Councillors in favour.

7. REVIEW OF CLERK'S REPORT

- 7.1 Bathpool Defib – Parish Councillors wish the Clerk to research Defibrillators for Bathpool
- 7.2 Congdons Shop Layby – Councillor Parsons has spoken to Mr Oliver Jones and he may have materials to help the Parish Council during the summer months.
- 7.3 Internet Banking – The Clerk and Chairman are no further forward as still waiting to hear back from HSBC.
- 7.4 Coads Green Trees – Councillor Maher to research Tree costs to replace blown down tree.
- 7.5 Review of Standing Orders – Councillors signed and dated for 2022 -2023

Sign & Date _____

Chairman

- 7.6 Review of Financial Risk Assessment - Councillors signed and dated for 2022 – 2023
- 7.7 Review of Code of Conduct – Councillors signed and dated for 2022 – 2023
- 7.8 Asset Register – Councillors are in agreement with the Current Asset Register 2022 – 2023 Proposed 1st Cllr R Hudson 2nd Cllr S Maher with all Councillors in favour.
- 7.9 Election of Tree Warden North Hill Parish – Councillor S Maher has been voted for Tree Warden by the Councillors 1st Cllr D Daniells 2nd Cllr B Ruby with all Councillors in favour.
- 7.10 Cllr Hudson Review of LNC – Duplicated from item 6.2

8. FINANCES

- 8.1 Authorisation of Expenses – Proposed 1st Cllr C Walters 2nd Cllr M Stephens with all Councillors in favour.
North Hill Village Hall £30.00
CALC Yearly Membership Subscription £451.49
- 8.2 Wages - Wages of £719.64 to cover room rent, internet and mobile costs were authorised.
- 8.3 Update of Current Account as of 28 March 2022 - £12549.16
- 8.4 Update of Savings Account as of 11th March 2022 - £1.07
- 8.5 Monthly Budget Sheet - Provided for information. No comments were raised.
- 8.6 RAG - Provided for information. No comments were raised.

9. NEXT MEETING

- 9.1 Next Meeting - Monday 9th May 2022 at 7.30pm, **AGM & APM** North Hill Village Hall.

Meeting ended at 9.10pm.

Sign & Date _____
Chairman