

NORTH HILL PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Cllr Mary Budge

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 13th MARCH 2023

Present:

Mary Budge
Richard Randall
Brian Ruby
Steven Sandercock
Mervyn Stephens
David Daniells
Adrian Parsons
Hayley Budge
Courtney Walters

In Attendance:

Ralph Hudson (for Parish Clerk)
3 Members of the Public

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

1. RECEIVING APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

1.1 Mrs A Jones - Illness

2 PUBLIC SESSION

2.1 Mrs Terry addressed the Parish Council regarding the VET System. It is now widely accepted that the risk of Defibs being stolen in rural areas is less than the risk of being unable to contact the volunteers authorised to unlock the Defib when it is needed. Some villages have replaced the keypads with handles at a nominal cost of £20. Clerk to check with Zurich Insurance that the Defib is still covered if remained unlocked. The Council agreed that once insurance checks are complete, Mrs Terry can purchase a suitable handle to replace the lock and make the Defib immediately accessible to all. Costs up to £50 will be allowable.

2.2 It was asked whether there are any plans to celebrate the Coronation. The Chair explained that an application has been submitted to close the road in North Hill between the entrance to Springfield House and the entrance to the Village Hall so that a street party could be held for the Parish. The public house in North Hill will be open all day on 7 May. Key dates are the Coronation on Saturday 6 May, Street Parties on Sunday 7 May and Environmental Concerns on Monday 8 May. Further discussions were reserved for later in the Agenda.

3. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

3.1 No Declaration of Interest Declared.

4. APPROVING MINUTES

4.1 Minutes from 13th February 2023 proposed and agreed 1st Cllr R Randall 2nd Cllr M Stephens. All Councillors in favour of the Chair to sign.

5. REVIEW OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS

5.1 PA23/00011 Land North of Trewithey Farm. It was noted that after a site visit, the County Council

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had no concerns about the distance between the existing buildings and the proposed new dwelling, despite the issue being raised previously by the Parish Council. Cllr S Sandercock reminded Councillors that approval would effectively endorse the separation between buildings and make it harder to prevent further development of this land in the future. No further objections were raised.

5.2 There were no new planning applications.

6. REVIEW OF CLERKS REPORT

6.1 Speeding Flashing Lights – It has been confirmed that the Parish Council are permitted to purchase and use the Flashing signs once Highways Dept have completed installation of the posts in Coads Green and North Hill. Posts are installed at no cost to the Parish Council. It is a local responsibility to locate the cameras and rotate them between Coads Green, Bathpool and North Hill. Statistical data on speeding vehicles will be collected by the cameras and may be published at the discretion of the Parish Council. The introduction of speed guns on the B 3257 is a separate issue, for which preparations continue.

6.2 Uphill - Damage to Roadside - The Chair summarised an e-mail from Mr Duncan Stott arguing that new signage is needed to prevent heavy goods vehicles from using this road for access to Bathpool. Cllr A Parsons clarified that the Parish Council is a consultee in this debate and can influence whether new signs are provided by National Highways. The Council was unwilling to change its position on previous determinations that the existing signage is a sensible compromise between the conflicting interests of general access and roadside protection. The Chair will reply.

6.3 North Hill Play Area - The next safety inspection has been booked for April 2023. Cllr R Randall reported that the latest inspection report has been received and contains a list of items that need attention. It was agreed that competitive tenders for routine maintenance should be discussed at the next meeting. The Chair will request a quotation from Mr Rob Hoskins, a qualified tree surgeon, to protect the play area from the encroaching tree canopy. Cllr D Daniells confirmed that the zip-wire will be examined when the weather is suitable.

6.4 Street Parking - The Chair drew attention to a letter from Cornwall Council explaining the new Off-Street Parking Order for simplified tariff banding across the County. This will be available on the website www.cornwall.gov.uk/TrafficConsult.

7. REVIEW OF CLERKS REPORT

7.1 Bathpool Defib – No update. To be discussed at the next Parish Council meeting.

7.2 War Memorial Railings – No update. To be discussed at the next Parish Council meeting.

7.3 North Hill Village Hall Car Park – The Clerk has written to the alleged owner of the trailer, requesting that it be removed for health and safety reasons. No reply has yet been received. Car park signs are on order.

7.4 Kings Coronation – It was agreed that the children of the Parish should receive a memento of the Coronation. An estimated 180 items are needed as the number of children in the Parish has increased. It is too late to order official coins and mugs were not considered attractive. The Chair agreed to consider an alternative commemorative coin with a nominal budget of about £4.50 per item. The Coronation celebrations are to be relatively low key and the street party in North Hill will be run on a 'bring and share' basis. There will be no beacons for the Coronation celebrations.

7.5 Dates of Parish Council Meetings - Monday 17 April, Monday 15 May, Monday 12 June 2023.

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- 7.6 Battens (PA21/06185) - Cllr R Randall tabled a letter from Cornwall Council stating that the matter has been formally registered under reference EN22/01230. The Parish Council will be informed if there is considered to be a breach of planning control. Concrete has already been poured and there is concern that Cornwall Council's response will be too slow to address local concerns.
- 7.7 Coads Green Grass Cutting - Mr Michael Stevens is requesting that payment be increased to £300.00 to cover inflation and rising fuel costs. Proposed 1st Cllr H Budge 2nd Cllr C Walters. Cllr D Daniells voted against. All others in favour.
8. NORTH HILL CEMETERY SUB COMMITTEE
- 8.1 Fencing – It was agreed that a gap should be left in the hedge when the new saplings are planted along the bottom edge of the new cemetery so that an access gate can be erected. It has yet to be decided whether the gate should be central or to one side. There is also a gate at the top of the field that is still in place but overgrown. This should be cleared and checks made to establish whether the right of way still exists.
- The Queens Green Canopy – Cllr R Randall reported that 105 saplings have already been delivered and that a total of 270 are expected. They are to be planted at 1000 to 1200 on 26 April 2023 with the help of 12 children under teacher supervision from Coads Green school. Cllr H Budge will update the Facebook page and the Chair will arrange a poster. The Village Hall will be open for access to toilets.
- 8.2 Procedures - Sarah Mason CALC - A letter has now been received from Sarah Mason offering sources of useful advice. A Design and Access Statement is being prepared by Kivells. A full Planning Application has been made and remaining issues such as risk assessments and disability access will be addressed as planning for the cemetery continues.
9. FINANCES
- 9.1 Authorisation of expenses – None
- 9.2 Wages – A Jones £676 (plus allowable expenses for Mobile Phone, Rm Rental, Internet)
- 9.3 Update of Current Account - as of 9th February 2023 -£2701.28 (Clerk to check on return)
- 9.4 Update of Savings Account – as of 11th August 2022 £1.07
- 9.5 Monthly Budget Sheet – Information given to Councillors. Line for audit fees to be corrected (Cell P2 to read =SUM(O2-N2) not =SUM(E2-O2)).
- 9.6 RAG – Information given to Councillors.
10. MEETINGS
- 10.1 Next Meeting – Monday 17 April 2023 at 7.30pm North Hill Village Hall

Meeting ended 2110.

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