

# NORTH HILL PARISH COUNCIL

**Chairman: Mary Budge**

## MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THE 6<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2024

**Present:**

Councillor Mary Budge – Chairman  
Councillor Hayley Budge  
Councillor David Daniells  
Councillor John Harcourt  
Councillor Ralph Hudson  
Councillor Adrian Parsons  
Councillor Richard Randall  
Councillor Brian Ruby  
Councillor Steven Sandercock

**In attendance**

Mrs Lena Batten (clerk)  
No members of the public were in attendance.

**1. To receive apologies:**

To receive apologies: Councillor Richard Randall.

**2. Code of Conduct:**

- a) To receive declarations: None.
- b) To grant dispensations: None.

**3. Public comments on items on the agenda only:**

None.

**4. To receive and approve the minutes of the 1<sup>st</sup> July 2024 full Council Meeting:**

It was proposed by Cllr B. Ruby and seconded by Cllr H. Budge with all in favour that the minutes of the meeting of North Hill Parish Council held on the 1<sup>st</sup> July 2024 be confirmed as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

**5. Any matters arising from the past minutes not on the current agenda:**

The clerk stated that she had received a call from the Royal British Legion to request that any Wreath's were ordered ready for November.

**Resolved that** the clerk would proceed and purchase one Wreath for Congdon's Shop War Memorial at a cost of £20.00.

**6. To consider planning applications from Cornwall Council by the date of this meeting:**

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6.1 Noted for information: PA23/00832 APPROVED - Tuckers Garage Coads Green Launceston Cornwall PL15 7LY - Proposal Reserved Matters application for appearance, landscaping, layout and scale following outline consent PA20/04468 dated 19.10.21.

6.2 Noted for information: PA24/04200 – Lynhays, Mill Lane, Bathpool, PL15 7NW – comments were submitted following a site visit of the 9th July 2024.

6.3 Noted for information: PA24/04724 – Meadowside, Illand Road, Congdon’s Shop, Launceston , PL15 7LS – comments submitted following a discussion held on the 9th July 2024.

Cllr A. Parsons entered the room and gave apologies for being late.

**7. To review correspondence and to agree to responses required:**

7.1 To consider / resolve next steps and quote for works following clerk discussion with Parnalls Solicitors confirming car park land is not registered with Land Registry. Also Rural EV Charging have found a charge point operator who would like to make an offer:

A discussion took place regarding the car park not currently being registered with Land Registry and the lack of Title Plans to confirm ownership. One Councillor confirmed that North Hill Village Hall had received their quote to tarmac one half however there appeared to be an increasing consensus that the costs involved were too significant for the Parish Council to pursue this route. Further discussion took place regarding the need for disabled access and it was concluded that a path could be potentially built with far less costs involved. The debate continued regarding the ongoing process of the Community Fund grant application and the EV Rural charging units that the Parish Council would like to fit for the benefit of the public. The quote received from Parnalls Solicitors was also discussed and it was concluded that more prior investigation needed to take place to keep the legal costs down as much as possible.

**Resolved that** the clerk would visit Kresen Kernow and read the minutes to see if there was any further information. The clerk would confirm if the village hall was listed on the asset register as the hall did belong to the Parish Council although it was run by trustees. Clerk would update Parnalls, EV Rural Charging and The Community Fund grant application as this would pose a significant delay. Cllr M. Budge would search all documentation not stored with Kresen Kernow.

7.2 To consider for discussion email received from Housing regarding decarbonisation:

The Chairman read the email regarding Cornwall’s Housing Decarbonisation Strategy. A brief discussion took place.

**Resolved that** Cllr R. Hudson would draft a co-ordinated response and distribute to all. The matter would be listed on the next agenda for any response to be shared.

7.3 To agree the updated Health and Safety policy for North Hill Parish Council:

The updated Health and Safety Policy was discussed which had been previously distributed with the agenda.

**Resolved that** the new Health and Safety Policy be implemented and placed on the Parish Council Website for transparency.

7.4 To consider the quotes received for the purchase of one salt bin at Newtown, Illand:

The quotes obtained by the clerk were shared.

**Resolved that** it was proposed by Cllr H. Budge, seconded by Cllr D. Daniells with all in favour that the slimline bin from Glasdon would be purchased at a cost of £215.56 inclusive of VAT.

7.5 To consider the quote received for the purchase of one dog poo bin:

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The quotes obtained by the clerk were shared and Cllr S. Sandercock agreed to fit the bin.

**Resolved that** it was proposed by Cllr D. Daniells, seconded by Cllr C. Walters with all in favour that the Fido 25 dog waste bin be purchased at a cost of £128.18 excluding VAT.

7.6 To note for information the clerk has reported the persistent inconsiderate parking at the junction outside the village hall to the police but received no response:

The clerk confirmed that she had reported the persistent inconsiderate parking at the junction outside the village hall on the 6<sup>th</sup> July however had received no response from the police to date. A discussion took place regarding the parking situation around the village hall and within the car park.

**Resolved that** Cllr A. Parsons would contact Highways to again report the junction. The clerk would write a letter to the owner of the trailer in the car park to ask the owner to remove it.

7.7 To consider / resolve next steps regarding the tunnel in play area. Handyman has stated that Harris fencing is required and area will need to be closed for a lengthy period:

Cllr B. Ruby confirmed that a new seat had now been fitted to the swing. A considerable debate took place regarding the safety of the mound and the need to close the area for removal of the tunnel.

**Resolved that** to minimise disruption to the community using the play area supporting pillars would be fitted inside the tunnel and the tunnel would be permanently blocked off with concrete. Clerk would request the handyman proceed and complete the work, proposed Cllr B. Rudy, seconded Cllr S. Sandercock with all in favour.

7.8 To consider / resolve how to maintain signage on the footpaths as Countryside services will not provide the signs to a paid individual only to a volunteer:

The clerk confirmed that a new footpath sign had been fitted today by Countryside services to path 528/25/1. Regarding path 528/15/1 it was reported by Countryside services that the owner of the land would not allow a sign to be fitted and an alternative location would need to be sought.

**Resolved that** Cllr S. Sandercock would speak with alternative land owners to see if a suitable alternative location could be sourced. Cllr H. Budge put her name forward as a volunteer to maintain signage on the footpaths.

7.9 To accept the details from St Torney’s Church re-opening celebration on October 19th and a meeting at the Old School House on Thursday August 1st at 14:30 to chat about plans for the re-opening sent via email:

The information was read and accepted.

7.10 To confirm signage for the car park has been picked up and paid for in full with outstanding balance of £97.77 paid on the 19th July 2024:

It was confirmed that North Hill Parish Council were happy with the signage for the car park. Resolved that the handyman would fit the three signs in the car park and take a picture to forward to the clerk for her records. Proposed Cllr R. Hudson, seconded Cllr D. Daniells with all in favour.

**8. To review details for North Hill Parish Cemetery:**

8.1 To provide an update following the last Cemetery Committee Meeting held on the 9th July:

A brief update was given following the meeting held on the 9<sup>th</sup> July and several issues were listed for discussion at full Council Meeting, these were detailed below.

8.2 To consider / agree the number of cremated plots to be allocated:

The proposed plan was shared.

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**Resolved that** it was agreed to keep the number of plots and cremation plots the same.

8.3 To consider / agree whether a rubbish bin is to be placed in the cemetery:

**Resolved that** it was agreed no rubbish bin would be placed in the cemetery.

8.4 To consider / agree whether pictures of the deceased are to be allowed on the memorials:

**Resolved that** pictures of the deceased would not be allowed.

8.5 To consider / agree whether to use one specific grave digger:

A discussion was held however no definitive resolution was made. This would require further consideration at a later date.

8.6 To note the clerk had confirmed contact details for the Diocese to consecrate part of the land:

The clerk confirmed that contact details for the Diocese had been obtained.

8.7 To note for information the clerk has completed training on Exclusive Rights of Burial:

This was noted for information. The clerk reported that there was a wealth of information regarding the provision of Exclusive Rights of Burial.

**Resolved that** the clerk would distribute information to all Councillors following her meeting with FD Hall on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> August 2024.

**9. Approval of the list of payments / receipts for July 2024 and to receive July 2024 bank statement:**

9.1 List of payments:

- i) £18.00 (PAYE G. Pollard July, dd)
- ii) £713.96 (Salary inclusive of tax, Lena Batten, July)
- iii) £43.64 (room rent, Lena Batten, July)
- iv) £8.00 (bank charges, 19<sup>th</sup> July)
- v) £2.10 (postage to Electoral office, Truro)
- vi) £1436.00 (handyman, cut of play area, churchyard, Congdon’s Shop)
- vii) £900.00 (K J Frain, repair of War memorial railings)

**Resolved that** all expenses i) to vi) were authorised proposed Cllr J. Harcourt, seconded Cllr C. Walters with all in favour. In relation to vii) it was agreed that the clerk would contact K J Frain to report the cracked railing in the first instance. If the company was happy to repair free of charge then the clerk could proceed and make the payment. If additional costs were involved, the clerk would seek further guidance.

9.2 Receipts:

- i) £319.45 (refund received from C.C. for overcharge of dog poo bin emptying on bins 4<sup>th</sup> July 2024).
- ii) £255.87 (VAT reimbursement 15<sup>th</sup> July 2024).

9.3 To receive July 2024 bank statement:

Bank statement as of 28<sup>th</sup> July 2024 £18,679.10

**Resolved that** the bank statement be agreed proposed Cllr A. Parsons, seconded Cllr R. Hudson as correct and the Chairman signed the bank statement.

**10. To review monthly budget reconciliations:**

**Resolved that** the budget sheet was agreed to be an accurate record for July 2024 proposed Cllr R. Hudson, seconded Cllr S. Sandercock.

**11. To review monthly RAG:**

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12.1 The Monthly RAG sheet was sent to Councillors for information:

Electric vehicle Charging points / tarmac of car park:

As was previously discussed earlier in the meeting, the clerk would contact EV Rural Charging and update them with regards to the delay. To tarmac the car park was not considered financially viable. This would remain on the RAG.

War Memorial Railings:

The clerk would contact K J Frain to confirm if the one railing still cracked had been included in the original quote, whether this would be fixed or whether a further quote was required.

Highways:

The clerk had reported the poor visibility to Highways.

Footpath maintenance:

A new sign had been fitted to 528/15/1 by countryside services. Path 528/25/1 required further investigation which would be done by Cllr S. Sandercock and the Parish Council would continue to wait for the additional two new styles required. Footpaths would remain on the RAG.

Tunnel in play area:

It was resolved initially to remove the slide, and compact the tunnel however following conversation with the handyman, it had now been agreed that the tunnel would have supports fitted the ends would be concreted up to allow for minimum disruption to members of the community that regularly use the play area.

Salt bin at Newtown:

A new salt bin had been agreed and would be ordered for delivery by the clerk.

**12. Report from Cornwall Council Ward Member Councillor Parsons:**

We now see another white paper being worked up by CC to present to our new government and are now seeking a much broader and deeper devolution settlement enshrined in law that reflects the status Cornwall shares with the Welsh, Scots and Irish in all areas of economic, social, political and cultural life, plus an unmatched potential to grow Cornwall's economy. The draft proposal has been put to our various groups to which there has been a divide in opinions on what's required after hearing these concerns, it was agreed that the paper will now come back to Cabinet in September in order to try and gain cross-party support before it is submitted to Westminster. With key points being made on health and education provision to transport, renewable energy and planning, the remit is quite broad. There is even talk of a regional Mayor. Cornwall Council's scheme to build 15 new affordable homes for local people in Callington is complete, with the first residents moving in.

The new homes at Urban Terrace replace 10 council-owned and 5 privately owned homes built in the 1950's. The properties had to be demolished when mundic was found which was gradually making them structurally unsound.

These new affordable homes for people with a local connection have renewable energy sources and high levels of insulation so are much more cost effective to run, and provide safe, secure and healthy places for residents.

Throughout the redevelopment period, Cornwall Housing supported displaced residents to ensure they had alternative subsidised accommodation.

The new scheme includes 4 one-bedroom flats, 7 two bedroom houses and 4 three bedroom houses with gardens and parking. All the homes are highly insulated and heated with low carbon air source heat pumps. The re-designed homes are modern and spacious

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demonstrating the Council's commitment to supporting its communities so that residents have access to safe and quality housing.

As well as providing the 15 new homes, the scheme also includes landscaping and tree planting, with bee bricks and bird boxes to increase biodiversity.

The council is continuing in its commitment tackle the housing crisis, working to:

- Buy existing homes to use as social housing
- Build more Council houses for local people to rent or buy
- Support the provision of affordable homes by housing associations for local people to rent or buy
- Ensure sites deliver affordable housing through the planning process
- Support community-led organisations that want to deliver their own homes

Cornwall Council is calling on the new government to support its work in achieving a carbon neutral Cornwall as it renews its commitment to becoming the first net zero region in the country.

Five years on from declaring a climate emergency and producing an action plan the council is recognised nationally and internationally for its work in leading Cornwall to respond to the impacts of a changing climate.

The unitary authority has achieved some key successes in helping Cornwall cut its greenhouse gas emissions including:

- Promoting green travel through installing 226 additional EV chargers, increasing public transport use through a pilot bus fare programme and introducing public e-bike schemes in six towns;
- Retrofitting and helping lower the emissions of more than 1,200 homes with plans for installing green measures on 520 additional properties;
- Developing a Local Area Energy Plan to expand clean and renewable energy in the region - one of the first rural authorities to do so;
- A new recycling, rubbish and food waste service set to reduce Cornwall's carbon emissions by nearly 18,000 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> a year;
- Boosting green planning and development through the Climate Emergency Development Document;
- Launching the Forest for Cornwall to capture emissions with a million trees now planted;
- Reducing council emissions by a third since 2019 by adapting council buildings and vehicles, including current work on installing a solar canopy to power a third of the energy used at New County Hall.

### **13. Items for inclusion at the next meeting:**

i) To list the response for Cornwall housing decarbonisation strategy being collated by Cllr R. Hudson.

ii) To discuss the protruding stone on the path beside the church.

iii) To highlight the hedges at Bathpool for early cutting with Highways.

### **14. Date and time of next meeting:**

The next meeting was confirmed for Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September at 7.30pm.

### **15. Close of business:**

The meeting closed at 21.28pm.

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