

Draft Minutes subject to confirmation

Mary Tavy Parish Council
MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held in the Reading Rooms

Tuesday 8th June 2010

Present: Cllr T. Pearce (Chairman) (WDBC), Cllr M. Anning, Cllr C Downham, Cllr R. Elton, Cllr G. Hill, Cllr A. Prosser & Cllr S. Street (7). Ms N. Gardiner (Clerk)

Others present: 6 members of the public.

115-2010 Parishioners Time:

The first parishioner spoke of his great disappointment that Councillors had been reluctant to put themselves forward to take up the positions for which elections were held at the AGM on 19th May, thereby allowing the same people to remain in most posts & so the pressure on them will not be relieved. He also mentioned the matter of how Cllr Hill had been treated by other Cllrs during the last year. He stated that he wished to propose a vote of no confidence in the Parish Council.

The second parishioner stated that the Community News item about the agenda for the meeting on 11th May had been inaccurate – this must be corrected. Also, on reading the minutes of the AGM on 19th May, he noted that his request for amendment to the previous minutes was not mentioned; his comments had been condensed down to one sentence, which he felt was unacceptable.

Cllr Pearce stated that advice had been taken on various issues, including the format of Council minutes – the current style & content of MTPC minutes is quite proper. Cllr Pearce further stated that the local community groups are very pleased with the support given to them by the PC.

The Chairman declared the meeting open at 7.30 pm.

116-2010 Apologies for absence: Cllrs Robins & Roe.

117-2010 Declarations of Interest: None. Members were reminded that they should declare any personal or prejudicial interest in any item to be considered.

Minutes of the previous meetings:

118-2010 Wednesday 19th May 2010 (AGM)

One handwritten amendment was made to the minutes:

- **103.2-2010** – Cllr Street had declared a personal interest, together with Cllr Downham; Cllr Elton had not declared a personal interest.

The minutes were then approved – proposed Cllr Prosser; seconded Cllr Anning - & duly signed by the Chairman as a true & accurate record.

119-2010 Tuesday 25th May 2010 (Extraordinary Meeting)

The minutes were approved without amendment - proposed Cllr Street; seconded Cllr Elton; all those who were present in favour; signed by the Chairman as a true & accurate record.

120-2010 Matters Arising

120.1 Summer Fete

Cllr Elton announced she had produced a flower-themed quiz of 'Petal Posers'. She asked for volunteers to help between 2pm & 4pm on 12th June – Cllrs Pearce & Street offered.

120.2 Sustainable Community Fund for Dartmoor

Cllr Hill undertook to follow this matter up further with Kevin Bishop.

120.3 Dog Warden update

The Clerk informed Cllrs of her communications with WDBC. Dave Arscott had confirmed that the invoice for £267, to cover the PC's annual membership of the Dog Fouling Partnership for this financial year had been sent out. The Clerk will contact Mrs Baldry to confirm the best time for the Dog Warden to visit the Playing Fields, in order to apprehend those persons not clearing up after their dogs. She will request that he also visit Station Road & Warne Lane.

121-2010 Correspondence:

Cllr Pearce had received a letter from South West Highways regarding a 3-day closure of the road passing Cherrybrook House & Wilminstone Farm, from 14th to 16th September 2010 inclusive.

The Clerk circulated lists of correspondence she had received since the last meeting (copy list appended to minutes). Cllr Pearce highlighted the letter from Peter Jarvis dated 19th May & asked if Cllrs wished to comment. Cllr Pearce had e-mailed all Cllrs following his recent meeting at DCC on PC affairs. He addressed some points in Mr Jarvis' letter as follows:

- The agenda for the 11th May meeting was only very slightly late on the appointed day, in being placed on the noticeboard, & this was due to his own illness at the time
- Advice has been given that it is acceptable not to name parishioners who speak at PC meetings; in fact this is normal practice
- APM – there have been far more comments that it was a good meeting (until the last few minutes), than the very few complaining it was not. The APM helps people who have recently moved to the parish to get to know the village
- Treatment of Cllr Hill – the paper ballot referred to was right & proper & the matter was correctly recorded in the relevant minutes at the time
- Gorse cutting on the moor – although 3 members of the Council have knowledge of the ESA agreement, the PC plays no part in related decisions

There was deliberation as to whether a decision on holding an Extraordinary Meeting, as requested by Mr Jarvis to discuss his various concerns, should be deferred to the next meeting when Cllrs Robins & Roe would most likely also be present - it was agreed not to do so. It was then decided an Extraordinary Meeting would not be held – proposed Cllr Street; seconded Cllr Elton; 6 in favour; Cllr Hill abstained.

122-2010 Financial Report

122.1 Receive report from Responsible Financial Officer.

The Clerk circulated copies of the Report for June. One minor error was pointed out by Cllr Street; the Clerk will correct this & place the amended version on the file. Councillors agreed to accept the Report.

122.2 To authorise payments for June.

Councillors agreed that cheques be issued for the following amounts - proposed Cllr Street; seconded Cllr Anning; carried unanimously: Ottery Press (paid 11.05.10) - £100.00; May expenses for Clerk – £96.98; May salary for Clerk; May mileage for Cllr Pearce - £29.60; April payment (replacement cheque) for W Wardell - £87.50; May payment for W Wardell - £97.50; WDBC (emptying dog bins) - £15.89.

123-2010 Police - Community Beat Manager

123.1 To receive report from PC Reed

No report, or any relevant correspondence, had been received.

124-2010 Cemetery:

124.1 To receive cemetery report

The Burial Clerk had not sent a report as there were no changes from last month. Cllr Pearce commented that on his recent visit he noticed how clean & tidy the cemetery was looking; W Wardell is doing a very good job. However, weedkiller has been used in the area & it is necessary to inform the person concerned that this should not be done in a public place, without a record of what was used being lodged with the Parish Council. Cllr Prosser will ensure an item about the use of weedkiller at the cemetery will be put in the next Community News.

125-2010 Receive reports from members elected to outside bodies:

125.1 DNPA

Cllr Pearce reported as a WDBCouncillor, as the PC representatives (Cllrs Robins & Street) had not been available to attend the May Forum:

- The meeting had concentrated on future funding of DNPA. There could be a cut of 8% in this financial year & many services might be withdrawn & others reduced (possibly including the number of Dartmoor Rangers); there may also be a freeze on recruitment. A questionnaire was completed by those present to ascertain which are considered the most important services. Final decisions are still awaited.
- Local Development Framework - information days will be held in various parishes to let people know what the developments may entail.
- The plans by edf to put electricity wires underground in some areas (those suggested so far are: Benchtor, Two Bridges & Walkhampton Common). Cllrs discussed the possibility of MTPC & the local community putting forward a bid for funds to put cables underground in the old part of the village (no cost to the parish is involved). It was agreed this should be done – proposed Cllr Elton; seconded Cllr Cllr Prosser; 6 in favour; Cllr Hill abstained. Cllr Street declared a personal interest, as a resident of the Conservation Area part of the village.
- The Forum had been told that SWW has put forward £4.1 million to repair the moorland peat bogs, due to the CO2 that is stored within them. Cllr Hill said that a consultation process is now underway; Cllr Pearce stated that the works had been underway for some two years & benefits were already being seen. It is hoped the scheme will also result in a more steady flow of water off the moor.

125.2 Police Authority

There had been no further meeting since the Parish Council's last meeting on 19th May.

125.3 Southern Link

The next meeting was due to take place on 24th June.

125.4 Coronation Hall

Cllr Prosser reported that discussions at the last meeting centred mainly on arrangements for the Summer Fete. As soon as possible following this the re-painting of the Hall will be done, in the same shade of blue as at present.

125.5 Reports from Members attending other Outside Bodies.

There was nothing to report.

126-2010 Planning:

126.1 To discuss planning applications received:

- Minhinnick, Okehampton Road – slate cladding on external walls of top storey on small extension
- Elephant's Nest Inn, Horndon (revised application) - erection of detached garage with associated office, storage, staff accommodation & re-arrangement of car parking area. The bottom part of the building is now to be in stone cladding, rather than timber as in the previous application. Cllr Pearce commented that this development is being held up by the illness of the architect.
- Midlands Barn, Horndon – single storey extension to dwelling
- Moor View, Chapel Lane – retention of stable block building. Cllr Pearce will consult Planning Officer John Holmes as to whether this should in fact be an application for retrospective permission, because the DNPA Enforcement Officer has brought the matter of the building of the stable block to the attention of the Planning Department.

Site visits – It was proposed that visits for all 4 applications would take place during the early part of the week beginning Monday 14th June – time & date tbc by Cllr Pearce as the Clerk will be away from 12th to 16th June inclusive.

126.2 To receive notification on previous applications.

Rowes Farm, Horndon - Conversion of redundant agricultural building to ancillary use. Cllr Pearce reported this had been refused, following intense discussion by the DNPA Planning Committee. The proposed conversion was considered too large to be ancillary. A revised application may be submitted.

127-2010 To agree items raised at the May meeting for inclusion on this agenda: None

128-2010 To receive items raised for inclusion on July agenda

Cllr Hill suggested that the PC consider requesting the imposition of a 40mph speed limit on the moorland road between Brentor and Mary Tavy. There have been 3 deaths on this road in the last 20 years & many animals hit & injured or killed. The Clerk will contact DNP & DCC Highways to arrange a meeting with MTPC representatives or to find out the appropriate action to be taken.

The Chairman asked that Councillors contact the Clerk with any further items they would like included.

**129-2010 Matters which may be taken in the absence of the press and public.
Public bodies (Admission to meetings) Act 1960**

Pursuant to Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 it was **Resolved** that, because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the public and press were not admitted during consideration of personnel matters.

Members of the public were therefore asked to leave the meeting before discussion of this item.

129.1 Clerk's Trial Period

130-2010 To agree the date of the next meeting.

The date of **Tuesday 13th July 2010** was agreed for the next meeting of the Parish Council, to commence at 7.30 pm & to be held in the Reading Rooms.

There being no further business the meeting was formally closed by the Chairman at 9.25 pm.

**Nicola Gardiner
Clerk to the Parish Council**

Date: 21st June 2010

Signed as a true and accurate record

(Cllr T Pearce – Chairman)

Date