

St. Mellion Parish Council Meeting
Tuesday 14th November 2023 at 7:00 p.m.
St. Mellion Church Hall
Minutes

PRESENT:

Cllr Pam Sambrook (PS) Vice Chair (Acting Chair for this meeting).
Cllr Hilary Gill (HG).
Cllr Adam Sturtridge (AS).
Cllr Ben Bryan (BB).
Cllr Nick Habermehl (NH)

IN ATTENDANCE:

Parish Clerk Ren Jackaman (RJ).
Six members of the public (2 left at 19:26, 4 left at 20:08).

1. Councillor matters

1.1. To receive apologies for absences:

Apologies were received in advance from Cllr Bridie Kent (BK) Chair, who is currently out of the country, the reason for her absence was noted and accepted.

1.2. To receive declarations of pecuniary interests:

None received.

1.3. To receive declarations of non-registrable interests:

None received.

1.4. To approve written requests for dispensations:

None received.

2. Previous Parish Council meetings

2.1 To approve the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of 10th October 2023:

It was proposed by NH, seconded by HG and agreed to approve the minutes of the ordinary meeting of 10th October 2023 as a true record of the meeting, all in favour.

2.2 Matters Arising: None.

2.3 Clerk's Report & items actioned since last meeting:

As per the requests for action made at last meeting RJ has:

- Requested a full traffic count report for the A388.
- Contacted Cornwall Air Ambulance and discuss options for an application from the Community Fund.
- Requested passing place signs to be set up on the road through the Golf Club to Woolaton, to avoid them being used as parking spaces by golfers.
- Set up the new laptop.
- Regarding requesting a police presence in Church Lane, enquiries have revealed that the Police came to St. Mellion School in June, two officers visited and spoke to the children about road safety. Due to the nature of the road layout, the speed gun was not utilised. They discussed safe pick up and drop off outside of the schools, utilising parking warning notices for any vehicles that were parked not according to the road markings. Fortunately, all were parked safely and allowed safe collection from school. Officers discussed with the children about road safety, speeding cars and dangerous parking the following comments about this activity were made by the children:
"The cars normally drive really fast outside of school, it's not very safe."
"Cars drive really fast in the lanes around the school and near my house".
"Cars are sometimes parked dangerous outside of the school and our busses can't get out".

To follow up and ask for police to attend and monitor Church Lane it is necessary to visit Crownhill

Police Station in person. RJ is happy to do this at the next convenient opportunity.

- RJ attended a briefing on 'Martyn's Law', which is a draft bill intended to address anti-terrorism measures for public venues and gatherings. At present, it is proposed that it only apply to venues which and outdoor events for over 100 people. The proposed legislation will alter significantly during the development process, RJ will update as appropriate.

3. Questions from the public & correspondence received:

- There was a discussion from the members of the public in attendance about the traffic issues in Church Lane, including speeding and school drop off. Considerable concern was expressed by all present as to the risk of a pedestrian, especially a child, potentially being run over. The difficulty of safely turning into the A388 in either direction from the end of Church Lane was also noted. PS relayed the measures which the Parish Council has endeavoured to achieve to reduce the risks. HG has contacted the school regarding having the children make posters to put out on Church Lane encouraging safer driving.
- A letter from Cubert Parish Council has been circulated to all parish clerks in Cornwall relating to the Cornwall Council Street Cleaning & Public Waste clearance was read out.

4. Community & Stakeholders:

4.1. To discuss progress on setting up a Speedwatch Group:

NH has submitted the application to form a group, but the application was refused on the grounds that the spots available to conduct the survey are not suitable. NH has identified a suitable position, and the application has subsequently been accepted. NH has now completed the necessary training and will shortly be able to run a Speedwatch group. Each volunteer will need to complete the online training before the equipment can be issued.

4.2. Remembrance Sunday

RJ purchased a wreath from RBL as St. Mellion Flowers were unable to help this year (cost was £23.98) and the donation of £45 to the RBL is on the payment schedule.

HG, PS and AS attended the service and laid the wreath. There was good attendance, and it was a very pleasant service, including a group of hand bell ringers.

4.3. To discuss options for celebrating 80th anniversary of D-Day on 6th June 2024

Ideas currently being explored include the screening of a film, possibly an outdoor cinema, although this is a challenge in terms of appropriate venue and costs upwards of £1K to hire, plus licensing fees.

Crocadon is looking at the options around hosting a fish and chip evening, but they do not have fryers of their own, so this would involve mobile caterers. It is, as yet, unclear what part could be played by the Coryton Arms or the Golf Club.

ACTION: RJ to follow up the D-Day celebrations options, ask Callington Town Council if they have any plans and report back at January Meeting.

5. Planning matters

5.1. Planning Applications:

PA23/07772: Mr. Peter Newton Horsepool Lodge, St Mellion, PL12 6RN

Change of use from holiday to residential dwelling.

Planning Officer: Shauna Vandermeulen

Consultation Expiry: 17th November 2023

Plans and associated documents were shown onscreen, a discussion followed.

The following points were noted:

- The councillors expressed sympathy for the situation of the applicant but reiterated that each planning application is considered objectively and in accordance with planning legislation.
- The applicant has quoted in the planning statement that the parish council did not support the original application on the grounds that it might be used as a second home. This is not strictly accurate as although the second home issue was noted it was by no means the sole issue and the council declined to make a statement as to support or non-support on the grounds that the application did not contain enough information to facilitate a firm decision.

- The applicant has quoted another development in the parish, which bears no relation in terms of type of application or development and is therefore irrelevant to this application.
- The property was constructed and sold with planning restrictions on it, the applicant purchased the property in full knowledge of this restriction.
- The applicant has stated that he is not currently marketing the property as a holiday let and has not used it for this purpose, the change of use application is therefore not justified by a business case argument of non-viability.
- There is an established need for holiday accommodation in the area, with similar residences in the same postcode being refurbished recently for this purpose. This would indicate that the property could be made viable if marketed and/or developed purposefully.
- Whilst sympathetic to the cause of the applicant, the parish council's primary objection remains the grave concern of setting a dangerous precedent for similar properties in the parish.

It was proposed by PS, seconded by BB and resolved not to support this application, all in favour.

5.2. Enforcement Refusals, Approvals & Appeals

PA23/07719: Mr & Mrs Lai-Hung, Andros Dunstan Quoin St Mellion, PL12 6RX

Erection of garage/ gym/games room and workshop

Planning Officer: Ellen Lawrence

Consultation Expiry: 16th October 2023

Status: Approved with conditions

5.3. Neighbourhood Development Plan Working Group:

Nothing to report.

6. Highway & Transport

6.1. Wildflower Planting at Viverdon Roundabout

Nothing to report.

6.2. Safe Passageway

RJ has sent a formal letter of support to Cllr Andrew Long regarding cycle routes and has received thanks. Cllr Long has confirmed that the Cornwall Council budget does not allow for a development of this kind for the foreseeable future but that it will be raised again when finances are more buoyant.

6.3. Litter Pick Report

Eight people attended and 12 bags were collected on Saturday 21st October.

The next event to be in March or May.

7. Council Property & Assets

7.1. To report any issues

Fernbank have been contacted again about cleaning the bus shelters and installing solar lighting in Jubilee Bus Stop.

ACTION: RJ to follow up with Fernbank again.

8. Project Updates

8.1. Coronation Projects update

The Coronation Bench has been delivered and installed. Assuming the PCC welcome the idea of planting bulbs on the spot, they can be funded from the remaining Coronation budget without breaching the clauses in the Local Government Act. The total remaining in this budget is £2332.15.

ACTION: RJ to contact PCC and offer planting costs.

9. Parish Council Governance

9.1. Arrangements for Budget Meeting:

The Parish Council is in recess in December but will meet informally at 7p.m. on 12th December 2023 to review the budget projections and precept request. The deadline for submitting the precept request is 31st December 2023.

10. Parish Council finances*10.1. To approve monthly payment schedule for November 2023*

St. Mellion Parish Council					
Payment Schedule REVENUE Account					
DATE: November 2023					
PAYEE	Invoice Date	Invoice #	Description	Amount	Type
R Jackaman	n/a	n/a	Clerk Salary and Reimbursements	£561.34	BACS
AG Accountancy Ltd	01/11/2023	4099	Payroll Service	£13.20	BACS
St. Mellion PCC	n/a	SMPC/2023/Q1-4	Church Hall Hire for Jan-Dec 2023	£350.00	BACS
RBL	n/a	n/a	Remembrance Day donation	£45.00	BACS
Dr. B. Kent	£45,227	71527	Reimbursement - Renewal of Smart Survey software for NDP	£388.80	BACS
R. Jackaman	£45,233	12001809833	Reimbursement - Purchase of wreath for Remembrance Service	£23.98	BACS
NEST	£45,239	n/a	Employer + Employee contribution to clerk's pension	£44.88	DD
TOTAL				£1,427.20	

It was proposed by NH, seconded by HG and agreed to approve the payment schedule for November 2023, all in favour.

11. Items for next Parish Council meeting agenda:

Budget Approval & Precept

Quarterly Review

Review of tender specification for maintenance of Jubilee Bus Stop

Set date for the Annual Meeting 2024

12. Date and time of next meeting: 9th January 2024 at 7pm in St. Mellion Church Hall.**13. Closed session for confirmation of LGS Pay Agreement**

PS announced the commencement of the closed session Under Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, to exclude the public and press from the meeting for the business specified: to discuss the Clerk's annual performance appraisal and salary review.

PS closed the Ordinary Meeting at 20:25