

Colan Parish Council Meeting
Wednesday 27th September 2023

Those present:, Derek Luscombe, Pat Lamshead, Maurice O’Gara, Marc Dummett, Brian Killingback, Cllr John Fitter

Clerk – Di Willett.

Derek Luscombe was in the Chair.

1. Police Report:

This month’s report as follows:

7 x thefts

8 x assaults

1 x assaulting an emergency worker

1 x burglary

1 x driving offence

1x drug offence

2 x Fraud

A copy is attached to the minutes

2. Public Speaking:

None.

3. Vice Chairperson:

No-one has yet shown an interest in taking on the position of vice chairperson. Marc has suggested that maybe we could offer this position as a three month option so that different Councillors could see what is involved. Derek asked the Councillors to consider this idea and we will discuss again at the next meeting.

4. Vacancy for Parish Councillor:

We are still advertising this vacancy. The clerk will ask the Colan Companion if the advert can be displayed more prominently.

5. Cornwall Councillor’s Report:

The complaint about noise from the new Gym at Quintdown Business Park has now been resolved.

John is currently awaiting a response from Coastline Housing regarding the use of The Village Estate for the construction vehicles.

The pavement at Mountjoy has now been cleared and Cormac will keep this cut in the future.

A meeting has been held between the Duchy and Cornwall Council regarding the traffic build up in Quintrell Downs. Unfortunately nothing can be done at the present time as it is solely to do with the volume of traffic – the roundabout cannot be enlarged. Once the NSR is opened there will be signage put in place to direct traffic via the A3059 which will hopefully help to alleviate the traffic build up in Quintrell Downs.

There are still complaints over speeding traffic on West Road, although with the build up of traffic in the area it is difficult to see how any vehicle can be speeding along here – John feels that the quality of the air should be investigated with all the traffic at a standstill for so long.

Marc feels that the speeding traffic is now mainly along South Way and it is mainly exiting traffic rather than those heading for Quintrell Downs. John stated that the police carry out frequent speed checks along this road and the statistics prove that this is the case. This could only really be addressed by speed cameras – currently all data is recovered by speed signs.

Marc said that the hedge on the right of Garden Way is overgrowing on to the pavement. John has a meeting with the highways team and will be visiting this site with them. He will also bring to their attention the speed signs which are badly faded and the path on West Road by Hutton hire which is currently overgrown.

The double yellow lines have already been approved for West Road and once these are in place the verges will be re-instated.

Suzanne and John attended the CAP meeting via teams.

The new rubbish bins will be delivered from 1st October onwards – a specialist company is being used to roll out the new system.

There is a shortage of personnel within Traffic Enforcement which means that parking tickets etc are not being handed out as they should.

Cornwall Council is entering into a campaign to encourage couples to get married in Cornwall – mainly due to the fact that there is money to be made if people choose to wed in the county.

Cornwall Fire Service has recently been through an inspection – there are 5 areas where improvement is required. Additional facilities have been put in place in fire stations which were built under a PFI.

Currently the stations pay rent and these are repaired by the landlord.

Pat asked if there had been any response to the erection of an illegally high fence along East Road- John will continue to look into this. Pat also asked if there was any response on SERC, but this information is not publically available. Pat requested an FOI request. John will get an answer on this for the next meeting.

Derek stated that the Hockey Club have come across a problem with the lease of the playing field and legal representations have been halted. It seems that the land has been designated as a football pitch and as such the hockey club has been advised that they will be unlikely to get any funding. John stated that they approached the Duchy of Cornwall to see if they are interested in making a contribution to the process.

They have now been offered a field behind Nansledan School.

Work has now stopped on the lease; however the letter of intent, once ratified, can be used to offer the land elsewhere.

Marc asked how we stand approaching other clubs if this designation remains in place. John will find out how we can be released from this designation to enable other sports clubs to lease this land.

6. Declarations of Interest:

Declarations of interest will be declared prior to discussion of any agenda item involved.

7. Apologies:

Apologies received from Vicki Smalley, Suzanne Featherstone, Fiona House and Steve Lean

8. Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed by all present as true and correct. They were signed as such by Derek.

9. Matters Arising:

None

10. Planning Applications:

PA23/0024/NDP – St Newlyn East and Mitchell Neighbourhood development plan: They are obliged to consult surrounding Parishes on an NDP. As this has no impact on us we have no further comments.

PA23/06513 – Resurfacing and extension of car park: Approved by all.

PA23/05044 – Provision of Farm shop and cafe: Marc declared an interest in this project and took no further part in the discussion. The remaining Councillors approved this application as set out.

Marc rejoined the meeting.

11. Action Group Against the Proposed Holiday Development at Bejowan:

No further developments this month.

12. Accounts

Clerks Salary – July/Aug/Sept - £936.80 – Approved by all.

Cormac monthly grass cutting - £204.52 – Approved by all

DMCIT – One hours consultation on various problems with the website - £50.00 – Approve by all

NMS – grass cutting in toddler area - £120.00 – Approved by all.

Playground Installations final invoices for the play equipment £6238.08 and £8035.92 – the clerk has submitted the final claim from Grantscape for this work.

BIFFA has finally responded to the query regarding the invoice for the litter bin emptying - £468.00 and that invoice has now been paid as agreed at the meeting in June 2023.

We have received quotes from Abbey Maintenance one for the repairs of the basketball hoops – a total of £195.00 and one for removal of the unsafe shipping container by the recreation field for £595.00.

Councillors approved both quotes and the clerk was asked to accept them. It was agreed by all that the shipping container has to go as it is a health and safety hazard. The clerk will save all the communications she has had with the American football club to which there has been no response.

13. Grantscape Funding:

Both projects are now complete and we await the money from Grantscape.

14. Recreation Field

The clerk has created an inspection list for the playground equipment. Derek has agreed to carry out the first inspection and check if any additional inspections are required.

Councillors were a bit concerned that they would be liable if anything was missed – we don't think that this is the case if due diligence is shown. The clerk was asked to write to CALC and ask where we stand with this.

Chris from Playground installations reported that the nest swing chain has already been tangled - he has repaired it, but we will need to keep an eye on this.

15. Recreation Field Lease:

Already discussed within our Cornwall Councillor's report.

16. Mountjoy Bus shelter:

Still chasing quotes for this work.

17. Neighbourhood Plan:

Currently on hold.

18. Defibrillator Training

There has been some interest in this training, so the clerk will try and organise a time which will then be put on our facebook page.

19. Tree Preservation order:

This is ongoing and application will be made asap.

20. Remembrance Wreath:

The clerk asked permission from the Councillors to order the wreath for Remembrance Day and this was authorised by all.

21. Website/Facebook page:

The Clerk is trying to keep up to date with the information on the website. Vicki is monitoring the face book page.

22. Letters/Notices:

Public Footpath Order – The footpath at the Goldings has now been re-sited through the estate. An email has been received from Gareth Wright asking if we can revisit maintaining the footpaths in the Parish. This was further discussed, but it is difficult to find contractors to carry out this work and the funding offered would not cover the cost of this work. It was therefore agreed that we would not be able to take on this maintenance as we have miles of footpaths in the Parish, however as far as we know Cornwall Council is obliged to cut the footpaths, but the hedges are the responsibility of the landowner. The Clerk was asked by the Parish Council to check this with Cornwall Council.

23. Any Other Business:

Marc asked which design was agreed for the new gateway signs – the Clerk confirmed that it was the one with the Church in white.

Brian mentioned the hedges on the A392 which are overgrown again and Marc mentioned the hedges at Kestle Mill which are also untidy. John agreed to inspect them and take this further if necessary.

John also asked if the Parish Council owns the bus stop opposite Morrissions – we are not sure if this is still in our Parish since the boundary changes. John will look at this as we could be entitled to some money from the advertising which has been put in place.

24. Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 25th October 2023.

Di Willett

13/10/2023