

**Colan Parish Council Meeting**  
**Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2023**

Those present: Derek Luscombe, Pat Lamshead, Maurice O’Gara, Marc Dummett, Steve Lean, Fiona House, Ben Dumbleton, Cllr John Fitter

Clerk – Di Willett.

Derek Luscombe was in the Chair.

**1. Police Report:**

No report received this month.

**Post Meeting Note:** Report received 30<sup>th</sup> November 2023, statistics as follows:

5 x Thefts

1 x Burglary

2x Thefts of motor vehicle

3 x Criminal damage

1 x Drunk and disorderly

9 x Assaults

2 x Assaulting an emergency worker

1x drug offence

2 x Sexual assaults

2 x Harassment

1 x Fraud

A copy is attached to the minutes

**2. Public Speaking:**

Joseph Burrage spoke to support his planning application to change the use of his holiday rentals to residential accommodation. He stated that with a lot of people now doing AirBNB accommodation, it is becoming increasingly difficult to rent out his holiday cottages. He stated the he regularly maintains the lane leading to his properties and will continue to do so should he be allowed this change of use.

**3. Vice Chairperson:**

No-one has yet shown an interest in taking on the position of vice chairperson. Derek asked that Councillors consider this and contact either Di or himself if they feel able to take up this position.

**4. Vacancy for Parish Councillor:**

There are two vacancies. The advert has been put on the website, on the facebook page, in the Colan Companion and in the Parish notice board. Derek asked the Councillors if they knew of anyone that could be persuaded to join the Council.

**5. Cornwall Councillor’s Report:**

John has supported our challenge to the change of use of Bejowan Barns as he did not feel that the application had been correctly investigated by Cornwall Council. This application will be further discussed under agenda item 10.

The proposal to build a metro rail link between Newquay and Falmouth has been briefed to Parishes along the route, but Colan was not included. He has been assured that before any consultations take place that Colan will also receive a briefing as this will increase the number of trains running on the railway line through our Parish.

The milestone along North Way has been broken again – John will raise this with Cormac as it seems it was done during the hedge cutting.

Boardmasters want to increase their capacity by a further 20%. Newquay BID is in favour of this. John will do his best to ensure that none of the traffic is allowed to come through Quintrell Downs. They also want to extend their music licence to midnight and their licensing hours to 3am to try and stagger traffic leaving the site. John stated that they need to ensure that Boardmasters manage the event properly – last year there were no licensing officers evident to prevent infringement of the law. The Parish Councillors felt that the situation would improve if the surf event was held in September, as was the case before the music festival started. It was felt that most of the money from festival goers was spent on site and not in the town.

Coastline Developments have requested an amendment to the planning application at Quintrell Downs again. This is due to the fact that the houses which were offered for sale on a part owned and part shared basis were not being sold. Therefore Ocean will now take these on for the social rented section rather than leave them empty.

#### **6. Declarations of Interest:**

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

#### **7. Apologies:**

Apologies received from Suzanne Featherstone and Brian Killingback

#### **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:**

**PA23/08601:** Lawful Development Certificate at Lower Town Farm: The Parish Council discussed this fully and was not happy with the way that this has moved forward. However, John explained that these certificates are determined by the evidence provided to the planning department and Cornwall Council will have the final decision. Marc queried the fact that no inspections were carried out when the property was built and therefore Building Regulations have not been signed off. John responded that if the property went up for sale, no money would be lent to the purchasers until the Building Regulations have been signed off. Councillors felt that, although this is strictly not illegal, this was not the way the way to proceed. As such they agreed that we would make no comment on this application.

**PA23/06789:** Change of use of holiday lets to residential accommodation – Bejowan Barns: Fiona declared an interest and left the meeting. We have received a five day protocol letter as we objected to this application and the Planning Department want to approve it. The reason we objected was mainly due to the approach road which is not metalled. Highways department have looked into this further and sent pictures through showing that the gravel does not extend to the entrance of the road. After further discussion Pat objected to the decision while the remaining Councillors agree with the Planning Department's decision. The Clerk will respond accordingly.

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

The scoping agreement has now been submitted to Cornwall Council Planning Department, but no decision made as yet. At this stage we can take no further action.

#### **12. Accounts**

Cormac monthly grass cutting - £204.52 – Approved by all

Abbey Maintenance – Disposal of play wall (175.00), Replacing basketball post (190.00) and removal of shipping container (£595.00) – a total of £960.00 - approved by all.

Alun Jones- CWC – control of Japanese Knotweed £140.00 – approved by all. The contractor advised us that it would probably need two more year's treatment at the same cost - all agreed to this.

The quote from NMS for keeping the new resin surface, bark and heather bed weed free and also for brush cutting behind the footpath from the heather bed to the play area was discussed.

He has quoted £40.00 per application for the weedkilling and £50.00 per cut for brushcutting. It is estimated that both these tasks will be done twice a year costing a total of £180.00. This quote was accepted by all present – the Clerk will notify NMS.

### **13. Clerks Salary Review/Precept for 2023/2024:**

The Clerk was asked to leave the room while her salary was discussed. On her return she was advised that she had been granted a 5% increase for 2024/2025.

The clerk then advised the Council of the income and receipts for this year. She stated that we do not have the income from the recreation field rent at the moment so this should be considered when the precept payment was agreed. The Councillors voted to request a precept of £14175.00 for 2024/2025, an increase of 5% on 2023/2024.

**Post Meeting Note:** the precept request has been made – reference 45K97NDI.

### **14. Recreation Field:**

Fiona will carry out this month's inspection of the play equipment.

### **15. Grantscape Funding 2024:**

The application for next year's funding will have to be submitted in March next year. The following suggestions were put forward:

Install outdoor fitness equipment

Inclusive roundabout in toddler area

Clearing the brambles, undergrowth from the lane leading up to the Recreation field and planting more trees.

This will be discussed further at the next meeting in January – in the meantime Derek and DI will try to get some ideas of cost.

### **16. Mountjoy Bus shelter:**

Still chasing quotes for this work.

### **17. Neighbourhood Plan:**

Currently on hold.

### **18. Tree Preservation order:**

The application has now been made and we await the results. No further news this month.

### **19. Website/Facebook page:**

As Vicki has resigned we now need someone to take over the running of the facebook page. There were no volunteers at this time, so the Clerk will ask Vicki to continue monitoring it for us.

### **20. Letters/Notices:**

A letter has been received regarding a change in the design of the proposed the Gateway signs:

*Good morning,*

*Following the production of our construction package, it has become apparent that we will not be able to construct two of the gateways (eastern & southern approach to Quintrell Downs).*

*The reason for this being that, at the preliminary design stage and following the site visit, we believed we could install 0.96m wide gateways with smaller signs on these approaches. These gateways have an internal width of 610mm.*

*However, following the detailed sign design, the smallest sign we can produce has a width of 770mm. The width cannot be reduced further due to the font size required and the length of the word "Quintrell".*

*We have explored alternative fixing arrangements for the sign and the gateway, which involved affixing it to the vertical posts of the gateway. I have been advised that the fixing will be inadequate and unsafe.*

*We have also explored installing the gateway and the sign separately, with the sign elevated via posts behind it. But, this will cause visibility issues with the existing signs on these approaches.*

*Therefore, installing gateways on these two approaches will not be feasible. Instead, we proposed to install the signs for each approach on two posts.*

*With the constraints of the gateway's internal dimensions not being an issue with this proposal, we will be able to use the slightly larger sign (used on the western and northern approach) for all four approaches.*

**21. Any Other Business:**

None

**22. Next Meeting:**

As the next meeting will fall on the Wednesday of Christmas week, it was unanimously agreed to hold the next meeting on Wednesday, 31<sup>st</sup> January 2024

Di Willett

5/12/2023