

TINTAGEL PARISH COUNCIL



'Tintagel's Great Seal'

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6th July 2020

Minutes of the Virtual Meeting of Tintagel Parish Council **Wednesday 1st July 2020**

Present: Cllr Flower (Chairman), Cllr Brooks, Cllr Goward, Cllr Harper, Cllr Pearse, Cllr Callcut, Cllr Appleby-Tremain, Cllr Coshall, Cllr Dale

Members of the Public: three

Prior to the commencement of the meeting, the Clerk read out the notice relating to the recording/ filming of the meeting and advised all participants that the meeting would be recorded by the Clerk. No other persons declared an intention to record the meeting.

Apologies: None

Declarations of Interest: None

Invitation to members of the public to speak prior to the meeting:

Mr Roger Wickett made the following statement:

“When the Visitors Centre was acquired by Tintagel Parish Council at least 2 or 3 Public Meetings took place and the consensus was in favour of the purchase.

I consider it only right and proper, that if a disposal of the Visitors Centre is being contemplated by the Parish Council, a similar public meeting should be held to allow parishioners their say. Particularly in light of restricted access to the Council during the lockdown period.”

AGENDA

MINUTES

Minute 19 – 2020/21

The Minutes from the Parish Council Meeting, held on the 3rd June 2020 were considered by Members, on a page by page basis. No issues were raised in relation to the same.

It was **proposed** by Cllr. Appleby - Tremain **seconded** by Cllr. Coshall and **RESOLVED** that the minutes be signed as a true record of the meeting. Eight in favour, one abstention. **Carried.**

PLANNING MATTERS

Minute 20 – 2020/21

Planning Applications - No planning applications discussed due to the sole application having been determined by Members under the delegated powers.

Planning Determinations - Noted

FINANCE

Accounts Payable – Appendix D (as published) plus additional Invoices, received after the publication of the Agenda.

Minute 21– 2020/21

Members considered the schedule of payments to be made. It was proposed by Cllr Brooks, seconded by Cllr Flower and **RESOLVED** that the schedule of accounts, at Appendix D, plus additional invoices, would be accepted. Unanimous. **Carried.**

	Type	Payee	Amount (Net)	VAT	Total	BUS BANK BAL
1072020	DD	Corona Energy	34.92	6.99	41.91	25690.58
1072020	DD	Opus Energy	98.24	19.65	117.89	
1072020	DD	BG Business	181.50	36.30	217.80	
1072020	BACS	Andy Pearce	1388.50	0.00	1388.50	
1072020	BACS	SeaDog IT	84.85	0.00	84.85	
1072020	BACS	Rowe Accountants	500.00	0.00	500.00	
1072020	DD	Google Ireland	4.14	0.00	4.14	

1072020	BACS	Callywith Accountants	175.00	35.00	210.00	
1072020	BACS	HMRC	1245.02	0.00	1245.02	
22062020	BACS	SeaDog IT	25.00	0.00	25.00	
9072020	DD	Service Charge	5.00	0.00	5.00	
1072020	BACS	Western Supply	81.79	16.36	98.15	
			3823.96	114.30	3938.26	
1072020	BACS	Google Ireland	4.15	0.00	4.15	
1072020	BACS	BT	60.75	12.15	72.90	
1072020	BACS	Post Term Rent	19.60	0.00	19.60	
1072020	DD	Cornwall Council - Rates	663.00	0.00	663.00	
1072020	BACS	Suez	12.22	2.44	14.66	
1072020	BACS	Mark Wilcox	308.00	0.00	308.00	
TVC Total			1067.72	14.59	1082.31	
Payments Exceeding £500 (net) - not Listed						
25052020	DD	0	0	0	0	
2020-21	Income					
26052020	0	NIL	0	0	0	
TPC Income			0	0	0	0

PC BUS BANK Income MAY 2020	0
Bank Balance after DD/SO	25690.58
TPC Transactions (ibid)	-3938.26
TVC Transactions (ibid)	-1082.31
Total Transactions	-5020.57
Reconciled Sum	20670.01

Parish Council Reserves	
Savings A/c TIPOL32	56589.21
National Savings Investment	4346.89
Lloyds Bank Deposit A/c	56198.88
Total Reserves	117134.98

Annual Governance Statement

Minute 22– 2020/21

Members considered the Annual Governance Statement. It was proposed by Cllr Brooks, seconded by Cllr Flower and RESOLVED that the schedule of accounts, at Appendix D, plus additional invoices, would be accepted. Unanimous. **Carried.**

Annual Accounting Statements

Minute 23– 2020/21

Members considered the Annual Accounting Statement. It was proposed by Cllr Brooks, seconded by Cllr Flower and RESOLVED that the schedule of accounts, at Appendix D, plus additional invoices, would be accepted. Unanimous. **Carried.**

Member Co-option

The Clerk advised the Meeting that two applications had been received from person wishing to be considered for co-option to the Parish Council.

Members considered the matter and requested to know if co-option had to be undertaken immediately.

The Clerk advised that it would be advantageous to address the matter sooner, rather than later.

Members **agreed** that it would be better to undertake interviews of the applicant as soon as the Covid-19 situation permits but emphasized that the two current applicants would be interviewed first.

Tintagel Visitor Centre

Prior to the commencement of the debate relating to the Tintagel Visitor Centre, the Clerk read out a letter from a Parishioner, who presented a well balanced and succinct argument in relation to the extant matter.

Councillor Coshall stated that she felt the TVC was under-utilized for tourists and advised the meeting that she had recently discussed the facility, and its potential use as a 'community hub', with several Parishioners.

The community (as spoken to) appeared to be in favour of the facility being used for the community. Cllr Coshall highlighted the fact that there are several groups in the village that would benefit from the availability of a small space to meet. There was also a feeling that youth groups would be keen to access the facility.

The costs involved in the maintenance of the TVC were a source for concern to several Members and it was felt that the facility would be better utilized for the benefit of Parishioners. The location of the building meant that very few visitors pass the TVC – most people entering

Tintagel restrict themselves to the area between the roundabout (Fore Street/ Bossiney Rd) and the Castle. It was suggested that the provision of a smaller facility in the centre of the village would meet the needs of those visitors seeking information about the area.

Cllr Appleby-Tremain added that there had been a substantial amount of misinformation disseminated about the intentions of the Parish Council towards the TVC. The conversation held by the Meeting in June 2020, had merely presented suggestions about the future of the building. No decision to dispose of the same had been arrived at, yet there had been a great deal of discussion relating to sale of the same. She added that the TVC was an outmoded facility. Most visitors to the village seek to find information using their mobile telephones.

Cllr Harper stated that one of the problems that the TVC had faced was that of short opening hours. If the facility was open every day from 9am – 4 pm, then it would make money. It was also important to note that the TVC had been closed because of the restrictions imposed by Covid-19.

Cllr Pearse raised the issue of the cost of the facility to Parishioners whom, she added, effectively received nothing from it. The TVC generally serves to assist local businesses.

Cllr Coshall re-stated her view that the community needed a small space, where people can come together, and which does not cost a great deal to hire. The size of the potential venue would ensure that it would not impact adversely upon the usage and demand for the Tintagel Social Hall.

Cllr Flower advised the meeting that the situation was a difficult one. The facility had a wonderful group of volunteers, yet there were insufficient numbers of them to enable the facility to open all day. He did, however, caution the Members that it would be a good idea to defer the decision in the short-term. Once the lockdown was lifted, there would be an opportunity to assess the income potential of the facility again and seek additional volunteers.

Cllr Brooks addressed the meeting, stating that in 2011/12, at the time of purchase, the then Chairman of the Parish Council stated clearly that there was a requirement to run the facility as a Visitor Centre for a period of three years. It was stressed by that person that, should the facility not be financially viable after that period, then the Parish Council would consider the situation and determine what should be done with the building. Cllr Brooks added that the facility has been supported by the Parishioners of Tintagel for eight years and the losses have been substantial. He added that the current position was not tenable and that the continued operation as a TVC would result in even more losses.

Cllr Brooks highlighted the options facing the Members. Namely, the choices were:

- Sell the facility
- Lease the facility to a business
- Convert the facility into a Community Hub, or;
- Maintain the status quo

It was **proposed** by Cllr Brooks and **seconded** by Cllr Pearse, that the TVC should be converted into a small Community Space, for the benefit of the Parishioners of Tintagel.

Cllr Flower **proposed an amendment, seconded** by Cllr Goward. He proposed that the decision relating to the future of the TVC should be delayed until the costs of any proposed conversion work could be ascertained and to enable additional volunteers to be found to staff the facility (ergo: to maintain the status quo).

Minute 24 – 2020/21

Members voted in relation to the amendment tabled by Cllr Flower. Three Members in favour of the amendment and six Members against. **Motion defeated.**

Minute 25 – 2020/21

It was **proposed** by Cllr Brooks and **seconded** by Cllr Pearse and **RESOLVED** that the TVC should be converted into a small Community Space, for the benefit of the Parishioners of Tintagel. Two Members against, two abstentions and five Members in favour. **Carried.**

Trevena Square Lavatories

The Clerk advised the Meeting that she had received a communication from a Parishioner, who had expressed concern at the number of people electing to relieve themselves in public areas. The Clerk had been informed that there had been instances where Parishioners gardens had been used as a lavatory.

The Clerk stated that there had been guidance received from Cornwall Council on the subject of opening the lavatories and that a subsequent telephone conversation had been held with a CC representative – relating to the onerous conditions. The Clerk had been advised that the conditions would be difficult to police and that members of the public would have to take some responsibility for their own safety.

Minute 26 – 2020/21

It was **proposed** by Cllr Coshall and **seconded** by Cllr Appleby-Tremain and **RESOLVED** that one public lavatory stall should be opened at Trevena Square. However, prior to the facility being opened, the Clerk will ensure that the facility is deep cleaned, that a Legionnaire Test is carried out and that an appropriate cleaning company is employed to meet the cleaning criteria set out in Cornwall Council Guidance. Unanimous. **Carried.**

Reported Matters

The Clerk advised the Meeting that a report had been received. She added that she had been in communication with a senior representative of Devon & Cornwall Constabulary.

At that juncture, there was an unauthorized interruption by a member of the public.

Cllr Flower requested that the unauthorized speaker refrain from interrupting the meeting. The interrupter failed to desist.

Minute 27– 2020/21

It was **proposed** by Cllr Brooks and **seconded** by Cllr Flower and RESOLVED that the Clerk would mute the person interrupting the meeting. Unanimous. **Carried.**

The interrupter then absented himself from the meeting.

Correspondence

The Clerk advised the Meeting that there had been a number of letters of support and thanks received from Parishioners. One hand-made card was displayed to Members.

Cllr Coshall added that she had also received several emails, thanking the Parish Council for the support provided to vulnerable Parishioners during the lockdown.

The Clerk advised the meeting that Cllr Coshall (prior to becoming a Parish Councillor) had singlehandedly delivered lavatory paper, bleach and soap, purchased by the Parish Council, to vulnerable households in the Parish. Members showed their appreciation by applauding Cllr Coshall.

Appointment to Community Network Panel

Minute 28– 2020/21

The Clerk alluded to an email received from the Community Link Officer for the area, requesting that a representative from the Parish Council be appointed to replace a Tintagel Councillor, who has now retired.

Members felt that a joint appointment would be preferable.

It was **proposed** by Cllr Brookes, **seconded** by Cllr Pearse and RESOLVED that Cllr. Appleby-Tremain and Cllr. Coshall would be appointed as joint representatives of Tintagel Parish Council, on the Community Network Panel. Unanimous. **Carried.**

Withdrawal of Service

Members considered correspondence received from the local Cornwall Councillor. That person had openly stated, in writing, that he had withdrawn his 'support' to the Parish Council.

Minute 29– 2020/21

It was **proposed** by Cllr Brooks and **seconded** by Cllr Flower and RESOLVED that the decision made by the local Cornwall Councillor would be accepted. Unanimous. **Carried.**

Suspension of Standing Order 20

Minute 30– 2020/21

The Clerk advised the Members that it would be prudent to consider supporting the decision at Minute 28 through the suspension of Standing Order 20. That Standing Order relates to the Parish Council/ County Councillor relationship.

It was **proposed** by Cllr Brooks and **seconded** by Cllr Coshall and **RESOLVED** that Standing Order 20 would be suspended until further notice. Unanimous. **Carried.**

It was agreed that the Clerk would correspond with both the Standards Officer and the Conservative Party Leader at Cornwall Council, to confirm the Parish Council's acceptance of the stated decision of the local County Councillor. An invitation would then be extended for the Conservative Party Leader to appoint another Cornwall Councillor to attend Tintagel Parish Council meetings. If the Conservative Party Leader does not wish to appoint another Councillor, an approach will be made to another political party, requesting that an appointment be made.

Antisocial Conduct

Cllr Brooks alluded to a recent telephone call, received by the Chairman of the Parish Council. The manner of the caller was deemed to be both aggressive and rude. Cllr Brooks stated that such conduct was unacceptable and stressed that it would not be tolerated. The Chairman has given many years of loyal service to the community and does not deserve to be treated so shabbily.

The Members of the Parish Council took the opportunity to show their thanks and respect to Cllr Flower, by applauding.

The meeting closed at 20.57

Next Meeting - The next Scheduled meeting is on Wednesday 2nd September 2020.