

Boyton Parish Council

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Suzanne Cleave, parish clerk

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Draft minutes - October 31 meeting

1. Councillors present

Cllrs M Stanbury, J Smith, Mike Woods, G Willetts, J Sanders, J Bennett, M Law and S Davey. Also present, Suzanne Cleave, clerk, and four members of the public.

2. Apologies

Adam Paynter, Cornwall Councillor – Community Network Panel meeting.

3. Chairman's comments

Cllr Stanbury noted that a couple of extra planning applications had been received. They were PA22/08219 (conversion of part of shed into dwelling, Dunns Farmhouse, Boyton), and also PA22/09302 (change of use from agricultural land to residential, construct one self/custom build low carbon detached dormer bungalow with detached garage and associated landscaping at Boslowen, land east of Tala Hill, Boyton). Cllr Stanbury proposed that the council meet on November 21 to discuss the applications and budget proposals.

Proposed: J Smith

Seconded: J Bennett

Votes: Unanimous

4. Questions from the public

None.

5. Declaration of Pecuniary interests

None.

6. Disclosure of Interests

None.

7. Minutes

The minutes of the council meeting held on September 26, 2022 were approved and signed.

Proposed M Law

Seconded: S Davey

Votes: Seven in favour, one abstention

8. Matters arising / clerk's report

The clerk's report was noted by councillors.

9. Correspondence

The following pieces of correspondence were noted: Cornwall Council planning training for local councils; Cornwall Council safeguarding briefing; Nescott to Langdon Cross road closure notification; CORMAC workshops links and notes.

10. Update on community orchard land

The clerk read an email from Chris Sims, Community Link Officer, who made a couple of points (have the parish council formally consulted the neighbouring residents, and if so, what is the outcome? A resolution confirming requests for formal devolution needs to be made, in addition to confirmation that the parish council would cover their own legal costs; and to note that there is a long list of devolution projects in the county with the process taking at least 12-18 months once agreed). Cllr Stanbury said there would need to be some sort of consultation. Cllr Smith said she had heard reports from some residents that they were not happy with the scheme, with Cllr Bennett adding that Cornwall Council's first request was regarding asking neighbouring residents and from the ones he has spoken to, not one of them is in favour of it. Cllr Stanbury asked councillors whether the council should carry on with the plans or leave it there. Cllr Smith said it would be difficult to go against the wishes of the immediate residents, although that would be a disappointment to some. Cllr Law said there could be better purposes for the land in the future and proposed to leave it as it is. Cllr Woods said it was a bit said that the council cannot get something organised, as the orchard would not just be for a few but for the wider community, but councillors noted that it has to have the backing of the immediate neighbours. Councillors voted on the proposal, with the majority in favour of leaving it as it is.

Proposed: M Law Seconded: J Sanders Votes: Seven in favour, one against

11. Budget

Within the discussions about the budget, councillors spoke about the donations given to Boyton Church, Boyton Chapel and Bennacott Chapel. It was decided to increase the donations to Boyton Church £185, Boyton Chapel £185 and Bennacott Chapel £170 from April onwards.

Proposed: J Bennett Seconded: J Sanders Votes: Unanimous

Other items discussed included the notice boards, which may need updating in April/May, the website, seat maintenance and the bus shelter. The clerk to rework the proposals and bring back to the next meeting.

12. Speed camera

The clerk reported that she had sent the speed camera back and received a refund (£539 minus £148 a year's annual subscription and £7.65 for a ratchet wrench). PC Jessop replied to say he was going to check with speed watch co-ordinators to see if there are any approved devices they can recommend. He also noted that other villages have applied for and been granted 20mph speed restrictions, which will

hopefully make people think twice about their speed. Cllr Smith noted that the flashing speed indicator sign is a good deterrent and wondered if the council could have one at the other end. The clerk to write again to Alison Hernandez regarding the issue and also look into how much another flashing sign would be, to report back to the next meeting.

13. Solar fund review

It came up in members' questions last meeting to look into the solar fund. The solar farm monies are currently administered by the Cornwall Community Foundation (CCF). Cllr Smith explained that there is currently a total of £51,783 in the account. There was one grant applied for this year for the Jubilee committee of £3,130.28, and for each transaction, CCF take a 10% fee. She said that CCF chase the money and invest it on behalf of the council. She mentioned that an application could be made for the issue with the tarmac outside the chapel that the parish council was unable to help with. Cllr Law asked whether the administration of the fund should come back to the parish council, as they do that for example in Whitstone. Cllr Smith said the money would not be able to go in the council's current account, and it would take the clerk's time to administer it. Cllr Stanbury said from discussions at the last meeting, it was asked whether the admin fee was good value for money. Cllr Woods noted that not many people are claiming and he would not have a clue how to do it. He also noted that the Jubilee committee had to jump through hoops to get their grant. Cllr Smith said they could revisit the terms and conditions, and Cllr Stanbury said the application process needs to be simplified, adding that the bureaucratic nature could put some people off. Cllr Law said to pay £318 interest on one application is a lot of money. Councillors listed the organisations in the village, noting they could all apply for money from the fund. Cllr Law said there is a lot of money in the fund and it could be used for a number of things, but the process has to be simpler. Cllr Stanbury suggested that the clerk looks into how other councils administer similar funds, adding that original criteria set 10 years ago should not be a restriction now. This will be placed on the January agenda.

14. Community Infrastructure Levy 'Neighbourhood' payment

Councillors noted the latest notification of CIL payment and guidance from Cornwall Council (which the clerk will circulate to members).

15. Planning

15.1 Applications:

PA22/09033 – Erection of an agricultural building and form new agricultural field access and gate. Land north west of Trehendra, Boyton.

It was noted that it was close to the road but within the limitations. It was proposed to support the application.

Proposed: J Bennett

Seconded: M Woods

Votes: Unanimous

15.2 Decisions: To note the following decisions:

None received.

15.3 Other:

APPEAL DECISION: PA21/07563 (original planning application for a new single storey dwelling with attached garage, parking and amenity space at Moorcott, Boyton, that was refused by Cornwall Council — **Appeal dismissed, no costs claimed.**

* Application PA22/08780 Prior approval for Class Q conversion of existing agricultural building and reasonably necessary building operations to form a single dwellinghouse, barn at Silverlands, Boyton.

Cllr Bennett said the application was up for prior approval so as such, the parish council does not get a say. However, he highlighted that the barn immediately opposite was turned down for planning for conversion a couple of times, and asked for the parish council to write to the planning officers to point this out. Other councillors agreed.

Proposed: J Bennett

Seconded: J Sanders

Votes: Unanimous

16. Finance

16.1 – Bank reconciliation – Cllr Bennett checked and signed the bank reconciliation.

16.2 – Payments – Councillors approved the following payments:

| Payee | Details | Reference | Amount |
|-----------------------|--|------------|---------|
| Suzanne Cochrane | Wages – September | Cheque 881 | £394.16 |
| Suzanne Cochrane | Expenses – mileage (two journeys), printing, postage (recorded delivery for return of speed camera, A4 paper, book of condolence and frame for Queen's photo | Cheque 882 | £ 38.44 |
| Cornwall Pension Fund | Pension contribution September | Cheque 883 | £73.70 |

Proposed: J Smith

Seconded: M Woods

Votes: Unanimous

It was noted that Cllr Stanbury and Cllr Law went into the bank to transfer £2,000 from the reserve account to the current account and enquire about online banking. It was proposed to empower the existing signatories to set up online banking with a view of updating.

Proposed: M Stanbury

Seconded: J Smith

Votes: Unanimous

17. Members' announcements

Cllr Stanbury – noted that it had been raised again about the foul water drainage that has bubbled up from a property. Cllr Bennett had made the resident aware, but the clerk to write to the owners.

Cllr Bennett – reported pot holes in Underlane. Clerk to email Oliver Jones Cllr Smith to send clerk photographic evidence.

Cllr Davey – Noted a 30mph sign was facing the wrong way.

Cllr Smith – On the footpath from Queens Acre, the footpath gate post was hanging off. Cllr Stanbury to speak to the landowner and possibly bring back to the council. She also reported another pot hole.

Cllr Wood asked for an update on the Beacon Park sign, but was informed that CORMAC felt it did not need moving or changing.

Cllr Willetts – said the Smithy hedge needed cutting back as you could not see when pulling out. Cllr Davey to have a look. The red waste bin opposite the bus shelter keeps dropping to the ground, needs replacing. Clerk to report.

18. Public participation (Standing Orders suspended for this item)

One member of the public asked if there was any progress with the hand standing in front of the bus stop. They were informed that this would be added to the works like from April 2023.

Another member of the public reported that the whole village was without broadband for three days recently, which is unacceptable. He said there was no satisfactory explanation. Asked if the council would write to BT Openreach for a full explanation and assurance it would not happen again. Clerk to rite, copying in Scott Mann. He also asked for the bank details to include the Boyton Events Committee, and noted that if any organisation needs help with an application for the Solar Farm monies, he would be willing to help.

19. Date of next meeting

Monday, November 21.

The meeting closed at 9.30pm.