

MICHAELSTOW PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES February 2020



Minutes of the meeting of **Michaelstow Council Meeting** held in the Treveighan Methodist Chapel on Thursday February 6th 2019.

Present: Cllr. J. Marshall (chair), Cllr. R. East, Cllr. A. ffrench Blake, Cllr. P Jago, Cllr D. Fairman (Cornwall Cllr. for St Teath and St Breward wards), S. Mitchell (parish clerk). Mr. A Button.

Parish Council Meeting

1. **Public Session:** Mr. A. Button, an ex-chair of the parish council, was present as an adviser and observer and for discussion on church related issues at the end of the meeting.

2. **Members declaration of interest:** no interests were declared

3. **Apologies for non-attendance:** There were no apologies.

4. **Approve the minutes:** The minutes of the meeting held on December 5th 2019 were signed as correct.

5. **Matters arising** from the above minutes:

adoption of new councillor. Councillors resolved to adopt Mr. P Jago who had supplied his application and fulfilled the conditions. He signed a 'Declaration of Acceptance of Office' and the clerk issued him with a 'Register of Interests' form for completion by the next meeting.

Letter RE: New Park. Councillors viewed a draft letter constructed by Cllr. ffrench Blake to the owner of 'The Orchard' requesting whether she would consider its sale and agreed the clerk should send it.

Pocket Parks and local tree planting. The clerk had supplied maps of Michaelstow to councillors to see if they could identify areas for tree planting, as per policy determined by the County Council and Community Network Area. Councillors could find no gaps as all the land was owned this would require permission from landowners.

Cllr Fairman reported that he was intending to put 10 hectares of his farmland over to trees.

The clerk enquired whether Mr. Button would be planting trees on Tregawn Farm. Mr. Button agreed he had plans for more woodland but was waiting for the legislation to be clarified. There was government legislation 'in the pipeline' whereby farmers could benefit from giving productive land over to woodland, but progress seemed slow. He also agreed with councillors that woodlands need maintenance and that some of the expectations of the plans were unrealistic in that they sought to determine how farmers should run their own land. The council resolved to put tree planting issues to one side until the legislation and the actual benefits to farmers, beyond climate change mitigation, became clearer to them.

6. Planning:

[PA20/00289](#) Change of use 4 holiday apartments and former games room to 5 units of residential accommodation. Coach House, Michaelstow Manor Holiday Park. Mr & Mrs Jesson > 12.02.2020. Councillors hoped that the change of use from holiday apartments to residential units would give the owners a useful foothold in clearing-up and improving the site more extensively. Since its use as a holiday park seemed no longer feasible the council were interested to know the what owner's plans might be to develop the site for new uses. They supported the application.

7. Accounts: Financial Matters

a. Bank Balance:	27.01.20	£7228.61
b. Invoices & Payments:		
• clerks monthly salary paid in arrears by SO on 1 st		£298.48
• payment for carol service cards [0191]		£55.50

8. Local Maintenance Project (LMP):

Councillors agreed to accept the LMP conditions and a grant towards cutting the footpaths of £270.35

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9. Community Network / correspondence:

There had been a community network meeting on 15th January and another on 28th January with climate change presentations. The clerk was asked to forward the minutes of these to councillors. The next network meeting had been set for 24th March.

Cornwall Council had published its new priorities in a '*Climate Change Development Planning Document*'. These include: increasing renewable energy capacity, coastal change and flood management, building standards and energy efficiency, transport, natural climate solutions and focus on agriculture.

10. Parish Matters:

10.1) Mr. Button gave details of a planned fundraiser for the church building. He was planning a Blueberry Tour event on 1st August and hoping for involvement from '*The Friends of Michaelstow Church*' in a 3 way split of any proceeds between '*St Tudy and Michaelstow Church*', eg the Diocese, the 'Church Friends' and Treveighan Chapel.

He was pleased to hear of a repeat donation coming to 'The Friends' as a result of the Carol Service Cards. Cllr French Blake offered to follow up to involve the 'Church Friends' in this event. Mr. Button had been talking with the architect at the church and had identified many interesting facts regarding this heritage building. The clerk suggested that the parish council might host a talk on the above at their annual parish meeting on 7th May. The parish council agreed that this could be a good way to promote the interests of the church locally as an heritage building. Mr. Button provided his email address to set this up with the clerk.

10.2) The clerk reported that he would be moving the parish website to a new hosting service and that this would involve some re-design over the next 2 months.

11. **Date of next Meeting:** The next meeting was to be on March 5th 2020

12. **To Close the meeting:** Cllr Marshall closed the meeting at 20.10