

Linkinhorne Parish Council

Minutes of the Virtual Meeting of the Council

Monday 11th January 2021, 7.30pm

MINUTES

Those present were: Cllr Ward (Chairman), Cllr Hearn (Vice -Chairman), Cllr Adams, Cllr Beech, Cllr Corfield, Cllr Daniel, Cllr Hordley, Cllr Lobban, Cllr Rousevell and Cllr Wallis.

Melanie Kilby (Clerk)

Members of the public: 0

1) Absent: Apologies received from Cllr Sharp-Philips

2) Code of Conduct:

- a) Declarations - none
- b) Grants of dispensation - none

3) Minutes

Resolved that the minutes of the previous meeting of the Parish Council of Monday 14th December 2020 be confirmed, and these were signed as an accurate record of the meeting.

4) Adjournment of up to 15 minutes for members of the public to raise matters

No members of the public were present.

5) Reports from and matters of concern to:

- a) Cornwall Councillor Daw – Not present.
- b) Reports from other councillors (other meetings, conferences) –
A councillor attended the Cornwall Council Covid 19 meeting with head of Public Health and Team Leads. It was commented that:
 - Covid-19 was nearly out of control in the county.
 - 80% of those who had positive coronavirus tests had been contacted by track and trace. There is little evidence that second home owners have increased the cases of Covid-19 and is being transferred through the indigenous population.
 - Only 30% of those who test positive are self-isolating correctly.

After 37½ years working for Cornwall County Council, Cornwall Council and Cormac, Paul Allen will be retiring from his position, of Highway & Environment Manager. Will Glassup, who has been the local Area Steward in the Callington / Saltash and Torpoint area for the past 5 years will be taking over the role. He will be taking up the new role from Monday 11th January 2021 and Paul Allen will be providing a supporting role during the transition.

6) Finance

- a) Cash flow of accounts
Resolved that the bank reconciliation/cash book statement be confirmed an accurate account, and this was signed by the Chairman.

Resolved that secondary confirmation that the bank statement matches the bank reconciliation will be achieved by sending a copy of the bank statement with the cheques for the signatories to sign.

b) Payments

Resolved that the following payments be approved:

- i) £190.55 Inc Vat Cormac Solutions Ltd (Maint. Jubilee Field and Parsons Meadow Dec).
- ii) £254.50 Inc VAT Cormac Solutions Ltd (minions WC clean Dec20).
- iii) £254.50 Inc VAT Cormac Solutions Ltd (minions WC clean Dec20).
- iv) £2.00 HMRC.
- v) £101.40 M. Kilby (salt for bins).
- vi) £66.68 M. Kilby (admin costs).

c) Receipts i) none

d) To consider / approve quote for the renewal of Avast anti-virus software

Resolved to approve: Norton 360 Deluxe anti-virus software for 1 year for £34.99.

7) Planning

Chris Rounsevell joined the meeting

a) Planning Applications

Proposed, seconded, and upon being put to the vote it was **resolved** to make the following recommendations:

i PA20/10339. Land Rear of the Grange Sutton Farm Upton Cross. New farm dwelling.

Linkinhorne Parish Council has no objection to the application subject to the following:

1. That the property is subject to an agricultural occupancy condition
2. That a section 106 planning obligation ties the land in the ownership of the applicant to the property (Part of this land hold has already in the past provided a justification for an agricultural tied property not now associated with the land)
3. No consent is granted until the County Land Agent has agreed that the business case put forwarded supports the provision of a house
4. Consent for the house is not given unless or until planning is granted for applications PA20/10329 and PA20/10340.

ii. PA20/10340. Land at Sutton Upton Cross. Extension to existing machinery and livestock building

In principle Linkinhorne Parish Council have no objection to the extension of this particular building as it is already used for livestock, subject to the response to application PA20/10329 being taken into consideration.

iii. PA20/10329. Land at Sutton Upton Cross. New livestock building.

In principle Linkinhorne Parish Council would support the application and it would be supported by the Neighbourhood Development Plan so long as the following issues are mitigated:

The proximity of the proposed new livestock building to residential properties (five dwellings are within 400m). The applicant has not provided any information concerning the potential loss of amenities to these residential properties. For example the applicant would need to demonstrate that the location of the building, the way in which the building is orientated, the levels the building is set at and if hard/soft landscaping will be used to prevent / reduce the impact of noise etc. on properties surrounding the proposed building. More information is also requested on the type of livestock to be housed e.g. sheep /suckler herd as these would have significantly different impacts.

The Parish Council requests that this information is provided before it can make a decision on the application.

iv. PA20/11512. 1 Little Upton Court Land at Little Upton Farm Upton Cross. Application for a non-material amendment (no.3) following grant of planning permission PA17/04850. Amendments sought: Addition of a single storey extension to rear (NE) elevation and amendments to windows on rear elevation.

Linkinhorne Parish Council supports the application

v) PA20/11411. 4 Little Upton Court Upton Cross. Non Material Amendment for Alterations to doors/windows/finishes of dwelling and creation of raised deck in respect of approval PA17/04850.

Linkinhorne Parish Council supports the application

b) Decisions received from Cornwall Council Planning and Regeneration

Decisions:

- PA20/08955 APPROVED. Little Lanhargy Farm Bray Shop. Variation of condition 3 in respect of Decision Notice PA17/00266 dated 13th March 2017 - Garage conversion to annexe (resubmission of previous application PA20/03678 dated 27.08.2020).
- PA20/09205 APPROVED. Trevean Rilla Mill. Internal alterations and construction of a rear balcony with variation of condition 2 in respect of decision PA15/09061
- PA20/10884 Decided not to make a TPO (TCA apps). Netherton and Meadow Brook Rilla Mill. Works to trees in a conservation area, namely removal of large multi stemmed beech (T1), removal of Ash (T2) and removal of 4-5 metre long front branch of Walnut (T3).
- PA20/08260 REFUSED. Land West Of Lavender Cottage Bray Shop. Outline application with some matters reserved for a new dwelling
- PA20/09189 APPROVED. Netherton Barn Upton Cross. Construction of glazed - oak framed and slated roof living room extension.

8 Play equipment and recreational areas

a) To discuss / approved continued opening of play equipment during the current lockdown.

The current Government guidance is to keep parks and play areas open with measures in place to reduce the spread of Covid -19. It was **agreed** both Jubilee Field play area and the play area in Parsons Meadow will remain open and that the current measures in place are suitable.

b) To receive the weekly safety inspections

Weekly inspections were received by the Clerk.

i) Jubilee Field

The Councillor undertaking the inspections highlighted the large amount of rubbish in the bins and a large bag of dog faeces was found next to the bin which the Clerk disposed of. It was **agreed** that a sign would be put in place to request that rubbish is taken home. The bolts on the swings in the main play area were tightened. The swings in the under 5's play area are ready to be returned once the new bolts have arrived.

ii) Rilla Mill play area

On the 18th December, river levels on the Lyhner were the highest recorded in the last 60 years. Parsons Meadow was completely flooded as it is located on the flood plain. As a consequence the play equipment was partially submerged and debris collected around the railings. Collection of the debris creates a dam effect and with the pressure of water behind it has led to a portion of the railings being bent despite the gates being tied open by a resident to aid with flow.

Several councillors volunteered to remove the debris from the railings and to determine whether work is required to stabilise and/or unbend the railings.

c) To discuss weekly inspection rota.

Several Councillors offered to undertake inspections of the play areas.

9 Neighbourhood Development Plan – to receive update

Resolved to approve the Consultation Document and basic Conditions Statement. The final document required before submission is an Evidence List, after which the documents can be submitted to Cornwall Council and a consultation period of 10 weeks will be undertaken. It is unlikely that the Neighbourhood Development Plan will be completed prior to the elections in May.

10 Public Conveniences

a) To discuss the continued opening of the public conveniences, risk assessments and action plan during the current lockdown.

- i) Minions
- ii) Upton Cross

Public Conveniences are on the list of places that can remain open during the current lock down. Due to the lower numbers of people visiting the area during winter months (although the high number of people during recent snow fall was highlighted) and that people should remain local to exercise the council considered the risk remained manageable with the current opening and cleaning regime in place. **Resolved** to keep the public conveniences at both Upton Cross and Minions open.

Due to the extremely wet weather prior to Christmas the men's and laddies toilet doors at Minions swelled. Only the disabled toilet was safe to open over the Christmas weekend. The doors were adjusted enabling them to be opened the following week.

11 To consider / respond to the consultation of the Climate Emergency Development Plan Document

Agreed that the chairman would circulate any information from the online consultation meeting this week. It was agreed that unless this provided any further information a comment would not be submitted.

12 To discuss / consider the recent flooding at Rilla Mill and its impact on the Play area in Parsons Meadow.

As highlighted in item 8b) ii Parsons Meadow was flooded on the 18th December 2020.

The local emergency plan was discussed; it was started several years ago but had not been completed and is likely out of date. Clerk to contact local Councillor to discuss and potentially move forward.

Concerns were raised by Councillors and residents of Rilla Mill about the silting up of the 3rd arch and widening of the river bank at this location to aid flow through the 3rd arch.

A response was received from the Environment Agency:

The high flow event of the 18th of Dec 2020, was the highest level recorded on the River Lynher in the 60 years since records began at the Environment Agency monitoring station downstream at Pillaton. Parsons Meadow is located within the flood plain so flooding of this area should be expected. Whilst the River Lynher is designated as 'Main River' at this location (Rilla Mill) and as such the Environment Agency has powers as a risk management authority for main river, the Bridge falls under the remit of Cornwall Council as the Highways authority / Bridge operator and any issues around blockages including silt/ shoals should be directed to CC in the first instance. The land owner can explore options of carrying out work themselves (if the feel it is required) as a riparian land owner or in conjunction with the adjacent land owners and Cornwall Council as the Bridge operator. Any works carried out in or adjacent to the river channel would require a Flood Risk Activity Permit from the Environment Agency, guidance on this can be found on the .gov.uk website. This may not be relevant at this site but in terms of structures across river channels (such as Bridges) and the common occurrence of gravel and silt shoals building up at these locations, often if any vegetation can be prevented from colonising the shoals (by pulling/cutting/etc..) then they will remain mobile and be re-adjusted depending on river level flows. This can significantly reduce the need for any active intervention in terms of shoal removal.

13 To discuss / consider the gritting regime of the CO037 from Upton Cross through Rilla Mill to Kersbrook Cross.

The Council discussed the response to the request below:

In light of the recent issues faced due to icy conditions on the 8th December 2020 Linkinhorne Parish Council requests that the gritting regime for the CO037 from Upton Cross through Rilla Mill to Kersbrook Cross is reviewed for the following reasons:

1. Recent accidents in Rilla Mill on Tuesday 8th December 2020 resulted in 6 minor prangs, 1 serious collision resulting in the vehicle being written off and two substantial granite posts and the iron bar stays (which prevent vehicles from slipping into the stream) and the road surface requiring emergency remedial safety works. The road was impassable for 2 hours.
2. The road is used as a public bus route for the 112 (Callington to Minions) and 236 (Liskeard, Pensilva, Launceston).
3. Two different school / college buses use the route.
4. although a grit bin is provided near Netherton, the condition were so treacherous that it was too slippery and dangerous for members of the public to walk up and safely collect salt from that bin. The expectation that members of the public would be safe to distribute salt on that section of steep and twisty road is considered by the council unacceptable.
5. The topography of steep hills on either side of the Rilla Mill Road bridge, the narrow and twisty road layout and significant number of on road parked cars make it a pinch point and significantly increases the chances of accidents is that area.
6. This road is an alternative route for traffic travelling from Liskeard to Launceston as it is significantly less narrow and windy than the B3254. Due to the wide catchment of Plymouth it is also used by commuter traffic.

Although the community did their best to aid the situation by using the salt from the bins and stopping cars from coming further into the village. The situation could have been eased and number of accidents significantly reduced / prevented by at least a portion of the road being on the gritting route.

Response from Cornwall Council Highways:

Unfortunately this road cannot be simply added to Cornwall Council's list of precautionary salting routes. The council's winter service policy can be found here on the website and this explains the current roads that receive precautionary treatment.

I will however raise your request with Cornwall Council for consideration for next winter 2021/22 however I think it would be very doubtful that the road would be added without considering all the hundreds of miles of other similar

types of roads across the whole county. In order to defend itself in court should there be an accident and claim for compensation, the council needs to treat all similar standards of road in the same way. To add all similar types of roads such as this one would require substantially more funding for additional gritting lorries, additional drivers, more salt, and more salt barns for storage across the whole county.

Resolved that a group of volunteers would put together a case for the road to be added to the gritting route including:

- Demonstrating a case made through risk assessment processes.
- That the gradient and bends make it a higher risk than other roads of the same category in the county. Clerk to request the risk assessment undertaken by Cornwall Council on the C0037.
- That it is an essential link to services in Upton Cross e.g. school and shop
- A group of volunteers is to undertake a traffic count
- Due to the road from Upton Cross down to Rilla Mill being cut into the northern side of a hill and the overhanging tree reducing the amount of sunlight this part of the road is a frost hollow
- The Clerk has requested information on the number of accidents reported to the police and the cause of the accidents from the local Police Community Support Officer.

14) Correspondence (as listed)

<u>Doc. Date</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Summary</u>
15.12.2020*	CC	Town and Parish Council COVID-19 Update - 11 December 2020
15.12.2020*	CC	FW: Hocking House Podcast - 14/12/20 - Should Cornish residents call police if they spot people from a tier three area visiting?
15.12.2020	Rural Service Network	The Rural Bulletin - 15 December 2020
22.12.2020*	CC	Town and Parish Council COVID-19 Update - 18 December 2020
22.12.2020	CC – Highways	Town and Parish Council Highways and Environment Update
24.12.2020	CC - Highways	Gritting Regime Upton Cross, Rilla Mill to Kersbrook Cross
24.12.2020	Rural Service Network	The Rural Bulletin - 23 December 2020
5.1.2021*	CC	Neighbourhood Planning E Bulletin
5.1.2021	Rural Service Network	The Rural Bulletin - 5 January 2020
5.1.2021	CALCO	CALC FAQ 14 - BRIEFING ON NEW LOCKDOWN
6.1.2021*	Western Power	Wales & West Utilities Regional Stakeholder Workshops: January 2021
6.1.2021*	CC – Enforcement officer	Land at Cheesewring Hotel Minions
7.01.2021*	CCNA	Covid -19 Public Health Update via Facebook Friday 8 January 2pm
11.01.2021	Cornwall Street works	Emergency closure - Little Trelabe to Upton Orchard, Rilla Mill
11.01.2021	Environment agency	Rilla Mill River Lynher

a) Items for information only

The Clerk provided an update of the enforcement cases:

- i) No response had been received concerning Little Upton development
- ii) A response from the Planning Group Leader for Area Teams 7 and 8 passed the complaint to the Customer Relations team and they will be touch in due course.
- iii) The enforcement case EN20/01284 which investigated the creation of the access on Grassmere Lane was closed on the grounds that the access was in accordance with the approved plans of planning permission PA19/07961. Recently Cornwall Council has received complaints that the access has since been increased in size and no longer meets that shown on the approved plans. On this basis a new enforcement case has been created to investigate the new complaint under reference EN21/00020.

20) Close of Business

The meeting closed 21:30