

Linkinhorne Parish Council

Annual Parish Meeting

Minutes of the Meeting held Monday 11th April 2022 at 7.00pm.

Minutes

Present at the meeting were:

Shaun Ewings (The Link), Christine Ewings (Trustee of Linkinhorne Parish Hall Committee), Councillor Martin (Roberts and Jeffery Foundation) and 1 Member of the public.

Cllr Hearn (Chairman), Cllr Wallis (Vice Chairman), Cllr Adams, Cllr Beech, Cllr Martin, Cllr Stoakes and Lena Batten (Clerk).

1. Apologies received from the following invitees:

Simon Hordley (Vice-Chair Rilla Mill Village Hall), Sue Morton (Secretary to Linkinhorne WI), Maxine Browne (Linkinhorne PCC), Dr Joe Lannon (Rector of Callington), Rev Jo Smart (Methodist Presbyterian), Stephen Edser (PCSO), David Wood (Countryside officer), David Williams (Henwood residents association), Ursula Crouch (Recycling for charity), Stuart Maher (Tree warden).

Cllr Corfield, Cllr Hordley, Cllr Lobban, Cllr Sharp-Philips, Cllr Todd.

Those in attendance thanked Melanie Kilby for all her work and wished her well in her new post. They also welcomed Lena Batten into her new role as Clerk of the Parish Council.

2. The minutes of the Virtual Meeting of Monday 12th April 2021 were agreed as an accurate record of that meeting.

3. Chairman's report

The Chairman thanked Mel Kilby for her support and service during her tenure as Clerk and to welcome Lena Batten as our new Clerk. It was acknowledged it was again likely be a difficult year again for many in the parish – the cost of living crisis, international uncertainty and the journey out of the pandemic continues to be challenging. Consequently it had never been more important to be mindful of the difficulties faced by others and the importance of 'community'. To those who last year chose not to stand again as Councillors

appreciation was expressed for their help and, the opportunity to welcome those who had joined (and in some cases re-joined) the Councils ranks.

Linkinhorne Parish Council continued to provide a range of services; from the parish burial ground to the provision and maintenance of play areas, from public conveniences to footpath maintenance, allotments to bus shelters and canvassing for highway and other improvements. Basic but essential services that enhance the quality of life for the residents of, and visitors to the parish. Additionally in response to the pandemic, the Council had maintained additional levels of cleaning in its public conveniences in the interests of public health. The Council continues to assist a range of local organisations through grants, which benefitted the work of bodies supporting parishioners and working to represent the community such as by responding to consultations on matters such as planning applications and canvassing for improvements to other public services. Looking ahead work is being undertaken to celebrate and commemorate the occasion of the Platinum Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth. It was very much hoped that will be a time when the community can come together in appreciation for the remarkable record of duty and achievement of the Head of State.

Closer to home it was a pleasure to report that the Neighbourhood Development Plan had been adopted. It had been many years in the making and it represented a local planning document, for our parish, that sat alongside the Cornwall Local Plan and National Planning Policy Framework. Heartfelt thanks were extended to all those in the community who have worked so hard, for so long, to bring it to fruition. In conclusion, fellow Councillors were thanked for their help and support over the past year and, most of all, appreciation expressed to all those individuals and groups in the community who make the Parish of Linkinhorne, such a special place to live, work and visit.

4. Your questions, comments and suggestions. This is your opportunity as a parish elector to put questions or make comments on parish and community matters that interest or concern you.

Several organisations provided updates;

i) Simon Hordley, Vice Chair & Bookings Officer of Rilla Mill Village Hall provided an update. Following absolutely nothing happening throughout March last year (except for our ever present Post Office, who has carried on right through the pandemic) like the first buds of spring, life started to emerge again in April. First it was a few regular private bookings and the return of Mel and the Little Links. We were even able to hold the polling for a new police commissioner. Then in May saw the return of the Pilates group although some groups were still staying away. This I think, was owing to the older age ranges within memberships. We have yet still to see the return of the Whist Drives. At the end of the Summer, and being

unsure of how many people would show up, we decided to put on a “stripped down” version of the Duck Race. I think I can say on behalf of all of us, we were surprised how successful the event was. September saw the return of our Bowlers and the start of pantomime rehearsals (oh yes....) Then in October we had the return of the Bonfire & Fireworks. There was an amount of trepidation regarding the financial risk in holding this event. We are always hostage to the elements and with Covid still lurking, would anyone come? However, our fears proved to be unfounded and it was a very successful evening with a healthy take on the gate and refreshments etc. On behalf of the committee, I would like to express our thanks to everyone who came, the magnificent team of helpers and of course, Chris Rounsevell for the hog roast.

Just a footnote to this, next day several helpers were tested positive for Covid, so what would have happened if the event was just one day later?...With the exception of the Bonfire (which has to be done properly, not only for financial reasons but also a great deal of planning goes into ensuring everyone is safe) Most of the events held this year have been on a “Low or No cost if cancelled’ strategy. Sadly we had to cancel the New Years Eve party (again) Also, the pantomime was postponed twice and I would like to thank the cast and production crew for their resilience in eventually pushing it over the line in April! (even though now as I write, we all have Covid , probably caught celebrating after the performances. Will this be the new normal?) Looking toward the future, as well as our usual events, we are hoping to put on the Big Lunch on the 5th June as part of the Jubilee celebrations. On Parson’s Meadow if dry or in the Hall if not. We are also submitting a bid in the Callington “Lion’s Den”. The community project we are proposing will be for a permanent sheltered area in Parsons Meadow, where people can sit down. This will get a great deal of use, from parents while their children use the popular play area, and from those who want a sit down for refreshments while playing Smite! Finally, I am happy to say that all the Hall renovation/decoration work has now been completed, with the new shelving in place for the Little Links and Panto equipment. A big thank you to Simon Morse for building this.

ii) Maxine Browne (PCC secretary) sent a report on behalf of Linkinhorne PCC and The Rector of Callington, Dr Joe Lannon and the Reverend Jo Smart, (The Methodist Church) who sent their apologies to the Meeting. Maxine stated that both St Melor’s Church in Linkinhorne and St Paul’s church in Upton Cross have now re-opened for services. During the last year, Andrew Doney at St Melor’s has led the 1662 Prayer Book morning office on Mondays Wednesdays and Fridays at 10.am. Now that Sunday services have resumed, the Friday one has been dropped. Sunday services dates and times have changed, so it is best to check the notice boards and the Link for up to date information. St Paul’s Church started All Age services on the first Sunday of every month at 9.30 am. The format is very different to traditional services, with videos, craft and interactive prayer. Christians together in Linkinhorne have also commenced Messy Church at Rilla Mill Retreat Centre (former Methodist Chapel) on the third Sunday of every month from 3pm until 5pm which has craft,

games, teas and coffees and ends with a shared meal. Both All Age services and Messy Church are for all ages and of any religion or none. The East Wivelshire Deanery (of which Callington Cluster of Churches is part) is involved in the On The Way programme running in the Truro Diocese where we are looking at making all churches fruitful and sustainable. The intention is to enable more folk to be comfortable in our churches, feeling welcome, warm and engaged.

iii) Councillor Martin who is a trustee of The Roberts and Jeffrey Foundation confirmed that there was a detailed update in the April Link in relation to the Roberts and Jeffrey Foundation.

iv) Shaun Ewings (The Link) gave an update stating that there has been an increase in the cost of this community resource since January 2022 as the revenue made was not covering the costs of the outgoings. Advertising had dipped during the pandemic however is now increased. The IT and software being used to produce the Link is becoming older and can be temperamental however there is a financial contingency plan to allow for this to be updated. On a positive note they currently printed five hundred and thirty-five copies of the Link last month. It was also felt prudent to thank Trealicks and the Caradon Inn for being distributors of the Link. Mr Ewings detailed that parishioners raised potentially displaying the Link in a digital format however any reduction in printing results in the cost of printing increasing and the current software is not deemed to be appropriate to adopt a digital form of the Link. They did produce a colour supplement to the Link in 2012 to celebrate the 60th Anniversary of the accession of the Queen however do not plan to do this in 2022 in relation to the Queen's Jubilee due to the increase in costs. To print a double page in colour costs £60.00. The Chairman confirmed that as the Link is a community network resource it might be prudent for the Link to apply to the Parish Council for a grant towards the potential costs involved in replacement equipment.

v) Christine Ewings (Trustee of Linkinhorne Parish Hall Committee) detailed that she completes all bookings for the hall which prior to the pandemic was overstretched. As things have started to return to normal bookings have increased again to pre pandemic levels. The hall has bookings every day, as many as five in one day on a Tuesday. It is a well known hall and a lovely space for all to enjoy. An example of the improvement in bookings is that last year in total the hall took £1,800 in total for room hire whereas this year to date, the total is £5,100 already. A thankyou was given for the grant last year which went towards the tarmacking of the car park as this was a massive outlay. The hall is aware that the fence from the car park adjoining Jubilee Field is soon in need of replacement. A grant application may be applicable as although it is the responsibility of the hall it benefits the safety and welfare of Jubilee Park as well. They have not obtained a quote to date. The hall has also been hired for the purpose of children's parties at weekends and has housed a bouncy castle in the hall for this purpose. On Friday 3rd June 2022 there is to be a big fun day organised by the Hall committee which is in its infancy. This will include the use of the

field which the Parish Council have agreed too. Included during this day are going to be activities for all including jugglers, entertainers, penalty shootouts, hook a duck, a coconut shy, face painting and a musical festival. The Caradon Inn will be offering free cream teas and fireworks later in the evening. The Jubilee Beacon is being lit the night before on the 4th June 2022 at Rillaton. It was agreed that the Jubilee festivals are a Parish event as a whole. There will be a clear timetable of events in next month's Link.

5. Additional Comments;

The Chairman thanked all for attending the meeting. For any other matters that were not raised the Clerk is contactable by email or phone.

6. Meeting closed; 7.30pm