

MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES AND HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD ON 22ND MARCH 2018

Members Present: Cllrs J Bryson (Chairman), Cllr S Browning, L Deely, P Kelly, P La Broy, L Moores, P Moores, F Partridge, H Partridge, P Tilzey, B Willingham

Non-voting Members: Cllrs T Philp and N Tucker

Officers present: Mrs D Bennett – Town Clerk
Mr K Cornwell – Responsible Finance Officer (RFO)
Mr S Hayes – Facilities Manager (FM)

Public present: 3

- ES/01/18** **To receive and accept apologies for absence**
Cllr T Gibbs
- ES/02/18** **To receive registered and non-registered disclosable pecuniary interests and non-registerable interests**
None
- ES/03/18** **Dispensations: to consider requests for dispensations**
None
- ES/04/18** **Minutes: to receive, confirm and sign the Minutes of the Environmental Services and Highways Committee Meeting held on 30th November 2017**
Resolved: That the Minutes were a true and accurate record and they were signed by the Chairman
- ES/05/18** **Maximum 15 minutes for public present to make comments concerning the business of the Environmental Services and Highways Committee**
A member of the public wished to advise that they felt that the Town Council (TC) were not aware of what they were taking on in regards to the weir as they had not had any proper meetings with the Environment Agency (EA).

If the water is raised it will limit how the sea can replenish the water and green algae will flourish that will contaminate the beach. It will have an impact on the fish and eels which are protected in law.

The Countryside Officer – advised that there had previously been issues when the weir was used of, boats sinking and a danger to people if there is a surge of water. If there is a need to lower the weir at night the area has to be manned, boat owners advised and checks made to ensure no boats/people are in the channel due to the risk to life.

The Harbour Master advised that he had been asked to represent Cornwall Council (CC) – he advised of the Port Marine Safety Code. The RoSPA report had deemed that with the weir in operation there is risk to life and therefore it would not be compliant. It also raised issues with the boats in the harbour as, if they were unable to insure them they could not be there. CC advise the Town Council that if the Town Council take on the running of the weir then the Town Council will be solely

responsible and CC will have no involvement. Therefore any deaths or risk to property will fall to the Town Council and not CC.

ES/06/18 **Mallard Cottage – to discuss the updated position including correspondence received and any associated actions and expenditure**

Last correspondence received was December 2017. Further information is being compiled by the owner. One permit has been returned.

ES/07/18 **The Weir – to consider correspondence received and associated actions and expenditure**

No further correspondence had been received from the EA, the RFO would chase a reply. Discussion took place regarding algae and the impact on the beach, removal of the canoes to make the area better for anglers, the RoSPA survey and water quality.

Resolved: That a Town Council Officer phones the Environment Agency tomorrow (23rd March) to arrange a site meeting between the Environment Agency and the Town Council as soon as possible. To advise the Harbour Master of the date and time of the meeting.

Cllr S Browning voted against

Cllr L Moores left the room

ES/08/18 **Deed of easement rear of the Crescent – to reconsider the approach now that the deeds have been located and take appropriate action**

Cllr L Moores returned to the room

Lengthy discussion took place regarding the content of the deed. Chippings are in breach of the deed, as is parking to the right hand side of the road. The deed requires any damage is made good to the Town Council's specification and compensation paid to the Town Council. Town Council to keep in good repair with reasonable cost for repair met by the residents.

Resolved: That the resolution ES/41/17 is enacted with the amendment of 'spaces' to 'vehicles' and 'right side' to 'southern side'. To include with each letter a note that signs on Town Council property must be removed by a set date and failure to do so will result in the Town Council removing them and sending the invoice for costs to residents.

ES/09/18 **Enforcement Officer – to receive an update on the position**

Resolved: To defer the item to another meeting

Cllr F Partridge left the room

ES/10/18 **To consider a referral from the Planning Committee (PL/213/17) regarding vermin problems at Coast View nr Binhamy Farm land**

Resolved: To refer to Full Council for consideration

Cllr F Partridge returned to the room

ES/11/18

Poughill Cemetery situation to be considered and any necessary alterations to policy considered in order to maximise the remaining capacity

The Facilities Manager advised the Council that the limited space left in the cemetery has a number of subterranean pipes and services running under it that, due to the age of the area, are not mapped and therefore excavation needs to be done by someone who knows the area and the location of those amenities/pipes.

Resolved: That the Town Council alter their conditions of use of their cemetery to state that only a Town Council nominated grave digger can be used to dig graves

Resolved: To write to Cornwall Council advising them of the limited number of grave spaces in Bude-Stratton Parish, as previously advised. Whilst the Council is mindful of the lack of public cemeteries in North Cornwall, they feel that Cornwall Council should be addressing this as a matter of urgency

ES/12/18

To receive the Third Quarter Budget Report

Resolved: To note the report

The meeting closed at 8.15pm

Chairman's Signature.....Date.....