

Minutes 19 April 2022

## **CORNWORTHY PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES** of the **Cornworthy Annual Parish Meeting** held on

**Monday, 19th April 2022 at 7.45pm**

at St Peter's Church, Cornworthy

### **DRAFT MINUTES SUBJECT TO APPROVAL AT NEXT MEETING**

**Present:** Cllrs Kirkland(Chairman); Bradley (Vice Chairman); Carver; Fry; Hunt; Ronson; Worthington

**In Attendance:** Mrs L Maby (Clerk); County Councillor Hawkins

#### **1. Preambles**

Emergency Exits

#### **2. Reports**

##### **2.a Parish Council Chairman**

Cllr Tony Kirkland read his report to the meeting:

'First and foremost, I must start my report with a big thank you to all fellow councillors and of course our excellent Clerk Linda Maby for your help and support. Also, a big thank you to Jonathan Hawkins our Devon County Councillor and John McKay our District Councillor whose help and advice are an asset to the Parish.

It was nice to be able to get back to having face to face meeting and also to be able to do site visits again after the Covid restrictions were lifted.

Unfortunately, we still have a problem with dog fouling in the village mainly in Priory View and the area around the lane leading to Bow Wood. This ongoing situation hopefully will be resolved by a visit to dog owners by the Dog Warden. Also, hopefully by dog owners being more responsible and clearing up after their dogs.

On a more positive note, I am sure we are looking forward to celebrating the Queens Platinum

Jubilee. By the time you read this report we will have circulated a poster to each household in the Parish outlining some of the events we have planned. A big thank you to the W.I., the Church, Village Hall and the Allotments Society and also to the Sports Field Committee for allowing us to use the field. Also to anybody else that I have forgotten in the task of organising this event.

Also, Councillor Janet Ronson has put together a Cornworthy Parish Emergency Plan. Janet has put a lot of work into this and this along with a Questionnaire this has also been sent out to every

household in the Parish. Thank you, Janet, let's hope we have a good response.

With us being able to meet outside again it was lovely to see a large turnout in December to witness the switching on of the Christmas Tree and Star. Our thanks to the Village Hall for providing mince pies and mulled wine for everybody, also thanks to Mrs Paula Pitman for organising the wonderful Carol Singers.

I am sure that I have missed items and I apologise if I have. Finally, let's all keep up the hard work and make our Parish a better place for residents and visitors.

## **2.b Accounts**

Clerk, Linda Maby, asked councillors to confirm that they had received copies of the financial data and then read out her report:

- 2021 to 2022 saw a gradual easing of COVID restrictions but we still had measures in place to help the most vulnerable. We were awarded a grant of £2,500 from Devon County Council's Covid Outbreak Fund to help with the application of measures. The funds from this grant will be provided just after our year end. Since restrictions have been lifted we are

advised that the residue of this money can be diverted to help with projects designed to protect and nurture our community. The Emergency Plan has been signalled as one such initiative.

- A grant of £750 has been kindly provided by County Cllr Hawkins but the council have yet to light on a project which meets the necessary criteria. This results in grant monies

including £600 for P3 (Pathways) of £1,350 for the financial year.

- As the financial year draws to a close we have the asset purchase of an aluminium fingerpost which will be covered by monies from the budget this year (£1,673.76 inc VAT) but in fact will not be paid until the beginning of the next financial year.
- We are due a VAT repayment for the last eighteen months of £395.41 which has been applied for but not yet received.
- Cornworthy Parish Council has a healthy closing balance for the year of £24,192 made up of £16,127 in the current account and £8,065 in the savings account.

## **2.c Defibrillator**

Cllr Kirkland read out his report:

'During the last year the Defibrillator was used at least once. Unfortunately, it did not save the person involved. After this incident it was decided to purchase an extra set of pads to

enable us to have the Defibrillator in constant use. (Once the pads are used, they cannot be re-used).

During the weekly check the machine was showing a technical fault, which required it to go back to the factory for repair. During this period, we were sent a replacement which meant we were only without cover for one day. We have now got our own Defibrillator back fully repaired with no cost to the Parish. An excellent service.'

## **2.d Climate Change**

Cllr Fry read her report to the meeting:

'Over the past year we have seen much change in mindset, awareness and behaviour and most importantly actions to improve and adapt our localities with Climate Change in mind which is all really promising.

South Hams Community Forum, Sustainable South Hams and many similar groups locally are passionate, well informed and engaged all striving to make changes. Their work not only raises awareness infiltrating their own parishes, it inspires those beyond. And with continued support of events, zoom chats and collaboration the network of contacts for all aspects of this important issue is growing and gathering pace. Its very promising and great to be a part of, if any parishioners wish to become involved please let me know and I can direct to the relevant contacts. '

## **2.e Footpath Coordinator (P3)**

Mrs Elly Finn had provided her report prior to the meeting which the clerk read out:

*NB. Mrs Finn has supplied a summary of Cornworthy Parish P3 Footpath Works in 21/22*

*(available on request)*

'Cornworthy received all the funding requested in 21/22 which has enabled the completion of the works detailed in the summary.

All the paths were re-surveyed between November and January '22 and a further funding bid submitted in February '22.

Of particular note is footpath 2, which runs along Bow Creek into Tuckenhay. Whilst it had some widening works undertaken by Devon County Council early last year which have really improved the access from the Tuckenhay end, there have been a number of issues raised with the path just before this. Steve Hunt has provided additional support at the worst parts of the path as it

narrows and becomes entangled with tree roots, however it has been raised with DCC as needing some additional surveying and path restoration. I am in contact with DCC on this and hope to join them for a joint inspection later in the Spring'

## **2.f Charlecombe Wood**

Mrs Caroline Hunt provided the following report after the meeting:

The Woodland Trust have advised that Charlecombe Wood was walked before Christmas and there are significant signs of ash dieback in much of the ash in in the Woods, which is replicated in many Woods across the country. Tilhill on behalf of the Woodland Trust carry out tree inspections and deal with those trees which need to come down for public safety. Some trees were felled in 2020, but none in 2021. The next inspection will take place in May/June time 2022 when the trees come into leaf. Any trees which pose a risk to public safety will be identified for further management.

The next path cut is scheduled for May 2022.

## **2.g Village Hall**

Cllr Carver read out his report

‘A meeting was held in mid November last year to explain the position of the Village Hall which was open to the public for them to comment. Various options were put forward and, as a result, a new committee was formed who are exploring the possibility and cost of improving our current village hall rather than building a new one. The building survey has been organised and we are now looking into specialist surveys for some areas identified.’

## **2h. Dame Elizabeth Harris and John Peter Charity**

Councillor Hunt read out the report:

‘During the 2021 financial year, 28 gifts were made to 37 parishioners at a cost of about £1,238. The sum distributed was roughly double the usual amount and took into account monies which had accrued but not been distributed in 2020 due to the practical difficulties arising from the pandemic.

The charity’s main source of revenue in the year was rental income from land.

A meeting took place on 16th November 2021 to approve the accounts to 31st December 2020. These show a total of £1,741 in the current bank account and in hand, and £1,029 in the Business Reserve account (these figures do not include payments made during the year but not cleared through the bank account by the end of it).

The trustees intend to hold a further meeting in the Autumn of 2022 following which it is

expected a further distribution will be made.

The trustees serving during 2021 were M Hartnell (Chairman), S Hunt, R O'Brien, R Keane, M Hasler and S Tucker (appointed 16th November 2021).'

### **3. Election of Representatives to Village Hall Committee**

Cllr Kirkland asked if Cllr Carver was happy to continue until June after which this subject would be considered again

### **4. Any Other Business**

There was no other business

The meeting closed at 7.58pm

Cllr Kirkland confirmed that the **Annual Parish Meeting** will be held on Monday 3rd April 2023 at 7.30pm