

Draft Minutes of Annual Meeting of St. John Parish on Thursday 12th May 2022 at 7.00pm at St John Village hall.

Those present : Cllr D Richards (Chairman), Cllr Everard, Cllr Crane, Cllr Tanner, Cllr Hirst, Mr Burton representing Mount Edgcumbe Country Park , Mr Keys (member of the public) and Mrs Allen Clerk to St John Parish Council.

1.122 Apologies for absence. Cllr Hoskin and County Cllr Ewert. Apologies accepted.

2.122 Minutes of the previous meeting 20th May 2021 were reviewed and approved.

3.122 Matters arising from the previous meeting. N/A.

4.122 Chairman's Annual Report 2021/22.

"Well, I suppose the most important thing that happened this year was the Election in May, and I have been delighted to welcome John Tanner and Ben Crane, as new councillors for St John and Tregonhawke respectively. John and Ben are already making significant contributions to parish matters. Democracy worked in May, even though the £1500 which we had to pay Cornwall Council was a surprisingly higher amount that anticipated.

Finance

Now that Covid difficulties and restrictions have eased, we have stopped the use of online banking transactions, reverting to the use of cheques, which suit our financial auditors better.

We have continued to manage our finances prudently but various increasing costs have meant that after many years of not increasing the Council Tax precept, we have this year found it necessary to increase parishioners' contributions. This will provide a solid buffer to increasing costs and challenges, including new election costs provision.

Our finances remain healthy with an end of year balance of approximately £6,000 (excluding the Solar Fund account).

Planning

The planning applications over the last year have mainly been in respect of chalet improvements at Freathy and Tregonhawke where several controversial proposals for chalet re-builds have been lodged. Whilst the Parish Council has generally supported these planning applications, we have objected to some proposals that contravene the Article 4 requirements. Also, we have resolved in future to object to new hot tubs at Freathy, which bring health and safety issues.

Transparency

We have continued with proper transparency with updates to our parish website, bulletins in the local newsletters and improved notice board coverage. We make efforts to reach out to the community, but, like many other parishes, remain disappointed that more parishioners do not come and talk to us at our meetings.

Environment

We have been active on many issues in the parish in the last year including:

Provision of replacement bus shelter in Freathy.

Support for double yellow lines at Tregantle.

Design and provision of new Wildlife Information Board at St John Ford.

Undertaken detailed inspection with Cormac resulting in four new areas of asphaltting in and around St John, and clearing of ditches.

Removal of redundant telegraph poles in St John

Arranged new signage for Tregonhawke

Contracted Green Thumb to improve grass at memorial garden.

Investigated improvements to the “turning area” by the ford, including liaison with Wildlife Trust.*

Repaired 16 th century tomb gravestone in our churchyard.

Directed solar fund to new windows in St John VH, Freathy Sports Club and new lighting to illuminate our church tower.*

Memorial Garden

Our only property responsibility is the memorial garden in St John, and we have continued to maintain this through gardening and stone cleaning, and I would like to again thank Cllr Everard for his special efforts in this regard. Our Christmas Tree will now continue to be supplemented by our new floodlights illuminating the church tower. (We are planning some further enhancements for the Royal Jubilee).*

Solar Fund

We have continued to receive regular £3000 contributions from British Solar Renewables and are delighted that we have been able to fund local community projects. We are looking at using the fund in 2022 to improve the turning area at the ford.

Section 137 Donations

We have received letters of thanks for our £250 donation to Shelterbox (in respect of Ukraine) and £250 donation to Rame Responders.

Ongoing Matters of Interest

Continuation of Sharrow Beach Car Park.

Traffic Schemes in Millbrook, Sheviok and Antony.

Forthcoming Cycleway and possible branch through St John.

Liaison with CC in respect of tree safety.

Training

Planning Training undertaken by Cllr Tanner and Enforcement Training undertaken by Cllr Hoskin.

Finally

I would like to express my thanks and appreciation to all councillors, and especially Roy Hoskin who has attended many external meetings and who ably supports all initiatives in Freathy. I would also like to thank Caroline for the excellent and efficient service she has given as Clerk particularly considering the difficulties over the last two years.”

5.122 Public forum.

Mr Burton informed those present of the current and future strategic plans for the Mount Edgcumbe park. The park is run by Cornwall Council and Plymouth City council but for 2022/23 receives no formal funding from the local authorities. It is entirely self funded and any surplus is ring fenced and invested back into the park. The management team are currently working on a 10 year plan and will be consulting stakeholders when developing the park and its facilities shortly.

Mr Keys informed those present of the Transport survey for the St Germans Rame peninsular area and requested that those present completed a survey and encouraged the local parishioners to do so too.

6.122 Finance report. The management report for 2021/22 was reviewed and approved unanimously.

St John Parish Council

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS 2021/22 as 31/03/2022

Including Community Benefit Funding

| | 2021/22 Budget | 2021/22 Actual | % |
|--|---------------------------|---------------------------|-----------|
| RECEIPTS | £ | £ | |
| Brought Forward | £9,701 | £9,701 | |
| Precept | £6,000 | £6,000 | 100 |
| CTS Grants | £63 | £67 | 106 |
| Interest | £1 | £0 | 0 |
| Bus shelter grant | £5,000 | £5,000 | 100 |
| Community chest grant | £250 | £250 | 100 |
| VAT refund | £1,200 | £1,069 | 89 |
| Community Benefit funding | £3,083 | £3,083 | 100 |
| TOTAL | £15,597 | £15,469 | 99 |
| PAYMENTS | | | |
| VAT | £100 | £1,220 | 1,220 |
| Clerk Salary | £1,950 | £1,666 | 85 |
| Clerking expenses | £350 | £362 | 103 |
| Subscriptions CPD | £250 | £294 | 118 |
| Grass control/ Footpaths | £1,250 | £708 | 57 |
| Community benefit projects and donations | £6,160 | £3,311 | 54 |
| Bus shelter | £5,000 | £4,865 | 97 |
| Hall Rent | £180 | £80 | 44 |
| Misc wreath xmas tree | £350 | £275 | 79 |
| Election/ reserves | £1,200 | £1,428 | 119 |
| Graveyard repairs | £250 | £250 | 100 |
| Freathy road markings | £0 | £0 | 0 |
| St John / Benskins wood and Ford wildlife sign | £668 | £260 | 39 |
| Website | £300 | £208 | 69 |
| Jubilee celebration | | £400 | 0 |
| Audit fee | £100 | £90 | 90 |
| Computer | £100 | £100 | 100 |
| Section 137 | £500 | £500 | 100 |
| Insurance | £260 | £251 | 96 |
| Printing Postage and Stationery | £110 | £182 | 165 |
| TOTAL | £19,078 | £16,449 | 86 |
| Profit/ (Loss) | -£3,481 | -£980 | |
| Cfwd | £6,220 | £8,721 | |
| Represented by:- | | | |
| Deposit Account Bank statement | | £4,854.81 | |
| Current Account bank statement | | £5,078.25 | |
| (less O/s cheques/ O/s Income) | | -£1,212 | |
| TOTAL | | £8,721 | |
| Community Benefit Fund | | £3,463 | |
| Total Funds excluding CB fund | | £5,258 | |

7.122 Public questions and motions. None.

8.122 Date of next meeting - TBA.