

Minutes of the Playing Field Meeting of St Mewan Parish
Council held at Polgooth Village Hall on Wednesday 4th
January 2017 commencing at 7.00pm

Present

Councillors J Spencer (Chairman), Mrs M Mitchell, Mrs J Padley, C Passmore, Cllr P Tarbox

In Attendance

Mrs W Yelland – Clerk

Public Attendance

21 members of the public. The clerk handed the report on individual play areas that require items to be removed, an agenda and minutes.

Chairman Cllr Spencer thanked everyone for attending this important meeting.

PF20/17 Apologies

Cllr J Kneller. Received and duly accepted.

Cllr Mrs Howard – apologies received after the meeting

PF21/17 Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest.

PF22/17 Public Participation

The Chairman addressed everyone and explained the purpose of the meeting and invited questions from the public.

Mr Kennedy thinks it is a great idea, however one would assume the parish council has enough in reserves. There isn't enough in reserve to carry out the amount of work required. Mrs Hills comments on the good idea, however she does not agree with the rise in precept as she is a pensioner.

Mr Tolliday queried the 65% quoted on the flyer. Confirmed this was the figure from the Neighbourhood Plan consultations. He has no objections but would like to see The Goffin fenced off as a dog area. He has no problem in the rise of the precept and was expecting more.

Mrs Dorman thinks it is a reasonable amount of money.

Mr and Mrs T Bissett asked what other options there are and is the increase the best option. Cllr Spencer explained the equipment is very old and as some has been removed it would be good to replace as soon as possible. Fundraising is a good idea, however the process could take a very long time.

Mrs Hills doesn't feel the representation tonight is a true one. Cllr Mrs Mitchell advised the meeting was advertised on the website, Facebook and flyers in all the village shops. Cllr Spencer stated it was too late to put in the paper due to the Xmas period.

J Roberts is happy to pay the increase.

Mr Hancock fully supports the increase of precept and is willing to help with contacts on outside agencies who can assist in exploring avenues of additional money through grants. He suggests a further consultation as the parks don't cater for 6-10 year olds. Asked for confirmation the money would be spent on the play areas. The clerk confirmed if the loan is accepted the loan figure would be shown as capital expenditure and ring-fenced.

Mr Tolliday would like to see maintenance free equipment installed.

The Chairman advised the council would also be consulting with the play area inspector, the person who inspects every two weeks, as he has valuable knowledge of what types of

equipment are less troublesome. A lot of choices, as all play companies claim their equipment is the best.

The Chairman explained Sticker Activity Park has issues, virtually all the equipment is wood with ongoing maintenance. Cllr Mrs Padley advised the public because of the funding it had to be wood and unfortunately it is also softwood which makes it worse. Cllr Passmore advised with any play equipment sadly there will always be something to maintain. The Chairman expressed the council will be looking carefully at all the different needs with research on the equipment.

Mr Bissett made mention to the metal frame equipment and would the replacements be the same. The Chairman spoke about the disappointment of the roundabout removal at Trewoon. The council were confident that Hewaswater would carry out the repair and meet the standard, however because of the various standard of testing and the disclaimer it wouldn't comply for insurance purposes.

Mrs Bregazzi asked the committee if the increase would be enough for the refurbishment and it was confirmed by the Chairman it would be.

Mr Hancock mentioned possible monies through the S106 agreement. The clerk will investigate.

Mr Kennedy asked the amount of loan money required, the chairman confirmed the council are looking at £150,000. There are other items to consider of renewing gates, fencing, picnic tables, etc. There hasn't been a rise in the precept for many years. Cornwall Council cuts are having a huge effect on parish and town councils. The council aren't sure whether in the future they will have financial assistance for maintenance of footpaths. Difficult times ahead.

Mrs Roberts asked if new equipment would automatically replace the old. Not necessarily and are open to options, however the PWL needs to be approved first. Mrs Roberts would like to have the opportunity of showing a video clip on a pump track activity and Miss Cornelius suggested a questionnaire, simple tick box on what people would like to see as North Petherwin parish council has an excellent bike track installed which has great usage. The Chairman asked if there were any further questions, thanked everyone for their input and closed the public participation at 7.40pm.

PF23/17 Matters Arising (Information Only)

The clerk advised the Skate Ramp is out of action again. The new surfacing installed suffered water ingress which has resulted in the sheets lifting making it unsafe. The company has assured the clerk they will repair as soon as possible.

100 flyers regarding tonight's playing field meeting were distributed in all village shops, advertised on the parish council website, Facebook and Twitter. Confirmed the flyer reached 681 people and the meeting agenda reached 556.

Minute no 80/16 completed

Ongoing repairs to equipment where possible.

Minute no PF16/16 – Some roundabout parts scrapped and a cheque was received from H. Orchard & Sons for 18.70. A further £10.50 for the remaining parts.

Signage to be discussed at next meeting.

PF24/17 Committee Minutes

It was

RESOLVED to accept the minutes of the Playing Field meeting held on the 28th September 16 as a true and accurate record. Proposed Cllr Spencer, seconded Cllr Mrs Mitchell. All in favour.

PF25/17 Play Equipment

It was

RESOLVED to remove the play equipment as per report. Proposed Cllr Mrs Padley, seconded Cllr Mrs Mitchell. All in favour.

PF26/17 Financial capital required for refurbishment of play equipment and surfacing

a) The Chairman moved a motion to raise the precept of 28p per week to cover the refurbishment. He also asked the public for their thoughts. There was a show of hands from 20 members of the public in favour of raising the precept of 28p per week enabling the purchase of play equipment, with one member of the public Mrs Hills who objected.

Mr Kennedy asked if he could speak.

Standing orders were suspended. Proposed Cllr Spencer, seconded Cllr Mrs Mitchell. All in favour.

Mr Kennedy is doing a bike ride and kindly offered to donate his fundraising money. Miss Bregazzi asked if the council are sure this is enough to cover equipment required. Confirmed by the chairman this is the figure roughly calculated having initially spoken with play companies who has visited all three sites.

Standing orders were re-instated. Proposed Cllr Spencer, seconded Cllr Mrs Mitchell. All in favour. After discussions,

a) It was **RESOLVED** to move motion a) proposed to raise the precept of 28p per week to cover the refurbishment. Proposed Cllr Spencer, seconded Cllr Passmore. All in favour.

b) It was **RESOLVED** to apply for a PWL for the sum of £150,000 to refurbish the playing fields. Proposed Cllr Spencer, seconded Cllr Mitchell. All in favour. Cllr Mrs Padley did address the public and explain this would all be subject to the approval of members at the next Full Council meeting.

c) It was **RESOLVED** there would be another meeting held to discuss the items of play equipment required. Proposed Cllr Spencer, seconded Cllr Passmore. All in favour.

Members of the public asked to speak.

Standing orders were suspended. Proposed Cllr Mrs Padley, seconded Cllr Spencer.

Mrs Roberts and Miss Cornelius asked if they could fund raise in addition for their village. Has anyone looked at grants and fundraising as they would be willing to help. Council has, but it can be a difficult and lengthy process for the amount required in the time scale required. The clerk's research showed parks that are unkempt with little or no equipment tend to attract undesirable individuals which can result in antisocial behaviour. Mrs T Williams is always keen to fund raise, however she expressed how hard it is to raise money, having once experienced raising £3000.00 only to find out it isn't enough for what you want. It can take far too long particularly with the cost of things.

Mrs Cotton asked if Trewoon can have some new goal posts. There is nothing in the playing fields for a lot of youngsters who want to play football. The Chairman advised he would be looking to rectify this.

Mrs I Bissett has kindly offered to distribute any flyers through Sticker stores via the paper round.

The clerk suggested to the Chairman if any member of the public wishes to become involved and join the Committee for the next stage they can do so.

Mrs Roberts, Miss Cornelius, Mrs Cotton and Mr Hancock volunteered to become involved in the process.

Mrs Dorman would like to see the children involved and would be happy to help in asking the children via a simple questionnaire. Mrs Dorman also asked about the Lower Sticker Playing Field. The Chairman confirmed at the moment council are only concentrating on Trewoon, Polgooth and Sticker Activity Park.

Standing orders were re-instated. Proposed Cllr Spencer, seconded Cllr Mrs Mitchell. All in favour.

PF27/16 Correspondence received up to time of meeting

1. E mail – requesting the village hall be moved to ‘ The Goffin’. This would achieve so much for the village as a whole and would probably access capital funding. The gentleman is happy to talk with the appropriate people in more detail if relevant.
2. Positive responses via email, parish council website and Facebook with support of the refurbishment.
3. A lady in Trewoon is pleased the council are taking action as she has asked on numerous occasions for new equipment at Trewoon play park. She also asked the clerk about the money from the sale of Trewoon Social Club and how the parish council should be a beneficiary for part of sale proceeds. The clerk confirmed the council has received nothing in writing from solicitors of the amount of money due.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending to give their input and offers of help.

The clerk will inform residents of the date of the next meeting and will post on the parish council website and Facebook.

There being no other business to be transacted the Chairman closed the meeting at 20.10 pm

Signed:

Chairman of the Playing Fields

Date:.....

Recommendations to be made to Full Council for approval:

1. To remove the play equipment detailed in the report.
2. To increase the precept of 28p per week to cover the refurbishment of the playing fields.
3. To apply for a Public Works Loan of £150,000.

Committee Members

Cllr Spencer (Chairman)
Cllr Mrs Mitchell
Cllr Mrs Padley
Cllr Mrs Howard
Cllr Kneller
Cllr Passmore
Cllr Stead (Substitute)