

**Minutes of the Meeting of Ruan Lanihorne Parish Council held at Ruan Reading
Room on Tuesday 5th September 2023 at 7.30pm**

Present Councillors: J Adams, G. Cairns, A Dundon, P Farr, C Martin (Chair) S Paull & T Robinson

In Attendance: Tomas Hill (Clerk), Cllr J German CC & 2 members of the public

102/23 APOLOGIES – to receive, note and accept apologies

None.

103/23 DISPENSATION OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS (DPI) AND ANY OTHER SIGNIFICANT INTERESTS (OSI) – to receive and note (if any)

None.

104/23 OPEN FORUM: for members of the Parish to make representations to the Council

The planning agent for 107/23 spoke briefly noting that the application was merely a change from a holiday unit to a dwelling stating that the property met all of the minimum requirements for a dwelling.

105/23 PRESENTATION FROM FAL AND HELFORD ESTUARY OFFICER – to receive presentation and consider information board

Sue Scott, Fal and Helford Estuary Officer from Cornwall Council, attended the meeting and gave a PowerPoint presentation. The presentation outlined a background to the role, how special the salt marsh habitat is and noted a concern raised about dogs running loose on the Saltings which Councillors did not consider was an issue. A noticeboard was offered to be designed and will be circulated to Councillors for initial review.

106/23 CORNWALL COUNCILLOR: to receive Cornwall Councillor report (if present)

Cllr German stated that the 20mph zones will be completed by the end of the financial year.

Cllr Farr raised the issue of flooding at Treburthes.

107/23 PLANNING – to reconsider the following planning application:

PA23/05839 Proposed use of the holiday unit as a dwellinghouse without compliance with Condition number 2 of permission PA24/02090/06/B dated 16 January 2007 – Carne Cottage Ruan High Lanes TR2 5NP

Councillors considered the application.

Cllr Cairns proposed, seconded by Cllr Paull and the Council **resolved** no objection.

108/23 MINUTES OF THE LAST ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING (Tuesday 4th July 2023) –
to confirm accuracy and approve

Cllr Adams proposed, seconded by Cllr Dundon and the Council **resolved** that the minutes were a true and accurate record of the previous meeting.

109/23 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES (not on the agenda & for report only)

Per 48/23, Wi-fi is now connected to the Reading Room.

Per 93/23, the Clerk had spoken to Viv Bidgood (CORMAC) and the CNP highway works at Ruan High Lanes are scheduled for the end of September / early October.

Per 94/23, Cllr Cairns and Cllr Paull have installed the lifebuoy cover at Ruan Quay.

Per 97/23, the Clerk has collected the slate plaque commemorating the Coronation and presented it to Councillors. Cllr Cairns will kindly place it in situ next to the Coronation tree.

110/23 CORRESPONDENCE (not on the agenda & for report only)

As per usual, the Clerk had circulated various correspondence to Councillors between meetings.

111/23 HIGHWAYS AND PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY – to report issues and note updates

The public rights of way have been cut per the Local Maintenance Partnership but the verge from the Pond to Sett Bridge has not yet been cut.

112/23 RUAN READING ROOM – to receive update to work and approve new disabled door

The Chair provided an update to the works for the disabled access. The ramp has been constructed by the railing is still pending. The existing disabled door has been reversed but Councillors considered that the door required replacement to make it fully disabled compliant.

Steve Cawrse has submitted a quotation for a new hardwood door and frame for the disabled access amounting to £1,040.00 plus VAT. The door will be glazed with a storm lip to keep water out.

The Clerk will contact the Bruce Wake Charitable Trust and ask whether the Trustees would be prepared to issue some additional funding originally granted.

Cllr Robinson proposed, seconded by Cllr Dundon and the Council **resolved** to accept the quotation and for the Clerk to apply for the grant funding but if no grant funding was available the Council would pay for the works.

113/23 RUAN POND – to consider removal of bamboo

Cllr Cairns undertook some research and stated that it was very difficult to remove bamboo unless by use by chemical. The bamboo had been cut by the roadside and it was considered that cutting and control was most appropriate.

114/23 RUAN QUAY – to receive visual condition report from waterside

Philip Martin has kindly undertaken a visual inspection of the waterside of the quay.

“Your chairperson has asked that I take some photographs of the quay structure from the river to ascertain the condition of same.

I attach the photos herewith.

Fundamentally you will see that the wall of the quay is constructed of largish stones set upright on their edge with more substantial buttresses at either end with stonework laid on its natural bed. A concrete plinth extends over the whole and encloses the quay surface of granite setts (the latter laid to commemorate the millennium).

You will see a dark void area at each end of the quay wall adjacent to the buttresses and these previously held timber posts, possibly originally intended to hold fenders for the boats/barges, but these have largely rotted away (the bottom parts of the posts are still visible).

The quay was landlocked and virtually buried until the 1980’s due to a build-up of clay and mud between the river and the quay and when excavated to reveal the present structure I can report that the stonework and the rotted timbers are exactly the same now as when revealed at that time. There may be a few stones lying in the mud but that was evident in the 1980’s.

However the buttress adjacent to the steps seems to have been laid in mortar and this would benefit from repair where the mortar has fallen out. One of the steps leading down from the quay to the foreshore (also laid in mortar) is partially broken and ideally should be repaired. Alongside the steps there is a void in the structure which originally housed a white timber marking the height of the water. I can remember a part of this existing about 50 years ago but this has long since rotted and disappeared.

Finally may I say these remarks are not given professionally to suggest I am a civil engineer (rather than a chartered surveyor) but merely my casual observations.

I hope these remarks are helpful”.

Cllr Robinson proposed, seconded by Cllr Adams and the Council **resolved** a vote of thanks to Philip Martin for his report and a budget of £200.00 for repairs to the step and a water depth gauge.

115/23 RISK ASSESSMENTS – to consider risk assessments for volunteers

The Clerk reported that volunteers were insured subject to a risk assessment.

Councillors discussed a Register of volunteers and a risk assessment was being developed for consideration.

116/23 GRANT – to consider grant request from Roseland Surgeries Patients Group

Cllr Adams proposed, seconded by Cllr Farr and the Council **resolved** to donate £50.00 to the Roseland Surgeries Patients Group.

117/23 FINANCE – to include finance report and payments for approval

The Clerk had previously raised a dispute with ‘Source for Business’ concerning an unusually high meter reading and consequent invoice. The Clerk thanked Cllr Cairns for providing a meter reading. The Clerk was pleased to report that an allowance of £272.66 has been granted and will be applied to the account. This has revised the balance to £64.97 outstanding and a revised bill will be issued.

The Clerk presented the monthly budget monitoring report dated to the 5th September 2023 which was duly noted.

Cllr Martin proposed, seconded by Cllr Adams and the Council **resolved** to sign payments per the September budget monitoring report inset box entitled 'payments for authorisation' to the total sum of £336.73.

118/23 REPORTS FROM MEETINGS ATTENDED BY COUNCILLORS – to note reports

Cllr Martin reported that Cllr Adams and herself attended the new Community Area Panel and provided an overview. The next meeting is the 17th of October and Cllr Adams will attend.

119/23 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS - matters to be included as an agenda item at the next meeting

2024/2025 Budget and Precept

Asset Checks

Invasive plants

Car park

Communications

120/23 CLERK'S CONTRACT – to consider annual increment and / or inflationary increase

Currently on SPC 12 being £12.73 which per NALC salary scale range is the top of LC1 (7-12) (substantive benchmark range). SPC 13 is £12.97 being a 24p hourly increase.

Cllr Adams proposed, seconded by Cllr Dundon and the Council **resolved** to increase to SPC 13.

The meeting closed at 21:16.

Signed as a true record of the meeting

Chair