

**Minutes of the Meeting of Ruan Lanihorne Parish Council held at Ruan Reading  
Room on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2023 at 7.30pm**

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

In Attendance: Tomas Hill (Clerk) & 1 member of the public

121/23 APOLOGIES – to receive, note and accept apologies

Cllr Robinson submitted her apologies due to work commitments.

Cllr Martin proposed, seconded by Cllr Dundon and the Council **resolved** to accept her apologies.

122/23 DISPENSATION OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS (DPI) AND ANY OTHER SIGNIFICANT INTERESTS (OSI) – to receive and note (if any)

Cllr Farr and Cllr Martin declared an interest in Agenda Item 138/23 due to being members of St Rumon's PCC.

123/23 OPEN FORUM: for members of the Parish to make representations to the Council

A Churchwarden spoke regarding Agenda Item 138/23 in support of a compostable toilet (there is no drainage within the Churchyard for a conventional system) to be placed in vicinity of the Church Tower. They believed it would be beneficial not only for the Church but also for the members of the parish. The issue of a lack of convenience has been highlighted as the King's Head is often closed for extended periods of time and they asked the Council to look favourably upon the request. The cost of the public toilet would be £3295 + VAT.

124/23 CORNWALL COUNCILLOR: to receive Cornwall Councillor report (if present)

Not present.

125/23 MINUTES OF THE LAST ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING (Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2023) – to confirm accuracy and approve

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

126/23 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES (not on the agenda & for report only)

Per 97/23, Cllr Martin thanked to Cllr Cairns and Cllr Paull for the installation of the plaque together with other members of the parish.

Per 112/23, the Bruce Wake Charitable Trust has awarded the balance of the original grant being £2,000.00.

127/23 CORRESPONDENCE (not on the agenda & for report only)

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

128/23 HIGHWAYS AND PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY – to report issues and note updates

Cllr Martin reported that the sign for 'Highfield Terrace' has been on the ground for some time and has reported the issue.

Cllr Farr had also reported a dumped door which has now been removed.

It was noted that the highway verge between the Pond and Sett Bridge had not yet been cut. The cutting had been incorporated into an approved 3-year contract.

The Clerk had attempted to contact the contractor with no response.

Cllr Martin proposed, seconded by Cllr Adams and the Council **resolved** that if the Contractor cannot be contacted or the work not undertaken by the end of the calendar year, the Council will instruct an alternative contractor to cut the highway verge between the edge of the Pond and Sett Bridge up to a maximum of £50.00.

129/23 RUAN READING ROOM – to receive update to work and consider payment of invoice

Cllr Martin hoped that the railings would be completed by the end of December. No news was provided concerning the replacement door.

Steve Cawrse has submitted an invoice for his work to the disabled access amounting to £6,810.00 plus VAT being £1,362.00 totalling £8,172.00. This is per estate 150 excluding the handrails (£3,500.00 plus VAT).

Cllr Cairns proposed, seconded by Cllr Dundon and the Council **resolved** to pay £7000.00 as part payment.

130/23 RUAN READING ROOM – wi-fi – to consider vote of thanks to Holly Ledson

Cllr Martin proposed, seconded by Cllr Adams and the Council **resolved** a formal vote of thanks to Holly Ledson.

131/23 CAR PARK – to receive update and vote of thanks regarding installation of drain

Cllr Paull reported that the fir tree has been removed and the drain has been installed with a 6-inch pipe leading to the river's edge.

Cllr Adams proposed, seconded by Cllr Cairns and the Council **resolved** to purchase 803 hardcore up to £750.00 as part of the Reading Room disabled access project.

Cllr Cairns proposed, seconded by Cllr Adams and the Council **resolved** a resolution of thanks to Steve Paull, Peter Wasley and Carol and David Hughes for their work on the car park.

132/23 RUAN QUAY – to receive update

The Quay had been subject to fly-tipping but has kindly been cleared by Caroline and Philip Martin.

Cllr Cairns reported that he has acquired a suitable piece of plastic wood to make a depth gauge.

133/23 ASSET CHECKS – to review condition of parish assets

Cllr Farr reported that the all is well in Treworga and Ruan High Lanes.

Cllr Martin reported that a new defibrillator has been installed in Ruan Laniorne Village and raised the issue of replacing the two other defibrillators in Treworga and Ruan High Lanes.

134/23 INVASIVE PLANTS – to receive update

Cllr Cairns reported that he had spoken to Sue Scott, Fal and Helford Estuary Officer, for advice concerning invasive plants on the Saltings. They will both undertake some control research.

135/23 RISK ASSESSMENTS – to review draft risk assessments for volunteers

Cllr Cairns and David Hughes have drafted a risk assessment which was discussed by the Council.

The Clerk will circulate the document to all Councillors for further consideration / approval at the next meeting.

136/23 COMMUNICATIONS – to consider improving communications with parishioners

The item was deferred.

137/23 REMEMBRANCE WREATH – to note interim decision to purchase poppy wreath

The Clerk had purchased a Remembrance Wreath amounting to £23.98 with email approval by Councillors between meetings.

Cllr Paull proposed, seconded by Cllr Adams and the Council **resolved** to note the purchase.

138/23 ST RUMONS CHURCH – to consider purchase of a waterless public convenience to be sited at St Rumon's Church for the benefit of the general public

**Cllr Farr and Cllr Martin left the room and Cllr Adams took the Chair.**

Councillors thought that there was some parish benefit but noted some concerns about the durability of the proposed unit and recommended that the PCC consider the matter further.

**Cllr Farr and Cllr Martin returned to the room.**

139/23 PENSION PROVISION – to consider options in light of Extension to Automatic Enrolment Bill including joining Cornwall Pension Fund

Councillors were in agreement that, in principle, the Clerk should be provided a pension. It was noted that there are various pension providers and Councillors would reflect and consider the matter further.

140/23 BUDGET – to agree the 2024/2025 budget

Councillors considered the 2024/2025 budget in depth.

Cllr Dundon proposed, seconded by Cllr Adams and the Council **resolved** to set the 2024/2025 budget at £10,200.00

141/23 PRECEPT - to agree the 2024/2025 precept

As a consequence of the setting of the budget, the precept figure within the budget was £8,500.00. This represents an increase from the previous year.

Cllr Paull proposed, seconded by Cllr Farr and the Council **resolved** to set the 2024/2025 precept at £8,500.00.

142/23 FINANCE – to include finance report and payments for approval

The Clerk presented the monthly budget monitoring report dated to the 14<sup>th</sup> November 2023 which was duly noted.

Cllr Martin proposed, seconded by Cllr Adams and the Council **resolved** to sign payments per the November budget monitoring report inset box entitled 'payments for authorisation' to the total sum of £265.43.

The Clerk reported that the National Joint Council has reached agreement on rates of pay applicable from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024 with a back dated pay award. The Clerk's hourly rate has increased by £1.00 an hour.

143/23 REPORTS FROM MEETINGS ATTENDED BY COUNCILLORS – to note reports

Cllr Adams attended the CAP meeting which repeated the priorities exercise.

144/23 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS - matters to be included as an agenda item at the next meeting

Defibrillators  
Risk Assessment  
Pension Scheme

The meeting closed at 22:11.

Signed as a true record of the meeting

Chair