

Parish of Menheniot

Minutes of Annual Parish Meeting

Under s14 of the 1972 Local Government Act, notice is hereby given that the annual meeting of the Parish of Menheniot took place on **Thursday 18 May 2023 at 7pm** at Menheniot Old School, Menheniot PL14 3QY

Chair: Cllr Jerry Tucker

Also present; John Hesketh (Clerk to the Parish Council) and 21 members of the public.

Minute	Agenda Items
1	Welcome & Introduction The Chair welcome residents and visitors to the meeting.
2	Apologies None received
3	To approve the report of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 18 May 2022 Proposed Mr Tony Ball. Seconded Mr Adrian Cole.
4	<p>Annual Report of the Parish Council by Chair, Cllr Jerry Tucker, reporting that: A council working group has met with developers from Ten creek farm to review their proposals, alongside an independent Design Review Panel. The DRP has insisted that the Menheniot Neighbourhood Plan and Design Guide is strictly adhered to.</p> <p>The council has maintained its adoption of the General Power of Competence.</p> <p>New website launched in September 2022 is easier to navigate and meets accessibility regulations.</p> <p>The withdrawal of the parish bus service into Liskeard in September 2022 was replaced with an alternative community based service in May 2023. The service is provided by Saltash Red Bus, funded by Cornwall Council and has been well received by residents.</p> <p>Increased costs into the council for its maintenance work meant that the precept for 2023/24 had to be increased by 10%. The council was able to draw upon its reserves to prevent the increase from being substantially higher. As part of its financial management, councillors also agreed to reduce the annual amount available in the Community Budget from £5,000 to £2,500.</p> <p>The Community Network Area (Liskeard and Looe) to which the parish council was affiliated has now been re-formed into a larger group that will include the former Cornwall Gateway CNA. The first meeting of the new group will be on 6 June 2023.</p> <p>A legacy of the former CNA has been the agreement to fund a vehicle activated speed indicator at the Merrymeet/Menheniot road junction. This project will be completed within the new financial year. Repeated speed surveys at Mine Hill in Menheniot have been inconclusive, and the council has been advised to wait for the introduction of the 20mph speed limit to manage speeding vehicles.</p>

	<p>The parish council did not support a proposal to introduce a Mayor for Cornwall. This decision was vindicated when Cornwall Council withdrew its support for the appointment.</p> <p>We welcomed two new councillors who were co-opted to serve the parish: Keith Goldsmith and Peter Luck.</p> <p>Parish council led events to mark the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, and was pleased to have been able to support celebrations for the new King Charles III.</p> <p>New safeguarding policy adopted that will be rolled out in due course. This will include training for all councillors.</p> <p>New grounds maintenance contract awarded in April 2022 does not permit the use of glyphosate in any of its operations.</p> <p>Proud to present former councillor Lee Crocker with his Certificate of Service.</p> <p>Personal thank-yous to: Cllr Tony ball for all his work maintaining our assets in the parish, including his recent work to refurbish the bus stop in Menheniot centre, and his leading role during the period of national mourning last September.</p> <p>The Chair introduced Cllr Adrian Cole as the lead member for Menheniot Green, the council's climate change and environmental working group, and thanked him for all his work in the past year.</p>
5	<p>Menheniot Green – reporting back, Cllr Adrian Cole</p> <p>Tree of Life: working with Menheniot primary school, all new starters were offered a sapling in September 2022.</p> <p>Holy Well: working with Rev Li Selman and her husband to renovate the area by removing the old shrubs and opening up the surrounding area to make it more visible and attractive. Thanks also to the Old Cornwall Society and Tony Ball.</p> <p>Village Green: working with Keith Goldsmith to plant out the green in readiness for the coronation weekend. The Menheniot Playgroup has adopted a raised bed that is cared for by the children.</p> <p>Community Energy: continuing to assess the potential for a community based energy generating scheme.</p> <p>Flower field at East Road: has been well received and will be maintained for the current year at least.</p>
6	<p>Royal Horticultural Society Awards, Cllr Jerry Tucker proud to be able to present these RHS awards to:</p> <p>Jaynene White for her continuing work on Mine Hill</p> <p>Keith Goldsmith for his work on the village green</p> <p>Peter Luck and the Merrymeet Residents Association for their work alongside the A390 and in the village</p>
7	<p>Matters of interest raised by residents of the parish</p> <p>Q: Is the parish council able to do anything about parking along Mine Hill? And will it be mindful about scrutinising planning applications and decisions where enforcement may be an issue?</p> <p>A: The solution that Cornwall Council proposed earlier in the year (to install chicanes) was declined because it would remove some of the spaces currently used for resident parking. Council is aware that speeding vehicles are a constant problem but has had to accept that the only practical solution is to wait for the 20mph speed limit to be introduced.</p>

	<p>Councillors are mindful of their obligations as a consultee in planning applications and take all breaches of planning consent seriously. Residents may report potential breaches directly to Cornwall Council themselves (see below).</p> <p>Cllr Seeva: Supports the parish council in its response to planning applications, especially in regard to proposals at Tencreek Farm. Notes that the planning enforcement team has recently been strengthened.</p> <p>Update from Merrymeet Residents Association Have been offered a piece of land that might be suitable for development for a community space now that St Mary's Church was no longer available. Recent road closure of the main entrance into Merrymeet caused local traffic to be diverted through a dangerous junction. MRA considering alternative safety measures. Quality of road repairs around Merrymeet appears to be poor. Thanks the parish council for its lobbying to restore a community bus service.</p> <p>Q: Does the council have any timescale for the installation of the new vehicle activated speed indicators? A: Clerk will investigate and report back.</p> <p>Q: Is there any news of the delay to road improvements to the A38? A: Cllr Seeva is following up with Sheryll Murray MP.</p> <p>Q: Is the parish council allowed to make grants to organisations that make a financial loss? A: Council's Grants Terms & Conditions do not restrict its donations to groups based on their profit or loss.</p>
8	<p>Thank you and close of meeting Chair thanked residents for attending and closed the meeting at 7.45pm</p>

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