

ST DOMINIC PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of St Dominic Parish Council held in St Dominic Parish Hall, St Dominic, on Wednesday 7th October at 7.00pm

Present: Councillors: S Brady (Chair), G Wilkins (Vice Chair), J Wenmoth, D Potter, D Fry, S Mayson and K Heslop.

In Attendance: L Coles, (Locum) Parish Clerk. J Candy (prospective new Clerk)

There were 2 members of the public present.

Item No		Action By
1	Apologies. Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr G Walker	
2	Declarations of Interest a) Agenda Items. None declared. b) Gifts. None declared.	
3	Consideration of written requests for dispensation. None received.	
4	Co-option of new Councillors. Having been co-opted following interview at the last meeting, Simon Mayson and Keith Heslop signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office witnessed by L Coles, Clerk. A buddying system was suggested but it was agreed that the Clerk should be the first point of contact for new councillors.	
5	Six Month Rule and forfeit of Councillors Seats. The Chair gave some detail. Cllr Greene has forfeited her seat due to failure to attend a Parish Council meeting for six calendar months. Cllr Brady has spoken at length to Cornwall Council and CALC and the information she has been given is that the rule is part of the Local Government Act 1972, section 85, (1) and (2) and there has been no latitude granted under the COVID Act. The onus is on each Councillor to monitor their attendance at Council meetings. If a Councillor has extenuating circumstances for not attending a meeting for six calendar months an extension can be applied for and resolved by full Council at a preceding meeting. It was RESOLVED to accept a written request from Cllr Walker, who is on military service until March 2021, for an extension to the six-month rule until the 31 st March 2021, proposed by Cllr Potter, seconded by Cllr Fry with all in favour.	
6	Public Participation and Council's Response. Diana Greene spoke about the forfeit of her Council Seat and her reasons for not having attended meetings in the last six months, particularly the 25 th June meeting. Cllr Wilkins said that he was disappointed that the decision was not taken by the Council. Cllr Brady read out the legal advice re LGA1972, s85, (1) and (2) and said that it is not a decision for Councils to make, it is law. Cllr Wilkins responded that the Parish Council could have taken a view under s85(1) that the Clerk's email regarding the need for attendance at the 25 June meeting effectively reset the clock. In addition, we had on 5 February 2020 granted Cllr Walker an extension more than 7 months after the previous meeting he attended. Cllr Fry suggested that Mrs Greene applies for co-option at the next meeting. Cllr Potter said that at the time of the June meeting the attendance of Councillors was not an issue regarding the six-month rule and there had been meetings of the Council since. (DG left the meeting)	
7	Planning a) Planning applications received before the agenda was finalised: None received. b) Planning applications received after the agenda was published: None received.	

	<p>c) Planning decisions received from Cornwall Council: None.</p> <p>d) Other Planning Matters. There is a virtual Planning Conference on Wednesday 21st October and two places are offered per Council. Cllr Brady will attend. The Clerk will make the booking.</p>	Clerk
8	<p>The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 2nd September 2020. Subject to the correction of typos on page 12 and the changes to the wording in Item 15, page 13... <i>'the football club will submit the wording'</i>...it was RESOLVED that the draft Minutes were a true record of the meeting, proposed by Cllr Wenmoth, seconded by Cllr Potter with all in favour who had attended that meeting.</p>	
9	<p>Matters arising from the above Minutes. Page 13, Item 16. It was reported that virtual meetings via Teams on the Parish Council Laptop can now schedule meetings using the free application. Page 12, Item 11. The Parish Hall Committee was asked to put the relocation of the Parish Council Notice Board on its agenda for discussion at its next meeting. It was agreed that defibrillator training will be organised when allowed.</p>	
10	<p>Appointment of the new Parish Clerk/RFO. It was reported that, following interview, Jim Candy has been appointed the Clerk/RFO for St Dominic Parish Council with a start date of Monday 12th October. Jim introduced himself to all and was welcomed.</p>	
11	<p>Footpaths The footpath at Peppers Park has been reported, Cllr Fry will send the photographs to the Clerk to support the need for cutting. Cllr Wilkins said that he has already cut the brambles. Cllr Potter reported that Cornwall Council has strimmed around some of the Heritage Trail posts. It was reported that the gates on the footpaths from Jubilee Cottages to Poads Farm have been tied with baler twine. The gates supplied by the Heritage Trail Project were discussed, with their locations (one still remaining on Cllr Wilkin's property). Cllr Wilkins said that if the farmer is choosing to tie a gate with baler twine that is his prerogative. Jo Totterdell has definitive footpaths map and will give a copy to Cllr Wilkins.</p>	Clerk
12	<p>Highways The report from the Community Network Highways Scheme has suggested that the signage at Halton Quay has been completed. This will be checked. The National Trust allotment wall is overgrown with brambles. The Clerk has written to the Trust and asked that these are cleared. Cllr Wilkins is concerned about the weeds growing in the gutters on the highway; they need digging out. The Clerk will ask the Potes for a quote for this work. Cllr Fry said that the repairs to the reported damaged pavement have been completed.</p>	Clerk Clerk
13	<p>Recreation Ground and Bus Shelter Cllr Brady inspected the play equipment in September. It has been reported that the play tractor is showing some screws etc. standing proud and this needs attention. Cllr Potter said that a section of rubber mat is missing from the ground in the middle of the Toddler Swings. Cllr Fry will take a look. The Clerk will enquire about the cost of replacing this mat. The Defibrillator logos have still not been put on the Telephone Kiosk. Clerk to chase again The grit bins are looking in good condition. Bus Shelter- last week lots of dog bags had been left in the shelter. This will be an item for the Newsletter.</p>	DF Clerk Clerk

	<p>An update was received from Sue Morrish regarding the transfer of the land at Lovells Park to the School. Cllr Brady explained this briefly to the two new Councillors. Cllr Fry said that the Zip Wire needs to be tensioned. Cllr Brady will report this to the contractor who supplied it.</p> <p>November checks will be carried out by Cllr Mayson and Cllr Heslop (Cllr Fry to assist) and the December checks will be carried out by Cllr Brady and Cllr Wenmoth.</p>	SB
14	<p>Internet Banking</p> <p>There is a problem with getting the bank statements from Lloyds bank in a timely fashion and during the pandemic cheque signing could become more of a problem should lockdown restrictions be reinstated, due to the distance that the new Clerk lives from the Parish.</p> <p>It was RESOLVED that the Council will move towards banking with Unity Trust Bank, who offer a comprehensive online banking system for Parish Councils. Proposed by Cllr Wilkins, seconded by Cllr Brady with all in favour. It was agreed that the outgoing Clerk, L Coles, will deal with this on the Council's behalf.</p>	LC
15	<p>Reports from other community groups.</p> <p>a) Parish Hall Management Committee. A new representative from the Parish Council is needed following the resignation of Jo Totterdell from the Council. This will be an agenda item for the next Parish Council meeting.</p> <p>Cllr Wenmoth said that the committee's AGM is usually held in November but this date has been extended until after COVID 19.</p> <p>Toilets can now be unisex and so the committee is looking at refurbishing what is already there.</p>	Clerk
16	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>a) Email from Sue Morrish re the land at Lovells Park. Already covered.</p>	
17	<p>Finance</p> <p>a) Payments. It was RESOLVED, proposed by Cllr Potter, seconded by Cllr Brady with all in favour, to sign the cheques and make the following payments for September:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chq 001402 – L Coles, Clerk September salary, expenses and office. • Chq 001403 – HMRC, Clerk's September PAYE • Chq 001404 – Cornwall Council, printing of Newsletter - £21.69 • Chq 001405 – The National Trust, rent for Allotments & Lovells Park - £839.40 • Chq 001406 – S M Pote, grass cutting - £265.00 • Chq 001407 – Western web Ltd, annual renewal of web space and SSL - £108.00 <p>b) Receipts.</p> <p>Allotment Rents - £710.99 Cornwall Council Precept and CTS Grant - £10,625.42 Cornwall Council Community Chest - £500.00</p> <p>c) Bank Reconciliations. It was RESOLVED that the bank reconciliations for September were correct proposed by Cllr Fry, seconded by Cllr Potter with all in favour.</p> <p>d) Grant Application. It was RESOLVED to award a grant of £400 to St Dominic PCC for the Church, proposed by Cllr Potter, seconded by Cllr Brady with all in favour. Clerk to inform and cheque to be raised for next meeting.</p>	Clerk
18	<p>Any Other Business and Items for the Next Agenda</p> <p>AOB:</p> <p>Cllr Wilkins said that he would like the COVID Policy to be amended. Cllr Brady said that amendments have been made to reflect the changes re the Pandemic and this will be circulated to all of the members.</p>	

	<p>Cllr Wilkins would like consideration of virtual meetings rather than physical meetings. There was some discussion regarding this and it was agreed that the November meeting will be physical with a view to holding virtual meetings if the Pandemic dictates.</p> <p>Cllr Potter reported that the Snooker Club refurbishment is coming along nicely. It is hoped to have the flooring and carpets in by the end of October. The heating will then be put back in.</p> <p>Items for the Next Agenda:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parish Council representative for the Parish Hall Committee 	
20	<p>Date of Next Meeting</p> <p>The next meeting of St Dominic Parish Council will be held on Wednesday 4th November at 7.00pm.</p>	
19	<p>CLOSED SESSION. Pursuant to the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public left the meeting. Cllr Wilkins also left.</p> <p>a) To discuss the progress of the former Clerk's Grievance.</p> <p>The Minutes of the Confidential Closed Session held on September 2nd were approved, RESOLVED to accept as a true record, proposed by Cllr Brady, seconded by Cllr Fry with all in favour who had been present at that meeting.</p> <p>Cllr Brady reported the emails from the Monitoring Officer, Cornwall Council, which outlined the process the grievance will now follow. A response and outcome is still awaited.</p>	

There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting at 9.20pm

Signed.....Chairman Dated.....

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www.stdominicpc.org.uk