

Minutes of the monthly Meeting of Morval Parish Council held at Widegates Village Hall on Wednesday 13th December 2023 at 7:00pm

Present: Cllr Collings, Cllr Fullalove, Cllr Hutchins, Cllr Jackson, Cllr Kirkland, Cllr Kitson, Cllr Pearn and Cllr Pengelly.

In attendance: Sam Pengelly (Parish Clerk), Cornwall Councillor Toms and 2 members of the public.

12.23/01. Councillors Absent

Apologies received: Cllr Patterson and Cllr Tamblyn

12.23/02. Declarations of Interest on items on the Agenda

Cllr Kitson item 09.

12.23/03. Public Participation

- I. Mr Willmott attended and gave the following feedback/information (please see appendix for full information):
 - a. Dark Skies: There has been another meeting but there is no action/input required from the Parish Council at this time.
 - b. Christmas Tree Festival went very well, lots in attendance.
 - c. NDP changes/updates.

12.23/04. Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Morval Parish Council held on 8th November 2023

It was proposed, seconded and **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held were an accurate record of the meeting.

PROPOSED: Cllr Kitson

SECONDED: Cllr Collings

12.23/05. Devon and Cornwall Police Report

PCSO Billing informed the Parish Council, by email prior to the meeting, of the following:

- I. During the month of November 2023 there was 1 crime reported to Devon and Cornwall Police, being:
 - a. 1 x Trailer theft.

12.23/06. Cornwall Councillor Report

Cllr Toms gave an overview of his activities that may affect the parish since the last meeting:

- I. A38 safety – Leader of council has written to the Minister to bring action forward due to accident report (9 deaths in 5 years etc). Glynn Valley is also problematic, even with average speed cameras.
- II. Tamar bridge charges are going up again. Cllr Toms did vote against, but wasn't successful.
- III. Two road incidents on the corner of Polraen in the last month.
- IV. Lots of time has been spent around the Parishes including housing issues.
- V. Last Friday the banking hub opened near the Millpool centre. Open 5 days with different banks attending each day.
- VI. Happy Christmas and prosperous New Year
- VII. Boundless Trust (Sarah Barron) are holding a free Christmas meal on Christmas day at the Millpool centre.
- VIII. There were some questions and discussions from Parish Councillors:
 - a. Chairman asked Cllr Toms why there were no minutes for an "informal" meeting regarding Climate Crisis by CAP recently. Cllr Toms will enquire.

- b. There was discussion regarding cost of living and additional difficulties of living in rural areas.

12.23/07. Planning Applications and Related Matters

No applications this month.

Feedback received on PA23/04709 Land North of Little Chimneys. Unfortunately, Cornwall Council didn't want to lose on appeal so approved the application.

12.23/08. Finance

- b) Payments approved.
PROPOSED: Cllr Hutchins
SECONDED: Cllr Pearn

The Monthly Budgeting Report and an up-to-date Bank Reconciliation was presented by the Clerk.

Bank Reconciliation

Balance C/F from 31 st March 2023	£32,375.37
Add Income	<u>£25,878.71</u>
	£58,254.08
Less expenditure	<u>£12,176.85</u>
	£46,077.23 (Monthly Budget Summary)
Unity Trust as at 6 th December 2023	£46,077.23
Less payments still to be processed	<u>£ 0.00</u>
	£46,077.23 Bank Account
Scottish Widows Bank as at 1 st April 2023	<u>£30,059.64</u>
TOTAL FUNDS HELD	<u>£76,136.87</u>

The following payments were authorised:

Andrew Chudleigh - Monthly Maintenance	£126.00
Sam Pengelly – Clerk Expenses	£26.00
Cornwall Council (September)	£812.49
Cornwall Council	£812.49
Widegates Village Hall – Hall hire	£24.00
Cornwall ALC Ltd – Councillor Training	£24.00

- c) NALC 2023/24 pay award – defer to January meeting.
ACTION: Clerk to get up to date document.

12.23/09. Grant Application

Grant request from St Wenna Church for annual ground maintenance costs. Agreed to award £225.

PROPOSED: Cllr Collings

SECONDED: Cllr Hutchins

ACTIONS: Review Grant Policy in the New Year.

12.23/10. Precept 2024/25

The annual budget and costs were discussed it was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED to apply for a precept of £22,182.96 for 2024/25 (an increase of £605.10 or 1.32%) in order to achieve the project objectives for the next year. Equivalent change per Band D household +99p for the year.

PROPOSED: Cllr Kitson

SECONDED: Cllr Pearn

12.23/11. Play Park

- a) To receive an update on the status of the EOI – should have news next week.
- b) Update on soil options and testing costs – waiting on costs from a supplier.
- c) To finalise the lease – all points considered and edits made, updated lease to be circulated to Councillors and sent to Land Owners.
- d) To receive an update on access options from the Clerk – no further information at this time.

ACTION: Clerk to chase progress on EOI and soil testing and circulate lease.

12.23/12. Trenode Field

Called Kivells but Mark Bunt was unavailable. Mark Bunt returned the call and requested some information by email, this was sent. No further reply has been received at this time.

ACTION: Clerk to chase.

12.23/13. Dark Skies Meeting

Refer to item **12.23/03. I. a.**

12.23/14. Housing Association Estate Monitors

Defer to January.

12.23/15. Morval NDP Review

Cllr Kitson and Cllr Pengelly have reviewed the current NDP. Changes are needed, Cllr Kitson and Cllr Pengelly will report back in the New Year.

12.23/16. Update on Speed Monitors training

Cllr Collings reported that equipment can be borrowed quite easily at any time. The monitor needs to be switched off during these sessions. More volunteers are welcome, please contact the Clerk. A monitor has been requested outside Trenode school.

ACTION: Cllr Toms offered to chase monitor power and options for monitoring at the School.

12.23/17. Maintenance of verges and grass and pathway areas in parish

Chase devolution.

ACTION: Clerk to action.

12.23/18. Terras Bridge Road Junction

The Parish Council appreciated the detailed reply from Will Glassup, Cornwall Highways Network Manager. The Parish Council would like to forward the information to PCSO Billing.

ACTION: Forward info.

12.23/19. Parish footpaths/verges/bridleways etc

Chase Council.

ACTION: Clerk to action.

12.23/20. New noticeboard for Morval

In the absence of grant funding the Parish Council have taken the decision not to replace at this time.

PROPOSED: Cllr Kitson

SECONDED: Cllr Pearn

12.23/21. Training for Councillors and Clerk

Councillor Patterson will be attending two courses in the New Year.

12.23/22. Dates for the Diary

Next meeting in New Year: Weds 3rd January 19:00 – Widegates Village Hall.

The meeting closed at **20:50**

Approved by the council members.

Chair: _____ Date: _____

Appendix

12.23/03. Public Participation – Mr Willmott

Three items I wish to raise tonight, each time I'll be wearing a different hat!):

1) **Wearing my 'Dark Skies Steering Group' hat**

Please note: Councillor Patterson had asked me to present the summary of recent meetings we had attended regarding Dark Skies that she had intended to give, as part of my Dark Skies briefing during the Public Participation section.

Important to address any assumptions that 'Dark Skies' is merely a 'minority interest' of a 'strange minority' called astronomers! It is, in fact, a solid business opportunity, which locals can choose to seize (to their advantage) or ignore (to their detriment) – This is the view of SECTA (South East Cornwall Tourism Association), expressed during a meeting about Dark Skies, a real opportunity to inject resources into the non-Summer local economy

A source of key guidance for us has been provided by Galloway, Scotland, because:

- it was a traditional summer tourism area, like Cornwall
- since becoming an International Dark Skies Park in 2009, a good indicator of success is bed-nights occupancy (post-designation vs pre-designation) which is up by a factor of 2.4, which SECTA agreed was of major significance.
- There were also significant business opportunities for areas peripheral to the designated Dark Skies Landscape, and hence of interest to Morval
- As Bodmin Moor is the first International Dark Skies Landscape in the world, the opportunities here could be even greater than those in Galloway.

SECTA said that initiatives such as:

- Smugglers Trail (between Looe & Liskeard)
- LATAS (Looe Area Tourism Ambassador Scheme)
- Real Ale Trail (with the Devon & Cornwall Rail Partnership)
- Beaver Evenings

would link in well with Bodmin Moor's Dark Skies status. They also saw marketing opportunities for families during half-term and school holidays, and at other times for those more mature visitors, who prefer a quieter approach.

Or we could do nothing, with a self fulfilling prophesy of lost opportunities and failure, becoming increasingly apparent as time passes - think of the 1999 eclipse fiasco.

The Steering Group has identified equipment hire, ½ day briefing courses for hotels/B&Bs, web-based information as useful considerations, but we are sure that parish councils – in discussions with local businesses and adjacent councils – could identify significant others.

2) **Wearing my 'St Wenna's Churchwarden' hat**

The Christmas Tree Festival in St Wenna's Church was extremely well received by those who visited, and was an excellent example of a community outreach project

3) **Wearing my 'Morval NDP Chairman's' hat**

Concerning amendments to the Morval NDP, the Morval NDP Steering Group wanted to offer any assistance that might be helpful, regarding the three levels of amendment:

- Minor updates not materially affecting policies, which can be made by the local planning authority, with qualifying body consent (e.g. correcting errors in a plan).
- Material modifications which don't change the nature of the plan , requiring an examination but not a referendum (e.g. adding a design code to a pre-existing policy)
- Material modifications which change the nature of the plan, needing an examination and a referendum (e.g. allocating significant new sites for development).

Specific relevance to items discussed later in the meeting were:

- Councillor Collings reported that it had been implied to him that an NDP needed to be more strongly worded to have increased relevance in an appeal against a planning application, When invited to comment, the Morval NDP Chairman said that there were examples where the NDP external examiner had suggested that some phrases should be stated less forcefully, without affecting how it would be read or interpreted. As the appeal's panel had implied that a more strongly worded NDP could make a difference, this offered evidence that the wording of the NDP be revisited. He offered to discuss this further with councillors, and Councillor Collings accepted this offer.
- At Section 15: Morval NDP Review, the councillors said that this should be deferred until the next meeting, and, following on from the public participation comments, they would like to liaise with the Morval NDP Steering Group.