

Gulworthy Parish Council
Minutes of meeting held on Monday 2nd August 2021
7.30pm at Gulworthy Parish Hall
No 132

These minutes are provisional until they are agreed and signed by the chair at the next meeting of the parish council.

Present – Cllrs. W. Miller (acting chair), M. Kemp, S. Porter,
Cllrs P. Crozier (WDBC), P van Delft (clerk)

Meeting opened 7.39pm

1. Chairman's welcome
2. Apologies - Cllrs Lister, Eve, Royston and Sellis (WDBC)
3. Members of the public – No one present
4. Dispensations & declarations of Interest - none
5. Minutes of previous meeting 131 were signed by the acting chair as a true and accurate record of that meeting.
6. DCC Cllr Sellis reported that she had received complaints about speeding vehicles around Gulworthy. Complaints have been forwarded to highways officers and police. She has agreed and actioned a locality grant of £2500 towards the verge by the bus stop. A meeting held with the police inspector resulted in a greater understanding and that the police will aim to work more closely with the local community.
7. WDBC Cllr Crozier reported that the PCC Advocate scheme was available to council members. Also, the latest consultation that shows a new wide-ranging plan for West Devon, this is being developed in association with DCC, NHS, and other organisations, visit the WDBC to take part in and submit your comments, consultation closes 6th September
8. Gulworthy Primary School safety parking problem – A grant application for £2500 has been submitted by Cllr Sellis, the council thanked Cllr Sellis for her support for this vitally important project. It was resolved to approve the application, proposed by Cllr Porter, seconded Cllr Kemp,
9. Councillor reports – Cllr Kemp reported damage to a bridge near the Mill Hill quarry has occurred and is in need of urgent repairs, Cllr Crozier offered to report to D.H or Highways England
10. Facebook page – Council presence on the media platform, it was resolved to consider this at the next meeting. It was suggested to see what traffic visited the website, also if the existing news page could be better utilised.
11. Cemetery – It was resolved to approve the amended terms and conditions and the revised fee rates, proposed Cllr Miller, seconded Cllr Porter. The 'Valuation Office' information request has been completed by the clerk. The siting of the green burial area in the cemetery had been discussed, however it was resolved that the other councillors should see for themselves the best location most suited for the purpose. Cllr Porter had removed the rotten bench, she will obtain quotes for replacement wood and repaint the framework.
12. Defibrillator – Maintenance and registration, Cllr Porter reported that replacement pads and batteries had now been purchased, re-installation will take place asap then the registration can also take place.
13. Climate Change & Biodiversity plan – Unfortunately Cllr Royston was unable to provide an update.

Parish Councillors

George Lister (Chair); Kate Royston (Vice chair)

Sue Eve; Jim Hamilton; Matt Kemp, Wendy Miller; Suzanne Porter.

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14. Summer/autumn newsletter – It was resolved to review the draft at the next meeting. Cllr Miller will discuss with Cllrs Royston and Eve with possible inclusions.
15. The Queens jubilee 2022 – beacon lighting, lunch and tree planting. It was resolved that this was an excellent opportunity for the council and other organisations to engage for this event. Tree planting location to be considered Cllr Kemp to consider suitable locations and report back. Full council to continue with planning at the next meeting.
16. Councillor website page update – waiting for councillor contact details to be provided.
17. Correspondence – A parishioner asked if the roundabout and its surroundings could be maintained as it appeared to be in a state of weed and vegetation overgrowth there are also many items of general rubbish in the area. It was resolved that some items of general rubbish could be removed safely however, the roundabout would require D.H. to look into this matter, Cllr Crozier offer to contact D.H. It was also resolved to review opportunities for sponsorship of the roundabout so that the sponsor could also manage the maintenance of it.
A parishioner asked if the Himalayan Balsam could be removed from within the parish. Also, some hedgerows were in need of maintenance as they were now showing signs of overgrowth. Cllr Miller to respond informing the parishioner that it is the responsibility of landowners and D.H. who own the verges to maintain the land in question. Restrictions apply to hedgerow maintenance.

Meeting closed 9.02pm

Items for inclusion at the next meeting – Neighbourhood plan, Grit boxes, newsletter, climate change, Queens jubilee celebrations, facebook page and cemetery green burial area.

The following scheduled meeting will be Monday 13th September 7.30pm, at Gulworthy Parish Hall.

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