

Week St Mary Parish Council

Minutes – Thursday, October 3, 2024

- 1. Public question time** (15 minutes allowed for this – on matters on the agenda only)

At the beginning of the meeting, council chair, Cllr Slade, noted that the parish council does not take part in any discussion on Facebook or social media. Any comments or issues for the council should be directed through the clerk. A number of residents spoke about the lack of water in the village. One lady said there had been five or six incidences in the last two months. Another said her children come in from doing sports, but there is no water to take a shower. With the amount of money it costs, she said it was not good enough. Cllr Chopak said she had contacted South West Water's area manager, and Ben Maguire, North Cornwall MP was approached at the Revel and he has got a meeting in his diary to discuss. One resident said it's also volume rather than pressure.

A resident spoke about speeding and said there have been cats killed and she is worried it will be someone's child. She sees children walking to the bus or outside playing, and said it only takes one moment for something to happen. She noted there was talk about the speed limit being reduced from 30mph to 20mph, although she doesn't think that will solve it. Cllr Chopak said they are taking speed bumps out due to climate change. Islands have been installed in other villages, but in South Petherwin there have been three accidents since an island was put there. The parish council has requested speed monitoring, and Cllr Chopak said towns and villages will be asked if they want 20mph in their villages.

One resident said the football club was given less than a month's notice that funding will be withdrawn. Cllr Slade said the decision was made to purchase a mower. The council did not want to affect the private arrangement the football club had with Cllr Hamlyn, which the council understands is no longer required. The council is aware of how old the football club mower is. The council is doing what it can to save money. Prior to this, the top area of the playing field was costing £750 for grass cutting, plus strimming and Lambley Corner (a total of £1,500 a year). This is in addition to the repayments of the £38,000 loan that was taken out to purchase the lower part of the playing field. The council upgraded the electrics (£2,944) and also pays for the playing field inspection (approx. £300). Cllr Slade said the council appreciates all the football club does for the village. The council is proud of its facilities and supports the football club as it does the parish hall and community shop, and other organisations.

One member of the public asked about removing the posts on the lower area for more parking. It was agreed this would continue to be closed for the winter following the bank slippage. This will be re-assessed next year.

One resident asked about the red parish mower that is used at the playing field and the parish church, but Cllr Hamlyn confirmed it is his mower and does not belong to the parish council.

24/198
- 2. To receive County Councillor Nicky Chopak's report on matters arising**

Cllr Chopak noted that the new recycling contracts starts on November 4. Some delivery dates have changed but the green waste will stay the same.

Cornwall Council want to sell Newquay Airport to a third party but there has been a delay in the contract being signed. There is also the proposal to do the same with some car parks, particularly town car parks. This is ongoing. There has been a recent vote of no confidence in the council leader. This failed by two votes, but some are not happy with the Cornwall Council administration running things.

She also reported there is a £160-million overspend, which has to be found by April. There will be some significant cuts, including school transport.

With regard to Treetops, the developers have withdrawn the application. They needed an element of affordable housing. She was hoping to have a meeting with Cornwall Housing to see if they would be willing to purchase the site for affordable housing.

Cllr Chopak highlighted the forthcoming elections in May 2025 and said she was keen for parish councillors to continue. 24/199

3. To note councillors present

Cllrs Slade (chair); S Peters; T Hamlyn; S May; S Gubbin; M Johns; L Stephens and R Shipton. Also in attendance: Cllr Chopak; S Cleave, clerk, and ten members of the public. 24/200

4. To receive apologies for absence with reasons

Cllr Richardson – unwell; Cllr Bolt – working. 24/201

5. To receive Declarations of Interest and approve Dispensations

Cllr Peters – planning application PA24/07154. 24/202

6. To approve the minutes of:

Councillors approved the minutes of the Ordinary meeting held on Thursday, September 5, 2024.

**Proposed: T Hamlyn Seconded: S Gubbin Votes: Seven in favour,
one abstention 24/203**

7. To receive clerk's report on matters arising

The clerk's report was noted. Cllr Slade told councillors that Mr and Mrs Eric Barribal had purchased a replacement family memorial bench for the top of the playing field. She also said the top soil has been done at the lower area. She offered thanks to all councillors for their efforts over the Revel. 24/204

8. Planning

Any late applications received will be discussed under this section

8a. To discuss and make a consultee comment on application:

PA24/07116 – Proposed conversion of barn to dwellinghouse. Hawthorns, Steel Hill House, Stewarts Road, Week St Mary.

Councillors proposed no objection to the plans.

**Proposed: T Hamlyn Seconded: M Johns Votes: Six in favour,
two abstentions 24/205**

PA24/07154 – Works to trees in a Conservation Area (CA), works include native cherry tree to be removed due to root damage to underground sewer pipe and lifting of patio stones. Discussed option of cutting back or removal with a tree surgeon and removal recommended. Plan to plant a new tree further away from the house. Box Tree House, Week St Mary.

Councillors proposed no objection, but they would like to see an established cherry tree reinstated.

**Proposed: S Gubbin Seconded: R Shipton Votes: Seven in favour,
one abstention 24/206**

8b. Decisions

The following decisions were noted:

Resiting of approved dwelling and annexe as approved under permission number PA23/08270. Land south of Burdenwell Cottage, Week St Mary. **APPROVED**

Proposed demolition of existing dwelling and erection of new dwelling. Highmeadows, Week St Mary. **APPROVED**

Proposed garage extension. The Cottage, Week Orchard. Marhamchurch. **APPROVED**

PA24/01066/PRE – Exception Notice for middle-aged cherry tree, remove as roots have started to lift patio. Box Tree House, Week St Mary. **PROPOSED WORKS NOT EXEMPT FROM REQUIRING CONSENT** 24/207

8c. Planning - to note

None. 24/208

9. Portfolio Reports:

- **Playground**
No report. 24/209

- **Highways, Footpaths & Greens**
A number of potholes have been reported. Highways are getting to them gradually. 24/210

10. Correspondence including (all relevant emails forwarded):

The following correspondence was noted: Cornwall Council Affordable Housing; Cornwall Council Town and Parish Council newsletter; Clean Cornwall newsletter; Community Area Partnership survey; Forest for Cornwall newsletter; Framework for Leisure slides; Community Area Partnership action notes and online link for December meeting. 24/211

11. Community Infrastructure Levy and Community Benefit Fund applications

The council received two applications after the agenda had been published – from Week St Mary Football Club and the Friends of Week St Mary Church, Churchyard and Graveyard. Following advice received, the council will seek clarification as to what the Community Benefit Fund can be used for. Cllr Chopak advised that it is for purchasing something rather than running costs (she will forward more information to the clerk). The applications will be deferred until information is sought, and will be discussed at a future meeting. 24/212

12. Agenda items

1. CiLCA training
Councillors agreed to support the clerk in applying for and undertaking the SLCC CiLCA qualification.
Proposed: S May Seconded: S Peters Votes: Unanimous 24/213
2. Football club letter
Councillors received a letter from the football club following the decision to take over the cutting of the grass in the playing field. The council reiterated that it does support the football club and other organisations in the parish as best it can with its limited funds. If the football club encounters problems with their mower, they are encouraged to contact the council as it will be more than happy to try to help. 24/214
3. South West Water

The clerk read a response received from South West Water following a letter of complaint regarding the water pressure issues in the village. The clerk will write again, and include information given to her by residents. 24/215

4. Budget

The council was given information about a defibrillator scheme which would match fund and provide a new defibrillator for £750. Councillors proposed that the clerk make an application.

Proposed: S Peters Seconded: M Johns Votes: Unanimous 24/216

Following correspondence received from the community shop, the clerk will go back to them to discuss the figures. 24/217

13. **Accounts**

Balances September 27, 2024

• Current account	£17,803.53
• Reserve account	£21,689.79
• Community Benefit Fund	£ 4,858.20

13a. **To approve accounts for payment including:**

Suzanne Cochrane – Salary September (inc HMRC PAYE and NI) As per contract
Cornwall Pension Fund (September)

Suzanne Cochrane (mileage)	£ 32.40
Jamie Sachs – toilets	£ 120.00
Jamie Sachs – Greens	£ 150.00
Cornwall Council – playing field loan repayment	£975.00
Trevor Hamlyn – fence posts, nails, petrol	£132.83
Harley Friend – Back Lane	£102.00
Bridgmans – mower	£2,889.00
EDF Energy – electricity toilets	£ 20.00
Pennon Water (Playing Fields)	£ 21.45
Wek St Mary Football Club – grass cutting (May-Sept)	£ 375.00
Booker Farm Services – paper for magazine	£186.00
Whitstone Parish Council – community benefit money paid in error	£5,597.55

13b **To note income**

Reserve account interest	£ 28.88
CB Fund interest	£ 3.48
Cornwall Council – second half on precept	£11,318.55
Cornwall Council – parish hall event (paid in error)	£ 22.00

Councillors voted to approve the payments and accounts.

Proposed: S May Seconded: S Gubbin Votes: Unanimous 24/218

14. **Items for November 7, 2024 meeting**

Budget.

The meeting closed at 9.30pm