

Gulworthy Parish Council

Minutes of ordinary meeting held on Monday 9th January 2023

at Gulworthy Parish Hall

No 149

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

Councillors present - K. Royston (Chair), J. Hamilton, G. Lister and S. Porter
Cllr D Sellis and Cllr P Crozier

Meeting opened 7.35pm

1. **Chairman's welcome** – Cllr Royston welcomed all those present and thanked them for attending. She hoped everyone had an excellent Christmas and wished them a happy 2023. Following the resignation of Cllr M Kemp, Cllr Royston expressed sincere thanks to Matthew Kemp for all his efforts as a Cllr over the years.
2. **Members of the public** – There were 3 members of the public present.
Rev'd Judith Blowey – Rev'd Blowey confirmed the planned nativity at Morwellham had to be sadly cancelled due to the weather. She had good support at the various carol services held during December. Also, the church is looking into adding a toilet and a server.
Mr Chalcraft came to listen to the grant request for the Gulworthy village hall extension. He mentioned that he felt the last minutes reflected that it was about him personally asking for the grant when it is the village hall. The minutes were amended. He also confirmed that today the Head teacher of Gulworthy primary school has booked two months of dancing lessons in the hall during the school day.
3. **Apologies** – Apologies received from Cllrs Miller, Blackman, Edwards and Jennie Read.
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5. **Dispensations & declarations of Interest** – Cllr Royston declared an interest in item 15.
6. **Minutes of previous meeting 148 to be approved and then signed by the chair as true and accurate record of that meeting** – There was an alteration made to the public section to say that Mr Chalcraft is the Chair of, and representing Gulworthy Parish Hall Committee.
It was then proposed by Cllr Hamilton to approve the minutes. Seconded by Cllr Royston. All in favour. Cllr Royston signed the minutes.
7. **Planning applications received after publication of this agenda** – None received.

Cllr Porter joined the meeting.

Parish Councillors

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

Jim Hamilton, Wendy Miller, Suzanne Porter & Daniel Edwards

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Planning applications received to-date:

Orestocks – 3577/22/FUL – Gulworthy PC submitted a response of no comments to make.

Planning decisions: 3026/22/FUL – Higher Artiscombe Farm – conditional approval.

1188/22/HHO – **Weir Cottage** – conditional approval. **Construction of a new public**

Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) on redundant landfill site at Crowndale HWRC, Crowndale Road, Tavistock, Devon, PL19 8JR – conditional approval.

8. **DCC Cllr Sellis report** – Budget rounds are taking place now with councils having to cut back to meet figures. Tavy Officers are keen to introduce parking meters in the town to replace the free 1 hour parking spaces. Cllr Sellis has asked for evidence that this is necessary. The Council obtains a lot of revenue from pay and display in other areas as well as currently £180,000.00 p.a for local bus services. Also the fire authority has been told there is now no cap on the amount they can take as pay through the council tax. All updates from Cllr Sellis will be sent to the Clerk. Cllr Porter asked about Speed Watch for outside the school. Cllr Sellis to check. The 20mph signs and lights outside the school are probably as much as the council can do, but Cllr Sellis will check and advise.
9. **Road safety fund grant application(s) DCC localities grant and Growing Communities Grant applications** – The Clerk obtained a title plan for the lay-by opposite. This looks like the lay-by is privately owned but without reading the deeds it is not entirely clear. Cllr Sellis will ask the Council Highways contact for clarification and liaise with the Clerk.

10. Burial ground

9.1 – Moles – They are still present in various places but there's not a huge amount. On-going monitoring will take place by all.

9.2 – Weed control – The Clerk confirmed that the existing grounds maintenance use glyphosate. The Clerk was asked to find out if an alternative method could be used.

9.3 – Pascoe and Clerk ashes – Clerk met Pascoe's on site today to talk about ash plots.

11. Finance

10.1 – Invoices for approval to be paid –

Elliott Ground care Inv 2383 (grass cutting & hedges Nov)	£350.00
Peter Van Delft back dated salary award 01.04-01.07.22	£78.00
26/Sept-28 Nov/22 PAYE for Clerk E Young	£631.50
Clerk WAH allowance £6.00x10 (Nov, 2xDecJan)+mileage+exps	£82.36
Gulworthy village hall invoice 513 for 2023	£209.00
Toilet hire for Jubilee	£144.00

It was proposed by Cllr Lister to approve all invoices with Cllr Hamilton seconding. All in favour.

10.2 – RFO report – deferred to next month.

10.3 – Precept for 2023-24 – It was proposed by Cllr Royston to add 15% on last years' precept of £5855.00 due to election costs in the next financial year. Total £6733.00. Seconded by Cllr Porter. Agreed by all.

10.4 - Gulworthy village hall grant request & engagement of church & school – The Parish

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Council would like to see that there is a constructive and collaborative working relationship between the hall, the school and the church. Mr Chalcraft (as Chairman of the Parish Hall Committee) was asked if he would attend a meeting with all parties; which he agreed to. Cllr Royston to follow up with all and Cllr Blackman has previously offered to chair.

10.5 – Citizens Advice grant request of £100.00 – It was proposed by Cllr Porter to support this request. Seconded by Cllr Hamilton. Agreed by all.

10.6 – Elliott Groundcare quote to maintain bus shelter £25.00 per visit – Cllrs will draw up a rota themselves. It was felt that quarterly cleaning attendance out of growing season and monthly during summer is needed.

10.7 – Payroll monthly +£5.00 – The Clerk asked if the payroll could be monthly instead of bi-monthly. Payroll provider confirmed an extra £5.00 p.a. for doing this. Proposed by Cllr Lister to support, seconded by Cllr Porter, agreed by all.

10.8 – Clerk national salary award increase of £1.00 per hour – Increase noted as part of contract of employment.

11. WDBC Cllrs Crozier & Blackman report – Cllr Crozier reported an update on broadband (Airband); he spoke to 4 engineers last week who are new contractors correcting historical mistakes. West Devon Affordable housing needs – Brentor scheme has been dropped (as survey showed no homes now being needed) and Lamerton as well due to the amount of springs in the area. All councils are working on next years' budget. West Devon is looking at +2%/£5.00 cap increase.

12. Cllr Reports - All –Cllrs Lister, Porter and Hamilton have nothing to report. Cllr Royston mentioned various energy saving measures being available for those in need.

13. Cllrs engagement with Clerk – It was agreed that Cllrs will look at their emails once a week and the new labelling in the subject line works better. Clerk to send Whatsapp for anything urgent.

14. Broadband Update – Cllr Royston spoke to Airband who said they have found unforeseen issues and rectifications should be completed by Spring 2023. An on-line meeting has been offered which Cllr Royston will follow up.

15. Power allotments – Funded by Devon CC the project is looking for renewable sites identified by the community. +5 acre sites needed which will provide 1 mega watt of energy (from solar).

16. Climate change and biodiversity actions – Cllr Royston has emailed Calstock, Buckland Monachorum, Sydenham Damerel and Bere Ferrers PCs about approaching things collaboratively.

17. Snow wardens – Cllr Porter confirmed that a Snow Warden is needed before delivery of the road salt can take place. Cllr Lister confirmed he will fulfil this role. Clerk to follow up.

18. Internal auditor – Previous Clerk confirmed existing internal auditor will not continue. Clerk to make enquiries locally.

19. Correspondence -

19.1 20 mph roadmap newsletter and EOI – Clerk to look into submission details for outside village school.

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19.2 Bus service changes – Details are on the Gulworthy website under News.

19.3 West Devon Borough Council is set to receive £1m of UK Shared Prosperity Funds – Noted.

19.4 Let's Talk pre-teens - Details are on the Gulworthy website under News

Meeting closed at 9.55pm

The next scheduled meeting will be on 6th February 7.30pm, at Gulworthy Parish Hall.

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