

Gulworthy Parish Council

Minutes of Annual Parish meeting held on Monday 8th April 2024 at Gulworthy Parish Hall Minutes no 164

These minutes are provisional until they are agreed and signed by the chair at the next Annual Parish meeting in 2025.

Councillors present - J.Hamilton, K Royston (Chair), Cllr W Miller and Cllr K Steer

The hall opened at 6.30pm with tea, cakes and biscuits available for everyone. The amazing cakes were made by Cllr Porter and Cllr Steer and refreshments were provided by various Councillors. These were enjoyed by all.

Meeting opened 7.05pm

1. **Chairmans welcome** - Cllr Royston (chair) welcomed everyone present and everyone in the room introduced themselves.
2. **Minutes of the last annual parish meeting 152 to be approved** – Cllr Royston proposed they are approved. Seconded by Cllr Miller. Agreed by all. Cllr Royston signed the minutes.
3. **Members of the public open forum** – Approx 19 members of the public attended.

One parishioner commented about the high risk of Asian hornets in the area and the importance of reporting them should one be identified. Posters were provided, see below link:
https://www.nonnativespecies.org/assets/Alert_poster_Vespa_velutina_A4-1.pdf

Another parishioner commented on an increase in 'Keep out – Private' signs appearing in and around the Tamar valley, (often with large amounts of barbed wire too.) He said local walks are being removed and a couple of areas in particular mentioned were Dukes Drive (barbed wire and spikes) and the fishery end / area around Morwellham.

Another parishioner raised concerns over the wall being built alongside the layby opposite the hall/church/school.

Rev'd Blowey said about the noticeable increase in speed of traffic outside the school/church/hall. Cllr Steer has spoken to Sgt Otley who has said a speed check could be carried out.

Cllr Sellis agreed the traffic appears too fast.

Cllrs Sellis and Saxby said they will look into Speedwatch.

Parish Councillors

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

Jim Hamilton, Wendy Miller, Suzanne Porter & Daniel Edwards

Parish Clerk: Emily Young: Telephone 07942286125 Email: gulworthypc.clerk@gmail.com

Website: www.gulworthyparishcouncil.org

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4. Update on key Parish Council initiatives:

4.1. Broadband – latest connectivity news

Broadband was also mentioned, with many properties still not being connected. Two parishioners have contacted Geoffrey Cox MP.

The rumours are that Airband is no longer to carry out work and a new provider is now assigned, called Voenus. Cllr Saxby to enquire and let the Clerk know, who will put updates on the website.

A local parishioner also offered to look at pole ownership which may help confirm if Airband are still contracted.

4.2 Gulworthy clean up – litter picking

There are currently 9 volunteers in Gulworthy Parish. 6 on WhatsApp group, 3 not. The group are always open to more volunteers. All the people involved have their own areas. Someone kindly walked and litter picked from the cross roads to Gawton and filled 12 dustbin bags, of mostly beer bottles! Cllr Sellis will enquire about having this collected. Please contact the Clerk if you wish to join the group.

4.3 Housing need?

Cllr Royston asked if people felt more housing was needed in Gulworthy parish?

She said an NDP would be considered if it was felt there was demand.

There is support in WDBC when compiling an NDP.

It was suggested that a housing needs study perhaps be carried out.

4.4 Opportunities for agriculture & horticulture

Becky Butland from Tamar Valley National Landscapes (formerly Tamar Valley AONB) came to present on Farming in Protected Landscapes (FiPL).

The Defra-funded Farming in Protected Landscapes programme opened for applications in July 2021. If you are a farmer or landowner in the Tamar Valley you are encouraged to make contact with Becky. Together you can explore what Farming in Protected Landscapes projects you might be able to apply for, as well as signposting you to other sources of funding for your projects, offer you other farm or land management advice and add you to the farm focused events programme. Funding is available for bespoke projects which cover different subject areas. Contact Becky for more details becky.butland@cornwall.gov.uk

4.5 Climate & biodiversity

Tamar Grow Local are looking for local food ambassadors in the Tamar Valley. See this website for more details or email info@tamargrowlocal.org

The **Apricot Centre** is offering funding on various courses, see www.apricotcentre.co.uk

Agro-Innovation programme is being funded by the UK Shared Prosperity Fund and delivered by Business Information Point (BIP), it aims to help farm businesses to maximise their

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potential through regenerative and innovative practices which promote healthy soil and reduce carbon emissions.

Cllr Royston said to let the Parish Council know if there is any specific projects you need support with.

Cllr Royston and Cllr Steer mentioned the 'Bio Blitz' national landscape nature event. Its about providing different activities for children with nature to raise awareness. They hope to run something later in the year.

4.6 Highways and potholes

Cllr Sellis gave an update on highways and potholes. The weather has been an issue for potholes. Parishioners can report concerns/pot hole issues to Cllr Sellis or on-line at <https://www.devon.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/report-a-problem/>

AOB – A question was asked about the school dinners at Gulworthy primary school, now being made at Lifton and driven in each day. Clerk will contact the head teacher to try and find out. She will update Cllr Steer.

5. Parishioners feedback and councils summing up

Cllr Royston thanked everyone for coming and closed the meeting.

Meeting closed 8.46pm.

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