

## Minutes 20 February 2025

Time: 7pm

Location: Old School, Menheniot PL14 3QY

Present: Cllrs Adrian Cole (Chair); Eve Easterbrook (Vice Chair); Steve Roberts; Jerry Tucker; Peter Luck; Keith Goldsmith; Sean Smith; Tamsin Hemming.

Also present: John Hesketh (Clerk to the Parish Council). Cornwall Councillor Phil Seeva. There were 6 members of the public in attendance.

### **103/2024 Chair's Welcome and opening remarks.**

The Chair welcomed everyone and thanked Cllr Easterbrook for chairing the January 2025 meeting.

### **104/2024 Apologies for Absence.**

Received from Cllr Pat Cade. The Chair wished her well for a speedy recovery.

### **105/2024 Members' Declarations.**

Cllr Goldsmith declared an interest in Item 109C, and Cllr Hemming in Item 108. No other declarations or dispensations requested.

### **106/2024 Public Participation.**

Members of the public addressed the Council.

A resident from Roseland attended to speak against planning application PA25/00675, that: there was sufficient new housing already planned in the parish; comments from the planning officer (relating to PA22/11249) had not been taken into account in relation to their social and environmental concerns or the height of the development; the proposal was an overdevelopment of the site and overlooked adjacent dwellings; the scale of the dwelling would not be subservient to the main house close by (Roseland House); concerns about access for local traffic.

A resident attended on behalf of the Merrymeet & Pengover Green Residents Association to register concerns about building works at Homefield on Church Road, that: the road had been partially closed for roadworks without prior notice or an alternative route being made available; conditions attached to the original consent relating to the demolition of walls and ground contamination did not appear to have been observed; enquiries to people working on the site had been met with hostility; planning enforcement had been notified but at the time of this meeting, no actions had been taken.

PCSO Steve Edser attended to take questions from residents present, and reported that: Menheniot remained a low crime area; Liskeard Police Station now had a front desk open between 10am and 3pm Monday to Saturday; offered to liaise between residents and people working on site at Merrymeet should the need arise.

Cornwall Councillor Phil Seeva discussed current issues arising from road congestion outside the primary school on East Road, and explained that: road markings could be made in the parking area outside of the school but cautioned that this could lead to a reduction in the number of cars making use of the spaces; yellow warning lines by the school entrance could not be included in any parking marks because of the need for a separate consultation; other warning signage in the approaches to the school can be considered by CC Highways; will follow up an enquiry about ownership and maintenance of the railings outside of the Spar shop; full council meets on 25 February and is expected to approve a 4.99% increase in council tax. He had been pleased to support the Menheniot Sports Association and the Menheniot-Looe Cricket Club in their application

to the Community Levelling Up Programme. He confirmed his candidature in the forthcoming county council elections representing St Cleer & Menheniot division.

#### **107/2024 Minutes of Meeting.**

It was **Resolved to approve** the minutes of the meeting held on 16 January 2025. Proposed Cllr Easterbrook. Seconded Cllr Roberts. All agreed.

#### **107/2024 Matters arising**

Update on Item 097/2024 Menheniot Park & Ride

Clerk confirmed that he had received an email from Cornwall Council's Property Team to confirm that the land was the narrow strip to the left of the entrance into Menheniot station, and currently locked with a steel gate. The £8000pa holding costs cover security and insurance for the space. Chair has been in discussions with the adjacent Adrenalin Quarry about potential use as a shared space. Councillors asked the Clerk to make further enquiries about the timetable for disposal.

*Action: Clerk to contact CC Property to obtain a key for access and the schedule for disposal.*

#### **108/2024 Planning**

Cllr Hemming left the meeting room at 20.08.

#### **PA25/00675**

Proposal: Proposed conversion of the stone wall remains of a historic building (former cottage/s) into a two-storey dwellinghouse (following a withdrawn application reference PA22/11249)

Location: Land South East Of Roseland House Menheniot Cornwall PL14 3PQ

It was **Resolved not to support the application**. Proposed Cllr Tucker. Seconded Cllr Luck. All agreed. In making their decision, councillors noted that the current proposal did not fully take account of, or protect its historic context. Specifically, they felt that the proposal's massing and height dominated the adjoining Roseland House; did not recognise the importance of the local landscape around the site or enhanced the existing area. The materials that were proposed although generally meeting the Menheniot Design Guide, include some details that are in conflict with it (for example not using timber joinery). Concerns also expressed about road access and car parking which are not considered to be either satisfactory or safe.

*Action: Clerk to post comments on CC Planning Portal.*

Cllr Hemming rejoined the meeting at 20.45

B Any applications received by Cornwall Council by the time of the meeting. Information only: none received.

C Planning decisions made by Cornwall Council.

PA24/06893 Prior approval not req'd(PA/AF/TEL/DEM/)

Proposal Prior notification of agricultural development for dung store to cover farm yard manure

Location:- Trewolland Farm Pengover Road Liskeard Cornwall PL14 3NL

#### **109/2024 Finance**

A It was **Resolved to approve** the schedule and agree payment. Proposed Cllr Easterbrook. Seconded Cllr Tucker. Cllr Cole to authorise.

Date	Payee	Description	£
24/02/2025	HMRC	PAYE	120.00
24/02/2025	Salaries	Jan-25	984.50
<b>All payments this period</b>			<b>£ 1,104.50</b>

B Bank Reconciliation.

At the close of business on 31 January 2025, the parish council held £43,021.65 in its accounts

#### C Application for donation

It was **Resolved to award** the Menheniot Sports Association a donation of £100 as a contribution towards the cost of purchasing a leaf blower. Proposed Cllr Easterbrook. Seconded Cllr Cole. Cllr Goldsmith abstained. All else agreed.

*Action: Clerk to inform MSA and set up payment.*

#### D Local Maintenance Partnership

It was **Resolved to accept the** grant funding contribution towards the cost of maintaining footpaths. Proposed Cllr Cole. Seconded Cllr Roberts. All agreed.

*Action: Clerk to inform Cornwall Council.*

### 110/2024 Chairs Report

#### A East Road Working Group

Chair explained that the scheduled discussion to consult on improvements to the East Road Playing Field had been postponed. However, he had been researching the options for finance that would fund the employment of an external consultant to manage this project and the options for Lark View. It was **Resolved to follow up with enquiries for the Community Capacity Fund** and agree a briefing for the application. Proposed Cllr Smith. Seconded Cllr Easterbrook. All agreed.

*Action: Clerk to circulate application form and coordinate completion by members of the ERWG.*

Cllrs Tucker & Luck left the meeting room at 21.05

#### B Lark View development

Cllr Cole outlined his assessment of the challenges and opportunities that would be presented by this development, and proposed that the starting point would be for the Clerk to collate a short briefing guide for councillors and residents explaining the background.

*Action: Clerk to produce a set of FAQs for publication.*

#### C Strengthening the standards and conduct framework for local authorities in England

Councillors will be asked to participate in this government consultation.

The Chair and Clerk led a brief explanation of the consultation. Cllrs Cole, Easterbrook & Hemming volunteered to complete the online survey.

*Action: Clerk to resend Briefing Note and link to survey.*

#### D Menheniot Green Action Plan 2025

The Chair presented a summary of actions arising from the meeting held on 6 December 2024:

- RHS Village Pennant Cup: it is proposed that Menheniot Green enter this year. Groups can still enter their own individual projects.
- National Garden Scheme: it was hoped that the Garden Clubs would work together and encourage more gardens to open.
- Tree of Life scheme and community spaces & wild flower beds work to continue with parish council support.
- Continue to push for opportunities in the parish for geothermal energy projects.
- Explore potential for new habitats including community composting.
- Support and input to Cornwall Residents Energy Plan.
- Input into parish council Vision for East Road playing field
- Opportunity to work with the Cricket Club on future projects.
- Opportunity to support EV charging provision in the Parish

It was **Resolved to adopt the workplan** as set out in his report. Proposed Cllr Roberts. Seconded Cllr Hemming. All agreed.

*Action: Clerk to recirculate report with actions highlighted*

### 111/2024 Clerk's Report

#### A Election timetable 1 May 2025

Clerk explained that he would be receiving copies of the election nomination forms in early March, ready for distribution soon after. Councillors reminded that the opening date for return of completed nominations is 14 March 2025, with a closing date of 2 April 2025. Names of candidates will be published on 3 April 2025.

**B Casual Vacancy**

Councillors discussed the options for co-opting into the remaining vacant seats and agreed that they would not proceed with the process due to the proximity of the 1 May elections.

**C Parish Council telephone**

It was **Resolved to purchase a virtual SIM card** to enable the parish council to own its own telephone number. Proposed Cllr Cole. Seconded Cllr Roberts. All agreed.

*Action: Clerk to purchase eSIM card and publicise the new contact number.*

**D New speed indicators at Merrymeet**

Clerk asked Cllr Smith to feedback on the new signs' operation – that they did not appear to be functioning as planned (triggered by a too high approaching speed with insufficient time for drivers to take appropriate action)

*Action: Clerk to feedback to CC Highways to correct.*

**112/2024 Diary Dates.**

A 20 March 2025 7pm Menheniot Old School

**113/2024 End of meeting 21.40**

Published 25/2/25