

Davidstow Parish Council Minutes

Date of Meeting: 15th June 2020

Attendees: Andrew McKersie, Julie Dowton, Mark Wakefield, Will Kingdom, Valerie Jackson, Phil Potter

Apologies: Tony Steed

Item	Action	With who	Target completion	Status
1.	Conflicts of Interest – AMcK & PP declared their membership of Davidstow Residents Action Group			
2.	Minutes of Meetings – The minutes of the meetings of the 2 nd March and 11 th May were approved. The minutes of the meeting of 1 st June were approved subject to the insertion of an additional point to Lightsourcebp to revisit their grazing regime which were based on a lowland regime, with a more appropriate upland regime.	AMcK		
3.	Planning - PA20/03751 – Hendra Farm, Modification of planning obligation in respect of decision notice 2003/0726 – erection of detached farmhouse Councillors discussed whether the proposed remaining land of 160 acres would be sufficient to sustain a farming business. The consensus view was that it was sufficiently large, noting that a number of local farms were smaller. On that basis, councillors voted to support the application. AMcK to update Cornwall Council.	AMcK		
4.	Planning – PA20/ 04186 – Certificate of Lawfulness for Existing Use or Development to confirm a material commencement was made in respect of planning permission PA15/11004 – Land at Lower Tregeen Councillors were unaware of the original planning application, made back in 2015. In the circumstances, councillors were of a view that it was a technical issue for Cornwall Council to confirm that a ‘material commencement’ had been made. Councillors agreed to respond with a ‘neutral’ position.	AMcK		
5.	Approval of Parish Council Accounts 2019 / 20 AMcK advised that Mr Nick Finjan had kindly undertaken the internal audit and had returned a signed certificate with no exceptions raised.			

	<p>Income for the year had been £833, with expenditure of £1913, leaving a remaining balance of £10,211. The accounts showed a very similar pattern to the previous year with the only material difference being an increased donation to Cornwall Air Ambulance.</p> <p>The Certificate of Exemption was approved and Will Kingdom as Responsible Finance Officer (RFO) and Andrew McKersie as chair were authorised to sign the certificate.</p> <p>Councillors agreed that there were no changes to the Annual Governance Statement and authorised WK and AMcK to sign the statement.</p> <p>Councillors approved the Accounting statement and authorised WK and AMcK to sign the statement.</p> <p>The above decisions were formally proposed by JD, seconded by VJ and supported by all councillors.</p> <p>AMcK and WK agreed to get the documents signed, after which AMcK would post the documents on the Council website to meet the local consultation requirements.</p>	AMcK & WK		
6.	<p>To decide Davidstow Council’s view of the Pendower Beach Development</p> <p>Friends of Pendower Beach had contacted all parish councils in Cornwall with Areas of Outstanding National Beauty (AONBs), asking for support to block a proposed development on Pendower Beach – an AONB.</p> <p>Councillors were of the view that AONBs should be protected and that the proposed development appeared to be clearly outside of national guidance for permitted development in AONBs.</p> <p>Councillors agreed that a response should be sent to Cornwall Council advising of Davidstow’s view that the development should not be approved.</p>	AMcK		
7.	<p>Saputo Update</p> <p>AMcK and PP provided councillors with an update on the situation with odour emissions and other issues affecting residents. Since the Coronavirus lockdown, meetings with Saputo and the Environment Agency had moved to telephone conference calls.</p> <p>As promised, despite the lockdown, Saputo has completed a number of actions to stop the odour emissions, including the movement of buttermilk and salt whey offsite to reduce the load on the WWTP and the installation of an additional DAF machine to process sludge. Saputo was of a view that the</p>			

	<p>improvements had been successful and that they were unable to detect odour and / or it was very faint.</p> <p>Although the view of residents was that they had generally been some improvement, there had been a number of significant emissions and, more worryingly, the WWTP was still routinely emitting unacceptable levels of odour.</p> <p>The Environment Agency had been unable to visit site because of Coronavirus restrictions. With the easing of restrictions, AMcK and PP had contacted senior EA management and asked them to renew site assessments. At the last meeting, the EA advised that they had attended site on 4 occasions and had detected pollution on all 4 visits.</p> <p>Saputo had undertaken odour testing and the results and proposed actions were expected to be presented at the next meeting. AMcK and PP expressed a low level of confidence in the actions that would be proposed. Councillors agreed that if the meeting was not suitably successful that senior Saputo management in Canada should be contacted. JD requested details of the next meeting so that she could join.</p>	AMcK		
8.	<p>Donations</p> <p>Letters had been received from a number of charities asking for donations as their normal funding sources had dried up during the Coronavirus lockdown. None of the charities were immediately local organisations or ones that the Parish Council had supported previously.</p> <p>Councillors agreed to reserve funding for more local charities and worthy causes. Donations were approved for Davidstow Parish Church (£200) , Tremain Methodist Chapel (£100) , both for upkeep of the graveyards and Cornwall Air Ambulance (£100)</p>			
9.	<p>AoB</p> <p>Councillors approved a reimbursement payment of £249.67 to A McKersie for his payment of the CALC subscription.</p>			

Date of next meeting – 6th July 2020, 7pm, Venue – virtual meeting