

MEETING OF MARY TAVY PARISH COUNCIL
HELD AT THE READING ROOM, MARY TAVY
ON 11TH MARCH 2025 AT 7:00PM

Present:

Cllr P Reid Cllr J Honey
Cllr J Dunn Cllr M Griffiths
Cllr D Herbert

In attendance:

Ms Amy Christie (Parish Clerk)
Cllr R Oxborough

The meeting was chaired by the Chair, Cllr Reid.

FC.25/37 Welcome and Formal Opening of the Meeting by the Chair:

Cllr Reid opened the meeting at 7pm.

FC.25/38 Apologies for Absence:

None.

FC.25/39 Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensations:

Cllr Dunn declared an interest in relation to item FC.25/44.

Cllr M Griffiths declared an interest in relation to item FC.25/43.

Cllr P Reid declared an interest in relation to item FC.25/48.

FC.25/40 Business Raised by the Public

Cllr Oxborough updated that Devolution is scheduled in approximately three years time, and no further updates since the last meeting.

FC.25/41 Minutes:

- i) The minutes of the meeting of 11th of February 2025 (copy previously circulated) were approved.
- ii) Members received updates on actions/items from the previous meeting.
 - a) Cllr Reid provided a brief update about the cemetery extension project.
 - b) Co-option: Cllr Reid updated that leaflets have been hand delivered and interest in the co-option vacancies has been received. Co-option will be brought as an agenda item to April Full Council.
 - c) The Landmark tree will be delivered to Cllr Reid on the 23rd of this month and was planted by the Hall & Field Trust. The Trust have the intention to place a plaque to commemorate Charles III.
 - d) Emergency plan: Water Pump, Cllr Dunn updated that confirmation that the water pump works and has been added to the Emergency Plan.
 - e) Dartmoor Search & Rescue: Cllr Honey updated that she attended Dartmoor Search & Rescue's event on their premises on behalf of the parish council.

FC.25/42 Standing Item – Climate and Ecology Emergencies:

Councillors noted that the council resolved to become a signatory of the Devon Climate Declaration and will focus on those activities where we as a

parish, can make a difference to climate change, biodiversity and the environment.

Matters arising since the last council meeting

FC.25/43

Highways

Members received and considered any updates in relation to Highways.

- Updates Double white lines.
- Repaint of the white line forming the boundary of the former virtual footway.
- Discussion about potholes.

Resolved:

To draft a letter about the double white lines repainting and the former virtual footway to be sent to Stuart Hughes & Meg Booth with Cllr Philip Sanders in copy.

To order a free full pallet of instarmac and identify another parish who may wish to take half the pallet.

To ask local companies to hire a compactor or identify if any company may offer a compactor free of charge under social corporate responsibility.

FC.25/44

Planning, past application 0219/21 Royal Standard, Mary Tavy, PL19 9QB

Councillors discussed an update on a past planning application 0219/21 Royal Standard, Mary Tavy, PL19 9QB, Highways vehicular access and parking, site visit and observations.

Resolved: Cllr Reid will write to thank the officers for their time.

New items of business

FC.25/45

Councillor Reports

- i) Emergency Warden – Cllr Reid confirmed that the donated water pump works and that the donated trailer is no longer roadworthy and cannot be used.
- ii) West Devon Matters (Southern Parishes Link) Committee Representative – A meeting for 23rd April 25 has been called. Cllr Dunn will attend.
- iii) Mary Tavy & Horndon Broadband Champion – Cllr Reid updated that West Devon contract has been awarded to Openreach, scope & schedule of works not yet determined, however, Mary Tavy should receive Fibre between now and 2030.
- iv) Mary Tavy Community Field & Hall Representatives – Cllr Herbert updated about refurbishments works to the hall including an electrical contractor and a grant received. Cllr Herbert provided an update about the VE80 celebrations, live music and pasties obtained free of charge, Morris dancers and a dog agility show. A shelter at the Hall & Field Trust has been blown away and damaged beyond repair in a storm.
- v) Office of Police and Crime Commissioner – Cllr Griffiths has not received any update.

FC.25/46

New cemetery project

Cllr Reid provided an update on the test dig holes, water accumulating in the holes to a depth of 2 metres, professional advice about a ditch on the inside of the hedge to mitigate water depth, loss of cemetery land if a ditch were created, cost of digging a ditch and potential that the water depth does not reduce in the test dig holes, and put forward a proposal to cease actions on the land previously identified.

Resolved: Following discussion councillors resolved with the considerations of professional advice received about the suitability of the land with the water depth at 2 metres, cost of digging a ditch to mitigate water depth, potential that the water depth does not reduce in the test dig holes, to cease actions on the land identified for a cemetery project and to inform the landowner. Councillors provided thanks to the private donor who funded the cemetery testing works.

FC.25/47

Approach the Diocese

Councillors considered a formal approach to the Diocese of Exeter about any land they may hold in the parish of Mary Tavy for a cemetery project.

Resolved: Councillors resolved to formally approach the Diocese of Exeter about any land they may hold in the parish of Mary Tavy for a cemetery project.

FC.25/48

Community Grant Request

Councillors discussed a community grant request from The Hall & Field Trust for £150 towards VE 80 Celebrations.

Resolved: Councillors resolved to award a community grant to the Hall & Field Trust for £150 towards VE80 Celebrations.

FC.25/49

Equality & Diversity Policy

Councillors considered re-adopting the Equality & Diversity policy.

Resolved: Councillors re-adopted the Equality & Diversity Policy.

FC.25/50

Disciplinary Policy

Councillors considered re-adopting the Disciplinary Policy.

Resolved: Councillors re-adopted the Disciplinary Policy.

FC.25/51

Grievance Policy

Councillors considered re-adopting the Grievance Policy.

Resolved: Councillors re-adopted the Grievance Policy.

FC.25/52

Privacy Notice

Councillors considered re-adopting the Privacy Notice.

Resolved: Councillors re-adopted the Privacy Notice.

FC.25/53

Anti-harassment & bullying Policy

Councillors considered re-adopting the Anti-harassment & Bullying Policy.

Resolved: Councillors re-adopted the Anti-harassment & Bullying Policy.

FC.25/54 (18) Communications Policy

- i) Councillors **discussed** combining the Press & Media Policy and Social Media & Electronic Communications Policy and **considered** creating one Communications Policy.
- ii) To **discussed** a councillor lead or forming a working group to draft a Communications Policy.

Resolved: Following discussion, councillors resolved to:

- i) To combine the Press & Media Policy and Social Media & Electronic Communications Policy and agreed to create one Communications Policy.
- ii) To agree Cllr Reid would create a draft Communications Policy and share for revision by all councillors. Cllr Dunn offered Cllr Reid support if needed.

FC.25/55 (19) Reserves Policy

Councillors **discussed** adopting a reserves policy.

Resolved: Councillors resolved to adopt the reserves policy.

FC.25/56 Accounts & Financial Statement

- i) Councillors approved the following payments:

Grounds Maintenance Chris Ball February 2025 Invoice	£ 178.00
Clerk's Salary March 2025 including mileage	£ 637.29
NEST Pension Employer's Payment (DD 21.03.25)	£ 78.41
HMRC P30 Employer's Payslip	£ 163.09
Reimbursement to Clerk for: Cemetery duplicate receipt book, A4 Printer paper and 2 nd Class stamps	£ 15.95
Training DALC for Clerk (2 x £30 + VAT)	£ 72.00
Community Grant Application	£ 150.00
Donation to Devon Air Ambulance	£ 100.00
DD Banking Service Charge	£ 6.00

- ii) Councillors received and approved payment and receipt transactions between 1st February 2025 and 28th February 2025.

<i>Treasurer's Account</i>			
Date	Details	Payments	Receipts
06.02.25	DD Nest Pension Employer's Payment February	£ 78.41	
12.02.25	Parish Lengthsman Winter Road Clearance	£ 1944.00	
12.02.25	Clerk's Salary February 2025	£ 618.75	
12.02.25	HMRC P30 Employer's Payslip	£ 163.09	
12.02.25	Reimbursement ink cartridges and batteries A.Christie	£ 37.79	
12.02.25	Training SLCC for clerk (1 x £45 + VAT)	£ 54.00	
12.02.25	DD Service Charge	£ 6.00	

Clerk and the public left the meeting at 8:08pm

Cllr Honey was appointed to take the minutes for the remainder of the meeting in the clerk's absence.

FC.25/57 Deferred Item NJC for Local Government Services (NJC) 2023/24 Pay Agreement

i) Deferred Item: Councillors discussed approving a salary scale point increase on the NJC for Local Government Services salary scale for the clerk for each year of continuous service applied from 13th February 2025.

Resolved: Following discussion, councillors resolved to approve a salary scale point increase on the NJC Local Government Services salary scale for the clerk for each year of continuous service applied from 13th February 2025.

FC.25/58 Matters brought forward by Councillors: *(for information only)*.

Cllr Honey provided an update on the Annual parish meeting invites, those able and those not able to attend, Cllr Honey will draft an update for local media. Cllr Reid will include an update about Council Tax in his report for the Annual Parish Meeting. Mike Allen from the Hall & Field Trust will provide an update on the Hall & Field Trust.

Cllr Reid request Co-option go on the April Full Council Agenda to set the application process including deadlines and dates for co-opting candidates to the council.

The date of the next Full Council meeting is 8th April 2025.

Meeting closed at 8:30pm

Signed Date