



Calstock Parish Council, Tamar Valley Centre, Cemetery Road, Drakewalls, PL18 9FE

Clerk: Clare Bullimore

Tel: 01822 748847 email: [clerk@calstockparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@calstockparishcouncil.gov.uk)

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## **Minutes of a meeting of the Calstock Parish Council, ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE EMERGENCY COMMITTEE**

held on **Tuesday 16 April 2024**, in the Tamar Valley Centre at 1900.

Those present were: -

COUNCILLORS: Richard Newton Chance, Phil Spurr, Andrew Brown, Jim Wakem

STAFF: Peter Gadd

COMMUNITY MEMBERS: Gill Court, Peter Bloomfield.

INVITEE: Dave Groves, Chair of Cornwall Mammal Group

### **1. Apologies**

Apologies were accepted from Clare Bullimore, Mark Warwick, Judith Robinson and Alison Freshney.

### **2. Declarations and Dispensations in Members' Interests**

None.

### **3. Public Participation**

Members of the community were present.

### **4. Approve Minutes of the last meeting, 20-02-2024**

The minutes were approved.

### **5. Matters Arising**

Town Farm Field update: possibility of using Water Restoration Fund to support projects. The lease is being processed with both legal teams. Pete and Phil will meet representatives from the Bike Show to work on strategies to mitigate environmental impact. Phil Spurr to lead on this. Andrew feels Pete Thompson's plan should be used and we should be looking for funding opportunities based on this. Agreed that the community should be consulted first. Phil to raise use of single use plastic with the Social Club during bike show

### **6. Note Budget**

Last year's spend (£2000 plus FEAST grant) was noted; this year £3000 was requested with some spend committed from last year.

### **7. Cornwall Mammal Group**

Introduction to Chair, Dave Groves. The CMG has been going for 25 years. They look at issues around mammals and provide education and training; monitoring and recording. They are interested in building base



line data about what mammals are present. Bio-diversity records are very patchy at every level - lots about those who are protected by development rules but common species are generally under-recorded. The Group are looking at sites to survey and feel the Tamar Valley is really interesting with lots of wild countryside that people haven't valued so has been left alone. Recording can be a useful motivator which drives conservation effort. It is always good to share positive research. They have done Pleasure Piece and Sylvia's Meadow - looking for harvest mice.

Pete is keen on working with them over more survey work in the parish. Both Andrew and Richard offered their properties as survey sites and Town Farm Field was also suggested.

Pete to contact Tamar Valley National Landscape for support in co-ordinating sites. Dave is also keen to survey the quarry - Richard to provide contact.

It was agreed to encourage recording through the website.

Dave was thanked for coming.

#### **8. Suggested actions/work to date**

Cornwall Mammals Chair: surveys, collaborative work with National Trust, habitat, protection, boxes, community volunteers: wild cat, pine marten, beaver, bats. Polecats in Cornwall and some Pine Martens.

Sewage: liaison meeting has been requested. Arrange visit to Metherell Water Treatment Works; Collaboration with Lower Tamar Fishing Club, Ian Forest, Simon Browning and Dr Tony Hawkins YEM to take further briefing document to Tamar Catchment Partnership and onwards.

Litter – encourage volunteers to pick up.

Cornwall Community Flood Forum – facilitate Flood plan, emergency flood plan, flood training, volunteer flood wardens.

Work up a policy statement concerning pheasant operations and their detrimental impact on nature recovery in the Tamar landscape.

Information to share:

Mining project at Kelly Bray be aware of legacy of pollution, poor water quality

Calstock Arts Events:

- 7.30pm 25 April: Screening- SIX INCHES OF SOIL with Marina O'Connell
- 7.30pm 9 May: Power to the People - Cornwall's Climate Stories

#### **9. Feedback on Work To Date**

- Recovering Nature – feedback on work to date (Calstock Churchyard, hedgerows etc)



- Health and wellbeing - Footpaths should come through here - use the website to gather info about the state of the footpaths in the parish
- Reducing impact - EV charging points through Amenities Cttee.

**10. Reports from relevant meetings/workshops/training**

Richard attended a Tamar Valley National Landscape meeting – notes circulated.

**AOB**

Circulate a bulletin about work done this year widely to encourage more people to attend the meetings.

Signed: .....

Dated: .....