



Minutes of General Meeting Monday 20th February 2023, 7pm

Held at Chy an Gweal Chapel Hall, St Ives Road, Carbis Bay

Minutes

Present: Members: Dinky Kennedy, Chris Coad, Giles Newcombe, Nick Parkin, Rupert Manley, Mattie Pochee, Kim Nicol. Volunteers: Jack Nankervis, Julia Simpson, Chris Hogg, Jo Newcombe.

GN opened the meeting as Vice-chair and offered to chair the meeting; agreed.
RM advised that AJ had requested a copy of the minutes; agreed.

1. Apologies: Richard Brown, Lorna Murray, Rita Lait. Kevin Tremath known to be away.

2. AJ's Resignation. RM outlined AJ's considerable contributions to the project, keeping it going through difficult times and building the team of volunteers to what it is today, and the events leading to his resignation. The group expressed sadness re the circumstances of his departure. GN apologised to the group for losing his temper with AJ and fully accepts he shouldn't have done this. RM reported meeting with AJ who is now feeling much better and does not wish a send-off. Discussion re appropriate ways of thanking him.

3. Minutes of last meeting - agreed

4. Chair's / Site Officer's report – no report. All present have been involved in the site recently.

5. Treasurer's report – NP (see below). Discussion: Calendar made profit of £374. Thanks to Kim. Has a few spare, available at £4 each. Will reduce print run slightly next year.

Electric trimmer – AJ has forwarded details to RM. Is on order. £1000 grant for this from St Ives Town Council has been received. **Action: RM to chase up.**

Slashers have been acquired and are in shed, need sharpening.

NP is moving and will hand over treasurership at the AGM. The account does not permit internet banking which has caused problems. Discussion re need for 2 signatures on cheques. Agreed this is necessary, also a constitutional requirement.

Action: NP to investigate internet banking for bank account.

6. Secretary's report – RM in KT's absence – a few items under Matters Arising. AJ has forwarded contacts re schools etc.

7. Matters Arising:

i. Election of Chair and Site Officer

Chair: GN Proposed by DK, seconded by KN. Elected with no dissensions.

Site Officer: RM proposed by KN, seconded by GN. Elected with no dissensions.

No offers received for Treasurer. **Action: all to consider who might be willing to take this on.**

Note: All officers to stand down at AGM for re-election if they wish as per constitution.

- ii. Climate Action Policy (RM in KT's absence)

Decision: Policy amended with one word change and adopted.

- iii. Tools: Strimmer & slashers. St Ives Town Council Grant.

Dealt with above. Tools will need maintenance. **Action: RM to ask 2 contacts**, one of whom was very involved in the project in the early days. New rakes: **Action: GN will find suitable items.**

- iv. Constitution – re Climate Action Policy statements (MP) and in light of AJ's resignation (RM)

MP reported there is now a St Ives Climate Coalition drawing on several community groups in the town. Proposed that we do more to educate re climate and, as a group, we could be more active in identifying fallow land that would be suitable for tree planting, fruit growing. **Action: To have a stand re climate action at the open day as before.**

Decision: no constitutional change re Chair term, ie stick with 3 years.

Exceptional circumstances re AJ noted.

- v. Tesco All Weather Clothing funding bid update (GN) – tokens neck & neck. Keep shopping! Need a volunteer to source appropriate all weather gear. Also someone to care for branded clothing in shed, risk of getting damp. [ps DK has volunteered to do this].

- vi. Path clearing (RM)

Path map from Management Plan shared with group. **Decision: to only maintain designated paths.** JS raised issue of path safety, especially re path from Steeple to the access path. **Action: to review paths on site.**

- vii. Orchard – mulching, new trees (GN, RM)

Soil in orchard area is poor. Suggest mulch. **Action: to source mulch from cuttings/rakings elsewhere (work party).**

- viii. Willow circle – replacement trees (RM)

Replacement willows now planted. Poor well drained soil noted. To review success at end of summer. Tube guards on many of the willows can be replaced with spirals.

- ix. Poynton Bradbury Wynter Cole Architects – any update? (GN)

No update. GN proposed we get a new noticeboard. Action: **RM to ask a contact re building a replacement.**

- x. Volunteer money and refreshments fund (GN)

Discussion re funds held in shed. Currently 3 pots: tea & coffee pot donated to by volunteers; DK's pot for cake etc; Site Officer's slush fund for miscellaneous expenses. Noted that a regular dog walker donated £100 for the volunteers. £50 contributed to the Group's Christmas meal. £50 unaccounted for but thought to have been used for AJ's Christmas buffet for volunteers. Concerns raised re having money in shed. Decision: No money to be kept in shed. **Actions: DK will manage tea & coffee expenses. Site Officer expenses to be paid from bank funds on supply of receipts.**

Discussion re funding tea & coffee & cake for volunteers. View expressed this should come out of SWPG funds; some thought volunteers should continue to pay. RM pointed out there is no constitutional bar to using funds for this purpose as it serves to encourage community engagement in the project. Amount concerned is relatively small. **Decision: volunteer refreshments to be paid for from the Group's bank funds and not from volunteer contributions. Dinky to be given a float.**

- xi. AGM

Decision: AGM to be held in May. To try to find a speaker. Suggestions included Wheal Buzzy Project Officer; Cornwall Wildlife Trust; St Ives Community Orchard – the Roundhouse project. Venue: current arrangement proving increasingly unsatisfactory – hall taken over by Food Bank. Alternative suggestions included Carbis Bay Memorial Hall, Carbis Bay Church, Cornish Arms.

8. Management operations for next period

Path clearing – gorse etc. Deer guards to install. A few more oak trees to be planted in Steeple Woods.. Memorial tree to be planted. Cornish hedges in Steeple Woods to be repaired. Path repair/widening.

9. AOB

- i. GN – suggested we look to extend the site. A few plots of unused adjacent land: the old quarry at top of Steeple Lane; the triangle of land beyond this; Bolitho land; rhododendron land to south. **Decision: to discuss in more detail at next meeting.**
- ii. KN – SWP mugs for sale to raise funds? **Action: KN to investigate.**
- iii. KN - Open Day: bring forward to avoid bad weather: **27th August**
- iv. NP – Currently paying AJ's contact, Ba, £50 annually for storage. Marquee, trestle tables. **RM to clarify with AJ.**
- v. MP – need to promote ourselves more, to get young people involved. Need a banner/display. Current green board rather heavy and big. Craft fair at Una – would be good to have a display. **Action: MP to enquire.**
- vi. KN – slide for Stennack surgery waiting room screen display. **Action: KN to produce a slide.**
- vii. JN – asked re trail cameras: owned by SWPG, stored in shed. Issue of privacy of reserve users so use suspended. JS suggested a notice re camera use on gate/access points. **Action: RM to enquire re legal situation.**

10. Date of next meeting: Monday 22nd May 2023 – will be our AGM

List of actions:

- RM to chase up electric trimmer order
- NP to investigate internet banking
- ALL to consider who might be next treasurer
- RM to ask contacts re tool maintenance
- GN to source suitable rakes
- MP - climate action stand at Open Day
- JS and others to review paths on site
- Volunteers – to mulch orchard trees
- RM to source notice board replacement
- DK to manage refreshments fund
- KN to investigate mugs
- RM to clarify with AJ re storage of items at Ba's
- MP – Una craft fair stand?
- KN to produce a slide for Stennack Surgery Display
- RM to check legal situation re trail cameras on site.

**Steeple Woodland Project
Treasurer's Report, 01.05.22 – 19.02.23**

Since the last report in November:

we have received final amounts for Calendar sales and sponsorship. The final tallies give an overall profit of £374.00

£50 was paid to Mrs Miller for storage of Open Day equipment.

A total of £322.91 was spent on "Tools". This included £151.03 items relating to the gas stove and kettle, plus a further £19.96 for fuel for the strimmer.

We also spent £151.92 on new slashers. This could be seen as using part of the £1000 grant we received from St Ives Council, but we have not yet purchased the electric strimmer which the bulk of the money was intended for.

1.5.22 – 31.1.23

Income

Calendar sales	528.00
Calendar sponsorship	278.00
Donations	37.00
Sales of refreshments Open Day	251.31
Grant for equipment from St Ives Town Council	1000.00
Interest	11.09
Total income	2105.40

Expenditure

Printing 80 Calendars	432.00
Advertising Open Day	108.40
Open Day storage	50.00
Insurance	448.73
Meetings	38.80
Tools	322.91
Website	16.79
Total expenditure	1417.63

Net increase of funds since the start of the financial year 687.77

Balances at bank

01/05/22	6091.63
31/01/23	6779.40

**Nick Parkin
Treasurer
20 February 2023**