

Minutes of Meeting held on

Tuesday 14th September , 2021. (By Zoom)

Present:

Kirstie Edwards (KE) (Chair)	Falmouth Town Council
Clare Lewis (CL) (Vice Chair)	Prislow Woods Community Project
David Yelland (DY) (Secretary)	Swanpool Forum
Ken Reid (KR)	Friends of Tregonigge Woodland
Tim Kellett (TK)	Friends of Tregonigge Woodland
Simon Penna (SP)	Falmouth Town Council
Jacqui Owen (JO)	Falmouth Town Council
Tony Arden (TA)	Environment Agency
CC Alan Jewell (AJ)	Falmouth Town Council
CC David Saunby (DS)	Falmouth Town Council
Tony Parker (TP)	Plastic Fee Falmouth
Sarah Walker (SW)	Falmouth Town Council
Tessa Marie (TM)	Falmouth Town Council
Kath Statham (KS)	Prislow Woods Community Project
Dean Evans (DE)	Falmouth Town Council

1) Introduction/Attendees/Apologies for Absence

DE, DS and **AJ** were welcomed to their first meeting. Apologies for absence were recorded for Jay Gidman, Gitty Ankers, Pete Lochrie, Robbie Brown, Euan McPhee and Jenny Carter.

2) Membership

It was agreed that the full committee should be consulted and decide on any new member joining the FGC. The committee did not approve of Joseph Devereux, the owner of the Pump House land which forms part of the green corridor, becoming a member but that he should be invited to join in any discussions if/when issues of joint interest arose. Mr Devereux will be informed of this decision. Action **DY** (In consultation with **KE** and **CL**).

The committee agreed to invite Falmouth Bay Resident's Association to become a member of FGCF and to nominate a representative to attend future meetings.
Action **DY**

3) Minutes of the previous meeting (30/06/2021) and actions arising

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as a true recording of the proceedings.

All matters arising were covered by agenda items for today's meeting

4) Updates from constituent groups (Friends of Tregonigge Woodland, Prislw Woods Community Project, Swanpool Forum.)

Report by **TK** - Friends of Tregonigge Woodland.

- The tree sculpture project has been completed and marked with a successful opening ceremony.
- As reported at the last meeting, the Making Space for Nature project has been completed with the introduction of wildflower meadows and rebuild of the Cornish hedge in the region of the tree sculptures. Karen Hall was thanked for coordinating the initiative. **JO** reported that there would be some re-sowing of the wildflower meadows next spring
- The 5-year management plan is being reviewed and updated. All interested parties will be consulted and a first draft circulated for comment and feedback.
- **DS** commended the Friends group for their dedication and hard work, which was a credit to Falmouth

Report by **CL** - Prislw Woods Community Project

- The boardwalk pathway through the woods has been completed and was marked with a very well attended opening ceremony and community event for which Jenny Carter was thanked for all her organisational input.
- The new pathway is being well used and although there have been isolated instances of vandalism it is hoped that the popularity of the new facility and "ownership" by the community will help reduce anti-social behaviour.
- The focus for the group having completed the pathway is to allow the woods to grow and develop naturally and to continue with litterpicking and educational/social activities.

Report by **DY** (for Pete Lochrie) - Swanpool Forum

- Meetings and activities continue to be suspended owing to the pandemic; a face to face meeting will be held when deemed to be safe.
- The £4K funding available for removal of invasive species will be utilised when appropriate. (Note: **SW** will provide a map of knotweed clusters on the lake and **TA** will forward a code of practice for circulation on knotweed management.)
- The resident cob and pen and 8 cygnets, all of which survived the usual rat/fox attacks, left the lake in mid summer, possibly looking for food. A new pair have taken up residence.

5) Funded Project Updates

Prislow Woods Pathway project covered under item 4 above

As reported by **JO** at the last meeting, the Making Space for Nature (MS4N) projects at Lambs Lane, The Beacon and Tregonigie Woodland have been completed. Some additional remedial planting may be carried out on certain sites. The project at Swanvale will commence at the end of October. This will include woodchip pathways but not the proposed cycle path which is being handled as a separate project by Cormac and requires planning permission.

Robbie Brown (Persimmon) will be invited to the next meeting to give an update on future plans for integrating Eve Parc open spaces with the green corridor, as discussed at the last meeting. Action **DY**

6) Yellow Fish Campaign

KE reported that the campaign is ready to run as soon as Covid restrictions allow and will probably be scheduled for spring next year. The only issues to resolve relate to permissions and arrangements for highways management during the execution of the campaign. The dialogue has been complicated as a result of Danny Konik's changing role. Enquiries will be made to help resolve the matter. **AJ** and **DS** offered support if needed. Action **KE, JO**.

7) Pollution Monitoring

KR reported that he had no further update on the recently circulated correspondence with South West Water concerning drain misconnections and other related issues which could lead to pollution of the Bickland Stream. The dialogue is ongoing and all opportunities are taken to raise awareness of correct procedures when discharging waste. It was also suggested that the Yellow Fish campaign leaflet, when printed, be distributed as soon as possible to businesses on the industrial estate. As always, **KR** was thanked for his diligence in ensuring the stream remained as pollution free as possible.

Water sampling of the Bickland Stream is ongoing at various points with results being recorded on the Westcountry Rivers Trust website, **SW** was asked to provide a brief update of the programme and to contact **DY** if additional volunteers were needed.

8) Website

Jenny Carter, who could not be present today, was thanked for producing and monitoring the website. Now that it is established this item will not appear on future agendas unless specific issues arise.

9) Surface Grid/Culvert – PrislowWoods/Pumphouse

SP summarised the issues related to the above which were separately reported following on-site meetings with the owners of the Pump House. The current grid over the stream as it enters the Pump House land becomes blocked quite regularly which

may result in flooding, **TA** will investigate the costs of a suitable engineered, replacement grid/screen system. However, it is thought that the new boardwalk will provide easier access to maintain the current screen and that any expenditure on a new system should wait until experience is gained of the new situation.

10) Bosvale – extension to green corridor

The committee agreed that the area surrounding a tributary to the Bickland Stream at Bosvale should be recognised as an integral part of the green corridor. The changes required to the constitution, mapping, etc. will be discussed at the next meeting. Consolidation of the changes will be incorporated in any future authorised update of the neighbourhood plan.

11) Queen Anne Gardens pathway

There have been no meaningful responses to letters sent to owners of properties bordering the stream through Queen Anne Gardens. However **AJ** reported that Cornwall Council owns much of the land and that a development proposal may come forward in the near future. If this happens there may be an exciting opportunity to secure a strip of land along the border of the stream to complete the pathway from Swanvale to Tregoniggie Woodland. **AJ** will monitor the situation and report accordingly.

TA will investigate if the Environment Agency owns any land where it manages flood defence screens over the stream in the Queen Anne Gardens area.

12) Any other business

KE mentioned the Green Day event to be held at Princess Pavilion this coming Sunday. **DY** will circulate details of the event and contact details of the organiser, Cllr Zoe Young.

KE outlined details of volunteer support available from supervised groups coordinated by Michelle Delaney and will forward contact details for **DY** to circulate.

AJ reported progress on improving and maintaining a pathway believed to be owed by the Docks (A & P Appledore) **Secretary note: I missed the full detail on this item. Anyone wishing to add anything please do so and return to me DY**

13) Date of next meeting

Tuesday 9th November 10.00 a.m (probably by Zoom)
