

A Meeting of Perranarworthal Parish Council as Sole trustee of the King George V Memorial Playing Field – Charity Number 20557 – held at 7pm on 11th January 2023

1. Apologies for absence – R Holman
2. Declarations of interest – none
3. Position of Chairman/Vice Chairman

It is unclear whether the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Parish Council are automatically the Chairman and Vice Chair of the Trustee meeting or should be elected annually along with a Vice Chair independent of who is the current Chair/Vice Chair of the Parish Council. The Clerk is seeking expert legal advice on this matter. The Clerk had now received responses to her queries.

The Clerk read out the two responses she had received regarding who should take the Chair, one from the Charity Commission and the other from Simon Mansell of Cornwall Council.

Sean Daley: “Thank you for your message of 08 January 2023 about King George's Field, Perran(ar)worthal, a registered charity. You have asked the Commission for advice about how meetings of the charity should be conducted. This would appear to be a matter for the parish council as trustee to determine.” Mr Daley explained that, “When reaching a decision about this matter, however, the Commission would expect the parish council as trustee to be able to demonstrate how it has” complied with various conditions.

Simon Mansell: “Generally Councils will deal with Charity business within its current governance structure as this is established and the rules of debate etc are clearly defined and understood. You could set up a separate governance structure for the charity if you wished, but this would mean you holding meetings under two different sets of rules, which may be confusing.”

In the absence of any specific standing orders on the running of meetings, it was up to the members to decide how this should be done.

Currently the playing field meetings were not under any specific standing orders as a scheme put forward by CB had been rejected and no alternative had been adopted. It was CB's assertion that, as Chair of the Parish Council, he was automatically Chair of the Playing Field committee meetings, an assertion not agreed with by all members present. The Clerk had been asked to obtain expert advice on this.

It was proposed by CB that everyone had the chance to read the guidance first and then consider it at the next meeting. This was seconded by AB and put to the vote, those in favour 3, against 5, 1 abstention. motion defeated. Proposal by PS that a vote should be taken this evening as to the Chair and Vice Chair. This was seconded by JD. CB said he would not accept this proposal or take it to a vote as the running of the playing field committee came under the jurisdiction of the LGA 1972. PS advised CB he should ask the Clerk for advice. The Clerk said she could see no reason why a vote could not be taken and she did not think that CB could legally prevent it happening. PS then proposed that CB should stand down, seconded by JD and put to the vote. In favour 5, 3 against, one abstention. PS again repeated that CB should stand down. PS then proposed that AL should take the Chair, seconded by JD and put to the vote, 5 in favour, 2 against, 2 abstentions.

AL then took the Chair

4. To consider the response from the Charity Commission re complaints made

No response has been received, the Charity Commission is still waiting for confirmation that the Perranarworthal King George Playing Field Charity is being run correctly. Item 5 is intended to address their concerns and these minutes will be sent to the Charity Commission as part of the evidence that the issues have been dealt with satisfactorily. PS said that there should be a statement saying that there are no current plans to date for disposing of any land to the Perranwell Centre, this was seconded by DH and agreed. CB said that there had been something on the table. PS further said that the Clerk should prepare a workshop on a suitable governance document, this was seconded by JD and agreed.

5. Presentation as required by the Charity Commission to satisfy the requirements in item 4

The Clerk had circulated the Charity Commission advice on the disposal of land. She then gave a presentation on the main points of the Charity Commission's guidance on the duties of a trustee and conflicts of interest. (presentation attached)

6. To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 12th October 2022

On the proposal of JD, seconded by CV, the minutes of the meeting held on 12th October 2022 were approved.

7. History of Playing Field

Circulation of the history of the Playing Field for the benefit of new members. To be discussed as necessary at the next Playing Field Trustee meeting. CB said he wanted to present a powerpoint on this. It was agreed that this would be discussed at the next trustee meeting.

8. Playing Field Maintenance and Equipment

- a) Working party report (C Voyce) – forwarded to all prior to the meeting
Clerk would write to the FA to complain about swearing during football matches
Reminder needed that no dogs were allowed on the playing field
Playing Field land needed to be registered with the Land Registry
- b) Repair/replacement of flagpole – advice to be sought on repairs
- c) Future improvements – potholes at entrance, see report for details
- d) Tree survey (G Brown) – he and PS had met G Humphreys, 290 plus VAT for a survey of all trees on playing field land. GB proposed this should be done, seconded by MP and agreed. AB would also speak to the contractor who dealt with trees at the Cricket Club

CB wanted to discuss further improvements that might be funded by the Prosperity Fund, how could stakeholders be involved. He suggested that this should sit with the working party. GB suggested that a public toilet should be provided. CB proposed a consultative event and should go to the working party to organise. This proposal was subsequently withdrawn. PS agreed that relationships needed to be built and that the working party could make a start on this. Seconded by JD and agreed. AB, CB and DH asked to join the working party

9. Finance

- a) End of year figures to be submitted to Charity Commission – attached
Proposed by PS that figures be submitted, seconded by DH and agreed
- b) Donations/fees for use of field received – PG thanked GB for sorting out the question of payments for use of the football pitch

10 Fund raising

- a) Report on Santa visit – a great success, thanks to all involved, especially DH and PS
Ideas put forward to mark the Coronation – initial support for a concert/picnic in the park. WI to be consulted. DH would come back to a future meeting with more detail
- b) Easter Bonnet competition/Easter egg hunt – DH and JD, would bring in the children and their families – to take place a month before the Coronation.

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 20.34hrs