

SITHNEY PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Peter Bickford-Smith

Clerk to the Council
Mrs Jodie Ellis
07855774357

Trannack Farm,
St Erth, Hayle
TR27 6ET

1/16

MINUTES OF AN ORDINARY MEETING OF SITHNEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT SITHNEY SCHOOL ON TUESDAY 05TH APRIL 2016 at 7.30PM

Present: -

Cllr P. Bickford-Smith - Chairman

Cllr. A. Williams

Cllr. P. Martin

Cllr. Mrs. J. Daybell

Cllr. Mrs. A. Pascoe - Vice-Chairman

Cllr. A. McDonald

Cllr. Mrs. L. Penrose

Cllr. L. Hutchinson

Parish Clerk Mrs. Jodie Ellis and 8 members of the public.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Were received from Cllr. Ms. E. Williams and Cornwall Cllr. J. Keeling.

2. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES – The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 1st March 2016 were proposed by Cllr. Mrs. A. Pascoe, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. J. Daybell and unanimously agreed as a correct record and were signed by the Chairman.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FOR ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA – Cllr. Mrs. Penrose declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in item 11 Lowena, Lowertown. Cllr. P. Bickford-Smith declared a disclosable financial interest in Item 7 Chairman's Comments regarding the Helston Railway Appeal.

4. TO CONSIDER ANY APPLICATIONS FOR DISPENSATIONS UNDER SECTION 33 OF THE LOCALISM ACT 2011- None received.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES –

Defibrillators – Following on from last month's meeting the clerk has looked back through the previous minutes and Defibrillators were covered at the SPC meeting on the 02.12.14, of which the outcome was: 'The Clerk had contact SW Ambulance service who had advised that a defibrillator cost £1,600 for 4 years, renewable after that, and that the cost of a cabinet to keep it in would be £700. The cabinet needs to have an electrical supply to keep it warm when it is outdoors. The battery of the new G5 units lasts about five years. The Clerk explained the layout of the Parish, and Mr. Matthews, SW Ambulance, said that a defibrillator needs to be easily accessible or its use would be ineffective. It was agreed the Parish being too spread out was not suitable and the PC would not pursue the idea. Cllr. A. Williams advised that defibrillators could be purchased cheaper through the NHS supply chain. Cllr. P. Martin suggested making enquiries as to whether either schools in the Parish would be interested in having them located outside the schools. It was proposed by Cllr. P. Martin and seconded by Cllr. A. McDonald that the clerk would make further enquiries.

Sithney Bus Shelter – Coastline Housing have confirmed that the tree has now been cut down and removed, which the clerk confirmed when putting up the notice boards. The Bus shelter roof is still covered in algae at present. Alex McDonald said he would be happy to clean the roof and the Chairman offered the appropriate equipment

6. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Paul Kitchen spoke in relation to their planning application which was included in tonight's meeting at 2 The Old School House, to advise that the application is to improve their current family home and provide space to set up a child minding business from home.

Mr Holman – Spoke with regards to the Helston Railway Public Meeting which he attended last week as a member of the public with a keen interest in Railways. Mr Holman advised that in all the years he has been attending public meetings, he was surprised with the claims made such as; Traffic Flow, Smoke Inhalation, Water Pipe issues. In particular, to the comments Cllr. Perrin made and the claims of mud being brought on to the road. Mr. Holman expressed his disappointment in the comments made by both Sithney parish Council and in the report from Cornwall Cllr. J. Keeling.

Cllr. P. Bickford-Smith advised Mr Homan that the matter had now left Sithney Parish Council, and was in the hands of the Inspector in Bristol.

Mrs Schofield spoke to support the views of Mr Holman and advise that she too thinks the railway brings a lot of pleasure to a lot of people, especially children, which only operates twice a week plus bank holidays.

7. CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

Cllr. P. Bickford-Smith spoke in relation to the Queen celebrating her 90th birthday on April 21st with the Official Birthday on June 11th. On the latter date there is going to be a chain of Beacons throughout the country. It is however, the last day of the Royal Cornwall Show so it may not be the most suitable day for parish celebrations. Cllr. P. Bickford-Smith asked Cllrs if they wished to celebrate the occasion. Cllrs agreed it would be nice to mark the occasion. Cllr. P. Bickford-Smith agreed to approach Larry Catnan to see about the possibility of the PC having a beacon on his croft above the Skeet Club. Cllr. P. Bickford-Smith has been approached by Sithney School for a marquee on April 21st, and perhaps the Parish Council would like to support this event. Cllr. Mrs. J. Daybell advised she would be more than happy to help out with the teas and coffees etc. It was agreed Cllr. P. Bickford-Smith would contact the school to obtain more definite details regarding their event.

Cllr. P. Bickford-Smith advised the clerk gets requests to place newsworthy items and forthcoming events on the website, however it was previously agreed that such items would require full Council's permission. Cllr. P. Bickford-Smith asked would Cllrs be happy for the clerk and chairman to decide if items were suitable, and if there was any uncertainty the full council would be consulted. It was proposed by Cllr. Mrs. A. Pascoe, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. J. Daybell that future items where suitable would be agreed between the clerk and chairman.

Cllr. P. Bickford-Smith advised that the Inspector from Bristol conducted the informal hearing in Helston last Thursday and there were about 25 people present. The Inspector said how he was going to conduct the meeting with both sides having an opportunity to speak. The hearing was fairly conducted and the various arguments considered. The meeting started at 10.00am and closed at 1:40 when there was a short break before the site meeting in Prospidnick. The inspector was very thorough in his consideration of resident's views and visited Gansey House, Pentira, Craig House, The start of the new road, and Glanneth Barn. He then went on a train ride with the day concluding at approximately 4.00pm. The applicant/appellant introduced new information just prior to the meeting regarding making a cutting for the train to pass through because it could not cope with the current incline. PACT estimated that about 10,000 tons of spoil would be needed to be excavated with the attendant lorry movements and disposal. Details of this were not available at the meeting so the Inspector has called for further submissions to be made within the next 21 days. The matter is therefore still not closed, and meanwhile HR is likely to continue to operate without PP.

8. COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS –

Cllr. A. McDonald enquired as to whether there is any possibility of any dog bins or litter Bins being purchased and distributed around the parish as the level of rubbish has increased, and as people collect rubbish up whilst out walking there is nowhere to dispose of it. Cllr. Mrs. L. Penrose advised Lowertown group had looked into this and the bin purchase and emptying is very expensive. Cllr. Mrs. A. Pascoe and Cllr. P. Martin advised bins would not stop people throwing litter out of the car window as they drive through the parish. Cllr. P. Martin advised CC have set up a card system that can prosecute offenders. It was agreed the clerk would look into the cost of bins and the card system and report back.

9. CORNWALL COUNCILLOR'S COMMENTS – Cllr. John Keeling advised a number of matters arose during March including the "Teenagers in a Garage" story in Praa Sands which gained local, national and global coverage. Cllr. Keeling got involved through Radio Cornwall and will try to help both sides in this dispute. The council has a duty to control noise when complaints are received; but of course the provision of youth facilities is an activity that he fully supports. There are two youth groups already running in the division with several others involving different age groups (Sithney Senior Guides for example). Cllr. Keeling will be speaking to Caroline Wade the Community Development officer for 11-19 year olds in the West of Cornwall and Cllr. Keeling is hoping that good things can come of it - it's classic youth work/community development territory. On another issue and knowing how important coastal erosion is to our coastal community, one of the key areas of work contained in the Cornwall Devolution Deal is Resilience – Flooding and Coastal Defence. A matter Cllr. Keeling has been critical of in the past is the lack of a review of the Shoreline Management Plan and he is delighted to confirm that a clear local governance structure will be established to produce a scrutinised, integrated, evidence-based coastal defence investment programme for Cornwall. A little more local the steps are to be looked at leading from the green to the beach in due course. Cllr. Keeling attended the Appeal Hearing in Helston last week on the Helston Railway appeal to defend the council's refusal of the application back in 2015. Cllr. Keeling thought it was a well-balanced hearing with the inspector willing to listen to both sides of the argument. Appeal decision will follow in due course. On the matter of planning there was some painful reading in the West Briton last week about the results of the Local Government Association Peer review of the planning procedures in Cornwall. Whilst Cllr. Keeling cannot condone the bad behaviour and attitude of some councillors towards our planning officer, it does highlight the difficult balancing act elected Cornwall Councillors face when dealing with contentious plans that conform with planning law; not to mention the rising cost of appeals and costs awarded.

Cllr. Keeling was delighted to be asked, as a former serviceman, to help with the presentation, on the 3rd March, of the Legion d'Honneur to Normandy Veterans in recognition of the gallantry and bravery shown in the liberation of France during 1944-45. The ceremony included French Consols and the Lord Lieutenant and was held in the Council Chamber at New County Hall and Cllr. Keeling thinks the veterans got the reception and occasion they so richly deserved.

Locally, the signage at the eastern entrance to Ashton should be repaired and replaced soon; whilst there was a disappointing discussion on the "Lengthsman Scheme" there was at least an opportunity to address the issue of overgrown hedges via a notification process; more on this later. Cllr. Keeling had a complaint about the state of the toilets last week and contacted Jon James who assured me the matter had been resolved. Cllr. Keeling will help with matters regarding the toilets through Breage PC on request should complaints come via the public. Cllr. Keeling offered the use of the VAS currently in Ashton to Sithney PC for use in Crowtown; subject to funding of a plinth and possibly the cost of installation, there are no electric involved so the cost of removal and installation should be minimal.

Cllr. P. Bickford-Smith suggested sending the PC's best wishes to Cllr. J. Keeling, all Cllrs agreed.

10. PLANNING: -

Applications

PA16/02254 - 2 Old School House, Sithney, Helston - Proposal Erection of timber building for family play room/child minding facility. Cllr. Mrs. A. Pascoe advised PAP had met and agreed that only electricity was going to be brought across to the building, it was not over looked and the plans did not affect anyone else. It was proposed by Cllr. Mrs. A. Pascoe, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. L. Penrose that SPC supports this application, 6 in favour, 1 abstained.

PA16/02683 – Little Boscadjack – Access to Lower Boscadjack, Trenear - Proposed porch extension and 2 storey side extension to provide additional kitchen, dining and living accommodation to ground floor and master bedroom and ensuite to first floor. Cllr. Mrs. A. Pascoe advised that PAP had discussed this application and the plans would improve the dwelling into a nice family home. It was proposed by Cllr. Mrs. A. Pascoe, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. J. Daybell that SPC supports this application, 6 in favour, 1 abstained.

Approved

PA16/00529 – Home Farm Barns, Trevarno, Sithney – Proposed, Garage, Storage and Porch.

Refused

PA15/11909 - Pear Tree Game Farm, Trannack, Helston, TR13 0DQ - Continued use of land in association with game bird rearing business, erection of a replacement stable building and alterations to an existing agricultural building.

Enforcement

EN14/00673 and PA13/03435/PREAPP - Lowena, Lowertown Helston – The clerk has received an update from Joanne Patient at Cornwall Council to advise: ‘My Enforcement case is only currently open due to the fact that I have been unable to confirm formerly whether or not the owners installed a septic tank on the land to facilitate the ‘glamping’ use last year. As I have had no luck gleaning an answer from the owner or their Agent I have now served a Planning Contravention Notice (PCN) for the answers. They have 21 days to respond to this and can be prosecuted at Magistrates Court if they don’t’.

11. PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

Cllr. P. Bickford-Smith enquired how Councilors were getting on with their Path walking, and suggested it would be useful if Cllrs could make a few notes of their walk, such as the date, start & finish points, ground state (grass, water logged, muddy, ruts, standing water etc.), number of styles and their condition, vegetation state. It was agreed Cllrs would do this and send through to the clerk to collate.

Footpath 230/8/1 – Tregoose to Iron Bridge – Modification Order

Cllr. Mrs. A. Pascoe advised this was still ongoing as she has had to return to some parishioners to finalise some details on the completed forms to ensure correctness.

Footpath 8/1 – Black Arch to Tregoose – Footpath Signs – The clerk has received an email from Hamish Gordon at Cormac to advise that: ‘Cornwall Council only has a statutory duty to signpost PRoW’s where they leave the main highway. CC will therefore not use public money on placing signposts within the network. I would also expect that they would not agree/authorise to signposts in the countryside. Other similar situations have been resolved by placing rounds in the opposing hedge banks, with the yellow waymark discs attached showing the correct route for users. We have a Cormac enforcement officer who is presently concentrating on ploughing/cropping issues. If the parish find that at any time the landowner ploughs and crops over the definitive line, then please let Debra know and we will follow CC’s enforcement procedure and deal with the issue directly with the landowner’. Cllr. P. Bickford-Smith has contacted Bisco Signs to obtain the cost of the signs, of which two would cost £195.94 plus VAT and carriage. Discussions took place and it was agreed not to purchase any signs at present.

12. REPORT OF THE CLERK & CORRESPONDENCE

Rural Services Network – Rural Opportunities Bulletin

RSN – Weekly Bulletin 29/02, 07/03, 14/03, 21/03/16

Rural Vulnerability Service – Fuel Poverty March 2016

RSN – Rural Economy Spotlight

CC – Neighbourhood Planning Training Workshops

CALC – Invitation to Coast South West 2016 at Plymouth University of April 19

Cornwall Community Foundation – Renewable Energy Community Gain Information

CCPFA – Spring Newsletter Part 1 & 2

SLCC – S137 Expenditure Limit for 2016/2017 is £7.42

Communities & Devolution –Electoral review event for town and parish councils – 30.03.16 – 2 – 3.30pm, NCH, Truro.

Communities & Devolution - AONB Consultation and National Living Wage

Road Closure Notification for Tregathenan, Sithney – 18th – 22nd April 2016 (0930 – 1530 hrs)

Internal Audit Meeting completed 05.04.16

13a) To consider the following accounts for payment: It was proposed by Cllr. P. Martin, seconded by Cllr. A. Williams, all in favour that the following payments be made:

	£
Mrs Jodie Ellis – Clerk (Salary, Expenses)	405.90
Cornwall Council (LGPS) – Clerk	67.05
CASH – Reimbursement of Petty Cash	64.98
	<u>537.93</u>

13b) Financial Reports by Clerk –**b.) Financial report.**

The Clerk reported that she had invoices to pay totaling £537.93 as reported in item 13a. The balance at the end of March on the Current Account is £2,333.78 and on the Business Saver is £32,569.47. These are considered adequate to undertake the work of the Parish Council. It was proposed by Cllr. Mrs. L. Penrose, and seconded by Cllr. P. Martin that the report be accepted. All in favour.

Approval of Monthly and Quarterly Report.

The accounts to the end of March had been circulated but they do not include the payments drawn on the 05th April. It was proposed by Cllr. A. McDonald, and seconded by Cllr. Mrs. J. Daybell and carried unanimously that these represent a true account of the Parish Council finances and they were signed by the Chairman.

Monthly Risk Assessment – The clerk reported that the Bus Shelter at Crowntown was littered and wet, and the Bus Shelter at Sithney was still covered in green algae, Cllr. A. McDonald kindly agreed to clean the bus shelter roof and Cllr. P. Bickford-Smith agreed to supply a ladder and cleaning equipment.

14. Transport Scheme Update.

Cllr. A Williams advised, that assuming all Cllrs were acceptable to the previous paperwork on the scheme that had been circulated all that was needed was to update phone number and website on the flyer and it could be printed. Discussions took place regarding collecting the leaflet once circulated by Cllrs, Cllr. P. Martin advised he was happy to collect his area as he felt that Cllrs do not get out and about talking to parishioners enough. Cllr. P. Bickford-Smith agreed. It was agreed that the clerk would print one leaflet per household and bring to the May meeting for distribution to Cllrs. Once distributed parishioners would be given 28 days to complete before collection. Cllrs agreed a press statement should be given by the chairman to the Helston Packet to advertise the scheme along with the leaflet being placed on the PC’s website.

15. Crowntown Development Name – The clerk has been contacted by Mark Rees Contract manager at Kier Living Ltd. As part of their role they make a street naming application to Cornwall Council to obtain the postal addresses for the development, and in order to make the application they are obliged to contact the local parish council to obtain suggestions for the name of the development. This Council agreed on the 02nd September 2014, item 20 that the development would be named ‘Plovers Field, Crowntown, Sithney, Helston, Cornwall’. It was proposed by Cllr. Mrs. A. Pascoe, seconded by Cllr. P. Martin, all in favour that the clerk advises Kier.

16. School Governors Report

Cllr. Mrs. A. Pascoe advised that Trannack along with 17 schools in the Helston area are in the process of forming a multi academy trust, which will allow the schools to support each other in the classroom, financially and in all aspects of education. Cllr. P. Bickford-Smith advised Sithney have joined with Garras and Godolphin and have a new head teacher ‘Lucy Wandless’. Cllr. A. Williams asked Cllr. Mrs. A. Pascoe if Trannack is a foundation trust, and who would be responsible for building works once an academy. Cllr. Mrs. A. Pascoe advised Trannack is a foundation academy and that the academies are responsible for their own building works.

17. TIME AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Tuesday 3rd May 2016 at 7.30pm at Trannack School, which will be preceded by the Annual Parish Meeting at 7.00pm