

SITHNEY PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman – Councillor Philip Martin

Clerk: Mrs. Pauline Williams

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MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF SITHNEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT SITHNEY CP SCHOOL ON 1st NOVEMBER 2011 AT 7.30pm

Present: Cllr P. Martin (Chairman) Cllr P. Bickford-Smith (Vice Chairman) arrived 7.30 and left at 8.30 having not entered the meeting as the Clerk regrettably did not realise he was waiting outside to enter.

Cllr Mrs A.Pascoe

Cllr M. Morgans

Cllr B. Deacon

Cllr R. Ashmore

Cllr T. Martin

Cllr I. Paterson

Cllr Miss E. Williams

Parish Clerk, Mrs P.L. Williams, 18 members of the public and Sylvia Walker to give a presentation about Lowertown Telephone box

Before the meeting commenced the Chairman asked the members of the public to nominate a spokesperson.

1 Apologies – were received from PCSO C. Sadler

2 Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council meeting held on 4th October 2011 at Trannack School were proposed by Cllr. Paterson, seconded by Cllr Morgans and unanimously approved.

3 Declarations of Interest in Items on this Agenda

Cllr. P. Martin declared an interest under item 4 Public Participation as he is a private landlord and involved in the construction industry.

4 Public Participation

A petition and several letters had been received against affordable housing being built in Crowntown. The Parish Clerk had answered the queries raised against the Parish Council but had asked Mr. Morris at Cornwall Council to answer the other queries as the PC were only consultees, it was not their project.

Cllr. P. Martin declared his interest again and reiterated his apologies that some residents had not picked up on the Sithney Lives meeting despite publicity in the West Briton, Parish Newsletter, Parish Magazine, Radio Cornwall and the banner on the school. There was no intent to exclude anyone from the consultation. Cllr. Martin reminded the public that Parish Council meetings were for them and he would welcome seeing more people attend. The Clerk confirmed that notice of PC meetings was put up on the Tuesday morning one week prior to the Council meeting on all five notice boards and at the Church in Sithney. At this point (7.40pm) Cllr Martin handed over the chair to Cllr. Pascoe and retired to the rear of the room.

Cllr Pascoe said she was sorry the PC had not been able to send a written invitation to all residents. She stated that the land put forward by landowners was as a result of an advertisement in the press and on the notice boards.

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Regrettably who volunteered land and its location was not within the council's control. Areas of land must have some community facilities such as public houses, schools and preferably be on a bus route. Young people wanted to stay in the village and it was hoped that if the scheme came to fruition this would happen. Mrs. Talboys said a letter should have been sent to residents abutting the plots offered for housing and said that in future she would copy and deliver letters to ensure this happens. It was felt that the housing should only be for local people. Cllr. Pascoe said that despite attempts to get feedback from CC they had not been forthcoming. The consultation period had ended and they were collating the information and it was hoped information would be forthcoming in the next few weeks. The point of the Sithney lives meeting was to ascertain what type and location was preferred for the housing and whether it would be rented accommodation or for purchase under affordable guidance. There had been 16 requests for housing from the Housing Needs Survey and they needed to be checked by CC. The consultation was not a Planning Application.

Cllr Ashmore stated that the PC has no input into who would be offered the housing; it would be decided by Home Choice who hold a register of persons needing housing on a needs basis. Some houses would be sold to fund the building of the others.

Cllr Pascoe said because of the lack of services in some areas of the parish, land would not be considered for housing. It was not a case of land being the subject of Compulsory Purchase; it was dependent on the good will of the landowners. Land could be used that would not be open to normal development thus it would not be sold at market value. A question re sewerage was asked, Cllr. Pascoe said it may be a small bio system as used on other rural developments but come what may a system would be installed.

Mrs. Cairns asked why the site in Nancegollan could not be used. Cllr. Pascoe said that the land was in Crowan Parish, it had been hoped that maybe a joint scheme could be drawn up, but Crowan had decided on a site in Leedstown. The only land offered was in Crowntown.

It was asked why an application for private housing in 2004 by Cllr. Bickford Smith had been refused. No one knew the answer.

Cllr. Morgans confirmed that Mr. Morris of CC would respond to all individuals who had signed petitions and consultation forms at the Sithney Lives exhibition.

Cllr Paterson reminded the public that the PC newsletter could be received via e mail and would arrive more quickly.

There being no more questions the Chairman returned to the chair at 7.55pm

5 Police Report

In the absence of PCSO Ceri Sadler the Clerk read the police report for October and November, 2011.

There was one crime reported in September. This was the theft of a granite garden ornament. This compares to two crimes reported at the same time last year.

There had been two crimes of theft report in October. One was from a motor vehicle in Nancegollan and the other from Truthall for theft of railway sleepers and chairs.

A letter from Devon and Cornwall Police Authority had been circulated via e mail on 14th October to all Councillors concerning engagement with the authority. It was felt that the Council were happy with the information provided by PCSO Sadler and did not require a presentation.

6 Chairman's Comments

The Chairman reported that he was standing as an independent candidate at the forthcoming election for County Councillor following the sad death of Cllr. Clayton. Loveday Jenkin was also present at the meeting and was standing as the candidate for Mebyon Kernow. There are three other candidates.

7 Councillors' Questions and Comments

An e mail had been received from the Sithney Village Christmas Lights organisation (Yvonne Lewer).

Cllr Elizabeth Williams declared a personal interest as an employee of Western Power Distribution and Cllr Deacon declared a personal interest as Chair of the lights Committee) Cllr Williams was invited to assist in explaining the standing charge being levied on the organisation. She explained that a Standing Charge is now made for any supply left in situ for the year. This was cheaper than having the supply reinstalled each season. The standing charge is £104 before any consumption of power. In the e mail Ms Lewer said this had resulted in a large hole in the funds available for this Christmas which may result in there being no lights unless a further £150 - £200 could be raised.

Cllr. Paterson pointed out that whilst donations were normally made in March each year, this would be too late for this group, and a concession had been made for a local Brownie Group in the past. The Clerk had advised that this donation could be made under section 144 of the Local Government Act 1972

It was proposed by Cllr. Paterson, seconded by Cllr Morgans and carried (Cllr Williams and Deacon abstained) that a donation of £100 be made immediately. Cllr Deacon thanked the Council on the committee's behalf.

Cllr Paterson reported that he had asked the Clerk to contact the Highways Department requesting them to deal with a blocked drain at the Truthall turning (OS GR SW 655 304) flooding onto the highway was minor but could result in an aquaplaning situation. (This is a regular occurrence in autumn as it gets blocked with leaves). He reported that an acknowledgement had been received to the e mail saying it would be attended to.

Cllr Deacon reported that the footpath sign by the Bistro in Sithney had rotted through. Cllr. Paterson advised the Clerk that the reference no. for Highways Department would be 230/2/1 Parc-an-lthan ref SW637283. The Clerk agreed to contact the Highways Department and ask for it to be repaired. Cllr. Bickford Smith had asked the Clerk prior to the meeting to chase trimming of the lane between the B3303 in Crowntown, down beside Trelin to Chynhale. The Clerk to contact Mr. Childs.

Cllr Mrs. Pascoe asked the Clerk to write to Mr. A. Girling about the hedges between Coverack Bridges and Trannack. Wib had written in September to Ivor Mann at John Coad and Son but to no avail.

8 Cornwall Councillors Comments

No Cornwall Councillors were present

9 Planning

APPLICATIONS Clerk advised members that the Planning Advisory Panel had met on Friday 28th October and the following recommendations had been made:- PA11/07513 Change of use from garden visitor attraction with café, retail, administration, and domestic flat to private dwelling. Trevarno Manor, Trevarno Estate, Sithney, Helston

PAP had decided not to comment on the application on the basis that they wanted to see Trevarno Garden left intact and open.

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It was proposed by Cllr. Paterson seconded by Cllr. Morgans (Cllr. Pascoe abstained from voting) that the recommendations of PAP be approved on a majority vote.

OTHER PLANNING MATTERS:

Consultation on proposed changes to pre application planning service e mailed 14/10/2011.

The Clerk reported that CC would not charge if the public obtained their own information through the CC website. But written pre application advice would be charged for at as lower a cost as possible. Planning Performance Agreements would be supplied at a pre agreed fee.

The Council had no comments.

10. PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

Cllr. Paterson reported that the Clerk had chased the LMP payment today and it has been confirmed that it has been agreed and will be credited in the sum of £975 to the PC account shortly. This is the final payment for this year.

11/12 REGENERATION AND ADOPTION OF BT PHONE BOXES

Mrs. Sylvia Walker a representative of the Lowertown Community Group gave a presentation. She explained that about a year ago the group offered to adopt the box. There is no equipment in it now. The Parish Council own the box. The box is to become a book exchange library. She explained that there were no community facilities in Lowertown and as the box is in the middle of the village it is hoped it will become a focal point. There are book exchange libraries in Devon and Somerset in old BT boxes. It is hoped that the box can remain open 24/7 and lit. There appears to be little vandalism in the area so it is hoped there will be no problems. The group plan to redecorate the box both inside and out, put shelves in and put a map inside for use by 'lost' delivery drivers, which is a regular occurrence. She explained that someone would have to assume overall responsibility for the box. A rota would be drawn up to keep it clean and tidy, and it is hoped, if the land owner can be traced (Cllr. P. Martin thought the land was owned by Mr. Allwell) to seek permission for plant pots to be sited and may be a donated seat in the future. Any books that remain unused will be donated to charity. It is hoped to have an official opening of the facility. Cllr. Ashmore agreed to give a copy of the BT contract to the Clerk. He stated that he had received verbal confirmation that BT would pay for the power for the light for a period of 5 years. The issue of insurance was raised. The Clerk said a value would have to be determined before the cost of insurance could be investigated. Mrs. Walker asked if the PC had any conditions it wanted to impose. She finished her talk by thanking Cllr. Ashmore for all his help and guidance. The matter to be discussed at the next meeting.

13. REPORT OF THE CLERK & CORRESPONDENCE

INSTRUCTIONS FROM LAST MEETING

2013 Review of Parliamentary Constituencies in England circulated 29/9/2011

Notice of Penalty Determination HMRC *the Clerk reported no response by HMRC, however she stated as this related to the financial year 2010/2011 when the PC were not even registered for PAYE she could not see it was applicable.*

Application for preferred payment terms CC *The Clerk stated she had registered for this as it meant the PC would be paid weekly rather than monthly.*

Copy of new electoral roll

CALC issue 45 circulated 20/10/2011 and 46 circulated on 30/10/2011

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Sita action group initiation circulated 20/10/2011 *Invitation to event 18/11/2011 11am or 2pm Royal Cornwall Showground.*

Cornwall conversations budget event for town and parish councils circulated 20/10/2011

Cornwall Council – views from the public circulated 20/10/2011

Cornwall Council – Budget conversation circulated 20/10/2011

Cornwall Council – budget recommendations circulated 20/10/2011

Report on any progress re Crowntown overgrown footpath – beside Johnny Whites Lane. *It was reported this had been done*

Overgrown adopted highway Crowntown road between B3303 and Chynhale adjacent to Trelin. *This had still not been done, Clerk to chase.*

Pothole Bramble cottage, Trannack. *This had been filled with rubble and was not part of the highway, so it was agreed no further action was necessary*

Hedges between Coverack Bridges and Trannack. *The Clerk to write to the landowner and ask for them to be cut.*

Localism September and October issue e mailed previously.

Code of recommended practice on data transparency dated 30/9/2011

Report of SLCC meeting attended by clerk 21/10/2011 will be e mailed before meeting

Report on conversations with NI office re possible liability in respect of previous Clerks.

14. QUEEN DIAMOND JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

As Cllr Bickford Smith was not available Cllr. Paterson invited everyone interested in helping to a meeting on Thursday 3rd November at Sithney School starting at 6pm. A copy of the Queens Diamond Jubilee Beacons Guide to taking part had been circulated.

15. LEGAL ADVICE POLICY

Cllr. Paterson said he had approached a local solicitor's practice who had a member of staff previously employed in Local Government and they seemed keen to act, at what was described as a more reasonable cost. This was noted should any assistance be required in the future.

16. FINANCE

It was proposed by Cllr Paterson, seconded by Cllr Deacon and unanimously agreed that the following accounts be paid:-

Wib Wilkins	mileage		£25.00
Pauline Williams	Salary October	397.64)	
	Mileage	40.00)	
	Office Allowance	20.00)	£499.70
	Telephone calls	2.53)	
	Petty Cash reimbursement	39.53)	
Sithney Village			
Christmas lights	Donation	100.00	

To consider the following applications for donations:

Carleen Community Church Care Centre sent by e mail 29/9/2011

Spectrum sent via e mail 10/10/2011

Penhaligon's Friends sent via e mail 21/10/2011

It was agreed that these be considered at the March 2012 PC meeting.

17. TIME AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING

7.30p.m. Tuesday 6th December at Trannack School