

SITHNEY PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Ian Paterson

Clerk to the Council
Mrs. Pauline Williams
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26/13

MINUTES OF AN ORDINARY MEETING OF SITHNEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT TRANNACK SCHOOL ON TUESDAY 3rd SEPTEMBER 2013 AT 7.30PM

Present:-

Cllr. I Paterson – Chairman	Cllr. P. Bickford-Smith – Vice-Chairman
Cllr. J. Betteridge	Cllr. B. Deacon
Cllr. P. Elliott	Cllr. P. Martin (arrived 7.36p.m.)
Cllr. M. Morgans	Cllr. Mrs. A. Pascoe
Cllr. Ms E. Williams	

Parish Clerk Mrs. Pauline Williams, and 5 members of the public,

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** – were received from Cornwall Councillor John Keeling

2. **ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES** - The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 6th August were proposed by Cllr. Morgans, seconded by Cllr Deacon and unanimously agreed as a correct record and were signed by the Chairman

3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FOR ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA** – Cllr. Elliott and Cllr. Betteridge declared a non registerable interest in item 15B) application for financial assistance Sithney Community Group as their wives were committee members.

Cllr. Bickford-Smith declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in Item 11 EN11/01816 Wayside, Crowtown, Helston. (closed case) as owner of the property, Item 17 Churchyard Grants as he has a lease on Chynhale Chapel, Item 20 Affordable Housing as landowner.

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

5. **MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**

Lane Chynhale to Crowtown – The Clerk had written to Trevor Glasper, as directed at the August meeting, concerning the standard of the cut and the mud on the road. Nothing had been heard.

Update Wheal Bramble – The next visit by Mandy Smith is due in September.

Trevarno Turn (near to junction of road from Chynhale with B3303 OS grid ref SW637311). Passing bay. – Mike Peters, CC, had sent two photos of passing places so that the correct one could be identified. The Clerk had forwarded these to Cllr. Bickford-Smith who raised the matter initially at the June PC meeting, and he had stated that the one intended was at the junction. As this had been endorsed at the meeting, the Clerk had forwarded this information to CC.

Little Bosoha, Trenear OS ref SW664318 – Lee Viner to chase owners for a response in September.

Crash Barriers Lowertown Bridge – Following the annual audit, and authority given by Council the Clerk had raised this again with CC who have stated that the structures team were being asked to give advice.

6. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** – Mrs. Bev Elliott, Chairman of Sithney Community Group, said she had formally requested financial assistance for the group. She stated that she had received a grant from the Community Chest from Cornwall Councillor John Keeling, but it was for specific items and not allowed to be used to cover the cost of the insurance policy necessary for the group to operate. She had supplied a list of aims and objectives to the PC and asked if the PC could cover the cost of the insurance, preferably annually, without which they could not proceed. This was £220. Cllr. Pascoe asked if they aimed to be self funding. Mrs. Elliott confirmed she hoped they would be, it was their aim.

7 **POLICE REPORT** – PC Richard Wearne reported that there had been no crimes reported to the Police in August.

Over the September period Police will be proactive on traffic issues (seat belts/ mobile phones). During the summer period excess speed has been highlighted in areas of the patch. Road Policing Unit with Neighbourhood team will be proactive during September and will be dealing positively. Cllr. Deacon asked if anything was being done about speeding in the Parish and damage in the Churchyard. PC Wearne said that a speed gun was going to be used and that the Police were aware of the damage in the Churchyard and had a lead. Cllr Martin asked if there were any local instances when on short journeys seat belts had not been worn and a fatality occurred. PC Wearne said there were none to his knowledge, but around 10% of motorists still do not wear them. Cllr. Bickford-Smith said that an A2B vehicle had destroyed a SWEB pole and CC highway sign at Nancegollan Cross Roads by Fiveways Bungalow. He had witnessed the accident. PC Wearne said he would investigate.

8. **CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS** – Cllr. Paterson said he had looked at some half barrels that could be used as flower tubs but they were £60 a pair, he had made no further progress. He had made no more progress on Notice Board signs or the Neighbourhood Plan. He had attended a meeting, chaired by Cornwall Councillor John Keeling, at Nancegollan Village Hall concerning the Helston Railway application. It was well attended and he felt that it was well chaired and the Planning Officer had gained a lot of information. He gave out the latest newsletter which contained details of the forthcoming Affordable Housing Consultation on 11th September and asked Councillors to ensure they got them delivered promptly. He said he had attended the first Community Network Meeting along with representatives of Breage and Crowan Parish Councils. Breage did not feel they needed help, but Crowan agreed with Sithney about possibly pursuing grass cutting under the devolution initiative. A follow on meeting will be held to discuss this.

9. COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS – Cllr. Elliott asked if the Clerk could obtain actual figures rather than percentages on housing numbers. contained in the latest issue of Rural Services Network Newsletter. The Clerk agreed to ask. Cllr. Williams asked if the ‘cattle in road’ signs on the hedge opposite the entrance to Meadow side Nancegollan TR13 0AR (Grid Ref SW163800, 31797) Sithney Parish and the one on the Green, Nancegollan TR13 0AH on the B3303 (Grid Ref SW163725, 322280) Crowan Parish could be replaced with ‘horse signs’ as cattle are no longer driven along the road but a lot of horses use the road. It was agreed that the Clerk ask CC, having obtained Crowan’s permission first. Cllr. Williams also asked if a letter of thanks could be sent to Mrs. Gillian Allen of Fiveways, Nancegollan who cuts the verges especially around the Bus Shelter. This was agreed.

10. CORNWALL COUNCILLOR’S COMMENTS – All Councillors had received a copy of Cornwall Councillor John Keeling’s report which was taken as read. He stated that he had attended a public meeting which had been held at Nancegollan Village Hall with the objectors and supporters of the Helston Railway proposals to build a new platform and enhance the area for visitors. Various issues were raised re neighbourliness and inconvenience for the people of Prospidnick. Many comments were gathered at the meeting and they will be used to formulate a decision on the proposal in due course.

Budget meetings are being held both at County Hall and the community networks. The Helston and Lizard area is on the 20th September at the Town Hall from 6:30 pm. He stated that the continuing central government austerity programme will inevitably impact on local government and some difficult decisions regarding resources and providing local services will have to be taken to ensure the vulnerable and most needy in our society are looked after.

Cornwall Councillor John Keeling said he was very keen to put his Councillor’s Community Chest to good community use and invite further applications and inquiries from Parish Councils and community groups alike. So far he had authorised a number of grants including:- Volunteer Cornwall for work in Breage Parish, a grant towards “The Silly Boys Theatre” a production being put on by the Praa Sands Community Centre in October, a grant towards the repair and restoration of an ancient Adit/well in Germoe Parish and a grant towards the newly formed Sithney Community Group. Further pledges include some partial funding towards refurbished toilets for Praa Sands Community Centre.

The “Preparing for an Emergency in the Community” training for the 3 Parish Councillors representing the Parish Councils in the electoral division will take place in September and he had contacted the Council’s Emergency Planning Officer who will provide help and support the Parish Councillors. It is considered good practice for communities to plan for, or respond to emergencies in their locality and how they may assist the Emergency Services and all other agencies. Date will be given to the Parish Clerks in due course.

Cornwall Councillor John Keeling had advised the Clerk that the meeting with Martin Clemo re Chynhale/Prospidnick and chasing the signs for road at Truthall were outstanding.

Cllr. Elliott said that he understood that Grit Bins could be provided via the Community Chest held by Cornwall Councillor John Keeling. It was agreed that the Clerk ask for bins at Sithney side of Cober at Coverack Bridges to serve hill to Glenview, Chynhale to serve hill past Trelin and at Mellangoose to serve hill past Lonon Farm.

11. PLANNING

Pre Apps – PA13/02458 Formation of an access gateway and extend existing hard surface Lane at Trenear TR13 0BP - CC decided that no permission is necessary.

Planning Applications To consider recommendations to planning applications received: --

PA13/06303 3 The Sidings, Nancegollan. Erection of live Work unit. PA13/06305 2 The Sidings, Nancegollan. Erection of live Work unit. – PAP only considered the designs as outline permission had been given for the units. They decided to support the applications on condition that screening, preferably hedging should be provided and maintained by the site owner to the north of the access road to protect neighbours privacy from first floor windows and act as a sound barrier.

PA13/07411 3 Chynhale, Sithney, Helston. TR13 0RX. Proposed two storey extension. – PAP supported this application.

Signboards – A complaint had been received concerning boards about Helston Railway posted around the Parish. These had now been removed. The PC had previously agreed to take a liberal stance on sign boards, although it was agreed that the rules concerning signage were very complex.

It was proposed by Cllr. Bickford-Smith, seconded by Cllr. Ms Williams and carried unanimously that the recommendations of PAP be approved.

The Clerk reported that she had received a complaint about the brown tourist signs being used by Helston Railway and Organic Skincare. Cllr. Bickford-Smith said that these signs did not comply with the legislation on tourist signs, there was one set on a ‘C’ class road (which is not permitted) at Penvose, one at Hilltop Garage, Sithney Common Hill which is double sided (junction A394 and B3302), one at Sithney School junction B3302 and B3303, and one at Trevarno Turn junction B3303 and C class road which is double sided. It was proposed by Cllr. Bickford-Smith, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. Pascoe and carried that the Clerk report the matter to Planning Enforcement at CC. Cllr. Martin voted against and Cllr. Deacon abstained.

OTHER PLANNING MATTERS

PA13/05962 The Blacksmiths Shop, Tregathenan, Sithney – Removal of holiday occupancy condition. Cath Bray Cornwall Council had pressed the PC for a decision. However, the information had not been forthcoming prior to the August Council meeting, so the PC had stuck by their decision not to comment. The Clerk had received the supporting documents late today. These appear to be the same ones as submitted previously with just the applicants name changed which was most unsatisfactory. However in view of the fact that the information had now been received, and that Council felt the decision was a fait accompli in any event, the Council agreed to support

the application. The Clerk was asked to write to Head of Planning, Phil Mason and strongly put the Parish Council's concerns about lack of information and ask why it is supplied for some applications but not others. Cllr. Mrs. Pascoe asked if this could be copied to CALC for comment by them.

Decisions Approved

PA13/2004 Mellangoose Barn, Mellangoose, Sithney. Proposed conversion and extension to existing barn and associated works to form a single dwelling.

Enforcement

EN13/01276 Alleged stationing of a caravan on land for residential use. Land adjacent to Higher Roseawen, Sithney Green, Sithney TR13 0RT. The Clerk reported that Lee Viner had visited the site several times, but no one was in, so he has left a letter attached to the caravan.

Closed cases – Cllr. Bickford-Smith declared an interest but did not leave the meeting.

EN11/01816 Wayside, Crowntown, Helston. Alleged unauthorised creation of a new access. Mandy Smith had advised the PC that although the breach would normally require planning permission, there is no aspect of Planning law which enables Planning Departments to require any landowners to submit retrospective applications for development. We have assessed the development and consider that if an application had been submitted it is likely that permission would have been granted.

With regard to Enforcement action, CC can only take this where there is clear harm caused to the public interest and where it is expedient to do so. In the circumstances of this case it was considered that there is insufficient harm caused by the development to justify taking further action and as such we closed the case as not expedient

Local Enforcement Plan – Defer to next meeting

Procedure for dealing with Pre-Apps- Defer to next meeting

12. PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY –

Footpath 18 multiple electric fences – The Clerk had written to the landowner Mr. Rogers as requested by Council. Gates had been installed so that the public could pass through safely.

Cllr. Paterson had marked the missing footpath signs on a map and passed to Cllr. Mrs. Pascoe this evening.

Modification Order Procedure – Cllr. Paterson said he had printed off from the CC interactive site a plan, which confirms that the paths on Footpath 18 are not on the correct line. Cllr. Paterson said he would speak to the landowner about a modification order.

Cllrs. Paterson and Mrs. Pascoe confirmed that the paths seemed to have been cut well. The issues raised by Cllr. Paterson had been remedied. It was proposed by Cllr. Mrs. Pascoe, seconded by Cllr. Deacon that the invoice for the LMP contract be settled.

The Clerk stated that the forms that the Chairman has to sign to say the work has been carried out on the LMP contract have still not arrived. Authority was given to the Chairman to sign between meetings so that there would be no further delays in obtaining the grant from CC.

13. LOCALISM/CODE OF CONDUCT – Comments re e mail from Helen Crouch dated 26/7 forwarded re Code of Conduct – No further comments had been received and it was agreed to forward Cllr. Mrs. Pascoe's comment that 'when a Parish is small, as Sithney is, once Cllrs. Have declared an interest and left the meeting, Helston Railway application being the point in case, it restricts access to important information that the Councillors, who have left may, have on the application, and is counterproductive There will be instances when all Councillors have to declare and interest and this is going to make the system unworkable'.

14. REPORT OF THE CLERK & CORRESPONDENCE

Rural Services Network News 5/8, 12/8, 19/8 and 27/8.

Rural Opportunities Bulletin August 2013, Rural Services Network – Rural Vulnerability Broad Band August

It was proposed by Cllr. Bickford-Smith, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. Pascoe and carried that 12 copies be obtained' of the Good Councillors Guide' at cost of £2 +p&p each

Flooding Document from Cornwall Council – forwarded to all Councillors

South West Water – Water Future proposals and choices 2015 – 2020 given to MM

The Clerk reported that she had received an article from SLCC which she had circulated to all Councillors concerning listing public houses as community value assets which will stop pubs being sold to developers, and will give Planning Authorities the power to refuse any applications for development for six months. This has been instigated by CAMRA. It was agreed that PAP should discuss the matter.

Julie Girling MEP, August newsletter

Provision of bench in Lowertown – The Clerk had contacted Mr. Armstrong who is arranging for the base for the seat to be constructed to CC specification by a local contractor. He had agreed to keep the PC up to date with progress. The Clerk had asked for him to meet with Cllrs. Paterson and Elliott prior to work commencing.

Town and Parish Council summit 21st September 9.30 Kingsley Village, Exhibition centre – Regrettably no one was able to attend. The Clerk to ask if a copy of the minutes could be obtained.

15. FINANCE

a) To consider the following accounts for payment:

It was proposed by Cllr. Bickford-Smith, seconded by Cllr. Martin and carried unanimously that the following accounts be paid:-

Mrs. Pauline Williams, Clerk £525.39	Salary (incl. back pay)	£ 455.24
	Mileage	18.50
	Office Allowance	20.00

Nancegollan Village Hall - Bob Sanders –	Computer Depreciation	10.00
	Telephone Calls	3.65
	Petty Cash	<u>18.00</u>
	Room Hire – Railway meeting	20.00
	Final LMP payment & repair to Trannack Notice Board	1383.14
Sithney Community Group	Grant	220.00
Cllr. J. T. Betteridge	Reimbursement fee website	25.00

15b) To consider the following applications for donations – Sithney Community Group, Cruse Bereavement Care Appeal 2013.

Cllrs. Betteridge and Elliott left the meeting as their respective spouses were members of the Sithney Community Group. It was resolved that in pursuance of the power conferred by Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972, and being in the opinion of the Council that the expenditure satisfies the requirements of that section, and is in the interests of the area or its inhabitants and will benefit them in a manner commensurate with the expenditure this Council. It was proposed by Cllr. Martin, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. Pascoe and carried unanimously that a one off payment of £220 be made to the group. This would be reviewed if any further requests for assistance were received, however it was hoped that they could become self funding.

It was agreed that the application by Cruse be deferred to the usual meeting.

16. Consideration of payment of mileage claims to Parish Councillors – Cllr. Elliott presented a draft document to Councillors for consideration. It was proposed by Cllr. Elliott, seconded by Cllr. Betteridge that travelling be paid for trips in excess of a 20 mile round trip. An amendment was proposed by Cllr. Mrs. Pascoe that the limit be reduced to 10 miles; this was seconded by Cllr. Deacon and carried by 5 votes to 2 abstentions (EW and PM). It was proposed by Cllr. Elliott, seconded by Cllr. Betteridge and carried unanimously that this policy be adopted and that Standing Orders should be amended if appropriate. The Clerk to clarify.

17. Churchyard Grants - A draft proposal had been forwarded to all Councillors on a proposed way to calculate the level of future grants in a fairer manner. Cllr. Mrs. Pascoe felt that the proposal was too complex and should be based on the churchyard itself. Cllr. Martin reminded Council that there was no obligation to contribute to Churchyards as they were not closed. It was felt that neither Churchyard should receive a grant smaller than it already received. It was proposed by Cllr. Bickford-Smith, seconded by Cllr. Betteridge and carried that payments should be based of acreage of each churchyard. It was agreed that Councillors would look at both Churchyards and the matter would be discussed again.

Councillor Bickford-Smith left the meeting at 9.30.

18. Parish Website – Councillor Betteridge said the website was well on the way to being constructed. He gave members the new website address which is <http://www.parish-council.com/sithney/index.asp>. He asked anyone who had any photos etc to be added to the website to get in touch. He suggested Councillors may wish to submit a profile.

19. Emergency Planning for Parish Councils – A meeting will be held shortly.

20. Update on proposed affordable housing in Crowtown – The next phase of the consultation will be held on 11th September between 3 and 8 pm at Sithney School. A rota of Councillors to be drawn up so that always at least one is present.

21. TIME AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING - Tuesday 1st October at Sithney School at 7.30p.m.