

SITHNEY PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Ian Paterson

Clerk to the Council
Mrs. Pauline Williams
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Helston TR13 0HU

20/14

MINUTES OF AN ORDINARY MEETING OF SITHNEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT TRANNACK SCHOOL ON TUESDAY 5th AUGUST 2014 AT 7.30PM

Present:-

Cllr. I Paterson – Chairman	Cllr. P. Bickford-Smith Vice-Chairman
Cllr. P. Elliott	Cllr. P. Martin – arrived 7.35
Cllr. M. Morgans	Cllr. Mrs. Pascoe

Parish Clerk Mrs. Pauline Williams, Cornwall Councillor John Keeling (arrived 7.57) and 2 members of the public,

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – None received.

2. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES - The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 1st July, 2014 were proposed by Cllr. Morgans, seconded by Cllr Bickford-Smith and unanimously agreed as a correct record and were signed by the Chairman.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FOR ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA – see Page 36 Disclosure of Interests book.

Cllr. Bickford-Smith declared a disclosable financial interest in item 15b) Chynhale Chapel (as lessor), Item 20 Affordable Housing (as landowner) and a non registerable interest in any matters appertaining to Helston Railway.

Cllr. Morgans declared a disclosable financial interest in matters appertaining to Wheal Bramble and Helston Railway.

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

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Update Wheal Bramble – The outcome of the Appeal is awaited.

Footpath 230/6/1 Mellangoose to Newham Barton and Farm - The Clerk said that Hamish Gordon had advised that he was still awaiting confirmation of funding from CC.

Footpath 230/30/1 – Hamish Gordon said the majority of this route is available. The householder is meeting with his insurers in the next week to finalise details of the claim. Works are due to start in September with the path being reopened some time in October.

Footpath 230/5/2 - Apparently these two signs were put in by CC who stated that if they had been removed it was done by a resident. However, Cllr. Paterson said that the removed sign had been replaced by CC.

Replacement of missing/defective footpath signs - Hamish Gordon stated that the reason the missing signs were not being replaced was due to lack of funding from CC and until this was received the signs could not be replaced.

Overhanging bough Front Lodge to Mellangoose – Councillor Bickford-Smith said that he would write again to the owner.

Light Bulb Lowertown Library Box - This had not been replaced. Thelma Bedell agreed to get her relative, who is an electrician to take the cover off the light to obtain the part number.

Helston Railway Signs junction Trevarno Turn from Chynhale to B3303 – These had been moved to improve visibility. However it was a consensus that visibility was still poor. Cllr. Bickford-Smith stated that the junction had been widened in 1995/6 to improve visibility and these signs had ruined the work. Cornwall Councillor John Keeling agreed to pursue the matter with Cornwall Council, to whom he had already spoken.

Coose Trannack Wood – A letter had been sent, and e mail response gave details of the maintenance programme. Cllr. Mrs. Pascoe said that the path was not being maintained as stated and marked the area in question on a plan for the Clerk to send to the Woodland Trust, and agreed, if necessary to meet with them.

6. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – none.

7 POLICE REPORT – PCSO Paul Whitford had sent his apologies. His report stated that there had been no recorded crimes in July. He stated that the War Memorials Trust and the SmartWater Foundation were working to give greater protection for war memorials in the United Kingdom.

8. CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS – Cllr. Paterson said that he had been contacted by Wendron PC stating that the Police had been called to resolve problems between Mr. Luckett and Mr. Coldwell at Boscadjack, concerning the shed. Cllr. Paterson said he had received a letter from Derek Long of Prospidnick Holding concerning outstanding issues regarding the flooding problem. He stated that he hoped to raise some of these issues at the meeting on 21st August.

9. COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS – Cllr. Mrs. Pascoe reported that there had been a problem with dung on the road from Releath to Trannack Road emanating from Prospect Farm. This had improved but Cllr. Paterson agreed to visit Mr. Croft and discuss the matter.

Cllr. Bickford-Smith reported that a box had appeared by the pub at Crowntown which was 5 – 6' off the road on a post. The Clerk was asked to contact Highways to ascertain its purpose.

10. CORNWALL COUNCILLOR'S COMMENTS – Cornwall Councillor John Keeling reported that he had attended a four day Local Government conference in Bournemouth where the main discussion concerned devolution and in particular fiscal devolution to local authorities. He stated that he and the Chairman of the PC had been invited to attend a question time session on flooding and water security at Pool Innovation Centre on 21st August which is being attended by George Eustice MP, Edwina Hannaford (CC Environment), Mary Dhonau (National Flooding Campaigner), Alan Goddard, seven Richford (Fire and Flood) and chaired by former BBC Radio Cornwall news editor

Tim Hubbard.

11. PLANNING

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

PA14/05546 Affordable Housing Scheme, land adjacent to Sithney Community Primary School, Crowntown. 18 houses and 2 flats with associated roads, public open space and parking. Consideration of this application was deferred to the September meeting as the original consultation was contentious.

PA14/06934 2 Merthyr Vean, Sithney. Change of use of agricultural land to domestic curtilage and provision of tarmac area to provide turning and parking space to be joined to existing tarmac. The Clerk reported that this application had been received on 4th August, too late for the agenda. Cllr. Paterson said that this could be discussed under SO59c). It was proposed by Cllr. Mrs. Pascoe, seconded by Cllr. Bickford-Smith and carried with one abstention (PM) that the PC supports this application.

Decisions Approved

PA14/03578 Gwari Lower Pre School, Trannack Community Primary School. De commissioning of existing foul waste tank and re-siting of and installation of new septic tank

PA14/06131 Land adjacent to Lavalow, Sithney Green. Discharge of S52 and S106 condition applicable to PA/14/02463

PA14/05603 Buzzards Reach, Boscadjack Farm, Coverack Bridges. Proposed single storey extension to increase size of lounge

Refused

PA14/00748 Helston Railway and Organic Trevarno. Extension to railway with platforms and car park. Construction of temporary platform, change of use of 2 barns to storage and light maintenance and provision of premises for Organic Trevarno. Cllr. Paterson reported that he had received a complaint from Jackie and Adrian Curtis concerning the continued operation of the Railway. Cllr. Paterson stated that the Railway was given permission to run from Trevarno to the bridge under an existing planning application PA/08/01834. Cornwall Councillor John Keeling stated that no enforcement action would be taken as he understood that an appeal is being lodged.

Enforcement

Lowena, Lowertown. EN14/00535 – Cornwall Councillor John Keeling said that no decision had yet been made

PA14/03190 Moffats Corner, Demolition of existing dwelling and construction of replacement dwelling – Cllr. Paterson stated that Chantal McLennan, Planning, had contacted him about this application which the PC had supported. She stated that an amended plan had been submitted which CC were satisfied addressed the issue of the provision of a good line of visibility due to the speed of traffic, and that a condition would be attached to the decision notice seeking the reuse of as much of the existing material so as to be in keeping with surrounding buildings. These were the two issues raised by the PC and it was agreed that there were no objections.

12. PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY – A complaint had been received from a Mr. Millington concerning footpath 230/14/5, bridleway 14/3 and a section of bridleway 14/2 all of which are due a cut. Cllr. Mrs. Pascoe stated that the footpath as shown on the definitive rights of way map had not been useable, for over 30 years. Cllr. Paterson said he felt the solution was to ask for the path as shown on the rights of way map to be extinguished. He agreed to mark up a copy of the map for perusal at the September meeting prior to asking CC to obtain an extinguishment order.

Footpath 230/9/2 – The Clerk had asked Mr. Sanders to add a second cut on the section Green Lane towards Tregathenan for this path next year. He had stated that he would cut this free of charge as it was only 50m. Cllr. Paterson said this had been cut by a resident this year so the situation would need to be monitored.

The Clerk had asked Mr. Sanders for a price to spray the surface of the 'coffin' path (Chynance to Lane into woods SW650 311) remove overgrowth from granite slabs and cut back brambles. The quote was in the sum of £75. It was proposed by Cllr. Elliott, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. Pascoe, and carried unanimously that this be accepted and Mr. Sanders be instructed to carry out the work as soon as possible

Bridleway 230/27/1 Moffats Corner to Crowntown- Mr. Sanders had quoted £125 for clearing this path to a height of 3.5m. It was proposed by Cllr. Elliott, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. Pascoe, and carried that this be accepted and Mr. Sanders be instructed to carry out the work as soon as possible.

ss 21 to 27 Rights of Way contained in Derogulation Bill - Cllr. Paterson said this referred in the main to recording of Rights of Way and there was nothing to concern this Council.

13. LOCALISM/CODE OF CONDUCT/NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN – Cllr. Paterson said that he hoped to organize a meeting to discuss whether or not the PC wish to proceed with a Neighbourhood Development Plan in September.

The Clerk reported that she had received a localism and devolution information bulletin from Helen Crouch. It reminded Councils that each Cornwall Councillor has a community chest of £2,195 to assist projects run by voluntary and community groups in Cornwall. It also stated that CORMAC has purchased a volunteer toolkit trailer to be loaned out to community groups to carry out clean ups in their area. In most cases Cormac's insurers will cover the group, and any resulting rubbish will be collected. This was noted.

14. REPORT OF THE CLERK & CORRESPONDENCE

Rural Services Network - Spotlight on young people in rural areas, Rural Housing Spotlight July, Rural Opportunities Bulletin July 2014, Rural Broadband July 2014, Rural vulnerability Service - Fuel Poverty July 2014

Rural Services Network 30/6, 7/7, 14/7,

The Safer Cornwall Newsletter June 2014

Draft Commissioning, procurement and commercial strategy 2014/15 responses – circulated to all Councillors

Appointment of Independent Member of the Devon and Cornwall Police and Crime Panel- circulated to all Councillors.

Signpost 28/6/2014

Letter from Sithney Community Group – copied to all Councillors

Letter of thanks from St. Sithney Church

CALC Audit Response and Annual Report – sent to all Councillors

A copy of the Openness and Transparency Regulations which come into force on 6/8/2014 had been sent via e mail to all Councillors

Legal Topic Note 65 re Closed Churchyards and Disused Burial Grounds

Helston and Lizard works – An e mail had been received from Maxine Hardy, CC saying that this is a new project working to develop community enhancing projects where workless people can volunteer, gain skills, experience and confidence to return to work. It asked if the PC had any projects such as general maintenance, gardening, town tidies etc. The Clerk asked permission to put forward the painting of the ex BT boxes, the bus shelter at Crowntown – which needs its fascias and window painted and putting up footpath signs. Whilst it was felt it was an off chance, the Clerk was authorised to put these schemes forward.

Letter from Chacewater Parish Council and response from County Councillor John Pollard. Cllr. Mrs. Pascoe said that she felt that Cormac were self regulating and appeared to gain all the work in the local area, at the expense of local businesses was wrong. Cornwall Councillor John Keeling said that Cormac have to provide competitive quotes for all the work they get and stated that they did a lot of work for the community, including financial contributions to various causes which is over and above their contract. He felt that the letter from Chacewater PC was a way of putting forward pent up feelings, but that Cllr. John Pollard's response was not entirely accurate. He said he would raise questions concerning the awarding of tenders and tender prices.

15. FINANCE

a) To consider the following accounts for payment:-

It was proposed by Cllr. Morgans, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. Pascoe carried unanimously that the following accounts be paid:-

	£
Mrs Pauline Williams – Clerk salary etc July	571.34
Mr. B. Sanders – first cut of paths LMP contract	238.62
Trannack School – hire of hall January to July 2014	45.00
Sithney Community Group – funding	320.00

b) Consider the following applications for donations –

Chynhale Chapel – Following receipt of the balance sheet, 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 that the grant be made. It was proposed by Cllr. Elliott, seconded by Cllr. Morgans (PBS abstained) that the sum of £177 be paid, and it be noted that this was not in line with the formula agreed last year.

1st Sithney Green Senior Section Girl Guiding. – A letter had been received from 1st Sithney Green Senior Section leader Mrs. Crooks. She said she was hoping to start a senior section group at Trannack School for 14-25 year olds from 24th September, but needed funds to get starting. She asked for £200. , 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 that the grant be made. It was proposed by Cllr. Elliott, seconded by Cllr. Martin that the sum of £200 be paid.

c) Financial Reports by Clerk

Financial report – The Clerk reported that she had invoices to pay totalling £1174.96 (as reported at item 15a). No monies had been paid in to the bank. The balance at the end of July on the Current Account was £20,801.55 and on the Business Saver £13,544.26. These are considered adequate to undertake the work of the Parish Council. It was proposed by Cllr. Elliott, seconded by Cllr. Bickford-smith and carried unanimously that this report be accepted by the Council.

Approval of Monthly Report. The accounts to end of July had been circulated they do not include the payments drawn on 5th August. It was proposed by Cllr. Elliott seconded by Cllr. Bickford-Smith and carried that these represent a true account of the Parish Council finances and they were signed by the Chairman.

Quarterly Report Councillors had received a copy of the quarterly report which is a new report necessary under the newly adopted Financial Regulations. The idea being that a tight rein can be kept on expenditure. It was proposed by Cllr. Elliott seconded by Cllr. Bickford-Smith and carried that these represent a true account of the Parish Council finances and they were signed by the Chairman. It was noted that a 3 year budget forecast had to be produced, and Councillors Bickford –Smith, Elliott, and Paterson would meet to start work on this document prior to consideration by full Council.

Virement – The Clerk suggested that £60 be vired from Clerks expenses to Clerks training, and £315.07 from refilling grit bins to asset – which was purchase of the bins. She sought postponement of action (removal of funds) in respect of Property Maintenance and Repairs as invoices are due; Rights of Way as invoices were due; S137 as requests have been processed but not yet paid; There was £300 surplus in the insurance budget, as a result of good housekeeping – change of insurers, but no decision on where to transfer that to was made. Transfers in respect of Newsletter production, Travel and Subsistence payments, emergency plan, parish environmental issues and the development plan were held in abeyance pending decisions by full Council. It was proposed by Cllr. Elliott, seconded by Cllr. Bickford-Smith and carried that these be agreed.

Annual Risk Assessment – The Clerk had been asked to request that the regeneration group paint the fascia boards and window at Crowntown Bus Shelter, once Mr. Sanders had cut back the overgrowing foliage. The lock had been removed from Lowertown Notice Board and replacement was awaited. The ivy around the board at Crowntown had been cut back. It was proposed by Cllr. Elliott, seconded by Cllr. Morgans and carried that the report be noted.

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Quarterly Audit – This had been carried out on 10th July. Everything was found to be in order. It was proposed by Cllr. Elliott, seconded by Cllr. Morgans and carried that this was noted

d) Proposed S137 Policy and Application Form – Cllr. Elliott said he had written this using other Council's policy. It was proposed by Cllr. Elliott, seconded by Cllr. Morgans and agreed that the document be accepted in its entirety

16. Co-Option of new Parish Councillors: - to receive Declaration of Acceptance of Office and set a date to receive Declaration of Interests Form – No applicants had come forward.

17. Flooding – Cllr. Paterson said that he had received a letter from Windy Ridge and Mr. D. Long of Prospidnick Holding concerning blocked drains and unfinished works. Councillor Bickford-Smith had provided an initial response and the Chairman would respond after the seminar in Pool on 21st August.

18. School Governors Report – Cllr. Pascoe reported that the children at Trannack School had all enjoyed their outings for the last week of term.

19. Financial Regulations - Amendment re Credit References for Councillors and adoption of Policies and Procedures – It was proposed by Cllr. Elliott, seconded by Cllr. Martin, and carried that the optional clause that all Cheque signatories must have credit references be removed. The Clerk to amend and send a revised copy to all Councillors.

Cllr. Bickford-Smith left the meeting.

20. Affordable Housing – The application had been submitted, but was too late for the agenda. It was agreed that it be deferred until the September meeting. Cornwall Council to be advised accordingly.

21. TIME AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING - Tuesday 2nd September 2014 at TRANNACK