

SITHNEY PARISH COUNCIL
Chairman: Peter Bickford-Smith

Clerk to the Council
Mrs Jodie Ellis
07855774357

Trannack Farm,
St Erth, Hayle
TR27 6ET

34/15

MINUTES OF AN ORDINARY MEETING OF SITHNEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT TRANNACK SCHOOL ON TUESDAY 3rd NOVEMBER, 2015 at 7.30PM

Present:-

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| Cllr. P Bickford-Smith– Chairman | Cllr. Mrs. A. Pascoe - Vice-Chairman |
| Cllr. A. Williams | Cllr. A. McDonald |
| Cllr. P. Martin (arrived 8.03pm) | Cllr. Mrs. L. Penrose |

Parish Clerk Mrs Jodie Ellis and 6 members of the public.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Were received from Cornwall Cllr. J. Keeling and Cllr P. Martin

2. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES - The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 6th October 2015 were proposed by Cllr. Mrs. Pascoe and seconded by Cllr. A. Williams and unanimously agreed as a correct record and were signed by the Chairman. *See note on item 9.*

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FOR ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA – Cllr. Mrs. Penrose declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in item 11 Lowena, Lowertown.

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

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES –

Japanese Knotweed at Trannack Mill – The clerk has contacted CC who has advised that they are currently seeking legal advice on Japanese Knotweed in general and will report back to us once advice has been given.

Roseawen Woods at Sithney Green – The clerk has requested an update from Cornwall Council Officer Mr Viner, but is yet to receive a response.

Cllr. Mrs. Pascoe asked that the clerk keep chasing CC for updates for future meetings on both cases.

6. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION –

Mr Mickler – Spoke to advise that it had been mentioned that local residents were opposing to the Lower Trannack Mill Quarry planning application. Mr Mickler advised he had not opposed but instead was asking for conditions.

Mrs Mickler – asked about the spread of Japanese Knotweed at Trannack Mill, does the owner not have to do something by law. Cllr. A. Williams confirmed that as the spread was still on the same landowners land they did not have to. It only becomes a legal issue if the spread is on to other land.

7 POLICE REPORT – PCSO Ashley Fuller has submitted a written report as follows: During October 2015, 2 crimes were reported to Police. As the Police Report was generated on 31st October it therefore does not include the 31st October 2015. There were 11 police logs generated for this area.

Cllr. A. Williams advised he had logged onto the police website to view the report and it was not up to date. It was requested that the clerk respond to PCSO Ashley Fuller to advise.

8. CHAIRMAN’S COMMENTS – Cllr Bickford-Smith advised Sithney PCC have invited the Parish Council to the remembrance Day service on Sunday November 8th at 6pm. Cllr Bickford-Smith has agreed to read the Lesson and lay the wreath on behalf of SPC. It was advised that there is limited space due to the floor restoration but it would be nice if Councillors could attend.

Cllr Bickford-Smith advised he had copied the definitive map and cut into 16 pieces and laminated, and would Councillors like copies of this. Cllrs agreed it would be a useful way to have the map.

9. COUNCILLORS’ QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS –

Cllr. Mrs. Pascoe would like to highlight with regards to Item 6 from the minutes of the 06.10.15 that the minutes were recorded as said at the meeting. However she would like to amend her comments with regards to the water at Truthall turn. As what Cllr. Mrs. Pascoe should have advised at the meeting of the 06.10.15 was that highways are dealing with the matter of the water leak.

Cllr. Mrs. Pascoe advised that highways have been out last week and spent a day fixing the water issue. Cllr. Mrs. Pascoe advised an extremely good job had been carried out and proposed that the clerk write and relay thanks to Cormac, it was seconded by Cllr. A. Williams, all in favour.

Cllr. A. McDonald raised the issue of the railings around the parish, which have become noticeably rusted and dented. It was discussed that this was raised a few years back, but Cllrs could not recollect the outcome. Cllr. A. McDonald advised he would be happy if needed to report on all locations with photographs. It was agreed that the clerk would contact highways to find out if this is something they carry out, and report back at the December meeting.

10. CORNWALL COUNCILLOR’S COMMENTS - Cllr. Keeling advised October was a bit of a non-starter for him in that he was in and out of hospital during the month; but he was well placed to be able to focus on the matter of the integration of Health and Social Care, part of the Deal for Cornwall. From first-hand experience Cllr Keeling can see that a lot of care and support within our health service is on the good will of our doctors, consultants, nurses, carers and support staff; and the lack of resources are part of the problem. Nevertheless, it is universally agreed that the current system of health and social care is financially unsustainable; but it is possible to make savings and efficiencies in the system – but only if the right decisions are made when

people leave hospital, or before they end up there. Work is being done both at a local and national level to resolve these issues and develop a better model for the future. The Comprehensive Spending Review is due on the 25th of November and we are expecting further cuts in local government grant funding; but the seismic news that all councils will be able to keep all of their business rates income locally is to be welcomed and a further move away from dependency on central government grants and funding. In addition, councils will be able to cut business rates as much as they like to attract new jobs and investment. Cllr Keeling would not see a problem in removing business rates from local toilets under this new business rate system, which should be responsive to local needs and which promotes local growth through incentives. Naturally, with a lot of small and medium sized businesses in Cornwall there will have to be a balance between income generation and genuine help for the business community. Cllr Keeling is desperate to find a budget to move the Vehicle Activated Sign from Leedstown to Ashton to help reduce speeding through the village. On the subject of speeding Cllr Keeling is still keen to set up a local Speed Watch group but with police funding reduction this may be problematic but not impossible. Parking issues at Sithney School were brought up last month and Cllr Keeling is awaiting some details, unless the school governors have some information.

Cllr Bickford-Smith would like to send SPC's thanks and best wishes to Cllr. Keeling for a speedy recovery.

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

Applications

PA15/09703 - Home Farm Trevarno Sithney Cornwall TR13 0RU - Conversion of stone barn to 2 bedroom dwelling.

The application was discussed and proposed by Cllr. Mrs. Pascoe and seconded by Cllr. A. McDonald that the parish council supports this application, all in favour. Cllr. Mrs. Pascoe advised that it was hoped that the building had enough structurally standing as this was one of the points that CC were not happy with on the previous application.

Approval

PA15/08526 – Chyvor Farm, Prospidnick Hill, Prospidnick, Sithney – Replacement sun Lounge.

PA15/08350 – Boscadjack house, Coverack Bridges, Helston – Erection of an agricultural storage building.

Refusal

PA15/04815 - Lower Trannack Mill Quarry, Coverack Bridges - Proposed change of use of existing portal frame building into showroom / office unit with living accommodation over and construction of forklift / compressor / drystore.

Enforcement

EN15/11059 - Lowena, Lowertown Helston – The clerk has contacted the case officer Joanne Patient at Cornwall Council but as yet has received no response. It was requested that the clerk keep chasing this case up with CC.

Paperless Planning Applications – The £700 grant from Cornwall Council has been receipted into the Parish Council's bank account. The clerk advised she has purchased the new Parish Council laptop. A HP Pavilion, including internet security and Office 365 from Currys at a total cost of £528.98. Slightly less than the amount of £599.99 agreed at last month's meeting due to the previous model being discontinued, so the most alike model was purchased. The laptop comes with a year's manufactures warranty for the hardware, this does not cover system faults and accidental damages. Currys offer a care plan for £7.50 per month. Discussions took place and it was agreed to purchase the monthly insurance from Currys at £7.50 per month. It was proposed by Cllr. A. McDonald and seconded by Cllr. A. Williams, all in favour.

12. PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY –

Bridleway 230/30, Sithney – Cormac have no current update on when the path will be reopened.

Footpath 14 – Craig House to Penpraze – The path from Craig House to Penpraze has been trimmed out to the boundary between Prospidnick Farm and Gansey Farm. Cllr Bickford-Smith advised the stiles on this piece of path need to be looked at and the contract for trimming amended accordingly. Cllr Bickford-Smith suggested all footpaths should be walked before February to check the paths so that the LMP contract for cutting is accurate. The clerk would circulate the footpath cutting schedule to all Cllrs to see which Cllrs walk each route to find those not walked so that Cllrs could be requested to walk them to ensure all routes are checked.

Tregoose to Black Arch – 230/8/1 – The clerk has received correspondence from the landowner advising that the definitive line will be reinstated when the crop is lifted. The clerk has received the wooden footpath signs from Cormac. It was discussed and suggested that the clerk send these signs to the land agent to ask if he could place them on posts on the footpath.

Tregoose to iron Bridge – 230/8/1 – Cllr. Mrs. Pascoe reported that it has come to her attention that there is a piece of this footpath that is not on the definitive map. The landowner has recently placed a new gate with a footpath sign on it, on the identified piece of land. It was proposed by Cllr. Mrs. Pascoe and seconded by Cllr. Mrs. Penrose, all in favour, that the clerk contact CC to gain a modification order form to get the missing part of the footpath added to the definitive map. Cllr. Mrs. Pascoe advised that she would on receipt of the modification order gain the necessary information required.

13. REPORT OF THE CLERK & CORRESPONDENCE

Quarterly Audit was carried out successfully on the 12.10.15 with Cllr Mc Donald, Cllr Williams and Cllr Elliott.

Rural Services Network – Rural Housing Spotlight

Rural Vulnerability Services – Rural Broadband – October 2015

Rural Services Network Weekly Bulletin 12/10 & 19/10

PCDT October E-Bulletin

Cornwall County Playing Field Association - Network and consultation Event – 25.11.15 – 3-7pm, St Dennis AFC

Rural Services Network – Rural Opportunities Bulletin

The Prince's Regeneration Trust – Heritage Regeneration Workshop – Swindon, 4.11.15

Communities & Devolution - invitation from the Houses of Parliament's Outreach service for a public event at County Hall, Truro on 16.10.15 1pm -3pm.

The Princes Regeneration – Industrial Heritage Conference – 01&02 December 2015, Manchester.

Sithney Church Remembrance Service Sunday 8th November at 6pm. RBL have kindly offered the parish Council a Wreath to lay at the service, which Cllr Bickford-Smith has offered to lay on behalf of the Parish Council. The clerk asked does the Parish Council wishes to offer a donation to the Royal British Legion in pursuance of the power conferred by Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972. Last year £100 was donated in their centenary year, and £60.00 in the previous two years. It was proposed by Cllr. Mrs. Pascoe and seconded by Cllr. A. McDonald, all in favour. That the Parish Council makes a donation of £60.00

14. FINANCE

a) To consider the following accounts for payment: - Approval of schedule of payments.

It was proposed by Cllr. A. Williams, and seconded by Cllr. A. McDonald and carried unanimously that the following accounts be paid as per the schedule of payments: -

| | £ |
|---|-----------------------|
| Mrs Jodie Ellis – Clerk (Salary & Expenses) | 704.39 |
| Cornwall Council (LGPS) – Clerk | 67.05 |
| Cash – Reimbursement of Petty Cash | 41.15 |
| Mrs Jodie Ellis – Purchase of New Laptop as Agreed. | <u>528.98</u> |
| | <u>1341.57</u> |

Financial Reports by Clerk

b.) Financial report.

The Clerk reported that she had invoices to pay totaling £1341.57 as reported in item 14a. The balance at the end of October on the Current Account was £10,499.69 and on the Business Saver £33,561.18. These are considered adequate to undertake the work of the Parish Council. It was proposed by Cllr. A. Williams, and seconded by Cllr. A. McDonald that the report be accepted. All in favour.

Approval of Monthly. The accounts to the end of October had been circulated but they do not include the payments drawn on 3rd November. It was proposed Cllr. A. Williams, and seconded by Cllr. A. McDonald 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 still damp. It was proposed by Cllr. A. Williams, and seconded by Cllr. A. McDonald, that the report be accepted. All in favour.

c) Notice Board Costings – The clerk reported that the new notice boards had been ordered in Green as this was the majority vote of Cllrs that responded. The delivery of the boards is currently expected around Mid-November to the contractor IRS.

Cllr Bickford-Smith has been to see the occupier of the Old Post Office in Crowntown about erecting new boards. The owners would rather not have a new board outside their property, the fixings are probably on their property and there is currently some support from a tree. It appears that they have repaired the board in the past. Cllr. Bickford-Smith approached the Landlord at the Crown who has agreed by email that we could erect the new board to the right/north of the post box. As previously discussed SPC would leave the old board in place until it is beyond repair. Cllr. Mrs. Penrose advised that the Lowertown community group is looking into financing moving the old board at Lowertown as previously discussed. It was proposed by Cllr. Mrs. Pascoe and seconded by Cllr. A. McDonald, 5 in favour, 1 abstained that the board be relocated to the Crown car park. It was agreed that the clerk would send a letter to the landlord confirming this and to be signed by the landlord and SPC.

d) Website – The clerk has contacted word press who is currently working on on-going projects but will be able to look at Sithney's website in January 2016. The clerk has been contacted by Merlin MS Centre to ask if we could place an advertisement on our website giving information about the new service for people living in West Cornwall with neurological conditions who may benefit from the exercise and physiotherapy service the Merlin MS Centre has recently launched. It was proposed by Cllr. A. Williams and seconded by Cllr. Mrs. Penrose, all in favour, that the clerk uploads the advertisement to the website.

14e) Transparency Fund for small Councils Grant – The clerk has received correspondence from CALC to say that they have teamed up with NALC to offer funding over the next 3 years to assist Parish Councils with a turnover of less than £25,000. Points to consider are: 1.) The fund is open to any council with a turnover of less than £25,000 in any year, 2.) This is a 3 year fund and you can apply in each of the three years, 3) You can only apply to cover the cost of additional burdens under the audit legislation. The fund cannot be used to pay for anything which will be used for other council work, 4) The fund may make a contribution towards the cost of anything which the council is also using for other purposes, 5) The Council can claim for training and for staff time in each of the three years of the fund, 6) Applications should be submitted to the County Association; after verification they will be sent to NALC for approval; funds will be distributed by the CALC.

The Clerk has circulated costs to all Cllrs for: A3 Printer, A4 Printer and Portable Projector. It was discussed and agreed that the PC require a printer that is capable of scanning, and preferably a self-feeding scanner. It was proposed by Cllr. A. McDonald and seconded by Cllr. Mrs. Pascoe that the Brother A3 printer is purchased, and if no longer available the 2nd choice is the Epson A3 Printer. Discussions took place and it was agreed to submit a claim for funding for the A3 Printer, new website costs of £600 and 28 hours of clerk website time. It was proposed by Cllr. A. McDonald and seconded by Cllr. Mrs. Pascoe, all in favour.

14f) Bank Signatories – The clerk reported that since the resignation of Cllr. Perrin a third signatory is required. If possible the signatory would not be that of an auditing Councillor. Cllr. Mrs. Penrose offered to become a signatory but due to issues surrounding identification in her maiden name it was agreed that the clerk would contact Cllr. Ms. Williams to ask if she would become the third signatory and complete the relevant forms. It was proposed by Cllr. Mrs. Pascoe and seconded by Cllr. P. Martin, all in favour.

14g) Neighbourhood Planning Questionnaire – The clerk has received the questionnaire from CC and circulated to all Cllrs. It was completed at the meeting and proposed by Cllr. A. McDonald and seconded by Cllr. Mrs. Williams, all in favour that the clerk submits the completed questionnaire back to CC.

14h) Damaged Road Boards and Railings – This was covered under Item 9.

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15. Co-Option – The clerk advised that the current two vacancies had been registered with CC, and the relevant Vacancy notices had been displayed on the notice boards within the parish on the 19th October 2015. These notices will expire on the 6th November 2015. By which time if fewer than 10 electors request an election, Sithney PC will be able to fill both vacancies by Co-Option. Discussions took place and it was agreed that if an election was not called for and SPC were allowed to fill vacancies by Co-option then the vacancies notices would be displayed on the board for a minimum of 28 days with a view to being filled at the January meeting. All Cllrs would be advised of anyone who puts them sell forward for Co-Option. It was proposed by Cllr. A. McDonald and seconded by Cllr. Mrs. Penrose, all in favour.

16. School Governors Report – Cllr Bickford- Smith advised Sithney were looking into becoming a multi-academy trust. Cllr Martin and Cllr. Bickford-Smith both reported that the traffic issues were still causing chaos. Cllr. Mrs. Pascoe asked would it be possible for teachers to take pupils in from the gates to speed up the drop of time. It was advised that we are waiting on the outcome of the highways report of the situation.

18. TIME AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING - Tuesday 1st December 2015 at 7.30pm at Sithney School.