

## SITHNEY PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Peter Bickford-Smith

Clerk to the Council  
Mrs. Jodie Ellis  
07855774357

Trannack Farm  
St Erth, Hayle  
TR27 6ET

1/17

### MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD AT SITHNEY CP SCHOOL AT 7.15 PM ON TUESDAY 04<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2017

**Present:** - Cllr. P. Bickford-Smith, Cllr Mrs A Pascoe, Cllr. P. Martin (arrived 7.22pm), Cllr A. McDonald, Cllr. Mrs. L. Penrose, Cllr. J. Daybell & Cornwall Cllr. J. Keeling.

Parish Clerk Mrs. Jodie Ellis and 4 members of the public.

#### 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – none.

**2. TO RECEIVE THE ANNUAL REPORT FROM THE CHAIRMAN** – Cllr P. Bickford-Smith reported: ‘Another year has passed and it has been a busy one for Sithney Parish. Plovers Field has been completed and the majority of properties let with the two open market properties being sold and awaiting the development. The Car Park for School use has been constructed and will hopefully improve the traffic problems on the busy B3303 at School Times. Part of the negotiations for Planning Permission was that your Council has an open space on the site which needs careful thought as to its use. A survey was carried out throughout the parish asking residents for their views on starting SAS – Sithney Assisted Car Service. We received a remarkable response with 36% response. Sadly however, there was a total lack of take-up by volunteer drivers as, quite rightly in my view, they considered the training requirements to be excessive. It is a difficult balance to get correct in this litigious world we now live. I hope in due course that the scheme can be brought to fruition. Our website remains an important point of contact for people and I am pleased to report that the Sithney & District Scrap Book, published in 1951, is now on our website. This is a fascinating account of the Parish and has many folk lore tales and is strongly recommended. Our Footpaths have again been a challenge with closures, blockages, agricultural infringements, extensions and maintenance. I feel that we are getting there but it is a bit of a long haul. Sadly, after having got to a full council in March 2016, numbers have dwindled through the year and once again we have several vacancies. I very much hope that during the run up to the election in May that all councillors actively seek new councillors and encourage residents to take an interest in affairs which relate to wellbeing of this beautiful parish. Thanks also go to our ward member, John Keeling. He has attended a most of our meetings and has always offered sound advice in difficult situations. He has always been keen to put Sithney’s views on sub-committees and full Council meetings. I am indebted to our clerk, Jodie Ellis for all her sterling work and for keeping us on the straight and narrow when dealing with complex issues regarding regulatory controls. She has also, as our Chief Financial Officer, kept the books in order and ensured a satisfactory financial year with our reserves remaining at similar level despite investment in the Notice Boards, Website and Computer. As previously mentioned by me that it is of concern that our Reserves are not perhaps proportional to our activity and it is my hope that the Council will address this matter. I would like to thank both Sithney and Trannack Schools for allowing us to hold our meetings on their premises. I am standing down from the Council after 13 years in order to pursue my business interests and due to advancing years. It has been an honour and privilege to serve this council and I have enjoyed working with everyone and wish this Council success and due diligence in the years to come. I wish to close my report with my heartfelt thanks to everyone who has worked so diligently towards making Sithney a better place to live.

#### 3. TO RECEIVE THE FINANCIAL REPORT OF THE CLERK AS RESPONSIBLE FINANCIAL OFFICER:

##### Year End Position - Sithney Parish Council 2016/2017

As at 31/03/2017 the council had an underspend of £2026, compared to a budgeted underspend of £776. The underspend was mainly made up in the following areas: Public Space (Plover’s Field), Travel and Subsistence claims for Councillors, Refilling Grit Bins, Newsletter, S137 Donations, Website costs, Clerk’s training & Property maintenance & repairs. Amounting to £2900. The council had an overspend during the year, made up in the following areas:

Clerk’s Salary, Clerk’s Expenses, Room hire relating to 15/16, Printing costs, Subscription costs and publication purchases and SAS Leaflet printing costs, amounting to - £1650.

##### Income still outstanding:

LMP 2016/2017 2<sup>nd</sup> Payment - £1035.00

The Reserves as at 31.03.2017 stand at £37,029 an increase of £2026.00.

Reserves split to be agreed at May 2017 meeting, to see if outstanding income has been received.

The Clerk reported that the Parish Council finances were adequate for the ensuing year.

##### Donations made under S137:

|  |                 |
|--|-----------------|
| St Sithney Parish Church               | £825.00         |
| Helford River Children's Sailing Trust | £200.00         |
| Royal British Legion                   | £70.00          |
| Cornwall Air Ambulance                 | £200.00         |
| <b>Total</b>                           | <b>£1295.00</b> |

#### 4. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM ORGANISATIONS IN RECEIPT OF S137 DONATIONS IN 2016/2017

**Cornwall Air Ambulance Trust** – £200 – Cornwall Air Ambulance needs to raise £3m each year. In 2016 alone Cornwall Air Ambulance was tasked to 774 missions, 418 of these were medical emergencies 318 were trauma incidents. Their helicopter and crew has been tasked to over 26,000 missions since its launch in 1987 which is just incredible. Cornwall Air Ambulance can fly to Sithney in approximately 15

mins from our Newquay airbase, and onwards to Treliske hospital in less than 10 minutes, this speed can really make a difference to a patient's outcome. This year we have attended the Helston area six times already. Anyone could need the support of Cornwall Air Ambulance at any time and thank you to the support of Parishes such as Sithney and the wider community it means we can continue to be a reassuring presence for the people of Cornwall.

**Helford River Children's Sailing Trust (HRCST)** – £200 – Mr Fawell wished to express a very big Thank You on behalf of HRCST. The money that they raise during the year has allowed 18 primary schools / special needs groups to sail on the Helford river. £120,000 is needed annually to enable the trust to continue. In 2016 21 youngsters came from Sithney and 9 from Garras to learn to sail on the river. Sailing is usually the main activity of the school summer term, and the cost per child to attend is around £200. The feedback that HRCST has received from head teachers is that it is a life changing experience for youngsters with 90% never having sailed before. The long-term goal is to develop the quarry near Bonython of around 20 acres, which they have recently been able to purchase to build a learning centre with lodges. For use, by for local families with special needs and for families from tougher areas.

**St Sithney Parish Church** – The £825.00 Grant received was used towards the upkeep of the Parish churchyard.

**Royal British legion** – Sithney Parish council donated £70.00 to the RBL in 2016/2017 in thanks for the Remembrance Day Wreath that they kindly made for Sithney Parish council to lay.

**5. TO RECEIVE QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS RAISED BY THE ELECTORS OF THE PARISH** – None.