

SITHNEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF SITHNEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT SITHNEY CP SCHOOL ON 3rd JANUARY, 2012 AT 7.30pm

Present: Cllr P. Martin (Chairman) Cllr P. Bickford-Smith (Vice Chairman)
 Cllr Mrs A.Pascoe Cllr M. Morgans
 Cllr T. Martin Cllr I. Paterson
 Cllr Miss E. Williams

Parish Clerk, Mrs P.L. Williams and PCSO C. Sadler and 7 members of the public

62/12

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE- were received from Cllr B. Deacon - family emergency

2. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the ordinary meeting held at Trannack CP School on 6th December, 2011 were proposed by Cllr. Paterson, seconded by Cllr. Morgans and unanimously approved.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FOR ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA

Item 9 Application PA11/09784 Conversion of redundant barn to dwelling. Mellangoose Barn, Mellangoose, Sithney. Mr. and Mrs. Wallis – supporting information from Care & Co Agents circulated via e mail.

Declarations by: Cllr Bickford-Smith (knows agent) and Cllr. Ms E. Williams (relative)

Item 9 Application PA11/09381 Retention and completion of installation of freestanding solar panels. The Old Farmhouse, Tregathenan, Sithney. Mr. I. Paterson

Declarations by: Cllr. Paterson – applicant, Cllr. Ms Williams – employed by SW Power Distribution.

Item 16 Queens Diamond Jubilee Celebrations – members of committee.

Declarations by: Cllrs. Bickford-Smith, M. Morgans, T. Martin, I. Paterson.

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – The Clerk stated that the following update had been received from Will Morris. Andy Golay is to prepare a development brief; he has a deadline of the 3rd week in January to have a draft for email to the PC for presentation/comment.

Will Morris has organised changes to the website page to reflect the results of the public consultation and our last meeting. This is now active, go to the CC website and type in Sithney. There will be a link to the summary of the public consultation document for download.

Will Morris said he will be seeking to make contact with landowners in Nancegollan over the next week or two as per the decision at the last PC meeting and will also be updating the landowners who submitted land in Crowtown to keep them up to speed

Mrs. D. Mickler said that in respect of item15 Future use of Trannack School she had used the school for years and never had an accident, she would not like to see the school not used for meetings. Cllr. P. Martin said he had noted this and the matter would be discussed later on.

The Clerk said that the site for the Speed Visor (which can be set to 40mph) as agreed at Council, will be at the Nancegollan end of Crowtown OS Grid ref SW637310 near the end of Bridleway 27

5 POLICE REPORT

PCSO Sadler said there had been one crime reported to the police for the month of December. This was a theft from a motor vehicle which happened in Crowtown. This crime is still under investigation pending any further information coming to light.

As a result of a request by the Clerk, PCSO Sadler explained the Restorative Justice System. She said this had been used for a while and is used for both adults and youths. It can be used when the offender has been identified and the victim is happy for some kind of reparation. This can be in the form of a letter of apology or possibly money paid to compensate for damage if applicable, whatever the penance it has to be a mutual agreement between the two. It can be a good aid to help the victim finalise their ordeal and it can also make the offender aware of the other parties' feelings and the long term effects that their action may have had.

Cllr Paterson asked about a report on detection rates. PCSO Sadler said this would involve a lot of man hours in research, as some cases go on for 2 years before going to Court. Cllr. Paterson said maybe once a year at the Annual Meeting of the Council may be possible. PCSO Sadler agreed to give this a try.

6. CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS – Cllr P Martin apologised for having to leave the December Parish Council meeting early and thus not wishing everyone a Happy Christmas. He had attended the Sithney School Nativity Play with Cllr. Paterson which was very good.

7. COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

Overgrown field hedges abutting road Trannack to Coverack Bridges - The Clerk had asked CC to take over trying to get these cut, they had agreed to inspect and arrange for action to be carried out as necessary. Cllr. Mrs A. Pascoe said that Andy Girling's section had been cut. The Clerk to advise CC accordingly. Cllrs. Paterson and Mrs. Pascoe reported that some stones had been removed from the wall opposite the Chynhale Chapel, and a large gauge pipe inserted through which a slurry type substance is now flowing onto the road making it slippery. The Clerk was asked to advise CC.

Cllr. Mrs. Pascoe reported that the resurfacing at Truthall Road carried out recently by a contractor was breaking up the day after completion. It appears not to have been compacted correctly; the edges are breaking up as well as the joints. It had the effect of stopping water running down the sides of the road and causing pooling, but someone, unknown, has taken remedial action to stop this. The Clerk was asked to contact CC and ask them to check the standard of work and remedy the situation.

Cllr P. Martin mentioned that there were a lot of Potholes in Sithney. County Councillor Loveday Jenkin said that she had requested a meeting with CC about potholes in Praze and if the PC supplied a list of theirs she would arrange to view them with the officer. Cllr. Martin agreed to let the Clerk have a list of the potholes in question.

8. CORNWALL COUNCILLOR'S COMMENTS.

Cllr. Loveday Jenkin reported that she had:-

- Met with the community network manager – there is still a little money available in the community chest pot for the Division.
- Met with highways network manager – there is no money left in the Wendron Division highways projects pot. There are only care and maintenance general budgets to deal with any highways issues arising.
- Attended a seminar on how Cornwall has developed a protocol for prioritising actions for a Low Carbon Economy.
- Met with planning officers to ensure that I will be kept in touch with planning and enforcement issues as they arise and to discuss specific issues relating to individual wind turbine applications in the area.
- Attended the switch on of the Christmas lights in Leedstown and helped at the Praze institute Christmas meal for elder citizens.
- Observed some of the Cabinet meeting on the 14th December where discussions included the appeal against the revoking of the incinerator planning approval at St Dennis. I am concerned that no work is being done on any alternative proposals to deal with the situation if the previous planning approval is not re-instated. In other words there is no plan B for Cornwall's waste disposal.
- Went to an excellent briefing in Penzance on heritage issues in relation to planning which included a workshop on how insulation and renewable energy systems can be incorporated into heritage buildings.
- Attended a Health and Adults Social care briefing in relation to re-organisation and future funding. Although the government have given additional money to councils for Adult social care this is not ring fenced. The budget may increase in some areas but there is still likely to be a real time cut in some
- services with some residential services being refocused to provide support at home and a greater emphasis on personal budgets.
- Arranged a meeting with housing officers about the developing affordable housing strategy for the Parish.

Apart from the developing housing strategy no other issues relating to Sithney Parish had been brought to her attention. She drew attention to the ongoing roll out of super fast broadband (www.superfastcornwall.org) and the opportunities for organisations to get involved in celebrations around the Olympic torch relay through the area (contact anna.druce@visitcornwall.com)

Cornwall Councillor Loveday Jenkin said that the Planning Core Strategy document was going out to consultation next week. There is a meeting at the Guildhall, Helston on 11th January (Wednesday) from 12 – 7pm. She urged someone to attend. Cllr. P. Martin said he would attend.

9. PLANNING

To consider the following planning applications received: - No PAP due to consideration of Councillors application SO 42(f) refers.) Cllr Paterson left the room at 8.00 p.m. whilst his application was considered.

Planning Applications

PA11/09784 Conversion of redundant barn to dwelling. Mellangoose Barn, Mellangoose, Sithney. Mr. and Mrs. Wallis – supporting information from Care & Co Agents circulated via e mail.

It was proposed by Cllr. Morgans, seconded by Cllr. T. Martin, and carried on a majority vote. (Cllr. Bickford-Smith and Cllr. Ms. Williams abstained having previously declared an interest) that the Parish Council felt that as CC

had said the property was not too near the river (the PC previous concern), and as the Barn wall is already in situ, the development of the Barn would be less intrusive than the cottage, therefore they support the application.

PA11/09381 Retention and completion of installation of freestanding solar panels. The Old Farmhouse, Tregathenan, Sithney. Mr. I. Paterson

It was proposed by Cllr. Morgans, seconded by Cllr. T. Martin and carried on a majority vote (Cllr. Paterson not being present and Cllr. Williams having declared an interest and abstained) that the Parish Council support this application, feeling that low level panels were preferable in some instances to roof panels.

Cllr. Paterson returned at 8.05pm following discussion of his application.

PA11/09777 Retention of chalet for duration of refurbishment of remaining barn to primary dwelling. The Barn, Lower Boscadjack Farm, Trenear. Mrs. S. Smith.

It was proposed by Cllr. Mrs. Pascoe, seconded by Cllr. Morgans and carried unanimously that the Parish Council supported this application

PA11/07513 Amended Plan. Change of use from garden visitor attraction with café, retail, admin and domestic flat to private dwelling. Trevarno Manor, Sithney.

It was proposed by Cllr. Morgans, seconded by Cllr. Mrs Pascoe and carried unanimously that the Parish Council supported this application as it seems clear that the estate cannot be sold intact.

It was proposed by Cllr. Bickford-Smith, seconded by Cllr. Morgans and carried unanimously that the above decisions be forwarded to Cornwall Council.

OTHER PLANNING MATTERS:

The Agenda for Cornwall Council West sub-Area Planning Committee for 11th January had been received. There was nothing relating to Sithney PC.

NALC/CPRE booklet Planning Explained had been received and was borrowed by Cllr. Mrs. Pascoe. Whilst downloaded copies were available, some Cllrs. asked if any further copies could be obtained. The Clerk to investigate and report back if there is a cost.

Permissions Granted

This information was not available due to changes in the CC Planning log in system and the PC being locked out. The Officer responsible is on leave until 4th January so these will be reported next month.

Cllr. Bickford-Smith reported that the T's for the power cables in respect of application PA09 01250 OHL Erection of 9 span 11,000 volt o/h line from Menamber to Wheal Vose had been put in place despite the PC strong objections to the application. Nothing had been heard from the planners since these views had been returned. The Clerk had asked for a response by tonight but nothing had been forthcoming.

10. PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

Bridleway 27/1 Freddie James Lane and B/W 30 Rocky Valley – Cllr. Mrs. Pascoe said she felt the Clerk had exceeded her remit, she had not asked her to contact CC asking them to get these cut back. The Clerk apologised and said she was merely trying to save the PC the cost of employing someone to cut it back as she was certain that under section 154 of the 1980 Highways Act it is the land owners responsibility to cut this back, the PC are not liable to meet the costs of such works. However, Cllr. Mrs. Pascoe asked for the terms of the contract to be reported to the next meeting as she felt the contractor had not carried out the works properly. The details of Parish Walk no 31 had been given to the Clerk.

11. REGENERATION – Cllr. Ashmore not being present there was no report.

12. LOCALISM – Cllr. Paterson reported that the Act had become law on 15th November and will gradually be introduced. Cornwall Council, as the principal authority will be responsible for implementing/designing many parts of the Act once the guidance and regulations have been published. He stated as it was a complex matter he was willing to break it into easy sections and give the Clerk a title for each meeting. This was gratefully accepted.

13. CODE OF CONDUCT - the current regime had been abolished under the Localism Act 2011. It will be a mandatory requirement for every Council to adopt its own code of conduct based on the Nolan principles. CC will have a statutory duty to administer the code.

14. ADOPTION OF BT PHONE BOXES – A response had finally been secured from BT. BT has confirmed they will pay for the power to the box and disconnect at their cost, which will be within the next five years. The PC will then be given the option to take over the supply at their own cost. (Cllr. Williams stated that these are currently charged to BT as an unmeasured supply; however this may not be available to the PC) BT confirmed that the land that the box stands on is not in their ownership, but they have no records to show who does own it. BT confirmed that the boxes at Coverack Bridges and Releath may come up for adoption at some point and asked the PC to confirm if they were interested. It was proposed by Cllr. Mrs. Pascoe seconded by Cllr. Morgans and carried that the Clerk write to BT confirming interest in the other 2 boxes.

15. REPORT OF THE CLERK & CORRESPONDENCE

Instructions from last meeting

Future use of Trannack School following a fall by a member of public and Clerk injuring her knee on the steps it was agreed that the Clerk write to the Head Teacher asking the following questions:-

- Can the side gate (vehicle) could be left open for parking, as the Clerk has a heavy load of papers which currently have to be carried across the road and around the back of the school;
- Can the car park be left open (often locked)
- Can the side access road be repaired and made safe (disabled access)
- Can the light always be put on at the top of the steps
- Can the lock on the door be attended to
- Could the heating be put on and maybe the hall set up in advance.

The issue of continued use to be looked at again at the next meeting in view of any response received.

Sign Footpath Sithney (230)2/1 – The rotten post on footpath 2 had still not been replaced. The Clerk was asked to stress again to CC that this was a trip factor and should be resolved due to health and safety issues.

Leader Cornwall Council updates dated 2, 9, 16th December

Policy Update 9, 16, 23rd December

Rural Services Network 12th, 19th December and 3rd January, 2012.

Letter BTCV circulated all Councillors 20/12/2011

Interlink December 2011 circulated all Councillors 20/12/2011

Rail Survey from Cornwall Rural Community Council – e mailed, Response required by 13th January, 2012. *Cllr. Bickford-Smith agreed to complete this as he uses the railways.*

A 2011 (new version) Model Contract of Employment for Parish Clerks' had been received – *Cllr. Bickford-Smith said there were only minor amendments to be made, which he felt could be done by letter.*

16. QUEEN DIAMOND JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

It was proposed by Cllr. Mrs. Pascoe, seconded by Cllr. Williams and carried (Cllrs Bickford-Smith, Morgans, T. Martin and Paterson abstained as committee members having previously declared an interest) that money from reserves of up to £2,000 be used to fund the Queen's Golden Jubilee Celebrations. Cllr. Bickford-Smith thanked the Council and stated that he hoped many of the celebrations would be self funded, as fund raising was in progress.

Cllr. Bickford-Smith confirmed that the following matters would be discussed at the Jubilee Committee's next meeting:-

1. That the Committee are setting up a bank account in their name,
2. That no councillors can be signatories on the cheques.
3. That money will only be paid over in stages and any further funding would be subject to receipts being provided for all amounts spent to date.
4. That any monies left over after the event will be repaid to the Parish Council.

The Clerk reported that she had written to the PC's insurers asking if they were offering an extension to the Councils policy to cover the events to be held on Jubilee day but to date no reply had been received.

17. FINANCE

To consider the following accounts for payment:

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

Pauline Williams, Clerk	Salary (gross)	397.64)	
	Office Allowance		20.00)
	Computer use	30.00)	
	Mileage	18.50)	£478.75
	Telephone	4.29)	
	Reimburse Petty Cash	8.32)	

BT payphones Adopt a Kiosk Payment for Lowertown K9 box 1.00

It was agreed that the following applications for donations be considered at the March meeting.

Victim Support

Home Start Kernow

Cornwall Air Ambulance

18 SITHNEY PARISH PRECEPT 2012/2013 – Cllr Bickford-Smith reported

No allowance for funding in 2012/2013 Precept had been made for election expenses because there is still £3,900 from previous years unspent. (2005 – 2012)

Cllr. Bickford-Smith stated that he had increased the Footpath and Bridleway maintenance budget by ~£500 to £2,000.

Cllr. Bickford-Smith asked Cllr. Paterson to report on the issue of publishing Parish Newsletters. Cllr. Paterson said that he had investigated the cost of the PC purchasing its own laser jet printer v v using Cornwall Council's printers (their costs had been steadily increasing). He confirmed the intended budget provision of £400 would be adequate and should cover 3 years production of the newsletter.

Cllr. Bickford-Smith reported that the Localism Act 2011 will require Councils to hold a referendum to approve its precept if it is deemed to be excessive in accordance with the annual announcement of the Secretary of state. The Band D rate published for every Parish will be used as a basis for any calculation. The permitted increase for 2012/13 is 3.5% but the implementation of the referendum will not apply for 2012/13.

It was proposed by Cllr. Bickford-Smith, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. A. Pascoe and carried unanimously that the PC Precept for 2012/2013 be £15,310 an increase of just over 2%.

19. CONSIDER OFFER FROM COASTLINE FOR PC TO PURCHASE AMENITY LAND FORMERLY CALLED MEMORIAL GARDEN –

The Clerk reported that following the e mail to Coastline asking for a change in the name of the land they had asked the PC if they wanted to buy the land, as they already had a picnic bench on it and were using it for the Jubilee Celebrations. Cllr. Bickford-Smith stated that the cost of maintenance of the land was split over several properties, and as he understood it this was going to cease. Cllr. Loveday-Jenkin stated that it may be that the land was designated as Amenity Land when the estate was built; she had met this elsewhere, and if it was sold Coastline would be required to replace the amount of land being lost. It was proposed by Cllr. Paterson, seconded by Cllr. T. Martin and carried that the Clerk contact coastline and ask the following questions before any further consideration be given to the matter.

- The reason for sale
- What restrictive covenants are on the land if any
- The terms and conditions of the sale specifically if there is any restrictions on the maintenance of the land - who can cut the grass, how often etc. and any restrictions on the future use of the land

20 TIME AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 7th February, 2012 at Trannack School starting at 7.30p.m.