

# SITHNEY PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Philip Martin

Clerk to the Council  
Mrs. Pauline Williams  
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18/12

## MINUTES OF AN ORDINARY MEETING OF SITHNEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT TRANNACK SCHOOL ON TUESDAY 7<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2012 AT 7.30PM

### Present:-

Cllr. P. Martin  
Cllr. P. Bickford-Smith left 9.01p.m.  
Cllr. M. Morgans  
Cllr. E. Williams left 9.09pm  
Cornwall Councillor Loveday Jenkin

Cllr. I Paterson  
Cllr. B. Deacon  
Cllr. A. Pascoe

Parish Clerk Mrs. Pauline Williams and 1 member of the public plus Mr. Richard Bray of Westlink Design representing the owners of Home Farm, Trevarno the planning application for which is being discussed tonight.

- 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** – were received from Cllr. T. Martin and Cllr. R. Ashmore working late.
- 2. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES** - The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at Sithney School on 3<sup>rd</sup> July, 2012 were proposed by Cllr. Paterson seconded by Cllr. Morgans and unanimously approved following amendment to page 17/12 item 15 line 2 should read 'A new door needs to be fitted to the Coverack Bridges Box and then it will be painted when weather permits.'
- 3. CONFIRMATION OF RECEIPT OF SIGNED NEW DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FORMS** The Clerk reported that she had received all completed forms except from Cllr. T. Martin. These would be delivered to CC.

### 4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FOR ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA

The Clerk reminded all Councillors that since the introduction of the New Cornwall Code of Conduct 2012 and the new Declaration of Interest Forms which took effect from 28<sup>th</sup> July 2012 it is necessary not only to declare interests at the start of the meeting but also when an item is discussed. The Councillor has to leave the room for the duration of the discussion and decision making and take no part at all. This also applies to any discussion under Public Participation which was previously not included. If an interest becomes apparent which has not been included on a Councillors Declaration form, this must be declared at the time of discussion, and the Declaration form amended to reflect it.

The type of interest must be declared as

- a) Pecuniary or
- b) Non Pecuniary or both as appropriate.

Cllr. Bickford-Smith declared a pecuniary and non pecuniary interest in item 19 Affordable housing and a pecuniary and non pecuniary interest in the planning application for Home Farm, Trevarno.

### 5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – NB Housing will be dealt with at the end of the meeting.

Cllr. P. Martin welcomed Mr. Richard Bray of Westlink Design who spoke about the planning application for Home Farm, Trevarno. He stated that the scheme was to re use disused agricultural buildings. A flood risk assessment had been carried out.

**Granite pillars and iron rails.** Jane Powning, HER Information Officer, Cornwall and Scilly Historic Environment Records CC attended. She confirmed these are not listed. However the road bridge over the River Cober at Coverack Bridges is listed and includes mention of these so does the road bridge at Lowertown. She stated that if the PC so desired they could photograph and list all of the unlisted sites and apply for listing. This information could also be included in any future local plan.

Cllr. Paterson said he was aware of these pillars and rails at Coverack Bridges, Boscadjack, Lowertown, Tregathenan, Sithney Green, Mellangoose and Boscadjack Mill. However there were probably more. Cllr. Bickford-Smith said the long term residents of Sithney Green may be able to assist with background information along with other long term residents. It was agreed that Councillors approach residents to enable as much information as possible to be obtained. Jane Powning said she was more than willing to help in her own time as it is not a CC project and could help with mapping the sites. Cllr. Paterson said he could photograph them. The Clerk offered her help. Cllr. P Martin said he knew the history of the pillars and rails at Lowertown. It was agreed that wherever possible it was important to find out who put them up and who has maintained them in the past. Jane Powning said she was going to speak to the Police Officers present to get a system of notification of accidents involving the pillars and rails so that insurance

claims can be made to cover repairs, and would also speak to the highways department to get the same scheme set up.

**Possible Japanese Knotweed site at Trannack Industrial Estate** – This has been confirmed as Knotweed but it is on private land and must be treated by the landowner. Dan Senior of CC will send information to the owners. However if it gets onto Highway Land then CC will begin treatment. Mrs. Mickler said it had been cut down shortly after Cornwall Councillor Loveday Jenkins's visit.

**Letter sent to CC re speed of traffic outside Sithney School** – Cornwall Councillor Loveday Jenkin said she had met with Mrs. Susan Evans, Head teacher of Sithney School and the Highways Department to discuss the issue of speeding. Cllr. Loveday Jenkin said there was no money available for new projects but that she had suggested changes in the white lining which could be funded from the Helston Direct Maintenance budget. She had spoken about flashing lights, which could be turned on and off by the school at the appropriate time and had asked for costings and would investigate funding. Cllr. Paterson asked if the PC could fund it, the Clerk said where there was a power and duty on another local authority regrettably this was not possible. A 20mph speed limit was unlikely to be available as it requires a Road Traffic Order which is very expensive so could not be considered until April 2013 at the earliest. However, as the school boundary goes up to the junction the Head teacher and children are going to make posters to remind motorists to slow down and it is hoped that speed guns can be borrowed from the Police to be used by pupils to remind motorists to slow down; this has proved effective in other areas.

**6 POLICE REPORT** – PCSO Ceri Sadler introduced P.C. Richard Wearne the new Neighbourhood Beat Manager for Porthleven and Helston North. They stated they were aware of the speeding problem outside the school and would pay particular attention to it when possible.

There had been one crime reported which involved the theft of diesel from a motor vehicle. This compares with two crimes for the same period last year.

**7. CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS** - None

#### **8. COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS**

**Unmade Track at Gypsy Lane, Helston** – Mrs. Lewer had contacted the PC about the poor state of this path. Cllr. Bickford-Smith stated that the path is not shown on the Definitive Footpath Map; Cllr. Paterson said it is shown on the OS map with green dots indicates that Gypsy Lane is a route with public access but not necessarily a public Right of Way. The path is not within Sithney Parish but part in Helston and part in Porthleven. The matter has been passed to the Countryside Officer and Mrs. Lewer advised accordingly.

**Enquiry received from Mr. Wearne (Australia) about Lory's and Wearne's Tenements in Sithney** – The Clerk asked if anyone had any knowledge of these. No one present had, but it was agreed to ask more senior residents if they had any knowledge. Cornwall Councillor Loveday Jenkin said Wendron Parish had been able to pass on some information.

**Problems raised by resident Spring Cottage, re lane between Sithney Green and B3302.** CC has responded stating that a letter has been sent to the landowner asking that the hedges are cut along this section; the part of the lane which is highway responsibility has now been cut. Cllr. Bickford-Smith said it was the problem with the amount of tarmac which is covered with mud on either side of the road. This has accumulated over a number of years resulting in on average a foot of highway lost. He stated that it needs a ditch plough or Danelux Brush to clear the tarmac back to the ditch. The Clerk agreed to pass on this new information to the Highways Department.

**Response re overgrown trees Trannack, Sithney Green and Trevarno Front Lodge** The Clerk reported that CC is contacting land owners.

**Response re plastic bollards on hair pin bend on bridge over old railway line SW661297.** The Clerk stated that CC confirmed they were taking no further action

**Update Pengoon Farm** – The Officer, Mandy Smith is on annual leave so no update was available.

**Update Wheal Bramble, Gansey Farm.** The Officer, Mandy Smith is on annual leave so no update was available.

**Collapsed drain Tregathenan near turning to Truthall.** Cllr. Paterson reported that CC had responded saying they could not give a timescale as a road closure would be necessary which is time consuming in obtaining. It was felt this was unsatisfactory and it was agreed to say it was a health and safety issue. Cllr. Pascoe said these problems had only occurred since the installation of drainage pipes, no such problems were experienced when it was just open kennels.

**Docks and Ragwort** – Cllr. Deacon conveyed his thanks to CC for cutting down the large number of docks around the Parish. It was mentioned that there was a lot of Ragwort as well. Cllr. Bickford-Smith said some Ragwort needed to be left in industrial areas as it is the plant used by the Cinnabar Moth and 5/6 Spotted Burnet for breeding.

Cllr. Bickford-Smith advised Council of the passing of John Rogers of Penrose, Helston. It was agreed that the PC send their condolences.

**Damage to Cornish Hedge between Truthall Manor and the grass triangle at bottom beyond the bridge** - Cllr. Mrs. Pascoe said that the only redress for landowners where damage was caused by the New Generation Gimma bulb harvester appears to be via an Insurance Claim. CC is unable to assist as it is not a planning matter. She stated that fortunately there were eye witnesses to the incident and photographic evidence. Cllr. Bickford-Smith agreed to speak with a contact to see if they could be of assistance.

The Clerk reported that the road closure notice for between Coverack Bridges and Boscadjack had been sent to Wendron PC in error.

**9. CORNWALL COUNCILLOR'S COMMENTS** – Cllr. Loveday Jenkin reported that since the last meeting she had:-

- Had some recycling collection issues to deal with in Sithney Village
- Been in correspondence with a number of officers and residents in relation to highway, planning and enforcement issues within the Parish.
- Attended a discussion at Sithney School about the development of Community Facilities in association with the school. Cllr. Ashmore also attended. It was agreed to re send out the original questionnaires to establish if local organisations were still interested in these facilities.
- Attended Health and Adults Overview and Scrutiny Committee 10<sup>th</sup> July which discussed winter management of beds and discharge management as well as the draft Health and Wellbeing Strategy.
- Attended Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee 12<sup>th</sup> July which included an interesting presentation on the European Committee of the Regions by Cllr Ansari as well as reports from the Business rates working group on discretionary rates which is now out for consultation and the scrutiny panel on proposals for support services (mentioned below) as well as the process of Budget review.
- Attended extraordinary Cabinet on 30<sup>th</sup> July where proposals to move to a private sector joint venture to deliver back-room and some front-room services were voted for. This is intended to save money and increase jobs but she said she was very unhappy that the full Council have not been able to have their say upon this big decision and that the risks identified by the scrutiny panel were not seriously considered.
- Also at the Cabinet the proposals to review an alternative to the current incinerator proposals were turned down – again, in her view, a very short sighted decision.

Also the CC governance review is now being consulted upon and she urged everyone to respond with their views.

## **10. PLANNING**

### **Planning Applications**

The PAP had met on 3<sup>rd</sup> August and the following recommendations had been made:-

**PA12/05441 Lowertown Mill, Lowertown. Mr. and Mrs. Hopper (previous application withdrawn)**

#### **Conversion of barns into 2 residential units**

The panel supported the application but would like it if a planning condition that the water wheel and any other associated artefacts are retained and restored as they form part of the heritage of the Parish.

**PA12/05955 Completion of partially built shower block/wc, office/store and associated works. Mr. S. Maw, Bracken Farm Caravan Park, Sithney Water, Breage.**

The panel expressed concern that nothing major is done under the classification of 'associated works', it must be only the minor works specified in the e mail from Catherine Bray dated 6<sup>th</sup> August and must not lead to back door development.

**PA12/05621 Conversion of barns to form 6 dwellings and garages, Home Farm, Trevarno, Sithney. Andrew Wooding, Bell Developments, Cornwall.**

Cllr. P. Martin asked Council if they wished Standing Orders to be lifted so that Mr. Bray could speak to the points being raised. It was proposed by Cllr. Pascoe, seconded by Cllr. Deacon and carried that SO be suspended in accordance with SO.67

The panel expressed concerns that the sewage treatment at the site may be below the water table and is in close proximity of the river. They felt that the sighting of the treatment works under the approach road was curious and should be moved.

Mr. Bray stated that tests would be run to ensure that the sewage system was adequate and worked properly and any problems would be investigated.

Concern was expressed about the availability of a suitable water supply for the development as the current pipe is only a 1" supply pipe and the additional usage may be detrimental to neighbouring properties pressure/supply etc.

Mr. Bray agreed to investigate the size of the pipe and ensure the supply would be adequate for all.

It was noted with pleasure that the bats are to be protected and this must be done.

Mr. Bray did agree with the panel that any benefit from passive solar power would be limited due to the surrounding trees, level of ground and the way the properties faced.

The Panel felt that more effort should be made to preserve and protect the existing stone facing as it had character and would add to the aesthetics of the development. They felt the use of rendered panels would be detrimental.

Mr. Bray stated that some of the stone work was in poor condition and the render would protect it, however he did accept the panel's point of view. He said that some of the walls may need to be rebuilt and he would negotiate with the Planning Department.

The panel felt that one of the properties should be made affordable. Cllr. P. Martin thanked Mr. Bray for his assistance and reinstated Standing Orders.

Subject to the foregoing the panel approved the application.

**Helston Railway** - The panel expressed concern at the reports in the local press that the railway will have to be moved in order for the sale of part of the Trevarno Estate to proceed. It is understood that works have begun. It was felt that the impact on neighbouring properties of the moving of the railway and provision of parking will be detrimental to them. Also it would appear that the parking provision is going to compromise footpath no. 14. The Clerk was asked to state that the Council would like the opportunity to comment on the scheme as soon as possible.

**PA12/06187 Painting external wooden window frames and doors at Lower Boscadjack Farm, Trenear.** The Clerk noted that this application had been shown as approved, however the Council had not been consulted. It had been sent and approved by Wendron Parish and then despite the PC protests approved at CC meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> August. Cllr. Paterson said this was a breach of paragraph 4 and 6 of Planning Legislation advised to this Council in LTN59.

After discussion it was agreed it seemed unfair to ask the applicant to wait another month until the PC could formally consider the application and they would therefore concede the application. However the point should be made that more care must be taken when sending out applications that they go to the correct Parish Council.

**Preapp Nanskerris PA12/02073 Erection of extension to grade II listed building conversion of outbuildings and erection of timber workshops-** The panel felt that the sheer size and commercialisation of the application was not acceptable. A lot of work to the woodland and earthmoving had already been carried out. The panel asked the Clerk to ask what advice had been given to the applicant or at what stage this would be available.

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

#### **OTHER PLANNING MATTERS:**

The West sub area planning committee agenda for 18/7/2012 had been received.

#### **Permissions Granted**

PA12/00359 Conversion of barn to holiday accommodation. Sithney Water Cottage, Poldown, Breage, Helston. Mrs. H. J. Roberts.

Cllr. Bickford-Smith left now at 9.01p.m.

#### **11. PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY –**

The Clerk had e mailed Linda Holloway at CC concerning the damage to footpath 230/14/1 asking if she could get the original route reinstated. Cllr. Paterson asked if Council would agree to him applying for funding under the paths for communities (P4C) project with the Cornwall Countryside Access Forum to try and get the proposed new path, actually a modification of Sithney 11 to create a new bridleway from Sithney Village to the School first started in 2008 but still in a queue to be dealt with. It was proposed by Cllr. Paterson, seconded by Cllr. Morgans and carried unanimously.

**12. REGENERATION –** Reported under Cornwall Councillors report.

**13. LOCALISM –** Nothing to report

**14. CODE OF CONDUCT –** Nothing to report

**15. ADOPTION OF BT PHONE BOXES –** The Clerk stated that the new door on the Coverack Bridges box is still awaited.

Cllr. Ms Williams left the meeting at 9.09p.m.

**16. REPORT OF THE CLERK & CORRESPONDENCE**

New bus service East Lizard

CALC The Week issue 19, 20,21 and 22

Rural Services Network 2/7, 9/7, 16/7, 23/7 and 30/7

Rural Opportunities Bulletin 4/7,

Cornwall AONB newsletter July 2012

**Risk Assessment and Audit** – In the absence of Cllrs. Bickford-Smith and T. Martin the Clerk reported that these had been carried out on 5<sup>th</sup> July. All Insurance Values had been agreed. It was noted that the Notice boards needed cleaning and a new coat of preservative applied. Cllr. Ashmore had agreed to get the foliage cut back out of the telephone boxes. There were rocks, presumably from the Cornish Hedge nearby, under the picnic table – Cllr. Deacon kindly agreed to remove them. The Bus Shelter at Sithney had a red sticky residue on it, Cllr. Deacon agreed to try and remove it. The Bus Shelter at Crowtown needs sweeping out, rubbish has blown in. It was agreed that Cllr. Paterson should put a note in the next newsletter seeking a volunteer. The remaining Millennium Maps had been counted and reconciled with income received. It was agreed to send a letter of thanks to Mr and Mrs Talboys who had replaced the post that the notice board at Crowtown is on.

The Audit had been completed.

Cornwall Countryside Access Forum Agenda and papers for 17/7/2012

Timetable and flyer for the new minibus service in Lizard which covers part of PC area.

Julie Girling MEP July e newsletter

Road Closure notice B3297 Coverack Bridges to New Inn Wendron 22/10 – 26/10/12 1800 to 0600

Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places – result on initial consultation – nothing affects this Parish.

Localism Newsletter Edition 8 17<sup>th</sup> July, 2012

Cornwall Waste Forum – St. Dennis Branch How to save money in Cornwall's waste management – 32 page presentation to the Waste Development Advisory Panel made on 11<sup>th</sup> July

Letter leader of CC Alec Robertson dated 20<sup>th</sup> July, 2012

**17. QUEEN DIAMOND JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS-** Cllr. Morgans reported that trees and benches would be put in the schools and churches to commemorate the Jubilee. Cllr. Paterson said a DVD of the Jubilee celebrations would be available shortly. The Clerk reported she had reconciled the purchase, sale and gifting of the mugs.

Cllr. P. Martin asked if there would be any remaining funds to renovate the seat in memory of Mr. Philips by the Coverack Bridges notice board. Cllr. Morgans said there would not. It was agreed to add this to the next PC agenda.

**18. FINANCE****a) To consider the following accounts for payment:**

It was proposed by Cllr. Paterson, seconded by Cllr. Morgans and carried unanimously that the following account be paid:-

Pauline Williams, Clerk	Salary (net)	419.32 )
	Office Allowance	20.00 )
	Computer use	10.00 ) £533.38
	Mileage	30.00 )
	Telephone	1.31 )
	Reimburse Petty Cash	52.75 )
Post Office Ltd	(HMRC payment)	.60
Audit Commission	2011/12 Audit	162.00

**b) To consider the following applications for donations:** None received.

**19. Update on proposed affordable housing in Crowtown** - Public Consultation 11<sup>th</sup> September at Sithney School from 1.30 to 8pm. The Clerk in consultation with Will Morris had drawn up a flyer to be placed on Parish Council notice boards. This was handed around and agreed as satisfactory.

**20. TIME AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> September, 2012 at 7.30p.m. at Sithney School