

SITHNEY PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Ian Paterson

Clerk to the Council
Mrs Jodie Ellis
07855774357

Trannack Farm,
St Erth, Hayle
TR27 6ET

48/14

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

Present:-

Cllr. I Paterson – Chairman Cllr. P. Bickford-Smith Vice-Chairman
Cllr. P. Elliott Cllr. P. Martin
Cllr. Mrs. A. Pascoe
Cllr. C. Perrin Cllr. Ms E. Williams
Parish Clerk Mrs. Jodie Ellis and 2 members of the public.

- 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** – Were received from Cornwall Cllr. Keeling and Cllr. Morgans.
- 2. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES** - The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 3rd February, 2015 were proposed by Cllr. Bickford-Smith and seconded by Cllr. Mrs Pascoe and unanimously agreed as a correct record and were signed by the Chairman.
- 3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FOR ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA** – Cllr. Bickford-Smith declared a disclosable financial interest in item 20 website and item 21 Affordable Housing, and a non registerable interest in item 16a) agreed payment to Sithney and Lowertown over 60's club as a recipient. Cllr. Mrs. Pascoe declared a non registerable interest in item 16a) agreed payment to Sithney and Lowertown over 60's club as a committee member.
- 4. TO CONSIDER ANY APPLICATIONS FOR DISPENSATIONS UNDER SECTION 33 OF THE LOCALISM ACT 2011-** None.
- 5. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**

Appeals

APP/D0840/A/14/2224296(PA14/00748) Extension of existing railway with platforms and car park. Construction of temporary platform, change of use of two barns to storage and light maintenance and provision of premises for Organic Trevarno. –No update to report.

Footpath 230/30/1 – Hamish Gordon (Cormac) has advised that the landowner is presently negotiating a new line to divert the BW onto, as the original line has completely foundered behind his property. This matter will therefore be dealt with by CC and hopefully at some point soon an Officer will visit the site to view and advise the landowner as to whether the alternative is a viable option and that they will be willing to proceed with the application to Divert. Cllr. Mrs Pascoe reported that there are currently large earthworks being carried out onsite and that the temporary footpath is not useable. The official notices that Cornwall council erected on site have been blown away. The clerk was asked to take this up with Cormac and chase up official notices being reinstated on site.

Overhanging bough Front Lodge to Mellangoose – The clerk has emailed Cllr. Keeling to see if he wished to take this up with Cormac directly or the portfolio holder. Cllr. Keeling has responded to say that he is waiting to see Claire Banks (the Highway Steward at Cormac), before taking further action, and will report back.

Roadside Hedge at Trannack Cottage - The Clerk has received a response from Cormac to advise that the area has now been trimmed. Cllr. Mrs Pascoe confirmed this.

6. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – None.

7 POLICE REPORT – PCSO 30628 Brannigan reported that there were no crimes in Sithney in February 2015. Cllr. Mrs Pascoe advised that there had already been a reported incident at Trannack Quarry, Coverack Bridges in March. An area was broken into, damaging steel doors and coats and wellingtons had been stolen.

8. CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS – Cllr. Paterson welcomed the new clerk and discussed that the contract was still to be signed. It was advised that the new post could count as continuous service from the clerk's previous position with CC. The main implications being if the post was made redundant then there would be a larger financial impact on Sithney parish council. It was also advised that the clerk had enquired about the possibility of Sithney joining the LGPS. The chairman advised that he could not ever see a scenario by where the council would make their clerk redundant. It was agreed to add these matters to the April agenda and discuss then. It was agreed that the new clerks official start date would be the 14th February 2015. This was proposed by Cllr. Elliot and seconded by Cllr. Perrin.

The chairman expressed his thanks on behalf of all the Cllrs to the previous clerk Pauline Williams following three years distinguished service. Cllr. Paterson attended a Community network meeting on the 04th February 2015 at Helston. There was a presentation from the community rehab company formerly known as the probation service. The presentation detailed the work that reoffenders get involved with in the community. Service Users (offenders) are sentenced to do community service, they work Thursday – Sunday and the work has to be; worthwhile, of benefit to the community and challenging to the individual. Examples of places of work are; Churches, footpaths, village halls, closed graveyards, beaches, etc. The programme has tools and equipment for use, carry out risk assessments on all jobs and ensures compliance with H&S requirements. Payment is required but this is negotiable. If Sithney have any projects in the future the community rehab company may be of assistance. It was noted that Cornwall Councillors attending the meeting outnumbered the Parish council representatives. A discussion on a possible joint procurement of a contractor for hedge and verge trimming with Grade Ruan Parish Council, Mullion and Landewednack was discussed.

It was advised that an FOI request had been received by email from Mr Lockett of Boscadjack. Contact had been made with Jessica Harries / Simon Mansell, Monitoring Officer, Governance and Information Service. Sithney had been advised by Jessica Harries that she could offer assistance at the rate of £82.00 per hour. This was discussed by the Cllrs, and Cllr. Mrs Pascoe advised the council that there was nothing else that Jessica Harries could provide that the PC could not provide itself. Cllr. Elliott advised that at present a FOI request had been placed not a complaint, so it was not in Sithney's interests to spend money on Jessica Harries time. It was agreed unanimously that the council's previous minutes be loaded on to the parish website so to provide Mr Lockett with all the information requested alongside that of Cornwall Council's online planning portal. Once minutes are uploaded the clerk will email Mr Lockett to respond to his FOI request. Cllr. Paterson highlighted that a CALC newsletter advises parish councils that you cannot legally summons Cllrs to a meeting electronically. This was discussed and agreed that the agendas being placed on the notice boards covered this.

9. COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS -

Cllr. Elliott requested that the Agenda and Minutes are provided in a bigger font in future. This was noted by the clerk and will be updated in future.

Cllr. Mrs Pascoe requested that the Sithney parish council emails are updated to show the new clerks name. This has now been amended.

Cllr. Bickford-Smith advised that there had been a significant increase in roadside rubbish in certain areas such as Prospidnick that have recently had bulbs, daffodils and cabbage workers working in.

Cllr. Martin advised that Cormac's division officer should be asked to monitor. Cllr. Bickford-Smith to provide details to Clerk so that the clerk can contact the relevant company's and Cormac's division officer if required.

Cllr. Martin advised that the work at Sithney common hill is going to be ongoing for some time, due to the large crack in the road. The work is hopefully due to start in March and will last for approximately 4-5 months. Cllr. Martin advised that he had travelled to chair a meeting today, due to objections from the public but both individuals failed to attend. He reminded everyone how this is a waste of public money and that if the public have a view then they should attend council meetings to provide them.

10. CORNWALL COUNCILLOR'S COMMENTS – Cllr. Keeling has advised -The main item this month has been to vote in a balanced budget and council tax which Cornwall Council has a statutory duty to set for 2015-2016. Consequently the council tax will be increased by 1.97% in 2015/16 meaning a 48 pence a week increase or £25 a year increase for a band D property. He maintained his position of abstaining from the vote, as did 18 other members, for the same reasons as in his November report. He would have liked to have seen, amongst others, the member's highway budget reinstated to empower Cornwall Councillors to help address the menace of speeding in our villages and hamlets. In addition, Adult social care in Cornwall is funded lower than other local authorities in the country and given our high population of elderly people, continuing care is not sustainable in the future; and the whole issue of health and social care needs to be addressed locally and nationally.

Central government established a set of principles which when applied will determine a ceiling over which any proposed council tax increase will have to be subject to a local public referendum. The 2015/16 threshold below which a referendum is not required has been set at 2%. Thus with a 1.97% increase the council will not be required to hold a referendum in relation to the 2015/16 Council Tax.

Cllr. Keeling has been out and about talking to people about some of the matters affecting them including various planning and enforcement issues within the division. He met with the Sithney Green Senior Section (Girl Guides) earlier in the month to hear of some of the worthwhile projects they have been involved with in the community and pledged some funding towards their up and coming project later in the year. The Housing Development at Crowntown is moving forward and he expects to be able to report positively soon. He is also working with Sithney School on projects to provide additional classroom and staff space. - Email circulated to all Cllrs.

11. PLANNING**Planning Applications****Approved - None****Approved with Conditions –**

PA14/11578 Nancegollan Industrial Estate, Nancegollan, Helston, Cornwall, TR13 OAP. Increase in roof height of unit by 1.5 meters to enable work on vans and light commercial vehicles. Regularise highway access arrangements. Cllr. Paterson reported that he had looked into the conditions and they were quite lengthy such as restrictions on working times and hours.

PA14/11855 Tregoose Cottage, Tregoose, Sithney, Helston, TR13 0RT. Proposed Erection of a two storey extension to existing dwelling, erection of a double domestic garage attached to existing outbuilding, alterations to existing gated field access, formation of hard-core access track and concrete hard standing.

Withdrawn –

PA14/11699 Land adjacent to 8 Merther Close, Sithney, Helston, TR130RW.

12. PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY – Item was moved to Agenda Item 22 to discuss tender prices after the public have left the meeting. Proposed by Cllr. Mrs Pascoe and seconded by Cllr. Elliott. All in favour.

Sithney 19 – Public Footpath at Higher Trannack Farm, Cormac have advised of an update that the path has been blocked by the owner of Higher Trannack Farm, since their visit he has chosen to find an alternative means of arranging the construction works on his land so that the path can be fully accessed once more. It is understand he blocked the path originally due to concerns for users' safety. Cormac have been advised that he will move the entrance gate to his property further in, away from his boundary, thereby excluding the stile and public footpath. Walkers will then be able to continue to walk unobstructed without entering his building area which will be secured by the existing 12 foot gate, once it is relocated. It is understood the gate hasn't been relocated yet due to the weather conditions; he hopes it will be able to be moved today, when the obstruction will also be removed from the path. A countryside officer will be making an inspection this week to ensure the path is unobstructed and fully accessible as before. The Chairman reported that this work had now been carried out.

Footpath 14 – Cllr. Bickford-Smith advised that the stiles need replacing. It was discussed and agreed that stile should be rebuilt in its original materials. This is a landowner issue, so Cllr. Bickford-Smith will contact the owner to discuss. Cllr. Bickford-Smith advised that it would be helpful to mention the area name that the footpath runs to and from as not everyone knows which path is being discussed just from the number. The clerk will try to mention names as well as path numbers where possible.

13. REGENERATION – Cllr. Ms Williams will provide an update at April's meeting.

14. LOCALISM/CODE OF CONDUCT/NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN – None.

15. REPORT OF THE CLERK & CORRESPONDENCE

Rural Services Network – weekly news 02/02, 04/02, 09/02, 11/02, 16/02, Rural Vulnerability Service – February 2015 & RSN Health & wellbeing agenda for 03/03/15.

Cornwall Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Conference – 07.03.15

Penwith Community Development Trust - February Training Bulletin.

CEP – Power up your community workshops in March, April & May.

CC Briefing on Libraries & One Stop Shops, Face to Face Services – Next steps

CC Localism and Devolution Bulletin – Reassignment of Community Link officers in network areas.

CC Briefing on British Gas Energy Efficiency Fund and what do you think of your household rubbish & recycling Collections.

Volunteer Cornwall - Free training for community transport volunteers

CC – Views on draft renewable energy supplementary planning document (SPD).

CALC The Week – 20/02/2015 & Transparency code for smaller authorities.

CC- Notice of submission of the Cornwall local plan: strategic policies to the secretary of state for communities and local government.

CEP – 'Community energy switch' a new initiative to help households in Cornwall cut their energy bills.

CC – Minutes of the Cornwall Countryside Access Forum, 27.01.15 have been published.

New Standards and Accreditation Handbook Document.

16. FINANCE

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

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

	£
Information Commissioner	35.00
Sithney and Lowertown over 60's club – (As agreed at PC meeting 03.02.12)	500.00
Sithney Christmas Lights – (As agreed at PC meeting 03.02.12)	560.00
Mrs Pauline Williams – Clerk	<u>252.94</u>
	<u>1347.94</u>

Financial Reports by Clerk**b.) Financial report.**

The Clerk reported that she had invoices to pay totalling £1347.94 as reported at item 16a.

The balance at the end of February on the Current Account was £ 3305.69 and on the Business Saver £33,548.64. These are considered adequate to undertake the work of the Parish Council. It was proposed by Cllr. Elliott and seconded by Cllr. Perrin and agreed that the report be accepted. All in favour.

Approval of Monthly Report. The accounts to end of February had been circulated but they do not include the payments drawn on 3rd March. Cllr. Elliott requested that the £363.00 virement to fund the advertising of the clerks post be completed, so not to show a overspend in advertising. The clerk will do this for April. It was proposed by Cllr. Elliott seconded by Cllr. Mrs Pascoe 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 at Trannack the money box was still chained to the Notice board posts. The Bus Shelter at Crowntown is waiting repainting. It was proposed by Cllr. Ms Williams, seconded by Cllr. Perrin and carried unanimously that this report be accepted.

Change of Pin Sentry and Statement Information – The clerk has completed an authority letter to be sent to Barclays bank to amend all correspondence for the two bank accounts to reflect the change in Clerk. It was proposed by Cllr. Mrs Pascoe, seconded by Cllr. Elliott and carried unanimously that this be accepted.

17. Co-Option of new Parish Councillors: - A Declaration of Interest form was completed and returned by Cllr. Perrin. There is still one vacancy on the Parish Council.

18. Flooding – Nothing to report.

19. School Governors Report – Cllr. Mrs Pascoe reported that the school hedge had not been trimmed, she has now chased this with the school and has been informed that it will be done next Week. Cllr. Bickford-Smith highlighted that the consultation to form a federation between Sithney and Garras School has now started, he reminded all Cllr's that they should show their support by completing the form.

20. Communications – Parish Newsletter/Website –Cllr. Paterson discussed the idea of looking into introducing a local & Parish app that Boud Digital are launching at a price of £360 + vat per year, to help reach the community, in particular the younger generation. This was discussed but no Cllrs were in favour.

21. Affordable Housing – The Clerk has emailed Robin Falle, but as yet has received no response. It was requested that the clerk chase up Robin Falle / Adrian Wiles.

22. PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY – Moved to separate page as Confidential Item.

23. TIME AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Tuesday 7th April, 2015 at Sithney School.

Confidential Item

22. PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY –