

SITHNEY PARISH COUNCIL
Chairman: Peter Bickford-Smith

Clerk to the Council
Mrs Jodie Ellis
07855774357

Trannack Farm,
St Erth, Hayle
TR27 6ET

21/15

MINUTES OF AN ORDINARY MEETING OF SITHNEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT TRANNACK SCHOOL ON TUESDAY 4th August, 2015 at 7.30PM

Present:-

Cllr. P Bickford-Smith– Chairman	Cllr. Mrs. A. Pascoe - Vice-Chairman
Cllr. P. Elliott	Cllr. Ms. E. Williams (arrived 8.15)
Cllr. C. Perrin	Cornwall Cllr J. Keeling

Parish Clerk Mrs Jodie Ellis and 5 members of the public.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Were received from Cllr P Martin.

2. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES - The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 7th July 2015 were proposed by Cllr. Perrin 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 pecuniary interest in Item 12 Public Rights of Way – Trough at Chynhale

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 – Colin Hawke at CC has supplied a map for us to check where the Japanese Knotweed is located to confirm if the area is on the public highway or not. If not then he has suggested a Land Registry search to locate the owner's contact details. Discussions took place and it was agreed that Cllr Mrs Pascoe would supply the Clerk with the owners address to write to them regarding the issue.

Roseawen Woods at Sithney Green – The clerk has spoken to Lee Viner at Cornwall Council and he advised that he has not been out to visit the site recently but hopes to do so in the near future. The clerk asked what type of evidence CC were looking for to indicate that someone may or may not be living on site. Mr Viner advised that it was on a basis that the person concerned was living at the premises more than they were living elsewhere i.e. 3 out of 4 weeks of a month they were living on site. If the council were to go for enforcement then they would rely heavily on third parties making a witness statement to confirm that the persons were living on site and be willing to back this up in court if required. It was discussed and agreed Cllr Mrs Pascoe would speak to the neighbour's to see how they feel about giving witness statement's and report back in September.

6. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION –

Mrs Gratton - spoke with regards to the planning application she has in for Crowntown Car Sales, Crowntown Filling Station, Crowntown, Helston. Mrs Gratton advised that the original plans have been amended as after marking out the plot they felt a smaller more cottage style property would be better suited with Granite, and hoped that this would be approved by the Parish Council.

7 POLICE REPORT – The clerk contacted Devon and Cornwall Police but was unable to get a police report for the meeting.

8. CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS –

Cllr Bickford-Smith advised the meeting that he had received the resignation of both Cllr Paterson and Cllr Morgans, both of whom had made valuable contributions to this council and will be greatly missed. Cllr Bickford-Smith went on to advise that this leaves the Parish Council with three vacancies. The current quorum is 3, and so expressed a need for all Cllrs to make a major effort to fill these vacancies.

Cllr Bickford-Smith would like to record the Parish Council's grateful thanks to Cllr Paterson and Cllr Morgans for their valuable contribution to the wellbeing of Sithney Parish Council and our sadness at their departing. It was Proposed by Cllr Elliott and seconded by Cllr Mrs Pascoe.

Cllr Bickford-Smith advised that the Bank Signatories and current Cllr Lists held with Barclays were out of date and need updating. It was proposed by Cllr Elliott and seconded by Cllr Mrs Pascoe that the following Cllr's are removed from the mandate with Barclays: Cllrs Paterson, Morgans, Deacon, and previous clerk P Williams. The current signatory list with Barclays does not include Cllr Perrin as his completed form was never received therefore Cllr Perrin will complete a new form and take into Barclays with his ID and then return the completed forms to the clerk for her to collate and send back to Barclays. Another signatory is needed with the loss of Cllr Paterson and Cllr Morgans. It was proposed by Cllr Perrin and seconded by Cllr Elliott that Cllr Bickford-Smith is voted in with immediate effect as a signatory and Cllr Bickford-Smith would be required to complete a personal Details form and pass to the clerk.

Cllr Bickford-Smith advised that 4 maps had been sold to Mr Clifton from Lowertown, who had also taken a further 10 to sell at the local fete, of which he sold 5. Cllr Bickford-Smith expressed his thanks to Mr Clifton. Picture & Things in Helston have been advised of the new map prices. Cllr Bickford-Smith suggested placing a copy of the map on the website with draft ghosted through it, stating that they are for sale and to contact the clerk. It was proposed by Cllr Perrin and seconded by Cllr Elliott that the clerk places an item on the website to this effect.

9. COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS –

Cllr Mrs Pascoe expressed her concern at the standard of road work currently being carried out in particular in the area between Trannack and Pear Tree. The gateway outside Prospect Farm has already sunk after recent works were carried out. Cornwall Cllr. Keeling advised that Cormac has a priority to the main roads in the district but suggested inviting Claire Banks from Cormac out to look at the main areas of concern within the Parish, and ask her to brief the council on Cormac's reasoning behind the repairs. It was agreed the clerk would contact Claire Banks to make the necessary arrangements. Cllr Mrs Pascoe also advised that the 3rd Stile in from Field to Track on 230/5/4 from Truthall road to Sithney Green, needs trimming, clerk to contact Bob Sanders.

Cllr Perrin advised that the road outside Home Farm had been hammered down due to the large Lorries turning out of the yard, Cllr Keeling advised it would probably have been a condition on the planning applications approved within Home Farm Yard that they would have to make good any damage on completion. The Chairman said that the damage had occurred during the period when Trevarno Gardens were open to the public. The area could also be shown to Claire Banks.

10. CORNWALL COUNCILLOR'S COMMENTS - Cllr. Keeling advised July 2015 was a busy month with a flying visit by the Prime Minister and Local Government Minister Greg Clark to sign the "Deal for Cornwall" a historic first in the country to devolve a range of powers and responsibilities between Government, Cornwall Council and the Local Enterprise Partnership. The deal is strictly cost neutral and contains no tax raising powers unlike the "Case for Cornwall" put forward by the council's administration. In Cllr Keeling's new role as leader of the conservative group at county hall and together with our six MPs, Cllr Keeling met the Prime Minister and Local Government Minister both formally and informally on the 17th of July. In summary the Deal will enable the following: powers for franchising bus services, further education training and learning provision for adults, Intermediate Body Status for two European Union funds worth some 603 million euros (we take decisions locally on how to spend the money rather than Whitehall); devolve new apprenticeship opportunities; integration of local and national business support services to make easier for local businesses to find the support they need; integration of health and social care; energy efficiency improvements in home to help combat fuel poverty; more joint working between Government and local public sector organisations to improve efficiencies in the public estate which has fragmented estate management arrangement with a mix of control between local and national bodies and the creation of a Cornish Heritage Environment Forum. The document is now available on line it must be stressed that this is only the beginning of a long road to decentralisation and devolution of powers to local authorities across the country.

Other work includes a statutory duty to ensure that the safer Cornwall agenda is in place on issues such as hate crime; domestic abuse; casualty reduction and even counter terrorism as part of the Safer Cornwall Community Safety Partnership. The paperless planning for town and parish councils has been put on hold until January to re-think the implications for all council rather than just those that have the facilities. The tendering process for toilets finished on the 31st of July and Cllr Keeling will report back on progress on this later. Cllr Keeling's question to the administration failing a suitable solution is found for Praa Sands is: "Do you really want to close toilets on a beach that attracts thousands of visitors? Where is your plan B?" he spoke at length to Dave Morgan about his wanting to form a conservation group to protect Breage Village "Green Heart" and Cllr Keeling thinks this sends a clear message that Neighbourhood Plans for the parish would be a sound investment. With volunteers the task could be made easier and there are now better arrangements in place with help from a dedicated officer to help parishes and the recent formation of Strategic Devolution Group. There is funding available up to £8K and he would be delighted to be part of any working group(s) set up as a consequence of deciding to go for it. Cllr Keeling attended the Strategic Planning Committee last Thursday and by now you will be aware that the committee voted for the West Langarth Stadium for Cornwall as well as development of the Truro Football Club ground with an alternative football stadium approved. Good day for Cornish Sport, bad day for Truro City Centre.

11. PLANNING

Planning Applications To consider recommendations to planning applications received: -

PA15/05875 – Crowntown Car Sales, Crowntown Filling Station, Crowntown, Helston – Proposed demolition of existing garage and construction of dwelling. (Revised Design of Planning Approval PA14/10982). Discussions took place and it was agreed that the plans would be supported by the Parish Council and were proposed by Cllr Mrs Pascoe and seconded by Cllr Perrin, that the clerk would report the P.C's support back to CC.

Enforcement

EN15/11059 - Lowena, Lowertown Helston -

Jo Patience at CC has spoken to the owner on the telephone briefly and sent an email to their website outlining her concerns and informing them of the potential breach regarding the camping, thinking that they would definitely see that as they are obviously taking bookings etc. Unfortunately they appear to have chosen to ignore the email at the moment. A letter will be sent telling them that the camping will need to cease as they clearly have had the tents erected on the land longer than the annual 28 days and as they have chosen not to answer her questions about the use of the land, Jo will have no choice other than to assume a breach has occurred.

Approval

PA15/04759 - Lower Boscadjack Farm Trenear Helston TR13 0HH

Paperless Planning Applications – The clerk advised that due to the number of complaints and issues that have been raised to Cornwall Council the date of change has been delayed until the 4th January 2016 to allow for Parish Council's to purchase the necessary equipment and attend the 1 hour training that Cornwall Council are looking into delivering. Cllr Bickford-Smith advised that if the paperless planning applications do go ahead then it would be a good idea to have at least an A4 copy available for residents to view. Cllr Mrs Pascoe advised that plans downsized to A4 are very difficult to see the required detail on.

Cornwall Council - Call for Potential Housing Sites on Brownfield Land – This was discussed and agreed that there are not currently any suitable sites within the Parish.

12. PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY –

Bridleway 230/30, Sithney– Cormac has advised it is quite likely that the bridleway will be closed for the full 12 months. The path was originally closed due to the collapse of a retaining bank over which the bridleway passes. There were delays in works starting here from the landowner's insurance company/ loss adjustors. Initial works to stabilise the bank involved removing a large, granite boulder from the back of an adjoining property. This caused further destabilisation of the bank, impacting further on the line of the bridleway, which now requires an immense engineering solution to be restored to its former condition. It is understood Cornwall Council and the landowner are investigating both an interim alternative route across the landowner's property and a permanent legal diversion for this PRoW. Cornwall Council have advised that they have asked the Cormac Soils Engineer to survey the unstable section of rock and report back on options for getting the route open.

Footpath 14 – Craig House to Penpraze – Cllr Bickford-Smith advised he had spoken to Trevor Glasper who will get in touch with Andrew Rowlands. Trevor assured Cllr Bickford-Smith that the work will be done. If it is not completed by the next meeting then perhaps the P.C should formalise the matter by writing officially.

Lane beside Trelin from Crowntown to Chynhale – Has been reported by a resident as being in a poor state. Cllr Bickford-Smith has contacted the relevant Land Agent requesting the work to be carried out. Cllr Bickford-Smith left the room at 8.10pm and Cllr Mrs Pascoe took the chair.

Trough at Chynhale – The Clerk has written to Thane Osborne but has still not received a response. Cllr Perrin asked if the P.C could spend its money on the repair, it was advised that it could not. It was agreed that Cllr Perrin would supply the clerk with Thane Osborne's number so that the ownership could be established.

8.15pm Cllr Bickford-Smith returned and took the chair.

Footpath from the Crown Inn to Sithney School – This footpath has become overgrown again, it was requested that the clerk would contact Cormac to request it is trimmed before school restarts in September.

Footpath 9/2 from Prospidnick to Tregathenan – The clerk has asked Bob Sanders to trim, Cllr Mrs Pascoe confirmed this has been done.

Ditches in Sithney at Antron – The clerk has received a call from a parishioner asking for the ditches to be cleared off docks in Sithney coming from the Penzance road at Antron going towards Camborne / Helston. The clerk has advised Cormac and they are going to investigate.

New Sign at Bal Road – A Parishioner has been in contact with the clerk regarding erecting a sign at the end of Bal Road, the clerk spoke to Cormac who gave advice. The clerk put Cormac in touch with the Parishioner to discuss options.

13. REPORT OF THE CLERK & CORRESPONDENCE

Rural Vulnerability Service – Fuel Poverty July 2015

Cornwall Sports Partnership – Nominations now open for the 2015 Cornwall sports awards

CC – Have your say – Leisure Services Soft Market Test 2015 – Camborne 5th August

CC - Alternative service delivery of Library and One Stop Shops in Cornwall – Extension to Cabinet consideration

Rural Vulnerability Service – Rural Broadband July 2015

RSN Weekly updates 13/07, 20/07, 27/07

RSN – Rural Housing Spotlight

Cornwall AONB Management Plan – Online questionnaire closes 31st July 2015

14. FINANCE

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

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

Cornwall Air Ambulance – S137 Donation	£ 200.00
St Sithney Church – S137 Donation	825.00
Cornwall Council (LGPS) – Clerk	67.05
Mrs Jodie Ellis – Clerk (Salary & Expenses)	490.39
Cash – Reimbursement of Petty Cash	12.18
	<u>1594.62</u>

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

The Clerk reported that she had invoices to pay totaling £1594.62 as reported in item 14a. The balance at the end of July on the Current Account was £5,739.37 and on the Business Saver £33,557.00. These are considered adequate to undertake the work of the Parish Council. It was proposed by Cllr. Perrin, and seconded by Cllr. Ms. Williams that the report be accepted. All in favour.

Approval of Monthly Report. The accounts to the end of July had been circulated but they do not include the payments drawn on 4th August. It was proposed by Cllr. Perrin, seconded by Cllr. Ms. Williams 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 there were no issues this month. It was proposed by Cllr. Ms. Williams, seconded by Cllr. Perrin and carried unanimously that this report be accepted and was signed by the chairman.

c) Costings for New Lockable / Fire Resistant Filing Cabinet – The clerk advised that she had sourced costings for a new four drawer fireproof filing cabinet which were all in excess of £900.00 and the companies would not deliver anywhere with steps unless there was a lift. Given the clerk's location and considering the current cabinet is still useable, the clerk would like to purchase a new lockable / fireproof Petty cash box only for a price of £44.40. It was proposed by Cllr Perrin and seconded by Cllr Elliott that a new Petty cash box would be purchased.

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d) Notice Board Costings – The Clerk has circulated to all Cllrs the 6 quotes that have been received for 5 replacement Notice boards. Discussions took place and it was observed by Cllr Elliott that only notice boards that could fit the required 12 pages should be considered. It was agreed to put forward to September's meeting to discuss further and allow Cllr's to view the new boards at Nancegollan and to allow time to measure the current boards when the annual audit takes place.

e) Website – The clerk sought agreement to amend the Home page on the Website to advertise the 3 current Councillor vacancies and to highlight the S137 funding available. Also the Parish Newsletter and News page are out of date. It was agreed that the clerk could use her own discretion to add / remove items that are of interest to the Parish, with the agreement of the chairman. It was proposed by Cllr Elliott and seconded by Cllr Perrin. Cllr Ms. Williams advised her contact number was incorrect on the website so the clerk would correct this.

15. Parish Council Councillor Vacancies – Cllr Bickford-Smith advised that the notices have gone up to advertise the two vacancies. The clerk advised that CALC had suggested putting Co-option on future agendas so that anyone who is put forward could be discussed.

16. School Governors Report – Nothing to report.

17. TIME AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING - Tuesday 1st September 2015 at 7.30pm at Trannack School.