

**SITHNEY PARISH COUNCIL**  
Chairman: Peter Bickford-Smith

Clerk to the Council  
Mrs Jodie Ellis  
07855774357

Trannack Farm,  
St Erth, Hayle  
TR27 6ET

35/16

**MINUTES OF AN ORDINARY MEETING OF SITHNEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT SITHNEY SCHOOL ON TUESDAY 06<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2016 at 7.30PM**

**Present: -**

**Cllr P. Bickford-Smith - Chairman**                      **Cllr. Mrs. L. Penrose**                      **Cllr. P. Martin**  
**Parish Clerk Mrs. Jodie Ellis and 4 members of the public.**

- 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** – Were received from Cllr. Mrs. A. Pascoe, Cllr. A. McDonald and Cllr. Mrs. J. Daybell.
- 2. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES** –The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 01<sup>st</sup> November 2016 were proposed by Cllr. P. Martin and seconded by Cllr. Mrs. L. Penrose and unanimously agreed as a correct record and were signed by the Chairman.
- 3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FOR ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA** – Cllr. Mrs. L. Penrose declared a disclosable Financial interest in Item 10 Planning Jasmine Cottage.
- 4. TO CONSIDER ANY APPLICATIONS FOR DISPENSATIONS UNDER SECTION 33 OF THE LOCALISM ACT 2011-** None received.

**5. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES –**

**Pednavounder – Hilltop road joining from the B3302** – Cllr. P. Bickford-Smith met with Cornwall Cllr. J. Keeling for a Breakfast Meeting last month and they toured the area with particular reference to Scholars Lane egress on to the B3302 and both agreed that it was extremely dangerous and that the aim was to make it One Way for the top section. Cllr. P. Bickford-Smith has since had a complaint from a local resident about this junction who nearly had an accident.

**Average Speed cameras in Crowtown** - Cornwall Cllr. J. Keeling and Cllr. P. Bickford-Smith have met and observed the speeding through crowtown. Cllr. P. Bickford-Smith has subsequently observed Traffic Monitoring in Helston and contacted the firm which was undertaking the work. They recommended putting two tubes across the road to monitor the speed and volume of traffic through Crowtown. This system would also give a schedule of the times of traffic movements. Cllr. P. Bickford-Smith recommends having two such devices, one near the Old Post Office and one on the lip before the road descends outside Cudna or opposite the end of Johnny Whites lane. The cost of this survey is reasonable at £425 for one set of tubes and £450 for two sets. If the work was carried out in conjunction with other traffic monitoring in the area the cost would fall to in the region of £200. All Cllrs agreed this would be beneficial. Cornwall Cllr. J. Keeling said he would take these matters to the Highways committee with a view to achieving SPC's aims.

**Sithney Scrap Book** – Cllr. Mrs. J. Daybell has provided the clerk with a contact number for the clerk to look into.

**Sithney Picnic Bench** – Cllr. P. Bickford-Smith has been in contact with Coastline Housing, who have responded to say that Sithney Parish Council need to move the picnic bench and re-site at their expense as agreed at the January 2016 meeting. It was agreed to wait and see if Coastline are successful in their planning application before re-siting the bench. Coastline would like Sithney Parish Council to take ownership of the piece of land in Sithney where the notice board and bus shelter are sited. It was agreed to discuss this in January 2017 when more members would be present.

**6. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION –**

Geoff Henwood – Chairman of Crowan Parish Council addressed the meeting to advise that Crowan are currently taking CC to court for non-compliance with S130 of the highways act in relation to not removing vegetation on the highways. Mr Henwood advised that whilst CC have no duty to remove vegetation they do have a duty to enforce landowners to remove vegetation on highways. Mr Henwood also advised that Crowan PC have had 4 speed cameras on posts free of charge from CC that have collected data like that required by Sithney for the speeding in Crowtown. Mr Henwood advised Cllrs of the Highways maintenance manual which is a useful resource in all highways aspects for Parish Councils.

Thelma Bedwell – advised that Lowertown over 60's Christmas lunch will be on the 14<sup>th</sup> January 2017 at Nancegollan Village hall, more information will be on the parish council's website.

**7. CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS** – Cllr. P. Bickford-Smith advised that there is a damaged hedge at Plovers Field Entrance, caused by a lorry visiting the site. CC think the responsibility lies with the owner of Pedna. Pedna think it is CC job to repair. The danger sign has fallen over and been run over several times and as the traffic must slow to get around the fallen stones in the road. There are concerns it could cause an accident. It was agreed to contact CC highways and report.

Cllr. P. Bickford-Smith advised that he recently bumped into Pauline Williams former clerk of Sithney PC in Sainsbury's and she asked him to pass on her kind wishes to Cllrs. Cllr. P. Bickford-Smith advised she was looking very well.

Cllr. P. Bickford-Smith has inspected the Water on the road in Lowertown on Sunday morning when it had been dry for several days. By the road bridge over the old railway there is a veritable waterfall caused by the water coming down the road. This runs along the track and then breaches into the road and crosses it to the valley bottom. Further investigations showed the problem was further up the road by Trannack Farm and even possibly as far up as Prospect Farm. Thelma Bedwell advised that CC are going to work on the footpath at the top, which may help the water situation. Mr Trevor Clifton spoke to say that the water is being pushed into the leats which are no longer maintained and pushing the water on to private land. It was agreed Cllr. Mrs. L. Penrose is going to investigate the ownership of the land along the leat.

**8. COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS** – None.

**9. CORNWALL COUNCILLOR'S COMMENTS** – Cornwall Cllr. J. Keeling reported that the big-ticket items for November, included the setting of the council tax for 2017/18 and has included below an email extract from the minutes of the council meeting last week.

That a rise in Council Tax of 1.97%, plus a levy of 2% to be spent solely on Adult Social Care, for the financial year 2017/18 be agreed in principle (an overall increase of 3.97%, equivalent to a Band D charge of £1,398.70). That indicative future increases in Council Tax, and subject to changes in council tax limiting principles, are agreed for budget planning purposes. For the financial years 2018/19 and 2019/20, a rise of 3.97% which includes a 2% levy for Adult Social Care for the financial year 2020/21, a rise of 1.97%; That a net General Fund Revenue Budget for 2017/18 of £492.055m be set. As the opposition leader at Cornwall Council, Cllr. Keeling voted against the budget because of the lack of meaningful oversight and engagement with the wider membership of the council. Also, where there were recommendations made they were generally left to the next council or kicked into the long grass under the heading of reprofiling until later in the medium financial planning; that is by the end of this decade. The Local Plan was voted through at last and should now give more weight to planning applications; particularly those that become could contentious. Cllr. Keeling attended a County Council Network meeting in Guilford for 2 days and managed to question the new Secretary of State for Communities, Sajid Javid on the imposition of mayoral models of governance here in Cornwall; which would. be meaningless unless a different model could be devised.

Cllr. Keeling is meeting with the Highway Manager to look at some serious issues outside Sithney School and some dangerous entrances onto the Camborne Road. SPEEDWATCH: Cllr. Keeling met with WPC Butcher a couple of weeks ago, about setting up a pool of people to carry out voluntary speed watch duties in the Division. A very positive meeting with the aims of the speedwatch laid down. It is not a quick fix but sounds, to be a Solution to the problem of speeding in our villages. Briefly, areas of concern would be identified working closely with a Road Traffic Officer, this includes Health and Safety. Those involved would become official Police Volunteers which means some paperwork of course. The equipment includes a speed gun and a spreadsheet to record information which is sent on to Plymouth for analysis and action against repeating speeding. If volunteers are forthcoming I will arrange for an initial introductory course locally. Cllr. Keeling would need about 4 people from each parish. Don't forget to fill out the on-line questionnaire on Dog Control Orders and the forthcoming changes next year.

## **10. PLANNING: -**

### **Applications**

PA16/07291 – Trevarno Mill, Trevarno, Sithney – Construction of garage on site of previous shed. It was agreed that as Sithney PC had already commented on this application in October, and no amendments to the application had been made. The previous support of the application would be advised to CC.

### **Amended Plans**

PA16/07361 – Jasmine Cottage, Access from Tuckingmill To Jasmin Cottage, Lowertown, TR13 0DA - Proposed first floor extension. – Due to number of Cllrs present and disclosure of interests in the matter no discussions took place.

### **Approved**

PA16/09796 - 3 Chynhale Cottages, Chynhale, Sithney, Helston, Cornwall - Non-material amendment following grant of planning permission PA13/07411 (Proposed two storey extension).

PA16/07989 - Spinney Cottage, Bal Road, Lowertown, TR13 0DA - Single storey house extension

### **Comments:**

PA16/04591 - Celtic Land - Penbro Farm, Breage, Helston, Cornwall – Cornwall Council have advised that it is not policy to advise neighbouring parishes but if Sithney parish Council would like to submit a comment then they are more than welcome. It was agreed the clerk would look through the weekly reports for neighbouring parishes and report back.

**10b.) Planning Protocols** – Deferred to January 2017.

## **11. PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY**

**Footpath 230/3 – Sithney to Pednavounder** – Missing section on definitive map – Cornwall Council have written to the owners to discuss whether they may consider dedicating a public right of way over their land. In any event the fact that they have claimed the way is already public can be taken as their dedication of the path for public's use, which will be very helpful to the definitive map modification order application when it comes forward to a decision after it progresses through the DMMO register.

**Footpath 230/28/1 – Boscadjack to Trenear** – Fence Ownership – Cormac have written to the landowners.

**LMP Questionnaire** – The clerk has received and circulated a brief questionnaire on the LMP contract from CC.

It was agreed to ask Cllr. Mrs. A. Pascoe to complete on SPC's behalf due to her knowledge of the contract.

## **12. REPORT OF THE CLERK & CORRESPONDENCE**

Letter from Crowan Parish Council – Red Deer

RSN – Weekly Bulletin 31/10, 7/11, 14/1 & 21/11

RSN – Spotlight on Rural Health, Rural Transport, Opportunities Bulletin & Grants & Funding

Rural Vulnerability Service – Fuel Poverty November 2016

PCDT – October E-Bulletin 2016

CC - Cornwall Minerals Safeguarding Development Plan Document (DPD) Pre-Submission Consultation (November 2016) (Regulation 19 Consultation)

Communities & Devolution – Newsletter – October 2016

Interest in Cornwall Hosting a stage of - Tour of Britain Cycling – It was agreed by Cllrs that SPC would support the tour passing through Cornwall and the Parish.

PCS – In the community - Make your community safer with a public access defibrillator (AED)

Helston & South Kerrier CNP – Agenda 07.12.16 @ 6pm @ Cury Village Hall.

CCPFA – Annual General Meeting – 13.12.16

CSP – Newsletter November 2016

**13a) To consider the following accounts for payment:** It was proposed by Cllr. P. Martin, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. L. Penrose, all in favour that the following cheque and standing order payments be authorised, as soon as a second signatory was available.

	<b>£</b>
Cornwall Council (LGPS) – Clerk	88.42
Cornwall Air Ambulance – S137 Donation	200.00
Mrs Jodie Ellis – Mileage for Vacancy Notices	9.50
CASH – reimbursement of Petty Cash	80.98
	<b><u>378.90</u></b>
Standing Order - Clerk Salary and Expenses	
	£510.35

**13b) Financial Reports by Clerk –  
Financial Report**

The Clerk reported that she had invoices to pay totaling £378.90 and a standing order for £510.35 totaling £889.25 as reported in item 13a.

The balance at the end of November on the Current Account is £7,327.49 and on the Business Saver is £32,577.59. These are considered adequate to undertake the work of the Parish Council. The monthly report has been circulated to all Cllrs. It was proposed by Cllr. Mrs. L. Penrose and seconded by Cllr. P. Martin that the reports be accepted. All in favour.

**Risk Assessment** – There were no issues with the notice boards to report.

**13c) Election Costs** – The clerk has circulated to the estimated costs received from CC for both a contested election and uncontested election. CALC have issued a briefing note to advise: ‘The costs of the 4 yearly elections are shared with Cornwall Council. At the last elections, less than 20% of parish wards held elections; this pattern is likely to be repeated next year and your parish will only be asked to pay the reduced charge. However, it is important that your council keeps sufficient funds in reserve to cope with a by-election at any time in the next four years. If you have a casual vacancy where 10 members of the public demand an election, your parish will be required to hold an election and will have to meet the whole cost. I would strongly advise that it keeps any underspend at the election next year in earmarked reserve for a future election and gradually builds this sum up to cover a full cost’.

**13d) Precept** – The clerk has received the forms from Cornwall Council, which have been circulated to all Cllrs. It was proposed by Cllr. P. Martin, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. L. Penrose, all in favour, that the clerk will sign and return the forms requesting a precept of £13,514 for the 2017/2018 budget as agreed on the 1<sup>st</sup> November, Item 13c.

**14. SAS Update – The clerk advised** to date no responses or completed forms have been returned. Cllr. Mrs. L. Penrose has drafted an email to volunteers which she will agree with Cllrs Pascoe and Daybell before the clerk sends to volunteer drivers.

**15. Co-Option** – The notice of vacancy has expired and no election has been called for. The clerk has placed vacancy notices on the notice boards to expire 31.12.16.

**16. School Governors Report** – None.

**17. Clerks Annual Review** - Exclusion of press and public under SO 7 “That in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it is advisable that in the public interest that the public and press be temporarily excluded and they are instructed to withdraw”. Due to number of Cllrs present it was agreed to defer this item until January 2017.

**18. TIME AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING** – Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2017 at 7.30pm at Trannack School.