

SITHNEY PARISH COUNCIL
Chairman: Councillor Philip Martin

Clerk to the Council
Mrs Jodie Ellis
07855774357

Trannack Farm,
St Erth, Hayle
TR27 6ET

07/20

The Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Parish Council meetings were not held at this time. The Chairman and Vice-Chairman will remain in situ until an Annual meeting is called by the Chairman or May 2021.

This meeting, 02nd June 2020 was a Zoom meeting at 7.30 p.m. to which Councillors were summoned and Public were invited.

Cllr J Keeling

Cllr. Mrs. L Penrose

Cllr. R. Ashmore

Parish Clerk Mrs. Jodie Ellis and 2 members of the public.

Cllr. A. McDonald

Cllr. S. Hilditch

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Were received from Cllrs Rogers, Martin and Tresidder

Clerk advised that in the absence of the Chairman and Vice Chairman a chairman for the night was required. It was proposed by Cllr Penrose, seconded by Cllr McDonald, all in favour and **RESOLVED** that Cllr Keeling be elected as chairman for the meeting, Cllr Keeling accepted.

2. CONFIRMATION OF TEMPORARY CHANGE TO STANDING ORDERS

To resolve to adopt supplementary Standing Orders to meet the statutory requirements for the holding of remote meetings, this will be in place until May 7th 2021 or until the legislation is repealed in line with Central Government direction, to ensure that SPC is compliant. Councillors have been sent the amendment by email. It was agreed and **RESOLVED** by all Cllrs that the amendment is adopted.

3. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES - The Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on the 03rd March 2020 were unanimously agreed as a correct record.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FOR ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA – None.

5. TO CONSIDER ANY APPLICATIONS FOR DISPENSATIONS UNDER SECTION 33 OF THE LOCALISM ACT 2011 –None.

6. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – A parishioner spoke with regards to her planning application PA20/03168 to advise that the sheds in the application are in disrepair and the application is to develop them into a home office to allow her to continue to work from home.

7. CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS – None.

8. COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS - 24-hour notice in accordance with Standing Orders advisable.

Cllr Penrose read out a letter from a parishioner who was unable to attend the virtual meeting. The letter wished the council well with its new virtual meetings and asked the council for their help. There is a path that runs through Lowertown that passes behind Anvower Mill and in front of the Old Sunday School. The ownership of the land in which the path runs on is unknown but has been used for many, many years. Recently people using the path have been challenged not to do so, and it would be a great shame for the parish to lose a long-standing path. It was agreed the council would start the process of a modification order to ensure the path is added to the definitive map.

Cllr McDonald asked if the auditor would be charging extra for looking into the further audit queries raised, clerk confirmed not.

Cllr Hilditch advised traffic is increasing and at excessive speeds along the B3303. Cllr Keeling agreed to speak to highways.

Cllr McDonald asked if Cllr Keeling could find out the cost of the speed camera currently in Rosudgeon which seems to be working well, and displays the vehicle registration of passing vehicles.

9. CORNWALL COUNCILLOR'S COMMENTS – Cllr. John Keeling gave the following written report: 'I hope that you are all well and coping with the difficult situation we find ourselves in. These are unprecedented times. It has been a rollercoaster ride since the national lockdown on the 23rd of March and I have been trying hard to get out as much information as possible to our parish councils and community groups to keep everybody in the picture about the impact of Covid-19 on our daily lives. Since then, the Cornwall Council Intranet has developed a very helpful Covid-19 help page containing a lot of useful information. I have had some 20 virtual meetings over the past couple of months and the preferred option being employed by Cornwall Council is "Teams", though Skype for Business and Zoom has been tried as well. The training in the use of "Teams" continues with member briefings. Planning committees which are due to commence soon and though virtual, there should be every opportunity to have representations from parish councils and members of the public. The first West-sub planning committee meeting is on the 1st of June. The first full council meeting (virtual) is on the 7th of July.

Adapting to this pandemic is, of course, a giant resolve with new ways of working and to ensure democracy is maintained.

With schools making efforts to get started again, it brings with it various problems of how social distancing can be effectively managed and the strain on school staff will be immense. Not all parents will want to send their children back to school at the moment and I believe there are no fines are being levied against parents who chose to not send their children to school. At the moment it is only early years and year 6 children at primary schools. There are 5 Primary Schools in my division, though I am not sure of their main intentions at the moment. I think it really is too early yet.

With the warm weather, it has been very noticeable that visitors are coming into Cornwall since the relaxation of the drive to exercise rule. People have expressed their concerns to me about possible outbreaks of the virus due to the large number of people

gathering at various locations. At the weekly virtual meetings of the community network, we discuss various matters to do with the pandemic as well as the day to day issues that concern us all. One point was that an Outbreak Plan is being developed to put into operation a shutdown procedure when and if spikes of Covid-19 occur, either locally or Countywide. I have no further details on this matter at the moment, but a local "R" number was suggested. This ties in with the test and track roll out, albeit late in the day.

At a virtual meeting of councillors on Friday last, we were assured by the CEO that Cornwall Council is NOT INSOLVENT and the cost of the pandemic so far as been about £68.2m. Further, we have had government grants of £328.5m which have been passported through. The biggest loss was car parking charges! Of course, there have been lost revenue in terms of business rates and council tax. There will be a scrutiny investigation into the effects and impact of the pandemic which I will be involved with. One point I have raised concerning the economy was the building of resilience and capacity into our financial plans, to deal with further pandemics, so we can be more prepared in the future. Whatever the future will look like of course!

The lack of RNLI cover on our beaches was a hot topic and it was suggested that they should have "stepped up to the plate" earlier. The RNLI receives about £1m from Cornwall Council and is reputed to be the richest charity in the country. Training of RNLI staff and provision of necessary equipment continues with some beaches now covered. I expressed my concerns about Praa Sands and the beach should have a lifeguard cover very soon.

Cornwall Council, through its service provider Cormac is carrying out a program of works to help maintain essential community infrastructures - such as parks, amenity areas, rights of way, and the coast path. These will all benefit people's daily exercise regime and help social well-being. Cormac will ensure the teams maintain social distancing. We are asking residents in the affected areas to observe any diversions or security fencing that they see and respect the teams during these works.

Locally, I have reported several alleged breaches of planning and these have been acknowledged. The enforcement staff is also subject to social distancing but they are trying hard to ensure that cases are investigated in a safe and effective way. In terms of the community, I have signposted several businesses and self-employed people towards grants to ensure their sustainability and it has been fairly successful with one company receiving a grant and business rate reduction that I know of. I have been pleased to have been able to help vulnerable people in the community with information and grants to help make their lives better in these extraordinary times. Most village halls, that I know of, have received the £10K grant and I was pleased to help. There is still financial help to be had and there is more discretion about who is eligible, a point I am making at every opportunity. There may be an opportunity to take a planning application to a Virtual Planning Committee (Breage) and if so I will pass on the details to the clerk to the parish council in due course. I reported together with video and photos the ridiculous parking down Hendra Lane Praa Sands), which prevented a refuse collection vehicle gaining access to Hendra itself and had to divert. These guys are putting their health and lives at risk whilst carrying out an essential job and the actions of a bunch of morons made their task even more difficult. Parking Enforcement Officers had been deployed elsewhere during the past month, but I am assured by the Portfolio Holder that they are now investigating these sorts of incidents. Other drama involved alleged travellers arriving at a site in Germoe, near Boscreage against all the social distancing and traveling restrictions. I informed the police and enforcement, as indeed did the clerk of Germoe Parish Council, and the travellers were moved on the following day. They were engaged in engineering operations on the land and that being investigated by enforcement. On a safety note, I drive every day to Rinsey from Trescowe and back at a very moderate 15-20mph, via our country lanes. Due to the lockdown restrictions, there are a lot of people cycling and walking with their families around the lanes. It is imperative that both drivers, cyclists, and walkers observe the highway code to avoid any nasty accidents. People are still driving too fast and walkers are strolling along lanes as though they are public rights of way. Drivers, please be careful, 20mph is plenty, and walkers face oncoming traffic! I have brought up the "20 is plenty" initiative again, together with "hamlet/village gating" to emphasize the fact that more people are now cycling and walking than ever before and this may become the norm in the future. Lastly, I thought to would pass on the following snippets from a situation report I received recently. Major concerns over the number of visitors to beaches and beach car parks. Over the last weekend, 7 beaches will have an RNLI lifeguard cover. Cornish MP Scott Mann raised the movement of people in the Commons. Jacob Rees-Mogg responded that "it is not permitted to travel to a second home or to remain overnight in a holiday destination".

10. PLANNING: -

Applications:

PA20/03716 - Tregoose Farm Tregoose Sithney TR13 0RT - Change of use of building to form a function/training room ancillary to the existing holiday accommodation. PAP considered that the proposal would be an appropriate use of a redundant barn in that it would be beneficial to the current business of the applicant, whilst not having a detrimental impact on surrounding properties. It therefore recommends that Sithney Parish Council supports the application. All Cllrs voted in favour of this proposal and it was RESOLVED to support the application.

PA20/03168 - Trannack Byre Trannack Farm Trannack Helston - Replacement outbuildings to create Garage / Workshop, home office, playroom / study and occasional guest accommodation at Trannack Byre, Trannack Farm.

PAP acknowledge that developing the barns would be a good use of buildings that are becoming dilapidated and this would improve their appearance. However, there was some concern about the scale of the development which seems somewhat large for a building that is to be used as ancillary and subservient to the house. Consequently, it was felt that the inclusion of a second level might not be appropriate in a rural location. PAP therefore recommends that Sithney Parish Council supports the development of the barns in principle but would wish to see a more modest proposal. All Cllrs voted in favour of this proposal and it was RESOLVED to support the application.

PA20/03639 - The Old Farmhouse, Larch Barn Access to Lower Boscadjack Trenear TR13 0HH - Certificate of lawfulness for occupation of existing dwelling without compliance with occupation description- condition 2 of PA03/00644/F dated 23 July 2004. There is correspondence from Cornwall Council confirming that Larch Barn had been registered for Council Tax since October 2006 and there are two statements from neighbours confirming that the property had been continuously lived in for, at least, the previous twelve years. PAP has noted that, regarding retrospective permissions "Applications for Certificate of Lawfulness as established residential use should be regularised where the balance of probability suggests residential use can be demonstrated for

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over a ten year period.” PAP feels that the required conditions, as above, have been met and therefore recommends that Sithney Parish Council supports the application. All Cllrs voted in favour of this proposal and it was RESOLVED to support the application.

Approved:

PA20/01067 - Chapel Field Crowntown - Construction of dwelling and associated works.

PA20/01335 - Crown Inn Crowntown Helston TR13 0AD - Change of use from A4 (public house / guest house) to C1 (guest house).

PA20/01947 - Merther Farm Merther Lane Sithney TR13 0RP - Extension to agricultural shed

PA20/02591 - Land Adj To Cudna Barn Cudna Lane Crowntown TR13 0AD - Construction of four dwellings (full application following outline approval decision PA16/08395) (Decision PA18/00344) with variation of condition 2.

11. PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

LMP – Clerk has been advised by the LMP Contractor that he and his team will commence work on the footpaths within government guidelines for safe working during the Covid 19 pandemic.

12. REPORT OF THE CLERK & CORRESPONDENCE

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) payment – Clerk note to Cllrs to think about possible projects to spend the funds on according to guidelines.

Councillor Vacancy and advert – Clerk advised that the current vacancy has been advised to CC but with the current Covid 19 pandemic no vacancy notices will be advertised until such time as the notice boards can safely be updated.

Delegated Authority Decision List – Clerk advised this is on the website.

Bus Shelter – Crowntown – The new shelter is due to be installed the middle of June.

13a) PAYMENTS - It was proposed by Cllr. Keeling seconded by Cllr. Hilditch all in favour that the following payments are authorised:

	£
Cornwall Pension Fund (LGPS) – Clerk	102.81
Mr R Sanders	397.06
Zurich Municipal – Insurance for the year	380.89
Mr D Gallie – Audit 19/20	89.00
	969.76

13b) FINANCIAL REPORT OF THE CLERK – The Clerk reported that she had invoices to pay totaling £969.76 as reported in item 13a. The balance at the end of May on the Current Account is £12,416.79 and on the Business Saver is £32,729.06. The monthly report has been circulated to all Cllrs. It was proposed by Cllr. Keeling seconded by Cllr. Hilditch all in favour that the report be accepted.

14. TO APPROVE Financial Risk Assessment and Non-Financial Risk Assessment – Clerk has circulated to Cllrs by email. It was proposed by Cllr. Keeling seconded by Cllr. Penrose all in favour that the report be accepted.

15. TO NOTE that the date for publication for the 2019/2020 Annual Financial Return will be 8 June 2020 and the dates of the period for the exercise of public rights are Monday 15 June 2020 to Friday 24 July 2020 – noted.

16. INTERNAL AUDITOR’S REPORT - Clerk has circulated the internal auditors’ reports, the second of which included advice on corrections which have been actioned it was proposed by Cllr. Keeling seconded by Cllr. Hilditch and RESOLVED to accept and authorise the reports.

17. AGAR SECTION 1 ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT - Clerk has completed the annual return and it has been signed off by the internal Auditor. It was proposed by Cllr. Hilditch seconded by Cllr. Penrose and RESOLVED to accept and authorise section 1 of the annual governance statement.

18. AGAR SECTION 2 – ACCOUNTING STATEMENTS – Clerk has completed the annual return and it has been signed off by the internal Auditor. It was proposed by Cllr. Keeling seconded by Cllr. Penrose and RESOLVED to accept and authorise section 2 of the annual return. Clerk will send the full accounts to PKF Littlejohn for inspection.

19. TIME AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Tuesday 7th July 2020 at 7.30pm via Zoom.