

SITHNEY PARISH COUNCIL
Chairman: Councillor Philip Martin

Clerk to the Council
Mrs Jodie Ellis
07855774357

Trannack Farm,
St Erth, Hayle
TR27 6ET

26/20

This meeting, 02nd March 2021 was a Zoom meeting at 7.30 p.m. to which Councillors were summoned and Public were invited.

Cllr. P. Martin
Cllr. Mrs. L Penrose
Cllr. S. Hilditch
Cllr. R. Ashmore
Cllr. A. McDonald

Cllr. C. Freer
Cllr. B. Rogers
Cllr. J. Keeling

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

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Were received from Cllr M Tresidder.

2. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES – It was unanimously agreed and resolved to accept the minutes of the 02nd February 2021.

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

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

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – None.

6. CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS – Cllr Martin had no comments.

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

The ditch that takes water under the road between Trannack and Lowertown is full of silt and mud causing the water to run down the road. Clerk to report to highways.

There will be a new head of Sithney and Trannack School from September 2021 - Mrs S French, due to resignation of the current head.

Cllr McDonald advised that as he has moved into Helston. He is happy to stay on as a Cllr but also happy to step down if candidates from the parish step forward.

It was raised that if there is a change in members of this council then the Facebook page will need to be managed by current members of the council.

8. CORNWALL COUNCILLOR'S COMMENTS – Cllr. John Keeling gave the following written report: 'At full council last week, the council Tax increase for 2021/22 was passed by a vote split of 60/40. This comes at a time of hardship for people struggling to make ends meet during this dreadful Covid-19 pandemic. I voted against such an increase and failed to see why this administration use the maximum increase allowed as a default position in setting the budget, without considering a lower tax increase, or any at all. An alternative budget was considered by the opposition, but this would only add to the cost of setting a budget (£1.3m) with very little chance of being accepted. On a more positive note, the vote against the increase in councillor's allowance at the previous full council resulted in a saving of £0.5m which will be put toward free school meals for our school children.

For background information, in the first council of the Unitary Authority, I had the pleasure of presenting a zero increase in Cornwall council tax requirement for 3 consecutive years. Since then, the Cornwall Council element of council tax has increased by 37.87%, Police by 58.53% and Town and Parish Council's by a whopping 161.81% (reflecting the increase of devolved services). Council tax is a regressive tax that hits those that can afford it the least, and more must be done to change the system.

The details of the increase are thus:

Council Tax requirement for Cornwall Council's own purpose is set at £326.531m and the Cornwall Council element of the Council Tax be increased by 1.99%, plus a levy of 3% to be spent solely on Adult Social Care, for the financial year 2021/22 (an overall increase of **4.99%**, equivalent to a Band D charge of £1,667.26).

My email inbox has had an enormous amount of calls on the proposed exploratory drilling in the parishes and I have responded accordingly to ensure local people's concerns are noted and addressed prior to submissions being put forward by Cornish Tin Ltd. I am in regular contact with the Mineral Planning Authority and Mr Jeff Harrison regarding the situation to date.

Highway safeties remain very much a priority for me, against a backdrop of funding and budget shortfalls. It is very frustrating, and I am very critical of the Community Network Scheme. I miss the Members Highway Budget which enabled me to provide, in consultation with local people and councils, projects and safety features to be delivered rather than raising expectations. Perhaps this can be reinstated in the next council. The government has provided an additional £12m for the highway team to repair potholes and I have noted several, particularly in our rural lanes. I answer questions from the public daily, and it is very satisfying to be able to help and signpost people to service areas that meet their requirement.'

9. PLANNING: -

Applications:

PA21/00727 - Location Sithney House Sithney Helston TR13 0RW - Proposed construction of a single storey kitchen extension to the rear of the property. Discussions took place, and it was **RESOLVED** to support the application with a condition that the finishes are in keeping with the existing building.

PA21/00805 - Bargus Mill an Vownder Goth Nancegollan TR13 0AP - Replacement of existing mill with residential annex and off-road parking. It was **RESOLVED** to support the application with the condition that the building will be used solely as ancillary to the main house and as long as it is not affected by the 106 agreement.

Approved:

PA20/11203 -Chapel Field Land North of Bawdsey Crowtown Helston Cornwall - Construction of a domestic garage associated with previously consented new dwelling (decision PA20/01067 and NMA PA20/08726).

Enforcement case updates

EN20/01512 - Pear Tree Cottage is currently with enforcement.

PA20/03168 – Trannack Byre, Trannack - Planning are waiting for the site visit / decision to be made.

10. PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

Modification Orders – Trannack Bridge & Lowertown – Clerk advised that with restrictions starting to ease hopefully the Lowertown evidence can be gathered.

230/30/1 – Flooding – The countryside team are aware of the issue but as it is not a health and safety issue it is not currently a priority. It was noted that a Cllr fell off their bike on the path, clerk to update Countryside team as it is a health and safety issue.

11. REPORT OF THE CLERK & CORRESPONDENCE

Sithney Road Issues – Clerk to speak to highways about the mud and debris on the road in and around Trevarno and Chynhale.

Audit – Clerk advised that she will be sending the necessary paperwork to the auditing Cllrs at the end of March by scanned documents to allow the external auditor to come in early April.

Closure Order: Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 S.14: Temporary Prohibition of Traffic - Releath to Boscadjack, Trenear, timing: 2nd March 2021 to 3rd March 2021 (09:30 to 16:00 hours).

12a PAYMENTS - It was proposed by Cllr. Martin seconded by Cllr. Penrose all in favour that the following payments are authorised:

	£
Cornwall Pension Fund (LGPS) – Clerk – standing order	102.81
Mrs J Ellis – Clerk Salary – Standing order	586.33
Mrs J Ellis – Postage, Norton License and zoom costs	129.68
Cornwall ALC Limited – clerk training	36.00
Information Commissioner – Date Protection Fees	40.00
	894.82

12b FINANCIAL REPORT OF THE CLERK – The Clerk reported that she had payments to pay totaling £894.82 as reported in item 12a. The balance at the end of February on the Current Account is £14,515.25 and on the Business Saver is £32,743.20. The monthly report has been circulated to all Cllrs. It was unanimously RESOLVED to accept the report.

13. RISK ASSESSMENTS – Clerk has circulated the financial and no financial risk assessments for Sithney Parish Council 2020/2021 including Internal Control, and it was unanimously RESOLVED to adopt the risk assessments.

14. FINANCIAL SOFTWARE PACKAGE –Clerk has circulated a quote for a software package which would replace the spreadsheet we currently use. The quoted cost is £496.50 for the first year. Then £124 per year thereafter. It was discussed and agreed clerk would speak to councils in the Wendron, Crowan area to see what they use and re-visit at April’s meeting.

15. B3303 SPEED CAMERA – Highways have come back to advise that the ‘The more viable option would be standard VAS signage. These cost in the region of £8-9k per VAS installed. The option of chicanes and enforcement cameras were discussed. Cllrs Keeling, Hilditch and McDonald are meeting on site next week to discuss options and locations.

16. TIME AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Tuesday 06th April 2021 via Zoom