



ST. AGNES PARISH COUNCIL

Office Number:- 01872 553801

Burial Number:- 01872 553588

Email:- enquiries@stagnesparishcouncil.co.uk

www.stagnesparishcouncil.co.uk

January 2016

5/16

Minutes of the St. Agnes Parish Council meeting held in the Parish Rooms, 17 Vicarage Rd, St. Agnes, at 7.30 p.m. on Monday 18th January 2016. Minuted by C. Callaway.

PRESENT:

Mrs Clark (Chair)

S. Herman – Clerk to the Council.

Mr Forbes, Mr Kent, Mrs Rodda, Mr Aston, Mr Bunt, Mrs Davies, Mr Child, Mrs Andrew, Mr Drew, Mrs Doble, Mr Slater, Mr Lovering, Mr Johns.

ABSENT: Mr Brench, Mrs Barrow (Vice - Chair)

22/16 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

Cllr Child – planning application PA15/11966 and Trevaunance Cove (Correspondence) item.

Cllrs Clark, Bunt and Aston – Review of Clerk's Salary item.

23/16 REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION.

None received for items on this agenda.

24/16 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.

Standing Orders were suspended for this section of the meeting. Cllrs Forbes/Slater.

Architect, Mr Robbie Walton, attended the meeting and explained to members that he was re-visiting a planning pre-application from last year for a housing development on land at Penwinnick Close, which would allow for a 50%, custom-built affordable element. Mr Walton stated that this was a high quality scheme, driven by local need and the scheme had already received interest from residents in the area. Mr Walton also informed members that he could offer the Parish Council a full acre of land for the possible extension of the Cemetery, at no cost.

Cllr Drew noted that the Council must be consistent when considering large scale pre-applications.

Cllrs wished to thank Mr Walton for the information, noting they felt this was an innovative scheme and, in principle, were in favour of it (12 members in favour).

Standing Orders were reinstated for the remainder of the meeting. Cllrs Forbes/Aston.

25/16 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 4th JANUARY 2016.

The minutes were approved and signed as a correct record. Cllrs Clark/Bunt.

26/16 MATTERS ARISING FROM THESE MINUTES NOT COVERED BY ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA.

Minute 7/16 - Cllr Forbes wished it noted that he did not recall agreeing to draft a statement for the Bolster to promote the Nat West mobile banking service in St Agnes. However, Cornwall Cllr Mitchell informed members that he had included this matter in his own Bolster statement. Cllr Bunt informed members that he had followed up delivery of the leaflets which advertised the mobile banking service and it had been confirmed that they were in the post.

Minute 9/16 - Cllr Forbes proposed that the annual contract with Pear Technology, which provides technical support on the burials database, should not be renewed as the service was being used too infrequently for it to be regarded as value for money. Proposal supported unanimously. Cllrs Forbes/Lovering.

27/16 CORNWALL COUNCILLORS REPORTS.

Cornwall Councillor Duffin informed members that the free school bus service to Mount Hawke Academy from Porthtowan was under review by Cornwall Council and the safety of this route to walk was being assessed. Cllr Duffin confirmed that there would be no changes to the service until September 2017 but discussions were still ongoing and further news, specific to the Mount Hawke Academy bus service, may be disclosed later this week. However, it was noted that the free transport policy for the whole of Cornwall was under review. Cllr Duffin also informed the Council that palm oil had been found on Portreath Beach, warning that it could be present along other local coasts and to alert dog owners due to its toxic nature.

Signed by the Chair of the Council on the 1st February 2016.

Cornwall Councillor Mitchell informed members that, following concerns regarding the proposed travel plan attached to the St Agnes school expansion planning application, he was in the process of arranging a meeting for next week to review some alternative suggestions. Cwll Cllr Mitchell noted that he was requesting attendance from Cornwall Council officers, Parish Councillors, school representatives and the consultants who drew up the travel plan.

28/16 PARISH COUNCILLORS REPORTS.

Cllr Forbes had been contacted by Mr James Brennan who was keen to promote renewable energy systems in the Parish and had requested to attend a future Parish Council meeting to enlarge on this proposal.

Agreed to be discussed under 'Chairman's Discretion' following the Planning item.

Cllr Johns noted that the Chamber of Commerce was in the process of replacing the missing map alongside Trelawney Car Park.

Cllr Johns also requested that the repair work to the damaged wall in Trelawney Car Park was chased up.

Clerk to action.

Cllr Andrew had been contacted by a Parishioner who noted that the Council agenda was late being posted on the Parish website.

Cllr Bunt had attended the Cavanna Homes public consultation at the St Agnes MMI and informed members that the planners had requested Parish Council feedback. It was agreed that no formal feedback would be provided from the Parish Council.

Cllr Doble noted that, in addition to the illegal structure at Sevenmilestone, there was now an abandoned boat at the site which required removal. (Cllr Bunt also noted an abandoned filing cabinet on Cameron Estate).

Cllr Doble requested that the Clerk continues to follow up the Higher Bal conservation application.

Cllr Doble also noted that she had heard that land at Goonbell had been sold to Wainhomes.

Cllr Davies and Barrow had spoken to the new owners of the Unicorn public house in Porthtowan, who have agreed to rake the sand in the playpark once a month and will be meeting with the Village Hall Committee next week. Cllr Davies informed members that Cllr Barrow had received a call from concerned resident, Mr Evans, of Mile Hill, Porthtowan regarding activity at the site, such as a landowner removing a significant amount of the Cornish hedge. Cllr Barrow had contacted the Enforcement team.

Cllr Lovering requested Cwll Cllr Mitchell follow up the ongoing Enforcement case at Aggi Croft.

Cllr Lovering had also attended the Cavanna Homes consultation, as had Cllr Slater. Cllr Lovering noted that members of the public at the consultation had requested a public meeting to discuss this large proposal. Cllrs decided unanimously that a public meeting should be called for Parishioners to air their views on this, and other potential developments throughout the whole Parish. Cllrs Lovering/Slater. Meeting to be arranged by Cllrs Lovering and Slater for Wednesday 17th February 2016 at St Agnes Methodist Church Hall at 7.30 p.m. Cllr Clark had attended the Cavanna Homes consultation, noting that they had run out of public feedback questionnaires part way through the consultation and, therefore, felt that a full public response may not have been received.

29/16 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE TO BE APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL.

Apologies for absence were received and approved from Cllrs Barrow and Brench.

30/16 ACCOUNTS.

Accounts approved. Cllrs Slater/Forbes.

B White	Accounting tasks for December 2015	103791	£250.00
S Herman	January 2016 salary	103792	
A Tippet	January 2016 salary	103793	
C Callaway	January 2016 salary	103794	
HMRC	January 2016 payment	103795	
Cwll Council -	January 2016 payment	103796	
Pension Contribs.			
Duchy Cemeterys			
Ltd	New double grave @ St Agnes Cemetery	103797	£390.00

Signed by the Chair of the Council on the 1st February 2016.

RECEIPTS

		7/16	
M Carveth	Interment of ashes	£100.00	BURIALS
D Tresise	x 2 inscriptions @ £25	£50.00	BURIALS
Car park donations	Porthtowan collection	£45.00	CAR PARKS
Car park donations	St Agnes collection (x 4 honesty boxes)	£255.31	CAR PARKS
Rental Income	Flat 17B - January 2016 rental payment	£600.00	GENERAL
M Carveth	Burial	£1,000.00	BURIALS

31/16 PLANNING on appendix.

32/16 CHAIRMAN'S DISCRETION – VISIT FROM BETTER ENERGY LTD.

Mr Brennan, of Better Energy Ltd who deals with renewable energy systems, emailed the Clerk following a telephone call to Cllr Forbes, requesting the opportunity to attend a Parish Council meeting. Mr Brennan expressed interest in presenting this proposal to the Parish Council to gain feedback and ascertain if Parishioners might be interested in the installation of a renewable energy system and their own smart meter. It was agreed to invite Mr Brennan to the first or second full Council meeting in February and listen without prejudice to his address to members. Cllrs Lovering/Forbes.

33/16 OPEN SPACES.

Formal consideration of report presented by Mr Wallace.

Cllr Doble had compiled some comments/questions to put to Mr Wallace regarding the proposed implications and the significant changes suggested in the report. It was agreed that Cllr Doble would send these comments/questions to the Clerk who would then circulate them to members, with a view to making a final decision on Mr Wallace's report at the next full Council meeting.

34/16 HIGHER BAL.

Noted that the Council would not be permitted to make representation at the Inspector's site visit. Final letter sent to the Inspector. Read and noted by members

35/16 EMERGENCY PLANNING.

CLLR CHILD

Notification by Cllr Child that the next working party meeting will take place on Tuesday 26th January 2016 at 7.30 p.m in the Parish Rooms. Cllrs Bunt, Rodda and Davies noted that they had received some positive responses to the letters sent regarding the use of community buildings as 'Rest Centres' during an emergency.

36/16 LIBRARY/TOILET SERVICES.

CLLRS BUNT/FORBES

Awaiting response from Cornwall Council.

Cllr Forbes informed the Council of a meeting due to take place on 12th February 2016 at 10 a.m in the Parish Rooms to discuss this Council's possible takeover of the library/public toilets between himself, Cllr Bunt and Cornwall Council Officer, Anne McSeveney, Assistant Head of Customers and Communities. (Cllr Forbes was hoping to arrange another meeting regarding solely the toilets before this.)

37/16 EXEMPT BUSINESS.

CLLR CHILD

Request consideration of the current practise for using the Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act 1960 and any changes that may be required to the current Standing Orders.

Cllr Child had circulated the proposed changes to members and it was agreed to form an Exempt Business Working Party to clarify and check the wording and changes to the documents. Cllrs Child/Lovering. Working Party members: Cllrs Child, Slater, Clark and Lovering.

38/16 REMOVAL OF DANGEROUS OUTCROP AT TREVAUNANCE COVE. CORRESPONDENCE

Letter from Mrs J Blunsdon seeking a contribution to the cost of removing the dangerous over hanging rocky outcrop between the beach huts and Schooners Restaurant. It also overhangs the RNLI lifeguard hut at the Western end of the beach huts and the steps leading up to the huts from the prom below.

The Beach Management Committee will continue its fundraising operations but the cost of the work is £18625 exclusive of VAT.

Signed by the Chair of the Council on the 1st February 2016.

Cllr Child left the room.

It was agreed to extend the meeting until 9.45 p.m. in view of matters still to be discussed. Cllrs Bunt/Slater.

The Chair read Mrs Blunsdon's letter aloud to members.

Following some discussion, the Parish Council, while expressing sympathy, unanimously agreed not to contribute towards the cost of removing the rocky outcrop at Trevaunance Cove as a precedent could be set for future similar requests. However, members noted their full support should a grant application be submitted and suggested Mrs Blunsdon applies for any European/lottery/Coastal Erosion funding available.

Cllrs Bunt/Andrew.

Cllr Kent left the meeting at 9.30 p.m.

39/16 PLANNING INFORMATION.

CLLR LOVERING

Request by Cllr Lovering that a Planning Officer be asked to attend a Council meeting so that correct information can be given and members given clarification regarding their role and that of the Council in relation to the planning system including pre-apps and site visits.

Cllr Child re-entered the room.

The Clerk and Cllr Clark had contacted the St Agnes & Perranporth Friendly Link Officer, Alan Mason, to arrange this meeting but were informed that, with 218 Parishes in their remit who were experiencing similar issues, it was not possible for an officer to attend. Mr Mason noted that further planning training for Parish Cllrs was imminent and they were trying to work on a planning protocol which all Parish Councils could adopt.

Cllr Clark informed members that Cornwall Council's website contained the information that any advice given on a planning pre-application would not indicate a formal decision. Cllr Lovering suggested Parish Councillors carry a card containing such information which could be handed to applicants who required advice. Cllr Clark and the Clerk to compile wording for such a card to be circulated for approval in due course.

40/16 REMOVAL OF MOUNT HAWKE SCHOOL BUS SERVICE.

CORRESPONDENCE

A recent review of the route from Porthtowan, by the local authority, has deemed that the route is safe to walk and they are, therefore, looking at withdrawing the service.

Concern for the potential safety implications for young children and families to walk, especially on dark mornings and evenings.

A meeting has been arranged at Mount Hawke Academy on Wednesday 27th January at 4 p.m.

Read and noted by members.

41/16 NDP UPDATE.

CLLR BARROW

In Cllr Barrow's absence, Cllr Davies noted that the Steering Group met on 13th January 2016 at Porthtowan Village Hall and she confirmed that all Steering Group and Focus Group meeting's minutes would now also be forwarded to Parish Councillors, as requested.

£8000 of funding had now been requested from the Localities Fund.

Mapping would be done with no attached charges.

'Housing Needs' survey would be done by the focus group in the near future.

42/16 BOLSTER ITEMS.

Consideration of items for inclusion in the February Bolster.

Palm oil on local beaches.

Higher level police officers refused Community Speed Watch in the Parish.

Public meeting – housing development in the Parish.

43/16 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC.

In accordance with Paragraph 1 (2) of The Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the Parish Council are invited to RESOLVE that the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item owing to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted and the public interest would not be served in disclosing that information.

Signed by the Chair of the Council on the 1st February 2016.

Reason – Discussion regarding staff.
Resolved - Cllrs Slater/Lovering.

It was agreed to extend the meeting for a further 10 minutes until 9.55 p.m. Cllrs Slater/Forbes.

The Clerk and Cllrs Bunt, Clark and Aston left the room at 9.45 p.m.

44/16 REVIEW OF CLERK'S SALARY.

Consideration of report for submission to the South West Councils.

Cllr Forbes took the Chair.

Cllr Lovering informed remaining members that a representative from South West Councils would be carrying out a job evaluation scheme and conducting a briefing with all office staff. This would take place on 4th February 2016, when the SW Councils officer would be visiting the office. A questionnaire would also be given to the office staff to complete individually, which should then be returned to the Staffing Committee, who will liaise with the staff members before submitting the questionnaires to SW Councils. Cllr Forbes felt there should be a procedure in place for when a staff member did not agree with the Staffing Committee regarding questionnaire response submissions.

Cllr Lovering noted that SW Councils will then scrutinise the questionnaires, along with the job evaluation findings and decide on a fitting salary/spinal point.

The cost of this service would be £1390 plus VAT; this was at a reduced rate as the SW Councils officer would already be nearby in Lostwithiel, on the same day as the proposed visit to St Agnes.

Cllr Lovering felt that in view of the potential increase in workload and responsibilities in the office due to the possible devolution of services to Parish Councils, this was an appropriate time to form a base platform for the future.

Members agreed unanimously to support Cllr Lovering's recommendations and go forward in arranging the visit from SW Councils at a cost to the Parish Council. Cllrs Forbes/Andrew.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.53 p.m.