



St. Agnes Parish Council

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October 2016

88/16

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 3rd October 2016. Minuted by C. Callaway.

PRESENT:

Mrs Clark (Chair) S. Herman – Clerk to the Council.
Mrs Barrow (Vice – Chair)
Mrs Davies, Mrs Rodda, Mr Child, Mr Bunt, Mr Drew, Mr Aston, Mr Johns, Mr Slater.

ABSENT: Mr Forbes, Mrs Andrew, Mr Lovering, Mrs Doble.

391/16 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

None received for items on this agenda.

392/16 REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION.

Cllr Barrow requested a non-voting dispensation with regard to agenda item 'TPO - Rose Hill, Porthtowan'. Approved. Cllrs Slater/Drew.

393/16 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.

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

Local resident, Dawn Brown, attended the meeting to report on the deterioration of the roof felt on Goonbell Bus Shelter. Mrs Brown informed members that, despite a recent repair, rain was now leaking through the roof. The Clerk confirmed that she would contact the Council's handyman to visit the site and report back. Standing Orders were reinstated for the remainder of the meeting. Cllrs Barrow/Davies.

394/16 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 19th SEPTEMBER 2016.

Cllr Child raised concerns regarding draft minutes being circulated to the public, prior to approval. The Clerk advised that this matter should not be discussed under this agenda item. Further, the Clerk noted that, as it had been agreed at a past meeting to circulate draft minutes, Cllr Child's concerns would need to be raised as a separate agenda item for future consideration.

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

395/16 MATTERS ARISING FROM THESE MINUTES NOT COVERED BY ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA.

None raised.

396/16 CORNWALL COUNCILLORS REPORTS.

Apologies for absence received from Cwll Cllr Duffin.

Cwll Cllr Mitchell attended the meeting and reported as follows:

- He attended the Cornwall Local Plan Conference last week and noted that if approved, the Local Plan could be adopted in November. He further advised that Cornwall Council could now comply with the required 5 year land supply for new housing and therefore, any additional large scale developments, such as those submitted for Blackwater, would be viewed more stringently.

He expressed disappointment that Cllr Lovering was not present, as he had additional information relating to Cllr Lovering's previous assertion that it was in fact Mr Stokes to whom the Parishioner had spoken regarding the cost of taking a planning application to Committee. Cwll Cllr Mitchell read a response from Mr Stokes in which he confirmed that.. "I have never said to anyone that the cost of taking an item to one of this Council's Planning Committees has never been costed". He went on to say that.. "based on current hourly rates the average cost of a delegated decision is in the range of £193-£241, whilst the average cost of a determination through the Committee process is in the range of £2416-£2899". Cwll Cllr Mitchell noted that these figures did not include VAT and were for officer's time only.

397/16 PARISH COUNCILLORS REPORTS.

Signed by the Chair of the Council on the 17th October 2016.

Cllr Barrow explained that a number of community groups from Porthtowan had taken part in the making of a film last week. The film was to show an example of what could be achieved if a community worked together. This film was currently being edited but would be available on the Cornwall Council website in due course. Cllr Davies advised that she had attended a number of HR Committee/Working Party meetings recently. Cllr Bunt informed members that he had cut back hedges along Trevaunance Road and that he had also removed a satellite dish from the side of the Parish Rooms building, which had been hanging dangerously. Cllr Bunt had also attended the recent Library Steering Group meeting. Cllr Slater was pleased to report that the new government minibus for St Agnes had arrived, which had been adapted for disabled access.

Cllr Clark notified members of a forthcoming meeting in the Parish Rooms (Thursday 6th October at 2 p.m) for the co-ordinators of the Community Emergency Plan together with Guy Thomas, Community Area Manager, and Mr Roberts of the Silver Room.

Cllr Clark also informed the Council that she, and Cllr Mitchell, had been in contact with a local group of residents at Goonbell who had expressed concern regarding the siting of a caravan.

398/16 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE TO BE APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL.

Apologies for absence received and approved from Cllrs Doble, Forbes and Andrew.

399/16 ACCOUNTS.


Accounts approved. Cllrs Barrow/Davies. Cllr Slater abstained.

Concorde Copiers	Quarterly charges colour/black & white copies used	103988	£237.94
Allotment holder	Refund of deposit - from full to half plot @Mithian	103989	£25.00
Viking	Items from last order, sent separately - ink carts.	103990	£55.75
Cormac Solutions	Cleaning of Trevaunance Cove and Porthtowan toilets - @ £70.69 each	103991	£141.38
Viking	x 2 packs of coloured paper - ordered separately	103992	£27.58
Grant Thornton UK	Fee in respect of 2016 Annual Return	103993	£480.00
Duchy Cemetery's Ltd	x 2 interments of ashes at St Agnes Cemetery - £65 each	103994	£130.00

RECEIPTS

Car park fees	Reppers Coombe collections (enquire in Parish Office)		CAR PARKS
Allotments holders	Renewals of annual leases at Mount Hawke and Mithian allotment sites x 12	£437.50	ALLOTMENTS
M Carveth	Re - open ashes	£500.00	BURIALS
D Dyer	Memorial headstone	£70.00	BURIALS
D Tresise & Sons	Inscription @ £25, Plaque & vase @ £70, Headstone at £70 - Total £165	£165.00	BURIALS
Cwll Council	LMP Footpath cutting 2016/17 St Agnes	£2,100.00	GENERAL
Allotments holders	Renewals of annual leases at Mount Hawke and Mithian allotment sites x 4	£150.00	ALLOTMENTS
Car park donations	Porthtowan collection	£82.00	CAR PARKS
Car park donations	St Agnes collection x 4 honesty boxes	£350.49	CAR PARKS
Car park donations	St Agnes collection x 4 honesty boxes	£347.41	CAR PARKS
Allotments holders	Renewals of annual leases at Mount Hawke and Mithian allotment sites x 29	£1,012.50	ALLOTMENTS

400/16 PLANNING on appendix.

Signed by the Chair of the Council on the 17th October 2016. 

401/16 PROPERTY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE.

Report from the Chairman of the Property Management Committee.

Request consideration of provision of resident's permits for Reppers Coombe.

90/16

Suggested fee to begin discussion is £100 all year, or £30 for the Winter season, October to Easter inclusive.

Cllr Bunt noted that, to date, there had not been sufficient time to hold a Committee meeting.

Cllr Bunt stated that he, along with the Clerk and Cllr Davies, had been in the process of dealing with a number of issues with Reppers Coombe and both toilets (Trevaunance Cove and Porthtowan). Full update to the Council after discussion with the Property Management Committee.

Cllr Bunt advised that Reppers Coombe car park was producing a good income. He noted that there had been no further problems with the Pay & Display machine, which was now printing tickets with St Agnes Parish Council's name instead of Cwll Council's name.

With regard to the requests from Parishioners for residents' parking permits, members suggested that if agreed, the permits should be vehicle specific and suggested a permit card be placed in the windscreen, containing the vehicle registration number and the Parish Council's logo. To go to the Committee for recommendations.

Cllr Bunt explained that very few Cllrs were adhering to the Honesty Box collection rota for Trelawney car park. It was suggested that any Cllr willing/available to perform this duty (including the Reppers Coombe collection) should email the Parish office, copying Cllr Bunt in. This would involve one Cllr and one member of staff carrying out collections at both sites on days other than Fridays, as Friday collections put additional pressure on the office staff to count/collate/bank the money before the weekend.

Cllr Bunt noted that the new, recently purchased coin counting machine was at least alleviating some of the extra time required of the staff created by the addition of Repper's Coombe.

402/16 LAND TO EAST OF THE OLD SCHOOL, MT. HAWKE.

The Clerk explained that she had sourced correspondence from 2010 in relation to this land and she had also contacted Guy Thomas, Community Area Manager, about making a compulsory acquisition and was awaiting his reply. Matter ongoing – held in abeyance.

403/16 TPO – ROSE HILL, PORTHTOWAN.

CLLR DAVIES

Proposal that the previously discussed TPO be pursued but also that consideration be given to applying for Conservation Area status to retain and maintain the character of the area.

Cllr Davies noted the reasons for pursuing this matter:

- The woodland is an extremely important part of the character of the village that should not be underestimated.
- It is a natural habitat for foraging badgers and their setts, various bat species, adders and grass snakes, viviparous lizards and slow worms.
- The land provides a good diversity of microclimates, with suitable shelter and sun exposure for basking reptiles.
- The woodland provides a diversity of nesting habitat for various birds, with trees and hedges.
- The woodland habitat at Rose Hill is an oasis in the arid, windswept landscape that characterises the rest of the village and should be protected.

Members showed strong support for the proposal to pursue the TPO and an application for Conservation Area status. Cllrs Davies/Bunt.

404/16 OFFICE SECURITY SCREEN AND DOOR.

CLLR BUNT

Confirmation had been received that the proposed safety measures were adequate for insurance purposes.


Cllr Bunt stated that most of the windows in the entrance area to the Parish Office had now been replaced with laminated glass and that he had fitted lengths of spikes on top of the counter screen, to prevent climbing over, which the local police had confirmed was a reasonable precaution to take.

Cllr Bunt further noted that new glass for the door, as well as louvers for the hatch, were scheduled to be fitted shortly.

The Chair extended thanks to Cllr Bunt for his work.

405/16 DEVELOPMENTS – NORTH HILL, BLACKWATER .

CLLR DOBLE

Signed by the Chair of the Council on the 17th October 2016. 

PA15/03285 Mr Phil Smith – Lowena Homes Ltd - Holly Grove, East Hill, Blackwater.
PA15/00455 Brand Media Ltd - Land North East of Grove Farm, East Hill, Blackwater.
Request approval from the Council to prepare a report in anticipation of appeals being submitted by the developers, following the decision by Cornwall Council to refuse these applications.

91/16

It was agreed unanimously for Cllr Doble to prepare a report in anticipation of appeals being submitted. Members agreed to support Cllr Doble, noting her previous successful submissions. Cllrs Clark/Slater.

406/16 ALLOTMENT REGULATIONS.

Request additional regulation relating to a penalty fee for non-compliance of confirmation of renewal within the 14 day period, due to additional administration time and postal costs incurred.
The Clerk advised that a number of allotment lease renewals and payments were being submitted late and this caused a significant amount of additional work. Cllr Slater suggested that a letter was sent to all allotment holders offering a discount if prompt payment was received.
Cllr Rodda suggested that Redruth Town Council, who has an established allotment site, be contacted as they could advise this Council on how they remedy such matters.
Item to be carried forward to the next agenda while further information is gathered.

407/16 PRE-CONSULTATION FOR A PROPOSED UPGRADE TO AN EXISTING SITE AT:

241100 Smokey Joes SW Highways Land opposite Smokey Joe's Café, Scorrier, Redruth, Cornwall, TR16 5BJ, TR16 5BJ.

To provide 3G / 4G coverage for this locality and area.

Proposed erection of a 12.5m Jupiter column with antennas within shroud, 2 dishes, 2 ground based cabinets and ancillary development.

A number of options have been assessed in respect of the site search process and the preferred Vodafone Limited option is as follows:

Existing site at 241100 Smokey Joes SW Highways Land opposite Smokey Joe's Café, Scorrier, Redruth, Cornwall, TR16 5BJ, TR16 5BJ NGR: 172643, 44918.

Members agreed that this Council's initial views on this pre-consultation would be subject to local residents' approval. Therefore a public consultation was considered necessary, with the suggestion of a CGI presentation in order to fully visualise the proposals. Cllrs Child/Bunt. Cllr Aston abstained.

408/16 RE-NAME STREET.

Request by Miss V Thomas for Parish Council support in her approach to Cornwall Council to ask that Counthouse Mews be renamed correctly as Count House Mews to reflect Cornish mining heritage.

The request by Miss Thomas was supported unanimously. Cllrs Barrow/Rodda

409/16 NDP UPDATE.

CLLR BUNT

Cllr Bunt provided an NDP update for members, noting that the deadline for the NDP questionnaire/survey had passed but postal responses were still being received.

He explained that volunteers were busy entering the paper responses on to the online survey. When complete, the total was expected to be in the region of 1200 replies. Cllr Bunt stated that the surveys he had seen were very encouraging and Cllr Davies wished it noted that a Parishioner had commented on the "excellent survey" and the NDP's great work.

Next Steering Group meeting – 12th October in the Parish Rooms.

410/16 BOLSTER ITEMS.


Bonfire/fireworks safety

Hedgehogs

CORMAC placing netting on the sand dunes at Porthtowan

Cleaner for Parish Rooms – 2hrs per week.

411/16 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC.

Signed by the Chair of the Council on the 17th October 2016. 

In accordance with Paragraph 1 (2) of The Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the Parish Council has the power 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.

Reason – Discussion involving staff.

Resolved unanimously.

Cllrs Rodda/Davies.

92/16

412/16 GRIEVANCE/APPEAL.

Progress report from the HR Committee Chair.

Cllr Clark reported as follows:

- A copy of Cllr Child's complaint letter was to be circulated to all HR Committee members, prior to it being discussed as an agenda item at their next meeting on 10th October.
- With regard to the Clerk's and Mrs Tippett's appeals, Cllr Clark explained that she had contacted three outside bodies, with a view to forming a totally independent, neutral Appeal Panel. She had contacted South West Councils (SWC), Cwll Association of Local Councils (CALC) and Cwll Council, requesting quotations for a panel which consisted of an independent Chair, a note-taker and two independent persons to hear the outstanding appeals and to look at their grounds for appealing. Cllr Clark advised that South West Councils had responded and, per panel member, would charge £495 per day, plus travel and VAT. The note taker would be paid at £25 per hour. She informed members that Cwll Council had also responded and noted they did not hear appeals, although the Legal/Employment 'arm' of the Council had confirmed that they could assist with the employment law aspect if required. Cllr Clark further advised that CALC's fee would be £350 plus VAT (all inclusive) and they had independent people affiliated to them to sit on the panel. Members unanimously supported the HR Committee's recommendation of passing the appeals to CALC and approved the associated cost.
Cllrs Clark/Barrow.
- The HR Committee will be using the former Staffing Committee's Terms of Reference for the time being and wished to propose a change in title to 'HR Committee'. Approved unanimously. Cllrs Clark/Davies.
- Two Working Parties had been set up; one to look at the Clerk's resignation and its implications, and the second to look at the job vacancy advert and job specification etc.
- Cllr Clark circulated the draft job advert to members for consideration which was approved. It was decided to advertise the job in the SLCC magazine, CALC Cornwall and Cornwall Council sites (if possible) and all local media. Cllrs Clark/Rodda.
- It was recommended that the Council advertise for a self-employed cleaner for the Parish Rooms for approx. 2 hours per week. A local cleaning company, Charlie's Angels, had posted a flyer to the Parish Council and it was decided to contact them as soon as possible to establish charges.
Cllrs Barrow/Davies. It was further agreed that the original advert for a cleaner was put back in the Bolster but to consult the Clerk's view in the first instance. Cllrs Clark/Davies.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.15 p.m

Signed by the Chair of the Council on the 17th October 2016.

