

CONSTANTINE PARISH COUNCIL

C.F.P.Chapman
 Clerk to the Council
 Chy Lean
 St Keverne Road
 Mawgan
 Helston TR12 6AY
 telephone 01326 221648
 colinchapman@lineone.net

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Constantine Parish Council held on Thursday April 19, 2012 at 7.00pm in The Vestry, Constantine.

Present:	Cllr P.C.Carter (Chairman)	Cllr E.Nicholls
	Cllr J.Boote	Cllr M.Reynolds
	Cllr Miss C.Evans	Cllr R.J.Williams
	Cllr C.Gray	Cllr N.J.Wiseman
	Cllr R.E.Just	Mr C.Chapman (Clerk)

Visitors: CCllr Hatton, Mrs Brew, Mr and Mrs Ellis, Mr and Mrs Holmes, Mr and Mrs Meadows, Mrs Schofield, Mrs Steel, Mrs Thomas, Mr Tiptaft, Mrs Turnbull and Mr and Mrs Wickins.

The Chairman welcomed members and visitors to the April meeting.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Members of the public present were all from Port Navas and all expressed considerable concern about the proposal to build a two-bedroom bungalow in Trewince Lane (PA12/00546). The following planning reasons for objecting to the proposal were given

- Trewince Lane is extremely narrow. Any increase in traffic along the bridleway (it is not an adopted road) is unacceptable
- turning left off the Port Navas/Constantine road and into Trewince Lane is testing (as is the opposite manoeuvre)
- foul water disposal in the village is already problematic
- there are a number of mature trees both on site and in the area immediately surrounding it which will be adversely affected by building works. They are all protected by Tree Preservation Orders
- the proposal is for a new house in the countryside which is part of the Cornwall AONB.

Members further noted that the proposed access to this site is over private land.

On the matter of the retrospective planning application for work done at Port Navas Village Hall, concern was expressed about the possibility that the Planning Authority will insist on the replacement of the original chimney and the potential cost of this work. The Clerk explained that the matter is now with the Planning Authority and that it, the Planning Authority, will make the final decision.

1 TO ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Bolt (personal) and PCSO Gardiner sent their apologies for absence. Cllr Gray proposed, Cllr Nicholls seconded, all others in favour to accept their apologies.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

in items on the agenda

Cllr Nicholls declared a personal interest in Agenda item 9 (PA11/10213).

of gifts (received as a result of being a member of the Council) of a value greater than £25

There were no declarations of gifts of a value greater than £25.

3 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Cllr Williams proposed, Cllr Wiseman seconded, Cllr Boote, Cllr Miss Evans, Cllr Gray, Cllr Just and Cllr Nicholls being absent from the last meeting abstained, all others in favour that with the addition of the handwritten amendment, the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Thursday March15, 2012 are a true record and the Chairman signed them as such.

Chairman's initials.....

4 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES BUT NOT INCLUDED ON THIS AGENDA

On the matter of the new arrangements for household waste and recycling collections, Cllr Boote stated that no bags had been delivered to homes in Constantine.

It was noted that the notification from the Engineering Design Group that it will no longer issue paper copies of consultations but that all consultations may be viewed and commented upon using the Cornwall Council website effectively discriminates against (and disenfranchises) those who do not own, have access to or can use a computer. The Clerk was asked to write to the Engineering Design Group making this point forcefully.

The Clerk was asked to report that the litter bins at the top and at the bottom of Well Lane, at the School gate and on Bowling Green at the entrance to the Penbothidno Estate are either missing or in need of replacement.

5 POLICE REPORT

Through the Clerk, PCSO Gardiner reported that, since the meeting in March, no crimes have been reported to the Police. There were, however, five calls to the police: these related to a minor collision between a car and a bus, an accidental 999 call, two reporting concern for an individual's welfare and one neighbour related issue.

There were three reports of anti-social behaviour all of neighbour related issues.

The fire in the village was treated as a major incident both by the Fire Brigade and by the Police. Investigating Officers are now satisfied that it was accidental.

PCSO Gardiner advised residents to mark their property with postcodes and house numbers.

6 CORNWALL COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

CCllr Hatton reported that

- following the recent fire in Fore Street and as is usual, a Fire Investigation Report will be prepared. One of the damaged houses will certainly have to be re-built and there is a possibility that a second will have to be treated similarly
- the fire had underlined the oft-reported problems of congestion at the top of Well Lane. Cornwall Highways will be re-painting the road markings in the near future
- he has explained the problems relating to the bank between Brillwater Road and the Recreation Ground to the Neighbourhood Services Manager and has extracted an undertaking that Highways will 'see what it can do'
- the lane at Higher Trengrove Farm has again flooded in recent rain. Highways has completed its work on the road, it remains for the landowner to lay the piping to the ditch. He noted that there have also recently been flooding problems at Bosvathick and at Trewoon
- residents have expressed concerns about cars speeding through Port Navas
- he has received a request for street lighting to be sited in Bowling Green opposite the turning to Parc Monga
- Cornwall Council, which will be continuing the duty of ensuring that standards in public life are upheld, has prepared a draft Code of Conduct for consideration by Town and Parish Councils
- as the result of widespread concern about the collection of household waste and recycling materials, Cornwall Council is holding an emergency meeting at County Hall tomorrow morning
- a new Head of Planning Enforcement has been appointed. She, together with her deputy, will be touring the ward with him to familiarise themselves with the area in the near future
- the Duchy Land Steward has placed Mooring Notices on derelict boats and others moored on the Helford. This is merely to regularize the situation by insisting that owners have a licence to anchor on the river bed. There is no intention to increase the number of moorings
- a planning application which relies solely on the sustainability of the development will be decided tomorrow. Proposed developments on the same piece of land have been refused in the past and it will afford Councillors the opportunity to see what difference the new National Planning Policy Framework document will make.

In answer to a question, CCllr Hatton stated that Cornwall Highways do not maintain historic fingerposts. He did, however, suggest that perhaps the Community Payback scheme should be contacted with a request to undertake any necessary work.

7 PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS

The item on the agenda was discussed last month.

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8 PARISH MATTERS

The Diamond Jubilee celebrations of HM Queen Elizabeth

Cllr Miss Evans reported that the Diamond Jubilee Steering Committee hopes to publish the programme of the events it has arranged over the holiday weekend before the end of the month. The commemorative mugs are scheduled to be presented to children of primary school age resident in the parish at the Recreation Ground on the Saturday: there will be about forty mugs remaining which will be sold on a first-come-first-served basis. In answer to a question concerning the worst case scenario financial liability to which Constantine Parish Council could be exposed, Cllr Miss Evans undertook to bring a budget document to the meeting in May. She stated that it is the steering group's opinion that it will, at worst, break even financially.

The Clerk asked for all risk assessment documents to be sent to him within the next three weeks.

Cllr Miss Evans asked for members' approval for a large granite boulder marking the occasion of the Diamond Jubilee to be sited in the Square. Members were minded to approve this, but agreed that a formal decision should be left until the next meeting.

Members considered granting delegated powers to the Chairman and the Clerk to sign cheques relating to invoices for goods and services authorised by the Diamond Jubilee sub-committee. Following discussion, Cllr Nicholls proposed, Cllr Boote seconded that the Chairman and the Clerk should be empowered to sign cheques for goods and services authorised by the Diamond Jubilee sub-committee without prior reference to the full Council.

Brillwater Road

Further to CCllr Hatton's comments regarding the potential instability of the bank between the Recreation Ground and Brillwater Road, a number of ideas were put forward. It was agreed that, before the next meeting when the matter should be discussed once again, W.B.Bowden and Sons should be asked to look at the problem and suggest a way forward.

Christmas trees

The Clerk reported that he had e-mailed Ms Ellen Worth about this matter and that she had requested Cllr Wiseman's telephone number, which he had given her. Cllr Wiseman reported that Ms Worth had not, as yet, contacted him. Considerable discussion arose during the course of which it was generally agreed that practice of supplying trees to individual homes along Fore Street has probably run its course and that it might be better to concentrate efforts on the supply and decoration of three or four large trees sited strategically around the village and the Parish. However, it was agreed to contact Ms Worth again and to discuss the matter again at the meeting in May.

The new Car Park

It was noted that, at the Council's request, Bowdens have dug out a car's length from the kerb and laid and rolled a good surface. The car-park is being well used and Members reported that compliments have been received. It was noted that the gateway from the car-park leading into the field needs compacting with hard-core to prevent mud spreading onto the new standing.

9 PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND DECISIONS

Applications

As the owner of the neighbouring property, Cllr Nicholls declared a personal interest in the following application. He remained in the room but took no part in the discussion or in the voting.

PA11/10213 Mr B.Harris – Retention of self-contained annexe – 1, Trewardreva Mill Cottages. Cllr Wiseman proposed, Cllr Boote seconded Cllr Nicholls abstaining, all others in favour that this application should be returned with the following observation *Constantine Parish Council notes that although the covering letter describes the application as being for the 'retention of a self-contained annexe' the applicant himself describes it as being for the 'upgrade of an existing summerhouse'. If this building is presently in use as a summerhouse, Constantine Parish Council requests the Planning Authority to refuse permission for development believing it to be for a new residential dwelling in the countryside. The Parish Council believes that further information is necessary before development can be considered.*

PA12/00546 Fodbury Properties Ltd – The erection of a new-build detached two bedroom bungalow – land at Trewince Lane, Port Navas. Cllr Williams proposed, Cllr Wiseman seconded all others in favour that this application should be returned with the following observation *Constantine Parish Council requests the Planning Authority to refuse permission for development. The proposal is for a new home in the countryside on a small plot and represents over-development of the site in relation to nearby existing dwellings. Its impact on the natural environment locally would be detrimental and substantial. The access is challenging and the Parish Council believes there will be problems relating to the disposal of foul water.*

Chairman's initials.....

PA12/02130 Mr Frank Gomley – Raising canopy of Sweet Chestnut to approximately 5.5m, remove deadwood & epicormic growth within canopy and reduction of height of Holly tree by approximately 2m and lateral spread across garden by 1.5m to re-form hedge – 29 Fore Street, Constantine. Members noted that the letter describing this application states “as this application is for works to trees on a Conservation Area, it will be decided under delegated authority ... this communication is merely to notify you that an application has been received.” The Clerk was asked to write to the Planning Authority with copies to CCllr Hatton and George Eustice MP expressing the Council’s disappointment that this decision is being made without any reference to the Local Authority contrary to the principles of localism.

Decisions

PA11/09359 APPROVED (Installation of 5Kw wind turbine on 12 metre mast (may affect a public right of way)) – Trewardreva Farm, Constantine – *noted*

PA12/00051 APPROVED (Retention and completion of the Installation of a 3.92kWp Solar PV system on the flat roof of the property) – High Cross Garage, Constantine – *noted*

PA12/01258 WITHDRAWN (Installation of 2 x Bays of Photovoltaic panels) – Lower Penbothidno – *noted*

PA12/02302 SCREENING OPINION EIA Not Required (Screening Opinion for a wind turbine) – Trengantallan Farm, Constantine – *noted*

Correspondence

The Planning Inspectorate notification that the appeal against Refusal of Planning Permission at Nans Avallon is allowed – *noted*

Mr and Mrs Cockburn development of land at Port Navas – *noted*

Mr and Mrs Brew and residents of Port Navas concerns about proposals to build in Port Navas – *noted*

Mr Brew copies of correspondence between him and Cornwall Council concerning Planning Applications PA12/ 00546 and PA12/01470 – *noted*

10 CLERK’S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence

St John Ambulance community access to a defibrillator – *noted*

Community Energy Plus Warm Me Up! project – *noted*

CPRE Countryside Voice magazine **CC** Your Guide to Winter Wellbeing – *noted*

Constantine Enterprises Company invitation to the 14th Annual General Meeting of the Constantine Enterprises Company and the 6th Annual General Meeting of the Tolman Operating Company on April 26 at 7:00pm – *noted*

Mr and Mrs Gregory copy of a letter to Mrs Ruberry – *noted*

CC Your Guide to Winter Wellbeing – *noted*

Constantine Enterprises Company invitation to the 14th Annual General Meeting of the Constantine Enterprises Company and the 6th Annual General Meeting of the Tolman Operating Company on April 26 at 7:00pm – *noted*

CC Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places – *the Clerk to reply*

11 FINANCIAL MATTERS

The Clerk presented Councillors with a statement of Constantine Parish Council’s financial position as at April 19, 2012. A copy of that statement is attached to these minutes.

Members considered an invitation to retain membership of the Cornwall Association of Local Councils for the year to March 31, 2013 in the sum of £353.46 + VAT Cllr Wiseman proposed, Cllr Gray seconded all others in favour that Constantine Parish Council should pay the subscription demanded by the Cornwall Association of Local Councils.

Members reviewed rates of pay for employees of the Parish Council other than the Clerk. Cllr Wiseman proposed, Cllr Just seconded, all others in favour that Mr Jorey’s rate of pay should be increased to £320 per calendar month (£3,840 per annum) with effect from April 1, 2012. It was noted that Mrs Jennings’ pay will be increased in October in line with the increase in the minimum wage.

The Clerk presented the accounts for the year April 1, 2011 – March 31, 2012. Cllr Williams proposed, Cllr Just seconded, all others in favour that Constantine Parish Council approves the accounts for the year April 1, 2011 – March 31, 2012.

Parish Councillors considered the Statement of Assurance required for the Annual Return for the year ended March 31, 2012. Cllr Nicholls proposed, Cllr Just seconded, all others in favour that Constantine Parish

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Councillors should answer 'Yes' to all the questions (save number 7 which should read 'Not Applicable') contained in the Statement of Assurance for the Annual Return for the year ended March 31, 2012.

The following accounts were presented for payment

	GROSS	NET	VAT
Mr G.Jorey	£ 295.00		
Mrs J.Jennings	£ 60.80		
CC Rates (cemetery)	£ 14.97		
CC Rates (public convenience)	£ 382.50		
Mrs Carter (2 dustbins for salt)	£ 19.00		
Travis Perkins	£ 46.15	£ 38.46	£ 7.69
RTS (Garden Services) Ltd	£ 198.00	£ 165.00	£ 33.00
Harlequin Design	£ 18.00	£ 15.00	£ 3.00
Travis Perkins	£ 23.52	£ 19.60	£ 3.92
EdF Energy (public lighting)	£ 431.67	£ 411.11	£ 20.56
Gweek Garage	£ 20.00	£ 16.67	£ 3.33
Viridor Waste Management Ltd	£ 39.86	£ 33.22	£ 6.64
Celtic Engineering (Helston) Ltd	£ 375.60	£ 313.00	£ 62.60
W.B.Bowden and Sons	£ 90.00	£ 75.00	£ 15.00
CPRE (subscription)	£ 29.00		
J.P.Richards (Internal Auditor)	£ 256.30		
Kevin Pinch	£ 40.00		
Colin Chapman			
Salary (March)	£ 400.46		
telephone	£ 19.30		
office expenses	£ 25.17		
travelling	£ 39.34		
use of home	£ 25.00		
	total	£ 509.27	

Proposed by Cllr Nicholls, seconded by Cllr Just, all others in favour that the above eighteen accounts be paid.

Members noted the following receipts

Constantine Bowling Club (ground rent)	£ 50.00
Constantine Bowling Club (repayment)	£ 313.00
HMRC VAT refund	£ 1,753.36
Constantine Social Club (rent for two quarters)	£ 1,137.50

In answer to a question concerning whether or not the Football Club ever paid anything towards the use of the Recreation Ground, the Clerk replied that, since he had been Clerk, no monies had been received. The Clerk was instructed to send an invoice immediately requesting a similar sum to that recently paid by the Bowling Club.

12 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND REPRESENTATIVES

Cllr Nicholls reported that the JUMP committee has already raised £800 towards new playground equipment and aims to raise £4,000 by the spring of 2013 when it will be in a position to seek match funding. There are now two sub-committees: one concerned with grant applications and the other with fund raising

13 COMMENTS FROM COUNCILLORS

It was noted that the lease for the Social Club is due for renewal on June 25 and agreed that the matter should be on the agenda for next month's meeting.

14 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Thursday May 17, 2012 at 7:00pm in The Vestry. The Annual Meeting of the Parish Council will follow on from that meeting.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.37pm.

Signed.....

Dated.....

Chairman's initials.....