

CONSTANTINE PARISH COUNCIL

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

Present:	Cllr P.C.Carter (Chairman) Cllr H.Bolt Cllr J.Boote Cllr Miss C.Evans Cllr C.Gray	Cllr E.Nicholls Cllr M.Reynolds Cllr R.J.Williams Cllr Wiseman Mr C.Chapman (Clerk)
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Visitors: Mr Allman (Enfinity), Mr Comyn, Mrs Davies (West Briton), Mr Roper, Mrs and Miss Sole (Constantine Guides and Brownies), Mr Taylor, Mr Webber and Mr Williamson

The Chairman welcomed members and visitors to the July meeting.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Mr Williamson reported that

- the waste bin on Bowling Green Road at the entrance to the path to the Penbothidno estate has still not been replaced and that inconsiderate dog owners are allowing their animals to foul the pathway
- the roads in the village are very uneven (and becoming more so) making life difficult, particularly for wheel-chair users
- weeds, which are beginning to grow in the gutters, make the village look very untidy. It is time the road sweeper paid a visit
- the roadside hedges between Constantine and Falmouth need trimming.

Members noted that a further comment concerning the urgent need for trimming the hedges bordering the roads throughout the parish had been received.

Mr Taylor stated that there are seven objections registered on the Cornwall Planning website objecting to the proposal by Mr Webber to build a house (PA12/04445) in Port Navas. He added that

- there are seven houses for sale within the hamlet – some of them have been on the market for over a year
- access to the site is along a very small and narrow lane which is designed to lead to woods not to a housing development
- many of the trees along this lane are protected by TPOs: if development is permitted they will suffer
- the proposed new building will have a detrimental effect on the visual aspect of the village.

Mr Allman stated that he was present to seek Constantine Parish Council's support for the planning application (PA12/04124) for a solar farm at Little Trevease. Explaining the circumstances behind the application, he said that

- the site covers some 11.9 hectares
- the panels will be mounted on a framework driven into the ground: their orientation will be fixed
- all necessary cables will be run underground
- his company, which is a global business, has already engaged with the planning authority, with statutory consultees and with the local community
- if permission is granted, construction work will start in October and should be finished within three months.

Chairman's initials.....

1 TO ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Just sent his apologies for absence, explaining that he has yet to decide on quite how to react to Central Government's demands for sensitive information concerning his wife's financial status to be made publically available. The Police also sent their apologies. Cllr Wiseman proposed, Cllr Gray seconded, all others in favour to accept these apologies.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

in items on the agenda

Cllr Miss Evans declared a personal interest in Agenda item 9 (Constantine Guides and Brownies).

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 Bolt proposed, Cllr Gray seconded, Cllr Wiseman, and Cllr Nicholls being absent from the last meeting abstained, all others in favour that, with the addition of the handwritten amendments, the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Thursday June 14, 2012 are a true record and the Chairman signed them as such.

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

There were no matters arising which were not included on this agenda.

5 POLICE REPORT

Through the Clerk, PCSO Gardiner reported that there have been two crimes (the theft of a bicycle and a dog-related issue) recorded in the Parish since the last meeting. There were no calls in relation to anti-social behaviour. New measures to combat metal theft (which now cost the UK approximately £1 billion per annum) are being rolled out across the South of England under the name of Operation Tornado.

6 CORNWALL COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

In the absence of CCllr Hatton, there was no report.

7 PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS

Interim Code of Conduct

Having now had the opportunity to consider the paperwork, Cllr Williams proposed, Cllr Wiseman seconded and it was agreed formally to adopt the Interim Code of Conduct as published by Cornwall Council. This follows on from the decision made on June 14 and recorded on page 324 Agenda Item 7 to agree in principle to adopt the Interim Code of Conduct prepared and published by Cornwall Council.

However, Cllr Boote expressed considerable dismay that Constantine Parish Councillors (along with every other Town and Parish Councillor in the land) should have such draconian conditions imposed on them and their families by Central Government. In particular he cited the requirement for the disclosure of partners' financial interests and their subsequent publication on the internet with the threat of criminal proceedings and a fine of up to £5,000 for failure to do so. He added that, in the circumstances, he was not prepared to continue his voluntary work as a Councillor – a rôle he had undertaken willingly for some thirty years – and offered the Chairman his resignation.

Agreeing wholeheartedly with the sentiments expressed by Cllr Boote and adding that he had attended a meeting concerned solely with the new Code of Conduct at which he had heard nothing to alter his opinion, Cllr Reynolds similarly offered his resignation.

Accepting these two resignations, the Chairman said that he felt it was a great shame that two such valuable members of the Council should feel that the demands made by the Localism Act 2011 were such that they had been forced out of office. He thanked both Cllr Boote and Cllr Reynolds for everything they had done both for the Parish Council and for the village and added that they would be sorely missed.

Cllr Boote and Cllr Reynolds left the room.

Delegated Powers

Members considered awarding delegated powers to the Chairman and the Clerk to deal with day-to-day matters relating to the Parish Council during the month of August 2012. Following discussion, Cllr Wiseman proposed, Cllr Bolt seconded all in favour that the Chairman and the Clerk should have delegated powers to deal with day-to-day matters relating to the Parish Council during the month of August 2012.

Chairman's initials.....

8 PARISH MATTERS

Brillwater Road

The Clerk reported that he is awaiting an estimate for the work necessary to stabilise the bank and wall between the Recreation Ground and the road. He further reported that he had contacted Fields in Trust as requested, but other than to send a list of potential funders that organisation is unable to help. Following discussion during the course of which it was agreed that this project should be completed before the winter, Cllr Nicholls proposed, Cllr Bolt seconded and it was agreed that the Chairman and the Clerk should have delegated powers to spend up to £4,000 on stabilising the bank and wall between the Recreation Ground and the road.

Historic fingerposts

It was noted that a pilot project (initiated by CCllr Julian German and led by the Cornwall AONB in partnership with Cormac Solutions and local parish councils) to refurbish historic fingerposts is underway on the Roseland Peninsula.

The new car-park

The Clerk reported that, as requested, he had written to the Glebe Committee to enquire if consideration might be given to selling the land on which the car-parks and the public convenience are sited to the Parish Council. Mr Humphreys had replied that he would put the matter before the Committee

Members considered the creation of a physical barrier between the grass and the hard standing. It was agreed that Cllr Williams would investigate possibilities and report back to members at the next meeting.

9 PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND DECISIONS

Applications

PA12/04124 Butteriss Downs Ltd is proposing to develop a 5 Mega Watt peak (MWp) known as ‘Little Trevease Solar Park’ (the ‘project’). The project will be on agricultural grazing land at Butteriss Downs, south of the A394, approximately 3.5km north of Constantine and 6km west of Falmouth, at NGR: SW721316 – Little Trevease, Trevease. Cllr Williams proposed, Cllr Gray seconded, Cllr Bolt against all others in favour that this application should be returned with the following observation *Constantine Parish Council does not believe that productive agricultural land should be used for this purpose: there is derelict land nearby which has the same aspect and which would prove equally suitable for the production of solar energy. Constantine Parish Council therefore requests the Planning Authority to refuse permission for development.*

PA12/04227 Mr & Mrs M Comyn – Construction of rear extension – 1 Well Lane, Constantine. Cllr Nicholls proposed, Cllr Bolt seconded all others in favour that this application should be returned with the following observation *Constantine Parish Council supports this application.*

PA12/04445 Mr T P M Webber – Construction of detached 4-bedroom dwelling – Ponsaverran, Port Navas. Cllr Bolt proposed, Cllr Williams seconded all others in favour that this application should be returned with the following observation *Constantine Parish Council believes that to all intents and purposes this application is for a new home in the countryside (and indeed within the Cornwall AONB). Certainly it represents a further intrusion of the built environment into the natural environment – on which it will have an adverse effect. Moreover, the development is unsustainable in terms of the National Planning Policy Framework. The existing settlement, which is without any services, is incapable of supporting more housing. If permitted, it will create further vehicular movements on the already crowded narrow roads which serve the settlement. Constantine Parish Council requests the Planning Authority to refuse permission for development.*

PA12/04963 Mr C Pugh – Construction of new toilet block and external entrance lobby and minor structural alterations to link main hall to toilet block – The Tolmen Centre, Fore Street. Cllr Gray proposed, Cllr Wiseman seconded all others in favour that this application should be returned with the following observation *Constantine Parish Council supports this application.*

PA12/04964 Mr C Pugh – Listed building consent application for construction of new toilet block and external entrance lobby and minor structural alterations to link main hall to toilet block – The Tolmen Centre, Fore Street. Cllr Gray proposed, Cllr Wiseman seconded all others in favour that this application should be returned with the following observation *Constantine Parish Council supports this application*

PA12/05070 Mr Steve Miller – Erection of a single storey extension – Tree Tops, The Level, Constantine. Cllr Gray proposed, Cllr Miss Evans seconded all others in favour that this application should be returned with the following observation *Constantine Parish Council supports this application.*

Chairman’s initials.....

PA12/05220 Mr P And Mrs P Marnham – Amendment to existing planning approval PA11/03603 to include extension to 1st floor to form new en-suite and dressing room to main bedroom – Penolva, High Cross. Cllr Wiseman proposed, Cllr Williams seconded all others in favour that this application should be returned with the following observation. *Constantine Parish Council makes no observations on this application.*

PA12/05592 Mr N.Poskitt – Proposed Extension and Alterations – 32 Fore Street, Constantine. Cllr Gray proposed, Cllr Bolt seconded all others in favour that this application should be returned with the following observation *Constantine Parish Council supports this application.*

PA12/05797 Mr Andrew Cooke – Refurbishment of ground floor to create additional living space – The Garage, Port Navas. Cllr Gray proposed, Cllr Wiseman seconded all others in favour that this application should be returned with the following observation *Constantine Parish Council supports this application as long as the overall appearance of the building remains the same.*

PA12/06504 Mr P Shepherd – Conservation area consent for demolition of fire damaged boundary walls and conservatory. Renovation of fire damage property – 65 Fore Street Constantine. Cllr Gray proposed, Cllr Bolt seconded all others in favour that this application should be returned with the following observation *Constantine Parish Council supports this application*

Decisions

PA12/02523 Screening Opinion - EIA Not Required (Screening Opinion for the erection of a wind turbine) – Trengove Farm, Buckshead, Constantine – *noted*

PA12/01594/PREAPP Closed - advice given/app submitted (Demolition of existing building and extensions, re-landscaping of area) – Pixies Garden, High Cross – *noted*

PA12/03070 APPROVED (Demolition of annexe extension to neighbouring property (Shearwater) and the construction of a extension to Creek Cottage) – Creek Cottage, Quay Road, Port Navas – *noted*

PA12/03071 APPROVED (Listed Building Consent for the demolition of annexe extension to neighbouring property (Shearwater) and the construction of a extension to Creek Cottage) – Creek Cottage, Quay Road, Port Navas – *noted*

PA12/03155 APPROVED (Extension and alterations to dwelling) – 52 Fore Street Constantine – *noted*

PA12/03273 APPROVED - (Conversion of redundant builder's office to dwelling) – Trethowan Builders Yard, Tucoyse Lane, Higher Brill – *noted*

PA12/03342 APPROVED - (Lifting of condition 2 of planning permission W2/PA04/00311/F dated 28 April 2004) – Nantrissack Skyber, Nantrissack, Trebarvah Woon – *noted*

PA12/03942 APPROVED - (Extension of time on planning application PA09/00455/F for erection of a log cabin for use as ancillary accommodation) – Longbarn, Tresahor Veor – *noted*

PA12/04030 APPROVED - (Amendment to PA11/09291) – 2 Brillwater Road, Constantine – *noted*

PA12/06053 S52/S106 and discharge of condition apps - (Submission of details to discharge condition 8 in respect of decision notice PA99/00458/F) – Badger Barn, Seworgan Farm – *noted*

10 CLERK'S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence

Clerks and Councils Direst newsletter – *noted*

Smiths Gore re Constantine Glebe – *noted*

CCllr N.Hatton concerning the loss of the Helford River Water Bailiff – *noted*

Julie Girling MEP posters for the notice-boards – *noted*

Constantine Agricultural Association acknowledgement of and thanks for donation – *noted*

CC Electoral Review Panel Draft Recommendations – *noted*

Capt Andy Brigden concerning the withdrawal of the Helford River Water Bailiff – *noted*

Carrick Leisure West Cornwall Outdoor Adventure Activities (Summer Holiday Activities) – *noted*

11 FINANCIAL MATTERS

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

As one of the leaders of the Constantine Guides and Brownies, Cllr Miss Evans declared a pecuniary interest in the following item and left the room

Chairman's initials.....

Members considered a request from the Constantine Brownies and Girl Guide Company for financial help towards the purchase of replacement flags and a new stand holder. It was proposed by Cllr Wiseman, seconded by Cllr Nicholls, all others in favour that, under the terms of Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972, the sum of £300 be forwarded to the Constantine Brownies and Girl Guide Company to be put towards the costs of replacement flags and a new stand holder.

Cllr Miss Evans returned to the room.

Members considered a request from the Constantine Silver Band for financial help towards the costs relating to insurance and the Youth Band. It was proposed by Cllr Wiseman, seconded by Cllr Nicholls, all others in favour that, under the terms of Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972, the sum of £250 be forwarded to the Constantine Silver Band to be put towards the costs relating to insurance and the Youth Band.

The following accounts were presented for payment

	GROSS	NET	VAT
Mrs J.Jennings	£ 60.80		
Mr G.Jorey	£ 302.80		
W.B.Bowden and Sons (spraying)	£ 50.16	£ 41.80	£ 8.36
R.Sanders (Churchyard)	£ 330.00		
Tony Mogford Associates Ltd	£ 126.00	£ 105.00	£ 21.00
Viridor Waste Management Ltd	£ 49.58	£ 41.32	£ 8.26
The Audit Commission	£ 342.00	£ 285.00	£ 57.00
EdF Energy (public lighting)	£ 431.67	£ 411.11	£ 20.56
Gweek Garage	£ 26.66	£ 22.22	£ 4.44
W.B.Bowden and Sons (spray)	£ 36.00	£ 30.00	£ 6.00
J.J.Gyll Murray	£ 2,000.00		
Over the Top Marquees	£ 1,500.00		
Colin Chapman			
Salary (June)	£ 400.46		
telephone	£ 13.32		
office expenses	£ 58.84		
travelling	£ 28.29		
use of home	£ 25.00		
	total	£ 525.91	

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

Members noted the following accounts which had been paid during the course of the month at the request of the Diamond Jubilee sub-committee using the authority minuted under paragraph 7 (Parish Council Matters) page 315 of the minutes of the meeting held on April 19, 2012

	GROSS	NET	VAT
Constantine Stores	£ 99.25	£ 82.71	£ 16.54
St John Ambulance (June 6)	£ 26.93	£ 22.44	£ 4.49
St John Ambulance (June 7)	£ 53.86	£ 44.88	£ 8.98

Members noted the following receipts

Jubilee (cash)	£ 496.61
Jubilee (Constantine Carriage Company))	£ 5.00
Jubilee (CEC)	£ 16.00
Jubilee (Constantine PCC)	£ 100.00
Constantine Social Club (rent)	£ 1,137.50

12 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND REPRESENTATIVES

Cllr Nicholls reported that the JuMP Committee have a number fund-raising events arranged throughout the summer. The plans for the playground are expected to be available for consultation purposes with effect from August 21 following which applications for funding will be made to grant-making charities.

Chairman's initials.....

The Chairman reported that the recent Community Network meeting had largely concerned itself with the manner of the future governance of Cornwall. However concerns had been expressed about the absence of funding for services devolved from the Unitary Authority to Town and Parish Councils.

13 COMMENTS FROM COUNCILLORS

It was again noted that inconsiderate parking outside Valley View is making life difficult and possibly dangerous for users of Bowling Green Road. The Clerk was asked to contact Coastline Housing about the matter.

14 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next Ordinary Parish Council Meeting will be held on Thursday September 13, 2012 at 7:00pm in The Vestry, Constantine

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.59pm.

Signed.....

Dated.....

Chairman's initials.....