

CONSTANTINE PARISH COUNCIL

www.constantinecornwall.com/council

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Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Constantine Parish Council held on Thursday July 16, 2015 at 7.00pm in The Vestry, Constantine.

Present:

Cllr P.Carter	Cllr Miss C.Evans
Cllr J.Andrew	Cllr E.Nicholls
Cllr H.Bolt	Cllr Mrs T.Thomson
Cllr A.Carter	Cllr N.Wiseman
Cllr Mrs S.Dunstan	Mr C.Chapman (Clerk)

Visitors: CCllr Bastin, Mr Croftson, Mr Johnston, Mrs M.Parnell, Mr and Mrs N.Parnell and Dr A.Roberts.

The Chairman welcomed members and visitors to the July meeting.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Speaking on behalf of the Constantine Community Land Trust, Mr Johnston rehearsed the history of the Trust since its inception and told members that

- the Trust is currently at a cross-roads and needs help to find those people who might benefit from housing championed by the CLT
- there are particular concerns about the demographics of the village: housing is becoming ever more expensive and consequently out of reach of the younger generation, who have no alternative other than to move away
- the CLT is about making the village more cohesive – similar organisations have proved very successful elsewhere
- the open days had attracted the older age group (which appears keen to support the provision of housing which is more affordable), but those in most need had been notable by their absence
- the Trust feels it must attempt to meet the demands of the community and therefore must make contact with those younger people in need.

Mr Johnston asked if the Parish Council is able to do anything which might help.

Stating that the CLT is a not-for-profit organisation, Dr Roberts told members that its aims are to

- ensure a more viable village
- to create one in which the ‘movers and shakers’ of the future will be able to live
- and, in order to achieve this, the escalating price of houses in the village must be reversed.

He felt that, if the Parish Council were to add its weight to the project, it would lend both authority and stature.

Following discussion, the Chairman suggested that the CLT might consider publishing a paragraph or two in the *Constant Times* outlining its aims and objectives in the simplest of terms. He added that perhaps a Parish Meeting might then be called to discuss the matter of housing.

Mrs Parnell stated that she was present to seek the Parish Council’s support for her son and his wife’s planning application to build a new home on land adjoining Ivy Cottage at Brillwater. It was suggested to her (and to her son and his wife) that the Planning Authority is likely to refuse permission for an unfettered house at this location, but that an application for a Local Needs home might have a greater chance of success.

1 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Gray (indisposed) and PCSO Fuller sent their apologies for absence. Cllr Nicholls proposed, Cllr Andrew seconded, all others in favour to accept those apologies.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

in items on the agenda

There were no declarations of interest in items on the agenda.

Chairman’s initials.....

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 Mrs Dunstan proposed, Cllr Bolt seconded, Cllr Wiseman being absent from the last meeting abstained, all others in favour that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Thursday June 11, 2015 are a true record and the Chairman signed them as such.

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

With reference to the future of the village Post Office, members noted that the earlier decision made by the owner of the Spar Shop is being reconsidered.

5 POLICE REPORT

Through the Clerk, PCSO Fuller reported that three crimes have been reported to the Police during the last month. In that time, five incidents concerning the safety of the public have also been reported.

PCSO Fuller reported that a rising trend of theft in the wider area, particularly of granite mushrooms from domestic gardens, has been recorded. He advises marking all garden ornaments so that they can be identified if they are stolen and subsequently recovered. Reports have also been received of people taking muscles from Bar Beach on the Helford: the beach is owned by the Duchy and technically such acts constitute theft.

6 CORNWALL COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

CCllr Bastin reported that the Prime Minister is, this evening, signing a document offering Cornwall some devolution (although not as much as is being sought in the *Case for Cornwall* document). In particular, Central Government has undertaken to work with Cornwall on the provision of an integrated Health and Social Care service and to this end has asked for sight of a business plan from Cornwall Council by April 2016. Central Government has also agreed to devolve funding for local transport and will support the production of geo-thermal energy in the county. However, support for matters relating to the Cornish language, planning and double taxation on second homes have all been rejected for the time being. The talk in County Hall is presently all about double devolution: if Central Government devolves powers to Cornwall, then Cornwall must devolve powers to Town and Parish Councils.

There will be a boundary review in 2017 and the new boundaries will come into effect in 2020.

The decision to require Town and Parish Councils to deal electronically with all planning applications is attracting considerable opposition from the first tier authorities and a statement from the portfolio holder, CCllr Mrs Edwina Hannaford, had been expected earlier today.

A number of residents have contacted him about the issue of inconsiderate parking near the school at the beginning and end of the school day: he will take a look at the problem in the near future, if at all possible with a Highways' Officer in attendance.

7 PARISH MATTERS

The bus shelter

Members considered the design of a future replacement bus shelter for The Square. The Clerk was asked to have plans drawn up and to seek quotations in time for the meeting in September.

8 PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS

Parish Councillors

The Clerk reported that, no demand for an election having been forthcoming, the Council is now in a position to co-opt a new member.

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 2015. 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 2015.

9 PLANNING MATTERS

Applications

PA15/05655 Mr & Mrs N.Parnell – Outline application for the construction of a single dwelling-house – Ivy Cottage, Brillwater. Cllr Nicholls proposed, Cllr Bolt seconded, all others in favour that this application should be returned with the following observation *Constantine Parish Council does not support this application for a new unfettered dwelling in the open countryside. However, although it has concerns about the access onto the highway, it would be inclined to support a dwelling tied to Local Needs use in this location.*

Chairman's initials.....

PA15/06180 Mr & Mrs G.Norris – First floor extension with balcony and alterations including replacement roof covering – Skylarks, Brill. Cllr Nicholls proposed, Cllr Andrew seconded, all others in favour that this application should be returned with the following observation *Constantine Parish Council supports this application*

Decisions

PA15/02480 APPROVED – Approval of reserved matters (appearance, landscaping, layout and scale) for Erection of 2 holiday units and associated works following outline approval (PA11/06671) – Bosvathick Riding Stables, Constantine – *noted*

PA15/03512 APPROVED – Listed building consent application for re-roofing of main cottage roof – The Cottage, Tregantallan, Constantine – *noted*

PA15/03750 APPROVED – Change of use from dental Surgery to a residential dwelling – Landscape View, Penbothidno – *noted*

Correspondence

Cornwall Council notice of an appeal against the decision to refuse permission for the erection of a treble garage, gardener's store with residential annexe over at Hendrawna House, Polwheveral – *noted*

Mrs Atkins copy of a letter of objection to PA15/05655 addressed to the Planning Authority – *noted*

10 CLERK'S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE

Clerks and Councils Direct newsletter – *noted*

Cornwall Rural Housing Association seeking support for the continuation of the existing rural exemption from the Right to Buy scheme – *the Clerk to write to George Eustice MP on behalf of Constantine Parish Council*

11 FINANCIAL MATTERS

The Clerk presented Councillors with a statement of Constantine Parish Council's financial position as at July 16, 2015. A copy of that statement is attached to these minutes.

Members noted the conclusion of the audit for the year to March 31, 2015. The External Auditor had commented that the Council's Financial Regulations refer to the Accounts and Audit Regulations 1996. With effect from April 1, 2015 the relevant regulations are those which came into force on that date.

Members considered a request from the Constantine Silver Band for financial help. Following discussion, it was proposed by Cllr Wiseman, seconded by Cllr Nicholls, all others in favour that, using the General Power of Competence, Constantine Parish Council should forward the sum of £280.00 to Constantine Silver Band.

Members considered a request from Will Tufnell of 3 Squadron Helston Air Cadets for financial help towards the cost of financing an expedition to South Africa. Following discussion, it was proposed by Cllr Wiseman, seconded by Cllr Miss Evans, all others in favour that, using the General Power of Competence, Constantine Parish Council should forward the sum of £100.00 to Will Tufnell.

The following accounts were presented for payment

		GROSS	NET	VAT
Mr G.Jorey		£ 301.00		
Mrs J.Jennings		£ 52.00		
Grant Thornton (external audit)		£ 240.00	£ 200.00	£ 40.00
NPower (Church Square)		£ 33.10	£ 30.25	£ 1.51
Cornwall Council (cemetery rates)		£ 158.40		
E.On UK plc (public lighting)		£ 69.16	£ 65.87	£ 3.29
Viridor Waste Management Ltd		£ 49.98	£ 41.65	£ 8.33
R.Sanders (Footpaths)		£ 2,938.93	£ 2,449.11	£ 489.82
R.Sanders				
Churchyards	£ 720.00			
Recreation Ground	£ 350.00			
	total	£ 1,284.00	£ 1,070.00	£ 214.00
Colin Chapman				
Salary (June)	£ 458.27			
telephone	£ 19.54			
office expenses	£ 32.34			
travelling	£ 44.19			
engraving	£ 12.95			
use of home	£ 25.00			
	total	£ 592.29		

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Proposed by Cllr Mrs Dunstan, seconded by Cllr Mrs Thomson, all others in favour that the above ten accounts be paid.

The following accounts in relation to expenses for the Recreation Ground were presented for payment

	GROSS	NET	VAT
W.B.Bowden (removal of subsoil)	£ 40.20	£ 33.50	£ 6.70
Truro Tractors	£ 57.60	£ 48.00	£ 9.60

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

Members noted the following receipt

F.Christophers & Sons Ltd (Mrs Venning)	£ 130.00
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12 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND REPRESENTATIVES

No reports were tabled.

13 COMMENTS FROM COUNCILLORS

Members noted that the new cemetery wall fronting Bowling Green is becoming overgrown: the Clerk was asked to contact Bob Sanders about this.

Members' attention was drawn to the AONB Management Plan Review Consultation which can be completed on-line.

14 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday September 17, 2015 at 7:00pm in The Vestry, Constantine

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.17pm.

Signed.....

Dated.....

Chairman's initials.....