

# CONSTANTINE PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Constantine Parish Council held on Thursday, January 20, 2011 at 7.00pm in The Vestry, Constantine.

**Present:**

Cllr P.C.Carter (Chairman)	Cllr M.J.Reynolds
Cllr J.E.G.Boote	Cllr R.J.Williams
Cllr A.H.Bolt	Cllr N.J.Wiseman
Cllr K.Cavanagh	
Cllr C.Gray	Mr C.Chapman (Clerk)

**Visitors:** CCllr Hatton, Mr Haverson, Mr Mansfield and Mr Williams.

In the absence of the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman, Cllr Boote, welcomed members and visitors to the January meeting.

## PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Mr Williams and Mr Mansfield stated that they were present to seek the Parish Council's support for the replacement of the defunct wind turbine near Silverhill Farm. In answer to questions, they advised members that the proposed replacement turbine would be taller, but quieter in operation. Following very general discussion, the Chairman advised them that it was his opinion that members had no negative thoughts about the proposal. However, he stressed that only once the plans had been received by the Council and members had had a chance to view them would the Parish Council be in a position to make observations. He recommended them to contact Transition Constantine.

Central Government proposals to reduce the hours of cover at HM Coastguard in Falmouth and to move the Maritime Rescue Co-ordination Centre to Portsmouth caused considerable comment and concern and the Clerk was asked to write to the appropriate bodies expressing the Parish Council's opposition to the proposals. On much the same sort of issue, the Clerk was also asked to write to the appropriate bodies expressing the Parish Council's opposition to the proposed scrapping of the *Anglian Princess*, the ocean-going tug whose purpose it is to protect the South West Approaches.

Cllr Boote asked if thought might be given to the provision of a salt bin at Brill.

*Cllr Boote relinquished the Chair in favour of the Chairman who had entered the room during the course of Public Question Time. The Chairman apologised to members for being late to the meeting.*

## 1 TO ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Just (family), Cllr Nicholls (work) and PC Cook all sent their apologies for absence. Cllr Boote proposed, Cllr Cavanagh seconded all others in favour to accept their apologies.

## 2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

### in items on the agenda

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

### 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 Wiseman proposed, Cllr Grey seconded, all others in favour that, with the hand-written correction, the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Thursday December 16, 2010 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**

Speaking of the tree in the new car-park, Cllr Wiseman reported that he had met with Mr Holloway of Cornovia Tree Services and that he understood a verbal quotation has since been received by the Clerk.

Cllr Boote reported that he had handed out just three Cornwall HomeChoice application forms (which potential residents of the new affordable homes on the Wheal Vyvyan estate must complete). He was reassured by a report that Cornwall HomeChoice already holds valid completed applications and that others have been completed on-line.

A number of drains (particularly those in Port Navas, in Church Square and at the bottom of the hill in Bridge) need emptying. The Clerk agreed to contact Cornwall Highways with a request for all the drains in Constantine to be cleared and emptied.

It was noted that, with the co-operation of the adjoining landowner, the flooding problem along the road near Silverhill has been resolved.

#### **5 POLICE REPORT**

Through the Clerk, PC Cook reported that since the meeting on December 16, 2010 there have been seven crimes (the theft of five outboard motors and criminal damage both to a vehicle and to a window in the village) reported to the Police. PC Cook added that there had been no calls relating to anti-social behaviour.

#### **6 CORNWALL COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

CCllr Hatton reported that

- Cornwall Highways has cleared all the gullies and ditches along the road past Silver Hill Farm
- following the first spell of cold weather, he had arranged for all the salt bins to be refilled. Speaking of the salt bins, he strongly advised the Parish Council not to leave them in situ during the summer, but to store them safely out of harm's way
- a meeting of the Communities Committee which he had attended had agreed that, despite the inevitable cost-saving measures which will eventually have to be put in place, there will be no closures of libraries, swimming pools or leisure centres in the next twelve months. In that time cost-saving ways of working with communities and charitable trusts in order to continue delivery of these services will be investigated
- the Wheal Vyvyan Housing project has attracted a great deal of interest and is due to be completed in March/April. The closing date for the receipt of applications for this housing (all of which is for rent) is January 28, 2011 following which date Housing Officers will examine all the requests received and allocate homes according to the criteria pertaining to the building of homes on this exception site. Importantly, these criteria include the need for recipients to be from or to have strong links with the Parish of Constantine. He advised the Parish Council to become involved by ensuring that the process of allocation is carried out properly. He confirmed that Building Regulations Officers from Cornwall have inspected the site and that the dwellings are being built to national standards
- the effectiveness of the Community Network service is to be reviewed. In general, towns in Cornwall are more in favour of retaining them and the benefits they provide than the rural communities
- in future, using a trailer to dump household rubbish in Cornwall's Waste and Re-cycling Centres will require a permit: each household will be allowed twelve 'free' trailer visits per annum. Taking waste in a car or a 4x4 will not be subject to these conditions.

#### **7 PARISH MATTERS**

##### **Recreation Ground**

Members noted that, as a result of a land slip onto the Brillwater Road at its junction with Vicarage Terrace, the Clerk had instructed W.B.Bowden to carry out clearance work. Considerable discussion followed concerning the possibility of and responsibility for further slippages.

The Clerk reported that, as a result of the continuing irresponsible behaviour of dog owners on the Alice Hext Recreation Ground, he had contacted the dog warden with a request for him to patrol the area and had sought quotations for new signs. Following discussion, Cllr Wiseman proposed, Cllr Williams seconded all in favour that the Clerk should have delegated powers to seek further quotations and to purchase six signs at the keenest price.

It was agreed to seek a second quotation for the felling of the tree in the new car-park.

##### **Young people**

In the absence of Cllr Just there was no report on the activities of the Youth Club.

*Chairman's initials.....*

## 8 PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND DECISIONS

### Applications

PA10/08475 Mr M Foster – Installation of window on North East elevation – Dinyan, Port Navas. Cllr Wiseman proposed, Cllr Williams seconded and it was agreed that this application should be returned marked, *Constantine Parish Council makes no observations.*

PA10/07612 Mr D Morris – Retention and completion of shed and boathouse – Barrans Port Navas. Cllr Wiseman proposed, Cllr Williams seconded and it was agreed that this application should be returned with the following observation, *Constantine Parish Council believes the description of this application as the "retention and completion of a shed and a boathouse" is inaccurate: it is Councillors' understanding that the construction of a boathouse has not commenced.*

*Constantine Parish Council notes the absence from this application of any indication concerning the manner of disposal of foul waste (from the proposed shed).*

*The former inaccuracy and the latter omission aside, Constantine Parish Council registers its strong objection to this proposal, which represents a further intrusion into a highly sensitive, nationally and internationally recognised and protected area.*

*Constantine Parish Council reminds the Local Planning Authority that the Helford Ria as a whole forms part of the Cornwall Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, the protection of which is primarily the responsibility of Cornwall Council. This particular site is further designated as an Area of Great Scientific Value and as such offers protection to the important muddy and rocky foreshore of the adjacent Lower Fal and Helford Intertidal SSSI and the marine environment of the Fal and Helford Special Area of Conservation.*

### Decisions

PA10/07577 Grant of Conditional Planning Permission (Erection of a conservatory) – Cranleigh, Penbothidno – *noted*

## 9 CLERK'S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk reported receipt of a planning application (PA10/08670 Mr Mike Rutgers – The development of a 5 MW solar photovoltaic farm on land close to Constantine, Cornwall along with attendant equipment and infrastructure – Brill Farm, Constantine). It was agreed that there may well be many residents who wish to speak both for and against this development and that, before the Parish Council formulates its observations at the meeting in February, it would be valuable to hold a Parish Meeting at which those views might be aired. The Clerk was asked to book the Church Hall on a date convenient to the Trustees and which does not clash with other events being held in Constantine.

### Correspondence

CC Local Council Planning Forum invitation to second meeting Thursday February 10 5:00pm – *noted*

**West Cornwall Local Action Group** unsuccessful request for funding for the play area project – *noted*

**Helford River Children's Sailing Trust** acknowledgement of and thanks for donation – *noted*

**Royal British Legion** 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary Poppy Party Weekend – *noted*

**Clerks and Councils Direct** magazine – *noted*

**Helford VMCA** programme of events 2011 – *noted*

**Goonhilly Green Power** newsletter – *noted*

**Cllr Cummins** letter of resignation from the Council – *noted*

## 10 FINANCIAL MATTERS

The Clerk presented Councillors with a statement of Constantine Parish Council's financial position as at January 20, 2011. A copy of that statement is attached to these minutes.

Members considered a request from Home Start Kernow for help with funding support and friendship for families in West Cornwall. Following discussion, it was proposed by Cllr Cavanagh, seconded by Cllr Gray, two members against, all others in favour that Constantine Parish Council cannot accede to this request as it stands. If the Charity likes to forward further information, particularly about the numbers of families from the Parish it has helped in the past year, the Council will reconsider this decision and the Clerk was asked to convey this information to Home Start Kernow.

*Chairman's initials.....*

The following accounts were presented for payment

	<b>GROSS</b>	<b>NET</b>	<b>VAT</b>
Mr G.Jorey	£ 270.80		
Mrs J.Jennings (January)	£ 47.44		
SEC Ltd (call out fee)	£ 20.26	£ 17.24	£ 3.02
EDF Energy (public lighting)	£ 313.17	£ 298.27	£ 14.90
Veolia ES (UK) Ltd	£ 66.88	£ 56.92	£ 9.96
Constantine Church Hall (Youth Club)	£ 77.00		
Fields in Trust (subscription)	£ 35.00		
W.B.Bowden & Sons (scalpings for car-park)	£ 70.50	£ 60.00	£ 10.50
Colin Chapman			
Salary (December)	£ 400.46		
telephone	£ 14.51		
office expenses	£ 31.38		
travelling	£ 32.71		
use of home	£ 25.00		
	total	£ 504.06	

Proposed by Cllr Boote, seconded by Cllr Gray, all others in favour that the above nine accounts be paid.

The following receipts were noted

Mrs Mary Stoffel (donation towards the cemetery)	£ 50.00
Cash for road salt	£ 25.00
Rev'd Stevens (Mrs Wilson)	£ 123.00
Constantine Parish Church (Mrs Richardson)	£ 196.00
Mrs E.Moore (donation towards Christmas trees)	£ 30.00
Cash for road salt	£ 20.00
Constantine Social Club (rent)	£ 568.75

## **11 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND REPRESENTATIVES**

No reports from Committees or Representatives were tabled.

## **12 COMMENTS FROM COUNCILLORS**

In answer to a question, the Chairman reported that there are about ten bags of road salt left in store at Trengilly Farm. Discussion followed about the recommended use of salt and it was noted that a handful is sufficient to treat an area of about two square metres.

Cllr Gray encouraged Members to consider the next steps toward the creation of the new car-park. He observed that considerable quantities of mud have washed down from the new car-park and now make the entrance into the New Churchyard difficult.

It was noted that some of the graves in the New Churchyard require attention and agreed that this matter should be discussed further at the next meeting.

It was noted that the tap in the cemetery requires attention.

## **13 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

The next Ordinary Parish Meeting will be held on Thursday February 17, 2011 at 7:00pm in The Vestry.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.45pm.

Signed.....

Dated.....

*Chairman's initials.....*