

CONSTANTINE PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Constantine Parish Council held on Thursday, April 21, 2011 at 7.00pm in The Vestry, Constantine.

Present:	Cllr P.C.Carter (Chairman) Cllr A.H.Bolt Cllr J.E.G.Boote Cllr C.Gray	Cllr R.E.Just Cllr M.J.Reynolds Cllr R.J.Williams Mr C.Chapman (Clerk)
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Visitors: CClr Hatton, Mrs Dalton, Mr and Mrs Featherstone, Mrs Gulland, Mr Kent, Mr Lea, Mrs Levi, Mr Rice, Mr Williams and others including representatives from Decci UK Ltd.

The Chairman welcomed members and visitors to the April meeting.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

It was noted that

- on Sunday May 1 the Carnival Group is organising a garden tea party to celebrate the royal wedding. This event will be free of charge to those attending
- the traffic protection bollards at the end of the path between Penbothidno and Bowling Green Road are placed too close together to allow the passage of mobility scooters.

In the interests of privacy Mrs Gulland reported that she has asked Carrick Housing to erect a six foot panel fence between her garden and the new Wheal Vyvyan development. This request has been refused. Speaking on behalf of the Parish Council, the Chairman said that he considered this stance to be unreasonable and the Clerk was asked to speak to Carrick Housing about the matter.

Mr Lea asked for the Parish Council's support with his planning application, PA11/01897.

Mr Williams asked the Parish Council to consider co-ordinating the purchase of heating oil for residents of the village. Speaking on behalf of the Parish Council, the Chairman suggested that this is a task for the Residents' Association rather than for the Parish Council.

Decci UK's Project Manager, Mr Patricny, said that he was present to seek the support of the Parish Council for his company's plans to develop a solar array at Brill and also to address some of the concerns that had been raised at the public consultation event earlier in the week

- the increase in the cost of electricity resulting from the development of 400 5MW solar farms would be 1.58% thereby increasing the cost of a kilowatt from 12p to 12.19p
- the UK is one of the richest nations on earth: if renewable energy projects are not realised here, then countries such as China and India will follow that lead and will continue to pollute the earth's atmosphere
- the energy consumption per person per day in the UK equates to 120KW. Building integrated arrays can only contribute a very small percentage of this amount
- there are real energy issues in the UK: one third of the existing generation capacity will come to the end of its anticipated life before 2012. Action is imperative
- if individuals do not support renewable energy, then, by default, they support carbon emitting generation
- solar arrays do not harm the soil: the fields on which they are built can easily be restored at the end of the plant's life
- solar arrays are the cleanest form of energy there is: they have no carbon emissions

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- if planning permission is granted for their proposed solar array at Brill, Decci UK Ltd will support the local community in the sum of £5,000 per MW per annum
- moreover, Decci UK Ltd will offer solar panels for installation on community buildings and local homes at the price at which they buy them
- additionally, an opportunity for local organisations and individuals alike to take a financial interest in the proposed development will be made available. This will enable those participating to make an annual return on capital of some 20% as well as gaining the moral high-ground
- development of this power plant will enable the community to become energy self sufficient
- Decci UK Ltd is prepared to compromise and to reduce the size of the project, if that is what the community wishes. It will also do all it can to reduce the visual impact of the development
- Decci UK Ltd needs the support of the local community. If this is not forthcoming then it will not proceed with its plans.

A suggestion was made by a member of the public that in order properly to gauge local opinion on the proposed solar array, a questionnaire might be sent to every dwelling in the parish.

It was explained to the representatives of Decci UK Ltd that the Parish Council cannot make observations on proposals before plans have been submitted.

Mrs Dalton asked for an assurance that if Decci UK Ltd applies for planning permission to build a solar array at Brill a Parish Meeting will be called to air residents' views. The Chairman assured her that this would be done.

1 TO ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Cavanagh (work), Cllr Nicholls (work), Cllr Wiseman (personal) and PC Cook sent their apologies for absence. Cllr Gray proposed, Cllr Bolt seconded all others in favour to accept their apologies.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

in items on the agenda

Cllr Bolt declared a personal interest in Agenda item 9, Planning Application PA11/02824.

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 Gray proposed, Cllr Boote seconded, Cllr Reynolds being absent from the last meeting abstained, all others in favour that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Thursday March 17, 2011 are a true record and the Chairman signed them as such.

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

It was noted that the Helford River Association has the matter of the boats abandoned on the foreshore of Anna Maria Creek in hand. It was further noted that that side of the creek lies in the Parish of Mawnan.

5 POLICE REPORT

Through the Clerk, PC Cook reported that since the meeting on March 17, 2011 there have been four crimes in the Parish which have been reported to the Police (three of criminal damage and an assault). PC Cook reported that as a result of concerns recently expressed by residents there will be more patrols in the area.

6 CORNWALL COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

CCllr Hatton reported that

- fourteen salt bins now belong to and are the responsibility of the Parish Council. He has approached people who live near the bins to ask if they will look after them during the summer months, but inevitably there will be some which will need to be stored by the Council. He will send the Clerk a list detailing all the arrangements he has made
- to date Cornwall Council has given conditional approval for seventeen large-scale solar arrays and has received valid applications for a further seventeen
- the application for the solar array at Brill which was submitted by SunPower will now be decided by the Strategic Planning Committee on May 12. This follows an objection from the Cornwall AONB which is supported by the County Landscape Unit
- unlike Sunpower, Decci UK Ltd is only looking at the site in Brill

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- if the Feed in Tariff is reduced in August as expected, then the Government may face a judicial review from developers
- Cornwall Council will not permit the development of two solar arrays at Brill because of the cumulative impact on the area
- the Wheal Vyvyan development of affordable local needs housing is expected to be completed in late May or early June. All the homes have been allocated to residents of the Parish of Constantine
- more money is available and it is possible that a second phase of six affordable local needs homes may be developed elsewhere in the Parish
- the road between Nancenoy, Polwheveral and High Cross will shortly be repaired and resurfaced. This will inevitably result in road closure, but the work will be done as swiftly as possible
- in consultation with residents of Trewardreva and with the support of the Parish Council he has arranged for the missing bollards and bend warning signs to be replaced and for new hamlet identity signs to be positioned at entry points
- in order to speed up the process, he has allocated some of his Highways budget towards the drainage works project near Higher Trengrove.

7 PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS

The co-option of Parish Councillors

The Chairman proposed and it was agreed that, because of the sensitive nature of this item, members of the public should be required to withdraw from the meeting.

The Clerk reported that he had received two valid application for the vacant place on Constantine Parish Council. One from Miss Charlotte Evans of Nanjarrow Farm, Ponjeravah and the other from Mrs Linda Scott of 82, Penbothidno. He read letters from both Miss Evans and Mrs Scott which gave details of their particular interests in the workings of the Parish Council.

Following discussion, Cllr Williams proposed, Cllr Gray seconded all others in agreement that Miss Charlotte Evans should be co-opted as a Parish Councillor.

Members of the public were invited to return to the meeting.

The Chairman announced the result of the vote.

Cllr Miss Evans signed and read aloud her individual declaration of acceptance of office before Mr Chapman, Clerk to Constantine Parish Council, the Proper Officer. The Chairman welcomed Cllr Miss Evans as a member of Constantine Parish Council.

Department of Energy and Climate Change consultation: review of Feed-in Tariffs

In the light of concern expressed by parishioners about the proposed solar array at Brill, Councillors considered making a response to the consultation on the fast-track review of Feed-in Tariffs for small scale low carbon electricity published by the Department of Energy and Climate Change. Following discussion, Cllr Just proposed, Cllr Boote seconded and it was agreed to respond solely and as follows to the four questions relating to solar energy

1. Do you agree or disagree that there is a need to limit FITs for large scale solar PV installations in order to meet Spending Review targets or should we limit access for other technologies to meet Spending Review targets? Please give reasons for your answer. *Constantine Parish Council agrees that there is a need to limit access to FITs for large scale solar PV installations. Such installations do not fit the definition of micro-generation and, if the present rate of construction continues, will distort the FITs budget (and hence the Spending Review target) disproportionately.*
2. Do you agree or disagree with the proposed new tariff bands and the accompanying proposed reduction of tariffs for solar PV installations in these bands? Please give reasons for your answer. If you disagree, please provide evidence to support an alternative. *Constantine Parish Council welcomes the proposed new tariff bands but would prefer to see the middle band applied solely to building integrated installations and the stand alone tariff reduced to 150KW*
3. Do you agree or disagree with the proposed timing of the change in tariffs including the implementation date of 1 August 2011 and that the tariff change will apply to all installations with an eligibility date on or after that date? Please give reasons for your answer. If you disagree, please provide evidence to support an alternative. *Constantine Parish Council agrees with the proposed timing of the change in tariffs. The later the implementation date, the more permissions for the development of large scale installations will be granted.*

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4. Can you provide any further information or evidence on predicted uptake of installations or other insights that you think DECC should be aware of about how the market for solar PV is evolving in the light of FITs? *Constantine Parish Council is aware that since March 3, 2011 (at three meetings of the Strategic Planning Committee) Cornwall Council has granted planning permission for 17 large scale solar PV installations.*

Cornwall Council's Core Strategy consultation paper.

Following discussion the Chairman proposed and it was agreed to respond to Cornwall Council's Core Strategy consultation paper as follows

How much growth should Cornwall plan for?

Answer: Low: continued low migration, 1,900 new dwellings per annum

Where should it be located?

Answer: Economy led distribution:- 75% in key employment areas and areas where there is a high market demand for housing: 25% throughout the rest of the county.

8 PARISH MATTERS

Highway matters

Cllr Hatton had presented members with details of proposed improvements to the highway at Trewardreva during his report.

Wheal Vyvyan

Cllr Hatton had updated members on the opening and allocation of houses at Wheal Vyvyan during his report.

Local Maintenance Partnership

Members considered an invitation to renew partnership working with Cornwall Council with the offer of a grant of £2,494.00 (or 100% of the eligible costs whichever is the lower). In the year to March 31, 2011 Constantine Parish Council's costs for cutting footpaths amounted to £2,850.00 and the full amount of Cornwall's offer of £2,493.00 was claimed. Cllr Just proposed, Cllr Bolt seconded, all others in favour that Constantine Parish Council should accept Cornwall Council's invitation to renew partnership working.

Car-Park

The Chairman reported that he and the Clerk had met Chris Biddick (CC's Area Highway Manager) and that he (Mr Biddick) has offered to devise a scheme which will create a permanent edge between Bowling Green Road and the new car-park. The Clerk reported that as yet he had not received Mr Biddick's thoughts.

The Clerk reported that he had sought quotes from Malcolm Rashleigh and Son of Falmouth to erect diamond edge fencing on the car park and that he will be meeting him on site after Easter.

The Clerk reported that he had sought a quotation from Go Stump No Stump Ltd of Redruth to grind out the two tree stumps on the car park and that he will be meeting a representative from the company on site next Wednesday. Following discussion, Cllr Just proposed, Cllr Gray seconded all others in favour that the Clerk should have delegated powers to authorise this work if the quotation is under £300.00.

Members noted and agreed with Cllr Reynolds' view that the sign banning HGVs from using the car-park is out of place and agreed to review the signage in both car-parks at the next meeting.

Members also agreed to consider the provision of a picnic bench to go under the trees on the new car-park at the next meeting.

The War Memorial

The Clerk reported that he had told Mr Rashleigh that it was the Parish Council's opinion that Loveday Jane Richards' name should be remembered on the Gweek War Memorial. He further reported that, as requested, he had undertaken a little research on the names Mr Rashleigh had recommended should be added to the War Memorial. George Cuthbert Mayne and William Constantine Mayne had both been born in New Zealand albeit of parents who had, at one time, lived in Constantine. Joseph Henry Edwin Mayne and William Ernest Mayne were South Africans by nationality. John Gundry Midlen, was born in the Parish, but at the time of his death was living near Bath in Somerset. It was agreed that, because the War Memorial had been designed to record the names of those men who were living in the village at the time they had left to fight but who had not returned, it would be inappropriate to add any of the names suggested by Mr Rashleigh.

Recreation Ground

The Clerk reported that, following the meeting in March, Mr Osgood had telephoned him to query the exact location of the damaged Cornish hedge for the repair of which he had quoted £200. It had become apparent

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that an honest mistake had been made and that he had quoted for the wrong section. However, he had offered to repair both sections of hedge for the sum of £380. Having consulted the Chairman, the Clerk had authorised Mr Osgood to carry out the work necessary on both sections of the hedge and Mr Osgood's invoice would be presented for payment in agenda item 11.

Members noted that Cllr Reynolds has kindly placed the signs banning dogs from the Recreation Ground near the entrances.

The Clerk reported that, because he feared injury to children, he had authorised Mr Brian Jorey to repair both the Hags climbing frame and some of the benches. Mr Jorey's invoice in the sum of £335.00 would be presented for payment in agenda item 11.

Young people

No report on the activities of the Youth Club was available for members.

9 PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND DECISIONS

Applications

PA10/07612 Mr D Morris – Retention and completion of shed (amended design) – Barrans, Port Navas. Cllr Williams proposed, Cllr Gray seconded, and it was agreed that this application should be returned marked *Subject to the macerator, pump and pipework necessary for connection to the existing drainage system being in position, Constantine Parish Councillors do not object to this application.*

PA11/00895 Mr R.O.Waters – Replacement of shack with workshop, installation of solar panels, improvement of access and parking, creation of pond – Field to west of Fir Tree Farm Nursery, Tresahor. Cllr Williams proposed, Cllr Reynolds seconded and it was agreed that this application should be returned marked *Constantine Parish Councillors support this application.*

PA11/01823 Coastline Housing Ltd – Erection of a noticeboard – Penbothidno Estate. Cllr Bolt proposed, Cllr Just seconded and it was agreed that this application should be returned marked *Constantine Parish Councillors support this application.*

PA11/01897 Mr & Mrs W.Lea – Discharge of S106 agreement – Trengilly Wartha Inn, Nancenoy. Cllr Williams proposed, Cllr Bolt seconded, Cllr Reynolds abstained and it was agreed that this application should be returned marked *Constantine Parish Council raises no objections to this application.*

PA11/02133 Mrs E.White – Erection of a dwelling, parking and access way (amended design) – 2, Brillwater Cottages. Cllr Williams proposed, Cllr Reynolds seconded and it was agreed that this application should be returned marked *Constantine Parish Councillors are aware that planning permission has been granted on this plot and view the amended design as an undoubted improvement on the original. However, the proposed parking arrangements are still unsatisfactory: Councillors do not believe that a single parking space per property is sufficient and therefore cannot support the application.*

PA11/02588 Mr D.Barros – Felling of six sycamore trees – Bridge Cottage, Bridge. Cllr Bolt proposed, Cllr Gray seconded and it was agreed that this application should be returned marked *If the County Tree Officer supports this application, Constantine Parish Councillors have no objections.*

PA11/02775 Mr C.Warren – Coppicing of a mature common alder tree – Walmar, Trewince Lane, Port Navas. Cllr Just proposed, Cllr Williams seconded and it was agreed that this application should be returned marked *Constantine Parish Councillors support this application.*

As a friend of the applicant, Cllr Bolt declared a personal interest in the following application. He remained in the room but took no part in either the discussion or the voting

PA11/02824 Mrs C.Roberts – Porch extension to dwelling – Dunstans Cottage, Seworgan. Cllr Reynolds proposed, Cllr Just seconded and it was agreed that this application should be returned marked *Constantine Parish Councillors support this application.*

PA11/02845 Mr & Mrs Meadows – Felling of one sessile oak – Poltoge, Port Navas. Cllr Bolt proposed, Cllr Williams seconded and it was agreed that this application should be returned marked *Constantine Parish Councillors support this application.*

PA11/02922 Professor P Scott – Felling of various trees – Kinloss, Port Navas. Cllr Gray proposed, Cllr Williams seconded and it was agreed that this application should be returned marked *Constantine Parish Councillors support this application.*

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Decisions

PA11/00387 Grant of Conditional Planning Permission (erection of dwelling – amended design) – Little Orchard, Bridge – *noted*

10 CLERK'S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence

Cancer Research advertisement for the Relay for Life at Mullion School Saturday July 9 – *noted*

Constantine Cottage Garden Society acknowledgement of and thanks for donation – *noted*

CPRE proposed new constitution request to vote against adoption following a Board decision – *noted*

Cornwall Council grit and salt bins – *noted*

Came and Company Parish Council insurance (effective April 3, 2011 for 12 months) – *noted*

Department for Business Innovation and Skills reply to letter concerning the Post Office and possible loss of business – *noted*

Constantine Enterprises Company invitation to attend the AGM on Thursday May 5, 2011 – *noted*

1st Constantine Guides and Brownies acknowledgement of and thanks for donation – *noted*

11 FINANCIAL MATTERS

The Clerk presented Councillors with a statement of Constantine Parish Council's financial position as at April 21, 2011. A copy of that statement is attached to these minutes.

The Clerk presented the accounts for the year April 1, 2010 – March 31, 2011. Cllr Just proposed, Cllr Gray seconded, Cllr Miss Evans abstained, all others in favour that Constantine Parish Council approves the accounts for the year April 1, 2010 – March 31, 2011.

Both the Chairman and the Responsible Financial Officer signed and dated the Statement of Accounts contained in the Annual Return for the year ended March 31, 2011 in the appropriate places.

Parish Councillors considered the Statement of Assurance required for the Annual Return for the year ended March 31, 2011. Cllr Williams proposed, Cllr Gray seconded, Cllr Miss Evans abstained, all others in favour that Constantine Parish 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, 2011.

Both the Chairman and the Clerk signed and dated the Statement of Assurance contained in the Annual Return for the year ended March 31, 2011 in the appropriate places.

Members considered a request from Cruse Bereavement Care in Cornwall for help with funding. Following discussion, it was agreed that Constantine Parish Council cannot support this cause.

Members considered a request from the Constantine Carnival Organising Group for help with funding the cost of a garden tea party to celebrate the royal wedding on Sunday May 1, 2011. Following discussion, Cllr Just proposed, Cllr Gray seconded all others in favour that, under the terms of S137 of the Local Government Act 1972, the sum of £50 should be forwarded to the Constantine Carnival Organising Group for help with funding the cost of a garden tea party Sunday May 1, 2011 to celebrate the royal wedding on.

Members noted the following account paid in March

	GROSS	NET	VAT
B.Gribble (young people)	£ 100.00		

The following accounts were presented for payment

	GROSS	NET	VAT
CC Rates			
Car Park	£ 368.05		
Vestry	£ 150.63		
Cemetery	£ 15.20		
total	£ 533.88		
EDF Energy (public lighting)	£ 298.09	£ 312.99	£ 14.90
Gweek Garage	£ 6.50	£ 5.42	£ 1.08
Mrs J.Jennings	£ 47.44		
Mr G.Jorey	£ 273.40		
Veolia ES (UK) Ltd	£ 62.30	£ 51.92	£ 10.38
Mr R.Osgood	£ 380.00		

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Mr R.Williams (garden in The Square)	£ 210.20	£ 183.00	£ 18.20
Mr B.Jorey (repairs to play equipment)	£ 335.00		
Colin Chapman			
Salary (March)	£ 400.46		
telephone	£ 22.59		
office expenses	£ 32.36		
travelling	£ 39.34		
use of home	£ 25.00		
	total	£ 519.75	

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

The following receipts were noted

CC Precept 1 st instalment	£ 14,000.00
Alec John Joyce (Memorial)	£ 27.00
HMRC VAT refund	£ 2,319.01
Constantine Social Club (rent)	£ 568.75

12 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND REPRESENTATIVES

The Clerk presented the minutes of the meeting on February 21 of the Constantine Recreation Ground Friends' and Users' Group. The recommendations made at this meeting were received by the Parish Council at the meeting in March.

13 COMMENTS FROM COUNCILLORS

There were no comments from Councillors.

14 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The Annual Parish Council Meeting will be held on Thursday May 19, 2011 at 7:00pm in The Vestry.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.58pm.

Signed.....

Dated.....

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