

CONSTANTINE PARISH COUNCIL

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

Present:	Cllr P.C.Carter (Chairman) Cllr J.E.G.Boote Cllr A.H.Bolt Cllr Miss C.Evans Cllr C.Gray	Cllr R.E.Just Cllr E.Nicholls Cllr R.J.Williams Cllr N.J.Wiseman Mr C.Chapman (Clerk)
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Visitor: CCllr Hatton, Mrs Bailey, Mrs Brierley, Mrs Donaghie, Ms Gendall, Mr Hussey, Mr Johnston, Mr M.Rowe, Mr P.Rowe and Mrs Scatchard.

The Chairman welcomed members and visitors to the January meeting.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Mr M.Rowe stated that he and his brother were present to ask for the Council's support and to answer questions about their planning application to demolish one dwelling and erect two in its place in Fore Street. It was noted that

- the proposed footprint remains the same as the existing
- the reason for erecting two dwellings in place of one is purely economic: the cost of demolition of the existing building will be considerable
- the proposed ridge height is higher than the existing, but the ground level will be lowered to mitigate this.

Concerns were expressed about windows in the proposed properties overlooking neighbouring dwellings and the consequent loss of privacy for residents.

Mr Hussey said he was present on behalf of Transition Constantine, which had responded to an initiative by the Woodland Trust which aims to plant 6 million trees in the Queen's Jubilee year. Transition Constantine will shortly be taking delivery of 420 small saplings (about 20cm - 40cm in height). They will come with support canes and spiral protective wrappers and will comprise a mixture of blackthorn, silver birch, hazel, hawthorn, rowan and common oak. He sought information on sites which might be considered suitable for planting a collection of these saplings to celebrate the Jubilee.

Ms Gendall spoke of her children's disappointment following the removal of the climbing frame from the Recreation Ground adding that many other youngsters in the village felt the same way. It was noted that this action was taken following a 'dangerous' notice issued by the appointed Playground Inspector. Having made a number of enquiries, Mrs Gendall proposed the creation of a small 'playground committee' under the guidance of the parish council which would seek funding for a replacement climbing frame and possibly other improvements to the play area. Following discussion, it was agreed that a public meeting should be called on Tuesday January 31 to take this matter forward.

1 TO ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

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

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

in items on the agenda

Cllr Boote, Cllr Just and Cllr Nicholls each declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 7: the Social Club. Cllr Nicholls declared a personal interest in Agenda item 9: PA11/10868.

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Cllr Bolt, Cllr Gray and Cllr Wiseman each declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 11: a request from the Constantine Cottage Garden Society for help with funding.

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 Boote proposed, Cllr Bolt seconded, Cllr Just and Cllr Nicholls being absent from the last meeting abstained, all others in favour that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Thursday December 15, 2011 are a true record and the Chairman signed them as such.

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

Cllr Nicholls offered to liaise between the Parish Council and any group that may be set up to seek funding for a replacement climbing frame. His offer was gratefully accepted.

5 POLICE REPORT

Through the Clerk, PCSO Gardiner reported that, since the meeting in December, a single crime, that of assault, has been reported to the Police. There were no reports of anti-social behaviour.

Devon and Cornwall Police are keen to reassure people with animals that the well-reported story of the horse at Stithians is being thoroughly investigated. Owners of horses are advised to be extra vigilant and to report any suspicious activity to the Police.

6 CORNWALL COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Hatton reported that

- *The Constant Times* (the successor to *Gweder Myras*) is being written by four local people and published jointly by the Constantine Enterprise Company and Transition Constantine. Copies of the first issue were distributed to members
- Officers representing Cornwall Highways have given their assurance that the dropped-edge kerbing between Bowling Green Road and the new car-park will be installed in the near future and that the cost of the work will be taken from his Highways' budget for the current financial year
- the road to Merthen is in a very poor state and, indeed, is rapidly disintegrating. Highways will monitor the situation
- concerns have been expressed about inconsiderate parking by parents taking their children to and collecting them from the school. Highways will erect signs indicating that the junction with Trebavah Close is for use as a turning circle only
- there are many other instances of inconsiderate parking in the village, not least at the top of Well Lane. Here a scheme has been agreed with Highways and is awaiting implementation
- in planning matters, there have been a number of objections to the proposed turbines at Lower Nancrossa Farm and problems have arisen relating to the siting of two holiday units at Bosvathick Riding Stables
- Tatia Churchill, from the Community Network office, has organised an event at the School on Saturday at which the views of the children of the village concerning a youth club will be sought
- he had attended a Community Network meeting yesterday evening at which Cornwall's Head of Legal Services had talked about the future of the Code of Conduct following the enactment of the Localism Bill. On July 1, 2012 the Standards Board for England will be abolished and, at present, individual Councils will be required to produce their own Code of Conduct
- Cornwall's Core Strategy documents have been published for consultation purposes
- the Olympic Torch relay will pass through Cornwall on May 19th and represents an opportunity for Local Councils to celebrate the event as a whole.

7 PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS

As members of the Social Club, Cllr Boote, Cllr Just and Cllr Nicholls each declared a personal interest in the following item. They remained in the room, took part in the discussion, but abstained from voting.

Rent owed by the Social Club

As the Management Trustee of the Recreation Ground, Constantine Parish Council considered the matter of the outstanding rent (which, following payment today of £568.75, amounts to £1,137.50) owed to the Trust by the Social Club. Cllr Just informed Members that, financially, matters at the Club have improved considerably and that it is his considered opinion that the sum outstanding will be paid within the next eighteen months. He asked for the Trustee's patience with the debt. Following discussion, Cllr Wiseman proposed, Cllr Williams seconded, Cllr Boote, Cllr Just and Cllr Nicholls abstained, all others in favour that

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the Management Trustee, mindful of the optimism expressed by Cllr Just, should exercise forbearance in the matter of the outstanding rent. It was noted that the lease for the Social Club expires on June 25, 2012.

Acting as the Management Trustee for the Alice Hext Charitable Trust, Members considered a request from the Constantine Cottage Garden Society for permission to hold their Annual Show on the Recreation Ground on the week-end of July 21, 2012. Cllr Carter proposed and it was agreed to allow Constantine Cottage Garden Society to hold their Annual Show on the Recreation Ground on the week-end of July 21, 2012.

8 PARISH MATTERS

The Diamond Jubilee celebrations of HM Queen Elizabeth

Cllr Miss Evans reported that the steering committee had met for the third time on January 12 and had been encouraged by the wealth of ideas that had been proposed to the group. She presented members with an overview of the provisional programme which outlines the shape of events from June 2 through to June 5. The next meeting will be an open meeting to which all members of the community are invited. Following that, the programme of events will be finalised thereby giving organisers the time to turn ideas into reality.

Litter-bins

Members noted the loss of the litter bin in Bowling Green (at the entrance to the passage to Penbothidno). The Clerk stated that he had reported the matter to Cornwall Council and that he had been assured that the bin will be replaced. It was noted that the bin at the northern end of Well Lane has yet to be replaced.

Car Park

Members noted that CCllr Hatton had already dealt with the matter of the installation of the dropped-edged kerbing. Following considerable discussion, Cllr Nicholls proposed, Cllr Wiseman seconded all in favour that the moment the kerbing is installed the Clerk should instruct W.B.Bowden and Sons to replace the soil for three metres behind the kerb with a rolled surface similar to that in the existing car-park. The work to be charged to the Parish Council on a day-rate.

The offer from Transition Constantine of trees for planting in the car-park was duly noted. Discussion followed, during the course of which Members further noted the loss of one of the mature trees in the car-park during the recent gales and the present instability of the bank between Brillwater Road and the Recreation Ground where it was felt that planting trees might help the situation. It was agreed to accept the offer from Transition Constantine and to ask for three oak trees for the car-park and blackthorn, hawthorn and hazel for the bank. It was further agreed that Bob Sanders should be asked to plant these trees.

9 PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND DECISIONS

Applications

PA11/10326 Mr L.Johns – Erection of first floor extension – Little Treviades, The Level. Cllr Bolt proposed, Cllr Gray seconded all others in favour that this application should be returned with the following observation *Constantine Parish Council supports this application.*

PA11/10564 Mr Andrew Cooke – Proposed new dormer roofs to front and rear elevation to replace existing dormer roofs, to facilitate the remodelling of first and second floors – The Garage, Port Navas. 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.*

PA11/10572 Mr R.M. and R.Swann – Certificate of Lawfulness for the existing use of a building as a dwelling – The Boathouse, Lower Calamansack. Cllr Gray proposed, Cllr Just seconded all others in favour that this application should be returned with the following observation *Constantine Parish Council can neither confirm nor refute the applicant's declaration that this building has been used for residential purposes since its construction. However, local residents have suggested to individual Councillors that there is no established long-term use of this building as a dwelling.*

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

PA11/10868 Mr M.Rowe – Demolition of dwelling and erection of 2 dwellings – 36 Fore Street, Constantine. Cllr Wiseman proposed, Cllr Just seconded, Cllr Nicholls abstained, all others in favour that this application should be returned with the following observation *Although Constantine Parish Council raises no objection to the principle of re-developing this site, it objects strongly to the current plans. It considers the proposal to be for an overdevelopment of the site and one which will result in the loss of both light and privacy for near neighbours. It also considers that the design and impact of the proposed dwellings will have an adverse effect on the character and look of the Conservation Area. For these reasons Constantine Parish Council requests the Planning Authority to refuse permission for development.*

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PA11/11024 Mr & Mrs K Wallace – Erection of front and rear dormers, replacement porch and pitched roof to garage – Trevean, Brill. 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.*

PA12/00011 Dr Christopher Bacon – Alterations and extensions to existing domestic dwelling to form new dining room and garden room – Alpine Cottage, Seworgan. Cllr Gray proposed, Cllr Nicholls seconded all others in favour that this application should be returned with the following observation *Constantine Parish Council supports this application.*

10 CLERK'S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence

CPRE Planning explained (booklet) – *noted*

Cornwall Air Ambulance acknowledgement of and thanks for donation – *noted*

CPRE Field Work newsletter – *noted*

Victim Support acknowledgement of and thanks for donation – *noted*

Clerks and Councils Direct newsletter – *noted*

Graham Watson MEP contact information – *noted*

St Constantine PCC plans for the old churchyard – *noted*

CC Planning Future Cornwall (Core Strategy Documents for consultation) – *noted*

Grave Concerns advertisement – *noted*

Mr and Mrs Down Planning Application PA11/10868 concerns about height and loss of light – *noted*

Constantine Sea Scouts a request for permission to use the Recreation Field for assembly and for parking visitors' cars on April 23, 2011 St George's Day – *acting as the Management Trustee for the Alice Hext Charitable Trust, Constantine Parish Council agreed to this request*

Mr and Mrs Cockburn development of land at Port Navas – *it was agreed to discuss this proposal at the meeting in February*

Carrick Leisure Limited Leisure Activities on Cornwall – *noted*

11 FINANCIAL MATTERS

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

Members considered a request from the Cornwall Blind Association for financial help towards its volunteer transport service for blind and visually impaired people in the area. Following discussion, it was proposed by Cllr Wiseman, seconded by Cllr Gray all others in favour that the sum of £60.00 be forwarded to the Cornwall Blind Association under the terms of Section 142(2A) of the Local Government Act 1972.

As members of Constantine Cottage Garden Society, Cllr Bolt, Cllr Gray and Cllr Wiseman each declared a personal interest in the following item. They remained in the room took part in the discussion but abstained from voting.

Members considered a request from the Constantine Cottage Garden Society for financial help towards the costs and prizes for the Village's best kept garden and hanging basket competitions. Following discussion, Cllr Nicholls proposed, Cllr Carter seconded, Cllr Bolt, Cllr Gray and Cllr Wiseman abstained all others in favour that the sum of £200 be forwarded to the Constantine Cottage Garden Society under the terms of Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972.

Members considered a request from the Citizens' Advice Bureau (Cornwall) for financial help. It was proposed by Cllr Just, seconded by Cllr Wiseman, all others in favour that, under the terms of Section 142(2A) of the Local Government Act 1972, the sum of £50 be forwarded to the Citizens' Advice Bureau (Cornwall) for use in the Falmouth bureau.

The following accounts were presented for payment

	GROSS	NET	VAT
Mrs J.Jennings	£ 60.80		
Mr G.Jorey	£ 289.20		
RTS (Garden Services) Ltd	£ 396.00	£ 330.00	£ 66.00
Gweek Garage	£ 27.00	£ 22.50	£ 4.50
EDF Energy (public lighting)	£ 431.67	£ 411.11	£ 20.56
Viridor Waste Management Ltd	£ 94.04	£ 78.37	£ 15.67
Mr Roy Osgood (work on the Recreation Ground)	£ 150.00		

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Fields in Trust (subscription)	£ 35.00		
Chown China	£ 840.00	£ 700.00	£ 140.00
Colin Chapman			
Salary (December)	£ 400.46		
telephone	£ 23.49		
office expenses	£ 45.83		
travelling	£ 55.69		
use of home	£ 25.00		
		total	£ 550.49

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

Members noted the following receipts

Ching Memorials (Mrs Rashleigh)	£ 27.00
Mrs Stoffel (donation towards cemetery)	£ 75.00
Mrs Moore (donation towards Christmas tree)	£ 25.00
Constantine Social Club (rent)	£ 568.75

12 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND REPRESENTATIVES

Cllr Just stated that CEC’s application for grant funding from SOS Villages to finance the creation of a Granite Trail and Interpretation Centre at Bosahan Quarry has reached the second stage. The proposal includes training in the use of stone in areas such as Cornish hedging and masonry and, if awarded funding, will be an important addition to the Heritage Centre.

Cllr Just further reported that considerable progress has been made with CEC proposals for a 32 bedded Residential and Nursing Home. Once built, he anticipates that the home will not only fill a much-needed gap in the village, but will create employment and make a considerable financial difference to the community as a whole. He trusts the Parish Council will take the lead in applying for the necessary planning permission.

Cllr Boote reported considerable problems with the Planning Authority. The Trustees of Port Navas Village Hall have been given verbal consent for the removal of the chimney and the re-roofing of the building. Indeed they have an e-mail giving the same consent. However, as a matter of some urgency, they need official written Approval from the Planning Authority for this work – SITA will not consider their application for funding without this document – and time is fast running out.

13 COMMENTS FROM COUNCILLORS

The Chairman reported that all the salt bins are in place, including two half-filled dustbin-loads in Well Lane and on Bridge Hill. There is still some 5cwt salt in store at Trengilly Farm.

14 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next Ordinary Parish Council Meeting will be held on Thursday February 16, 2012 at 7:00pm in The Vestry.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.44pm.

Signed.....

Dated.....

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