

# CONSTANTINE PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Constantine Parish Council held on Thursday March 21, 2013 at 7.00pm in The Vestry, Constantine.

<b>Present:</b>	Cllr P.C.Carter (Chairman)	Cllr E.Nicholls
	Cllr A.H.Bolt	Cllr Mrs L.M.Scott
	Cllr C.Gray	Cllr N.J.Wiseman
	Cllr Mrs S.N.Dunstan	
	Cllr Miss C.Evans	Mr C.Chapman (Clerk)

**Visitors:** CCllr Hatton, Mr Binnie, Mrs Mullaly and Mrs Steele.

The Chairman welcomed members and visitors to the March meeting.

## **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

Members noted concerns that

- Church Square Lane between the Spar Shop and the Church is being obstructed, thereby restricting lawful access to properties
- caravans and the old Blacksmith's Shop at Trewardreva are currently in use for residential purposes.

Drawing members' attention to the Cornish Mutual's communities' competition, Cllr Nicholls urged everyone to vote for the JuMP project on-line at [www.communitysouthwest.co.uk](http://www.communitysouthwest.co.uk)

## **1 TO ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllr Mrs D'Alton (personal), Cllr Lewis (work) and PCSO Gardiner sent their apologies for absence. Cllr Miss Evans proposed, Cllr Wiseman seconded, all in favour to accept these apologies.

## **2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

### **in items on the agenda**

Cllr Bolt, Cllr Gray and Cllr Wiseman each declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 10 (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 Wiseman proposed, Cllr Mrs Scott seconded, all others in favour that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Thursday February 21, 2013 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.

## **5 POLICE REPORT**

Through the Clerk, PCSO Gardiner reported that a single crime has been recorded in the Parish since the meeting in February. There were further calls reporting the use of drugs, dangerous parking, welfare concerns, a dispute between neighbours and a tree which had fallen across the highway. There were no calls in relation to anti-social behaviour. Locally, Police have received calls concerning the theft of equestrian equipment and consequently urge everyone to mark their property and, where practical, to photograph it. Similarly, they ask residents to report any information they may have about illegal activities by telephoning the non-emergency number 101.

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*Cllr Wiseman proposed Cllr Nicholls seconded, all in favour to suspend Standing Orders to allow Mr Binnie, who had arrived after the start of the meeting, to speak*

Mr Binnie said that he represented the people of Edgcumbe and that he was present to express their collective concern about the manner in which the application for the Solar Farm at Little Trevease had been processed by the Planning Authority. Thanking Constantine Parish Council for voting against the development, Mr Binnie added that

- local residents had not been consulted (as the applicants had stated)
- both Wendron and Constantine Parish Councils should have made greater efforts to involve local people
- there are rumours of proposed further development at the solar farm
- present breaches of planning permission will doubtless receive retrospective planning permission

and more generally

- applicants for renewable energy projects appear to go out of their way to keep local residents out of the loop
- there is evidence that wind turbines (of which a number either have been constructed or have planning permission to be constructed along the A394 corridor) are the cause of ill-health
- Great Britain is the only country which permits the construction of wind turbines within two kilometres of residential dwellings
- the Planning Authority ignores the views of local residents because of the paucity of numbers when in fact those protesting represent a democratic majority of people affected
- he urged Parish Councils to ensure that local people are involved in the early stages of planning and to come together to present a united front when representing residents' views.

*Cllr Wiseman proposed Cllr Gray seconded, all in favour to resume Standing Orders*

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

CCllr Hatton reported that

- in 2011, following a public meeting, Constantine Parish Council's objections had caused a developer to withdraw his application for a solar farm at Brill
- the pre-application process takes place between the Planning Authority and developers: the Parish Council, in its rôle as a statutory consultee, is not involved at that stage
- applicants are advised to carry out public consultation
- seventy-five residents had raised objections (of which the alteration to the character of the natural landscape seems to be predominant) to the Solar Farm at Halvasso and Mabe Parish Council voted unanimously against the application (this despite a financial inducement from the applicant). The decision had been deferred by the strategic planning committee to next month's meeting
- similarly the community is against the proposed solar farm at Higher Tregarne in Mawnan Smith where the landowner has been asked to have more consideration for the people affected
- land along the A394 corridor has been made available for development by landowners
- *Coastline Housing* is experiencing difficulty in identifying land on which to build homes
- the pre-submission copy of the *Local Plan* is presently out for consultation. It includes a target of 42,500 new homes to be built in the county over the next twenty years, but without jobs and improvements in the infrastructure that target would appear to be ambitious. Sadly, the concept of community-led localism appears to have fallen by the wayside
- locally, following the closure of the shop in Port Navas and the imminent closure of the shop in Fore Street, *Save the Children* appears to have found a new home in the old Butchers Shop
- he is still awaiting delivery of materials for painting the historic fingerposts
- the decision to keep the precept at the same level as last year appears to have created a back-lash from Officers at County Hall who feel it is wrong and Community Chest funding may be at risk.

In answer to a question concerning the lake lapping over the road at Carwynthenack, CCllr Hatton undertook to speak to Cornwall Highways.

## **7 PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS**

### **Maintenance of Public Rights of Way within the parish**

Members considered quotations for the maintenance of Public Rights of Way within the Parish. Following discussion, Cllr Wiseman proposed, Cllr Gray seconded, all in favour to award the contract for the

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maintenance of Public Rights of Way within the Parish initially for the coming year and, if completed to the satisfaction of the newly-elected Council, for the following four years to Mr Bob Sanders.

### **Constantine Cottage Garden Society**

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 its Annual Show on the Recreation Ground on the week-end of July 20, 2013. Cllr Carter proposed, Cllr Nicholls seconded, Cllr Bolt, Cllr Gray and Cllr Wiseman abstained all others in favour to allow Constantine Cottage Garden Society to use the Recreation Ground for the Annual Show from Thursday July 18 to Monday July 22.

### **Constantine Lawn Cemetery**

The Clerk reported that he had asked Mr Bowden to start work on this project as soon as is practical. Cllr Wiseman reported that the chains and posts have been delivered and that Mr Bowden is awaiting fair weather and a decent interval between burials to complete the work.

## **8 PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND DECISIONS**

### **Applications**

PA13/00959 Mr and Mrs A and S Ausejo and Sand-Holmes – Conversion of existing builder's office and yard into two-storey dwelling (amended design) – Trethowan Builder's Yard, Tucoyse Lane, 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.*

PA13/01342 Mr Ian Sinclair – Listed building consent for renovation of the front lean-to extension at the side of Chestnut Cottage. Opening up of an existing doorway closed off with block work. Installation of insulation in ceiling and cover with plasterboard. Take off natural slate roof, felt and batten roof and replace with natural slate. Repair existing roof light or replace with conservation roof light of same size – Chestnut Cottages, Port Navas. Cllr Mrs Dunstan proposed, Cllr Bolt seconded all others in favour that this application should be returned with the following observation *Constantine Parish Council supports this application.*

PA13/01531 Mr J.Richards – Erection of an agricultural shed – Ponjeravah Cottage, Constantine. Cllr Gray proposed, Cllr Wiseman seconded all others in favour that this application should be returned with the following observation *Subject to the approval of the County Land Agent, Constantine Parish Council supports this application.*

PA13/01886 Mr T.H.Rowse (Falmouth and Gwennap Methodist Circuit) – Change of use from redundant chapel to domestic dwelling incorporating extension and improvement works – Port Navas Methodist Church. Cllr Nicholls proposed, Cllr Mrs Dunstan seconded all others in favour that this application should be returned with the following observation *Constantine Parish Council supports this application.*

### **Decisions**

PA13/00077 APPROVED (Demolition of existing extension and replacement with two storey extension) – 1 Mill Cottages, Trewardreva – *noted*

PA13/00157 Disch of cond not all conditions agreed (Submission of details to discharge conditions 2, 3, 4, 7, 12 and 13 of decision notice PA11/04824 Change of use of lakes to coarse fishery, siting of 7 holiday cabins, equipment store and associated works including relocation of access, car parking area, landscape planting and ecological enhancements) – Course Fishery, Mawnan Smith – *noted*

PA13/00348 APPROVED (To remove 2 UPVC windows and replace with 2 UPVC French Doors) – The Old Chapel, Seworgan – *noted*

PA13/01433 S52/S106 and discharge of condition apps (Submission of details to discharge conditions 3-4 on PA12/03071) – Creek Cottage, Quay Road, Port Navas – *noted*

PA12/11192 APPROVED (Provision of additional visitor parking and erection of a new field barn) – Potager Garden, High Cross – *noted*

PA13/00375 APPROVED (Removal of agricultural occupancy condition relating to Decision Notice dated 30th November 1985) – Trengilly Vean, Bridge – *noted*

PA13/00546 APPROVED (Formation of ancillary room within roof space above existing detached garage) – 10 Brillwater Road, Constantine – *noted*

PA13/01063 No objections (OHL/HG apps) (Erection of new 3 phase 11kv overhead line with pole mounted transformer terminated as single service only) – Land at High Cross – *noted*

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PA13/01112 S52/S106 and discharge of condition apps (Submission of details to discharge Conditions 3, 5, 6 and 7 in respect of decision notice W2/PA09/00556/F) – An-Gwel, Tucoyse Lane, Higher Brill – *noted*

## 9 CLERK'S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE

### Correspondence

**JuMP** minutes of the January meeting – *noted*

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

**Fields in Trust** 'Have a Field Day' of celebration and fun – *noted*

**CC Town and Parish Council** election notices – *noted*

**Clerks and Councils Direct** newsletter – *noted*

**Constantine Primary School** concerning the parking situation outside the school – *noted*

**CPRE Cornwall** Notice of AGM and news – *noted*

**Came and Company** Parish Matters newsletter – *noted*

**Dr Daro Montag (Jump Committee)** concerning the event planned for April 20<sup>th</sup> at the Tolmen Centre – *noted*

**Western Power Distribution** invitation to Stakeholder Workshops (future investment plans) in Nottingham, Birmingham, Bristol, Cheltenham, Exeter and Cardiff – *noted*

**Barclays Bank plc** notification that the change of signature arrangement is now in place – *noted*

**Constantine Bowling Club** notification of the inclusion of a clause in the Bowling Club's constitution concerning the Parish Council's interest in the assets in the event of the closure of the club – *noted*

## 10 FINANCIAL MATTERS

The Clerk presented Councillors with a statement of Constantine Parish Council's financial position as at February 21, 2013. A copy of that statement is attached to these minutes.

Members noted the creation of a subsidiary bank account, named *Constantine Parish Council re Alice Hext Charity* and the transfer into it of £5,597.44 (the sum raised by the JuMP sub-committee towards refurbishment of the Play Area) from the principle Parish Council account.

*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 no part in the discussion and 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 Carter proposed, Cllr Nicholls 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 Victim Support for financial help with funding the cost of its work. Following discussion, it was proposed by Cllr Wiseman, seconded by Cllr Mrs Dunstan all in favour that the sum of £25.00 be forwarded to Victim Support under the terms of Section 142(2A) of the Local Government Act 1972.

The following accounts were presented for payment

	<b>GROSS</b>	<b>NET</b>	<b>VAT</b>
Mrs J.Jennings	£ 61.90		
Mr G.Jorey	£ 303.00		
HM Revenue and Customs	£ 351.60		
Came and Company (insurance)	£ 991.58		
SSE Contracting (public lights)	£ 421.56	£ 351.30	£ 70.26
Travis Perkins	£ 22.72	£ 18.93	£ 3.79
Viridor Waste Management Ltd	£ 38.89	£ 32.41	£ 6.48
E-On (public lighting)	£ 57.12	£ 54.40	£ 2.72
Viv Beckerleg (Bier House)	£ 530.00		
R.Sanders (cemetery)	£ 205.00		
The Little Post and Chain Company	£ 274.50		
Kevin Pinch (frost damage in pavilion)	£ 56.06		

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Colin Chapman			
Salary (February)	£ 400.46		
telephone	£ 19.51		
office expenses	£ 41.36		
travelling	£ 54.86		
Cemetery Receipts	£ 23.82		
use of home	£ 25.00		
	total	£ 565.01	£ 3.97

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

**11 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND REPRESENTATIVES**

Through the Clerk, Cllr Mrs D’Alton reported that she had attended a forum meeting of the Cornwall Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Issues raised included

- farming an intensely managed landscape while dealing with rural isolation and deprivation
- a *Management Plan Book*, which can be used for planning issues
- neighbourhood planning (a Toolkit is available from the Neighbourhood Plans website)
- the importance of protecting the landscape (a group called *Friends of Pendower* has become an efficient pressure group)
- Renewable Energy and its impact on Cornwall’s landscape (construction of 50 solar farms has been agreed). The suggestion was made that all industrial sized applications should be subject both to an Environmental Impact Assessment and to a geophysical survey. Geothermal applications must be implemented before end of this year. The Wave Hub will be in use before the end of the year.

The Chairman reported that he had attended the January meeting of the JuMP sub-committee and that he had been impressed both with the manner in which the meeting was conducted and with the highly successful fund-raising efforts of its members.

**12 COMMENTS FROM COUNCILLORS**

Cllr Mrs Dunstan raised concerns about the cost of positioning the Jubilee Stone in Church Square. The Clerk reported that the excess of income over expenditure for the Diamond Jubilee celebrations is £759.42 which will more than cover this expense.

**13 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

The next Ordinary Parish Council Meeting will be held on Thursday April 18, 2013 at 7:00pm in The Vestry, Constantine.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.36pm.

Signed.....

Dated.....

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