

CONSTANTINE PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Constantine Parish Council held on Thursday January 17, 2019 at 7.00pm in The Vestry, Constantine.

Present:

Cllr P.Carter	Cllr C.Painter
Cllr H.Bolt	Cllr Mrs T.Thomson
Cllr J.Andrew	Cllr R.Wickins
Cllr Mrs P.Bradley-Davis	
Cllr Mrs S.Dunstan	Mr C.Chapman (Clerk)

Visitors: CCllr J.Bastin, Mr Allen, Miss Collins, Mr Dangerfield, Ms Searle, Mr White and Mr Williamson.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Speaking of planning application PA18/06872, Ms Searle said that she and her family object to the proposal because

- the land was sold to the applicants with legally binding covenants preventing development
- it is immediately adjacent to Public Right of Way 39 such that any necessary scaffolding (and there will be some) will obstruct free passage
- it amounts to a new-build in the countryside and in a remote area at that
- the existing footings are so shallow, that it will of necessity result in an entirely new-build
- the proposed footprint is significantly larger than the existing
- there is limited visibility from the lane onto the road
- the lane is not wide enough to take heavy lorries, let alone allow the passage of a residential caravan
- the stables are currently in use, so they are not redundant
- there will be problems with both sewage and mains water.

Speaking of the proposal to declare a Climate Emergency (agenda item 6) Mr White and Mr Dangerfield stated that

- the same motion will be debated by Cornwall Council in the near future
- Stithians Parish Council and Helston Town Council have both declared that there is a Climate Emergency
- one of the ways the Parish Council might get involved is to write about its concerns to Cornwall Council's Head of Environment
- they hoped that a working party can be formed in Constantine to take the matter forward.

Mr Williamson stated that he was present simply to seek the Parish Council's support for his planning application (PA18/ 11718). Access onto the road will be shared and he now has evidence to show occupancy of the caravan for more than ten years.

1 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr A.Carter (indisposed) and Cllr Nicholls (work) sent their apologies for absence. Cllr Bolt proposed, Cllr Andrew seconded and it was agreed that these apologies should be accepted.

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.

Chairman's initials.....

3 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Cllr Wickins proposed, Cllr Painter seconded, Cllr Mrs Dunstan who was absent from the last meeting abstained and it was agreed that the minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday December 13, 2018 should be adopted as 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 which were not included in this month's agenda.

5 CORNWALL COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

CCllr Bastin reported that

- as far as Enforcement is concerned, a protocol has now been developed which allows Cornwall Councillors to be kept informed of allegations within their Wards
- second homes nowadays pay the full Council Tax: the problem lies with a 'loophole' in the law which allows owners of holiday homes who make a business out of them legitimately to claim Council Tax relief – and further, with many of the same holiday home owners who, illegally, allow the waste those businesses create to be collected by the household waste collection service
- Cornwall Council is still waiting to hear from Central Government about funding for the Stadium for Cornwall
- in recent months, Cornwall Council appears to have been concentrating on national matters which are beyond its influence and ignoring issues which are important local to its electorate
- The next Community Network meeting will be on January 29.

In answer to questions, CCllr Bastin noted that the road which runs past Polwheveral and Tregilly Wartha requires maintenance along its entire length: in particular a large hole has developed at the side of the carriageway near where the badger tunnel was constructed

Although Cornwall Council may be considering the imposition of a Tourism Tax, it was noted that there are potential unintended consequences not least the possibility of damaging Cornwall's primary source of income.

6 PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS

Parish Councillors

The Clerk reported that he had received no expressions of interest in co-option onto the Council from members of the public.

Community Governance Review – Parish Boundaries

Members considered whether or not there are any issues relating to the governance of the Parish or its boundaries which need to be addressed in order to bring it in line with change. Following a short discussion, it was agreed that, as matters stand, there are no reasons to seek changes.

Climate Change

Following the presentation from Ms Milano and Mr White at the last meeting, Members considered a proposal that Constantine Parish Council should declare that a Climate Emergency exists. A discussion ensued, during the course of which the following points (amongst others) were noted

- as a relatively small Council with limited resources and influence, Constantine Parish Council is already as environmentally friendly as it can be: for example, as the street lamps fail they are replaced with LED lights; the recycling banks in the Council car-park were sited there at the request of the Council; the Council has made it known that it believes the proposed change of domestic waste collection will lead to an increase in fly-tipping and so on
- a Parish Council Working-Party needs an aim which is both practically beneficial to the community and achievable: Climate Change is an international issue and requires all the nations on earth including America, China and Russia to name but three, to work together towards a solution
- possibly the Transition Group is best placed to take the issues which are listed on its web-site forward – indeed many of those issues are beyond the power of the Parish Council
- hard-won individual rights and freedoms make any sort of prescription divisive
- the Parish Council will continue to work in an ethical, a-political and non-partisan fashion and will continue to make every effort to be environmentally friendly

It was agreed that this matter is probably beyond any influence the Parish Council can bring to bear and that, although climate change may be a fact, it is not the purpose of Constantine Parish Council to make pronouncements of this sort.

Chairman's initials.....

7 PARISH MATTERS

Clinton Road lighting

Members noted with gratitude the installation of a replacement solar lamp in Clinton Road by Mr Pentreath. The Clerk reported that Mr Pentreath had advised that an additional light (which he is willing to install) would be beneficial. Following a short discussion, Cllr Andrew proposed Cllr Bolt seconded and it was agreed that Mr Pentreath's offer should be accepted.

The Alice Hext Trust – Pavilion

Members agreed that the Council now has sufficient information to call a Parish Meeting to discuss the future of the Pavilion. The Clerk was asked to book the Church Hall for this purpose in the first week of April (when the evenings are lighter).

8 PLANNING MATTERS

Applications

PA18/11653 Mrs L.World – Lopping of branches – various tree species – Port Navas Chapel. Cllr Bolt proposed, Cllr Mrs Dunstan seconded and it was agreed that this application should be returned marked *Constantine Parish Council supports this application subject to the approval of the County Tree Officer.*

PA18/11924 Mr G.Brew – Removal of a Fir tree – Bettys Meadow, Trewince Lane, Port Navas. Cllr Andrew proposed, Cllr Mrs Thomson seconded and it was agreed that this application should be returned marked *Constantine Parish Council notes the comments of the County Tree Officer and supports his conclusions.*

PA18/11718 Mr and Mrs Williamson – Application for the removal of a caravan and construction of a dwelling – land at Lone Pine Cottage, High Cross. Cllr Bolt proposed, Cllr Andrew seconded and it was agreed that this application should be returned marked *Constantine Parish Council supports this application.*

PA18/06872 Miss T.Rickard – Conversion of a redundant farm building into a dwelling, together with stables/store (amended plans) – The Cottage, Buckshead. Cllr Bolt proposed, Cllr Wickins seconded and it was agreed that this application should be returned marked *As it has previously observed, Constantine Parish Council does not believe the existing building is either worthy of retention or would result in the 'enhancement' of the immediate setting as required under Policy 7 of the Cornwall Local Plan The proposal would also appear to be in conflict with Policy 21 of the Local Plan, given that the site is not in a sustainable location in respect of access to services and facilities. Briefly, Constantine Parish Council is of the opinion that the economic and social benefits that development would provide do not outweigh the harm done to the surrounding rural location. In essence, the Council still feels that this is an application for a new home in the countryside which is not normally permitted unless there is an essential need for a rural worker to live at the location (and no evidence of a need for such a dwelling has been put forward). Given the distance to the nearest settlements that provide them and despite the apparent lack of access to the highway, future occupants would be reliant upon the private vehicle to access services, goods, facilities and employment. Accordingly, Constantine Parish Council once again requests the Planning Authority to refuse permission for development.*

PA19/00266 Mr K.Jewson – Erection of a single-storey wooden shed in field – Thatch Cottage, Ponjeravah. The Chairman proposed, Cllr Wickens seconded and it was agreed that this application should be returned marked *Constantine Parish Council supports this application.*

Decisions

PA18/03447 APPROVED – Construction of holiday unit – Silverhill Farm, Treculliacks – *noted*

PA18/10389 APPROVED – Proposed ground floor garden room extension together with the reopening of a door and window opening in the rear elevation of the farmhouse – Treworval Farmhouse – *noted*

PA18/10427 APPROVED – Demolition of garage and the construction of a self contained annex (Revised PA18/07229 and PA18/07230) – Thatch Cottage, Ponjeravah – *noted*

PA18/10614 APPROVED – First floor side bedroom extension – 3 Penbothidno – *noted*

PA18/10639 APPROVED – Replacement Garage/Workshop to site – High Cross Garage – *noted*

PA18/10892 GRANTED – Certificate of lawfulness for an existing use - use of land for residential as one single dwelling unit – Sunny Corner, The Level, Constantine

9 CLERK'S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence

Cornwall Hospice Care acknowledgment of and thanks for donation – *noted*

Clerks and Councils Direct newsletter – *noted*

Cornwall Council Off-Street Parking Order consultation – *noted*

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10 FINANCIAL MATTERS

The Clerk presented Councillors with a statement of Constantine Parish Council's financial position as at January 17, 2019. A copy of that statement is attached to these minutes.

Members considered making a donation towards the Sowenna Appeal which, at its new facility in Bodmin, will support young people from Cornwall who are suffering severe mental illnesses. Following discussion, The Chairman proposed, Cllr Bolt seconded and it was agreed that, using the General Power of Competence (adopted by Constantine Parish Council on May 18, 2017), Constantine Parish Council should forward the sum of £200 to the Sowenna Appeal.

The following accounts were tendered for payment

		GROSS	NET	VAT
Mrs J.Jennings		£ 62.64		
Mrs Pleasance		£ 243.37		
EdF Energy (The Vestry)		£ 34.67	£ 33.02	£ 1.65
SSE Contracting (public lighting maintenance)		£ 388.80	£ 324.00	£ 64.80
SSE (public lighting February 2018)		£ 66.87	£ 63.69	£ 3.18
SSE (public lighting December 2018)		£ 76.84	£ 73.19	£ 3.65
Viridor Waste Management		£ 49.50	£ 41.25	£ 8.25
Cormac (supply and delivery road salt)		£ 242.40	£ 202.00	£ 40.40
Mr N.Pentreath (re Screwfix a/c)		£ 32.99	£ 26.39	£ 6.60
R.Sanders				
Recreation Ground	£ 185.00			
Salt bins	£ 408.00			
Buddleia and steps	£ 68.00			
Cemeteries	£ 370.00			
	total	£ 1,237.20	£ 1,031.00	£ 206.20
Colin Chapman				
Salary (December)	£ 595.67			
telephone	£ 42.92			
office expenses	£ 40.20			
travelling	£ 43.76			
use of home	£ 25.00			
	total	£ 747.95		

It was proposed by Cllr Mrs Dunstan, seconded by Cllr Bolt, all others in favour that the above ten accounts be paid.

Member noted the following receipts

Constantine Cottage Garden Society (rent)	£ 20.00
Interest earned	£ 10.83

11 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND REPRESENTATIVES

There were no reports from committees or representatives.

12 COMMENTS FROM COUNCILLORS

There were no comments from Councillors.

13 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETINGS

Thursday February 21, 2019, 2019 at 7:00pm in The Vestry, Constantine

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.21pm.

Signed.....

Dated.....

Chairman's initials.....