

CONSTANTINE PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Constantine Parish Council held on Thursday November 21, 2019 at 7.15pm in The Vestry, Constantine.

Present:

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

Visitor: CCllr J.Bastin, Mrs Batley-Birch and Mr White.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no comments or questions from members of the public.

Introducing herself, Mrs Esther Richmond, Community Link Officer said that she has recently taken on the job and is anxious to get to know Councils and Councillors within the Falmouth and Penryn Network. She went on to describe the rôle of Cornwall's nineteen Community Networks as the principle link between Town and Parish Councils and the Unitary Authority. What individual Networks choose to do is a matter for members of the Network to decide: her rôle is that of a facilitator. In particular, she drew members' attention to the support she can offer to first tier Councils' aspirations for Neighbourhood Development Plans and Community Emergency Plans (and reported that Transition Constantine has expressed an interest in creating the latter). She further reported that she forwards information concerning grant funding streams to the Clerk on a weekly basis and drew members' attention both to the Pocket Park funding which closes on December 31st and to CCllr Bastin's share of the Community Chest (which she administers). She noted that the wider community has problems with inconsiderate parking in the road outside the school and suggested that an Officer from the Local Family Partnership (a multi-agency association which offers support to children and their families) might speak to the School to see if a way forward can be found. Finally, she drew members' attention to the Community Road Safety Forum which will take place in Launceston early in December.

The Chairman thanked Mrs Richmond for attending the meeting and, to general agreement, asked her to speak to the Local Family Partnership about the issues the community has with parking outside the school.

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

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 Mrs Bradley-Davis proposed, Cllr Painter seconded, Cllr Nicholls and Cllr Wickins who were absent from the meeting abstained, all others in favour that the minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday October 17, 2019 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 which were not included on this agenda.

Chairman's initials.....

5 CORNWALL COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Bastin reported that

- the matter of the Comfort Wartha open space area is with Alan Mason, who is the Head of Planning Enforcement at Cornwall Council. It is his, Cllr Bastin's, opinion that the signed S52 legal agreement remains in force, despite the owners of the site saying they know nothing about it
- the path through the open space and on down to Bosahan Woods has been used without challenge for a continuous period in excess of 20 years and the Parish Council might therefore like to consider seeking a Definitive Map Modification Order
- the dates for the collection of household waste and recycling materials over the Christmas period are available to view on the Unitary Authority's website. Considerable discussion followed concerning the Authority's proposal to discontinue the recycling bin service on the grounds of cost. Members noted that, despite the fact that the contents of Constantine's seven bins are collected on a weekly basis, they are frequently full to overflowing. Members were concerned that the present proposal will have unforeseen consequences. In particular, there is a high risk of increased fly tipping (occasioning additional costs to the Unitary Authority to clear) and additional, environmentally unfriendly car journeys to the nearest council tip site. The rationale and figures being used to calculate the cost also appears to be open to question
- he feels that a Community Emergency Plan is simply a matter of 'if that happens, we'll do this'. This prompted discussion concerning insurance for individuals helping others and the Clerk agreed to seek a definitive answer from the Parish Council's insurers
- in addition to an Emergency Plan the Council might like to consider the First Responder scheme under which people are trained in first aid to assist during the initial stages of an emergency before qualified help arrives
- training in non-confrontational reporting of dog-fouling, littering and fly-tipping is available from the Public Protection department at Cornwall. This process enables offenders to be reported to Cornwall Council and, possibly, for a Fixed Penalty Notice to be served on them by post
- the next Community Network Panel meeting will be held early in the New Year, possibly at Mabe.

6 PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS

Parish Councillors

The Clerk reported that interest in standing for co-option as a Parish Councillor has been expressed by Mrs Batley-Birch.

Mrs Batley-Birch left the room while this matter was discussed.

Following discussion, Cllr Wickins proposed, Cllr Andrew seconded and it was agreed that Mrs Batley-Birch should be co-opted as a Parish Councillor.

Mrs Batley-Birch was invited to return to the room.

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

The Alice Hext Trust

Members noted that the bank of three small recycling bins is with Bob Sanders and will be installed when the opportunity arises and weather permits.

Members noted the damage done in the recent gale to the fencing between the soccer pitch and the bowling green. The Clerk reported that Milburn Fencing has undertaken to make a temporary repair.

Members noted that the gate into the Recreation Ground has been repaired and painted.

7 PLANNING MATTERS

Applications

PA19/07226 (Listed Building Consent) and PA19/07340 The Duchy of Cornwall – Remedial works to stabilize and repair erosion damage to the grade 2 listed quay – Port Navas Quay, Port Navas. Cllr Bolt proposed, Cllr Andrew seconded and it was agreed that these two applications should be returned marked *Constantine Parish Council supports this application.*

PA19/09190 Mr J.Ford – Oak (T1) - Remove two of the lowest limbs to allow more light into the garden. Oak (T2) - Crown raise to 5 metres to allow more light into the garden – Bosryn, Port Navas. Cllr Mrs Dunstan proposed, Cllr Bolt seconded and it was agreed that this application should be returned marked *Subject to the approval of the County Tree Officer, Constantine Parish Council will support this application.*

Chairman's initials.....

PA19/09209 Mr J.Searle – Construction of a one and a half storey side extension (following the approval of PA18/08304) – The Cart House, Retallack Farm, Tresahor. Cllr Bolt proposed, Cllr Painter seconded and it was agreed that this application should be returned marked *Constantine Parish Council notes that the original application PA18/08304 for the single storey extension “deliberately sought to replicate the form and appearance of the existing Cart House, whilst incorporating modern materials to facilitate a high standard of living environment. The proposals ... [seek] to reflect and compliment (sic) the traditional vernacular of the principal building ... and the link between the existing and the proposed through a subtle glazed wing, seeks to ensure that the new extension does not compete or compromise existing character. The single storey form additionally ensures that the development is subservient in manner.”* (extract from the design and access statement) *Contrary to Policy 12 of the Cornwall Local Plan, the present proposal seeks to increase the size and mass of the extension to a point where it overpowers and dominate the original building and as such will have an adverse impact upon the historic setting of the Retallack Farm complex. Accordingly, Constantine Parish Council requests the Planning Authority to refuse permission for development.*

PA19/09799 Mrs T.Meadows – Turkey oak (T322) - Fell - due to poor positioning from self seeding onto steep bank - danger in the future of bank collapse, leading to management problems in the future – Poltoge, Port Navas Cllr Wickins proposed, Cllr A.Carter seconded and it was agreed that this application should be returned marked *Constantine Parish Council supports this application.*

Decisions

PA19/03393 APPROVED – Removal of existing poorly constructed porch and erection of a two storey extension – Paradise Cottage, Bridge – *noted*

PA19/06762 APPROVED – Listed Building Consent for proposed repair of the windows, replacement of one window and resurfacing of car park – The Tolmen Centre – *noted*

8 CLERK’S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence

Plug-n-Go EV Charging Systems – *noted*

War Memorials Trust Bulletin – *noted*

Mr J.Williamson request for the provision of skate park in Constantine – *having considered this request members agreed that the Parish Council as the Management Trustee is already committed to three not inconsiderable projects within the Recreation Ground and that, for the moment, it cannot take on a fourth*

Cornwall Council Cornwall guide to Winter Wellbeing for 2019 – *noted*

9 FINANCIAL MATTERS

The Clerk presented Councillors with a statement of Constantine Parish Council’s financial position as at November 21, 2019. A copy of that statement is attached to these minutes.

Members considered the question of payment for the Council’s wreath for Remembrance Sunday. Following discussion, Cllr Nicholls proposed, Cllr Mrs Dunstan seconded and it was agreed that, using the General Power of Competence (adopted by Constantine Parish Council on May 19, 2017), Constantine Parish Council should forward the sum of £50.00 to the Royal British Legion as payment for the wreath

Members considered a request from the Constantine Christmas Lights Committee for financial help towards the cost of its work Following discussion, Cllr Andrew proposed, Cllr Mrs Thomson 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 £500 to the Constantine Christmas Lights Committee.

The following accounts were tendered for payment

	GROSS	NET	VAT
Mrs J.Pleasance	£ 351.37		
EdF Energy	£ 75.94	£ 72.32	£ 3.62
SW Water (Lawn Cemetery)	£ 16.05		
SW Water (Public convenience)	£ 73.14		
SSE (public lighting October 2019)	£ 86.91	£ 82.78	£ 4.13
Viridor Waste Management Ltd	£ 53.40	£ 44.50	£ 8.90
Cornwall Council (Training)	£ 15.00		
R.Sanders			
Recreation Ground	£ 380.00		
Cemeteries	£ 760.00		
Port Navas Quay	£ 35.00		
total	£ 1,410.00	£ 1,175.00	£ 235.00

Chairman’s initials.....

Colin Chapman	
Salary (October)	£ 609.17
telephone	£ 41.29
office expenses	£ 29.59
travelling	£ 49.50
use of home	£ 25.00
total	£ 754.37

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

The following accounts relating to the Recreation Ground were tendered for payment

	GROSS	NET	VAT
Cornish Hedging Co Ltd	£ 100.00		
EdF Energy	£ 34.46	£ 34.72	£ 1.74
Wybone (recycling bins)	£ 1,050.86	£ 875.72	£ 175.14

It was proposed by Cllr Andrew, seconded by Cllr Mrs Thomson, all others in favour that the above three accounts be paid.

Members noted the following receipt

Pavilion Electricity Meter	£ 20.00
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10 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND REPRESENTATIVES

Cllr Mrs Thomson reported that she and Cllr Andrew had attended the recent Community Network meeting. At the meeting, the Portfolio Holder for Climate Change and Neighbourhoods, Cllr Edwina Hannaford, had presented a paper on the Cabinet's agreed proposals both to strengthen and empower Community Networks and the Future of Localism within the county. This was followed by a presentation from Andrew Williams, a recently appointed Falmouth Harbour Commissioner: the Trust is currently working on a business plan for the Fal estuary with a focus on the leisure industry which, in turn, will involve dredging and the consequent environmental impact that that will have.

Cllr A.Carter had attended the earlier meeting of the Network Climate Change Working Group. The main thrust of that meeting had been the creation of a Vision Statement, but the Group had expressed a wish for Parishes to work together, to declare a Climate Emergency, to encourage residents to be 'greener' and to support Falmouth's aspiration to be plastic-free. Cllr A.Carter suggested that, for Parish Councils, the most practicable way forward is simply to follow Mawnan Parish Council's policy of keeping the environment in mind when making decisions.

Cllr Painter reported that he had attended the recent Planning Conference in Camborne. Marshall Plummer from the Strategic Planning Department had spoken of Cornwall's commitment to plant what amounts to a cumulative total of some thirty-two square miles of trees, an ambition which will require considerable help from land-owners throughout the county (Parish Councils' help with this aspiration would be welcome). Building Regulations are changing in 2025 when every new home will have to conform to the same standard – information which had left him wondering about the effect that conformity might have on individual distinctiveness. The Community Infrastructure Levy (which at present applies only in certain areas and to certain types of housing) will apply to all new builds over 100 square metres and will have to be paid in advance of construction.

11 COMMENTS FROM COUNCILLORS

Cllr Mrs Dunstan said that she was looking for help with trimming and tidying the garden in The Square. Longer term plans included planting a small area with wild-flower seeds. Bob Sanders' help with dealing with the weeds coming through the pavement was sought.

12 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETINGS

Tuesday December 10, 2019 at 7:15pm in The Vestry, Constantine

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.55pm.

Signed.....

Dated.....

Chairman's initials.....