

# CONSTANTINE PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Constantine Parish Council held on Thursday November 18, 2021 at 7.30pm in The Vestry

**Present:**

Cllr P.Carter	Cllr C.Painter
Cllr J.Andrew	Cllr Mrs K.Scott
Cllr A.Carter	Cllr Mrs T.Thomson
Cllr E.Jeffery	Mr C.Chapman (Clerk)

**Visitors:** CCllr J.Bastin.

## PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no members of the public present

### 1 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Mrs Batley-Birch (personal), Cllr Bolt (personal), Cllr Nicholls (personal) and Cllr Wickins (personal) sent their apologies for absence. Cllr Andrew proposed, Cllr Painter seconded and it was agreed to accept their apologies.

### 2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

#### in items on the agenda

As a tenant of the applicants, Cllr P.Carter declared a disclosable interest in agenda item 9 (PA21/10534).

**of gifts (received as a result of being a member of the Council) of a value greater than £50 either in the form of a single gift or as a cumulative total of a value greater than £50**

There were no declarations of gifts of a value greater than £50.

### 3 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Cllr Mrs Thomson proposed, Cllr Andrew seconded, Cllr Jeffery and Cllr Mrs Scott who were absent from the meeting in October abstained, all others in favour that, with the hand-written amendment, the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday October 21, 2021 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

It was noted that

- the replacement Blackthorn whips for the top of the Cornish hedge fronting Trebarvah Road have been delivered and planted
- the Planning Committee's decision to grant permission for the construction of a mix of 25 affordable intermediate homes and rented homes with associated highways and drainage works on land North of Trebarvah Court was questioned. In particular, some of the statements of fact made by Officers during the course of the debate clearly merit further research. The matter will be discussed by the Council once further information is to hand and, all being well, at the meeting in December.

### 5 CORNWALL COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

CCllr Bastin stated that

- the debate concerning the construction of 25 homes on land adjoining Trebarvah Court had gone on for over an hour. The Affordable Housing Officer had insisted that there are 49 individuals living in the Parish of Constantine who need homes. During the course of subsequent prolonged discussion, Members noted that tenants living in Coastline's older homes are being offered new homes on exception sites and that their old homes are being offered for sale on the open market, a practice which appears to be controversial
- answering a question from the Chairman which concerned Cornwall Council's continuing discrimination against those residents who are neither computer nor technologically literate, CCllr Bastin explained that,

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while decisions are required in law to be made by elected members meeting in person, officers and members of the public are required to contribute using one form or another of modern technology. It was generally felt that this practice has gravely eroded democracy and that Cornwall Council should strive to return to the tried and tested, pre-pandemic processes as soon as practicable

- the vast majority of Cornwall's Civil Servants are working from home and are becoming increasingly difficult to contact. The mood at County Hall is that this emergency method of working will soon become standard practice and that thoughts are already turning to selling off Council-owned properties throughout Cornwall. It was noted that this will make any return to the old Districts (following the promised vote later in the decade) problematic
- Central Government will fund so-called free school meals during the Christmas, half-term and Easter holidays. Vouchers will be distributed at the discretion of Head Teachers
- relatives of patients who no longer need to occupy a bed in Treliske Hospital and who should therefore be being cared for at home are offered a £1,200 grant to take on the duty of care
- Cornwall Council is offering a planning training session 'Getting design right now and setting our ambitions for the future' on November 30, 2021
- he has logged a motion for debate at Cornwall seeking to declare an ecological emergency and the consequent need to protect our food security
- the next Community Network meeting is on November 25, 2021
- the Climate Emergency Panel meeting is open to all and is simply a symposium at which the latest issues, currently available data and fresh ideas are shared. It is not militant in any way.

## 6 PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS

### 20's Plenty Pilot scheme

Members considered the opportunity to become part of a pilot scheme in Cornwall's 20's Plenty initiative. During the course of discussion, it was noted that Constantine already has a 20mph speed limit through the village and that although drivers doing anything more than 20mph as they pass through Port Navas, Brill and Seworgan are behaving recklessly an imposed limit of 20mph would be welcome. The current North Helford 40mph scheme appears on the whole to work well and members would be disappointed to see that disappear. The Clerk undertook to pass these views on to CClr Bastin.

## 7 PLANNING MATTERS

### Applications

PA21/09908 Mr and Mrs Hubman – Upgrade of an existing sail workshop and accommodation to a workshop and an annexe, including holiday letting use – 2 Treworval Cottages, Mawnan Smith. Cllr Mrs Thomson proposed, Cllr Andrew seconded and it was agreed to return the following observation *Constantine Parish Council supports this application.*

*Having declared a disclosable interest in the following application, the Chairman remained in the room, but took no part in the discussion or the voting*

PA21/10534 Mr and Mrs B.Foley – Demolition of an existing domestic garage/store/workshop and erection of a replacement garage/store/workshop with holiday accommodation above – The Mill, Brill. Cllr Andrew proposed, Cllr Mrs Scott seconded and it was agreed to return the following observation *Constantine Parish Council supports this application*

PA21/10842 Mr and Mrs Hubman – Certificate of lawfulness for existing use or full residential use as a private dwelling contrary to the Agricultural Occupancy Condition of the Conditional Permission for Development dated 04 September 1968 by Cornwall County Council (REF W2/68/27110/F) – 2 Treworval Farm Bungalows, Treworval. Cllr Painter proposed, Cllr Mrs Thomson seconded and it was agreed to return the following observation *Constantine Parish Council notes that no evidence supporting the claim for a Lawful Development Certificate for full residential use has been submitted with this application. Moreover, drawing upon individual councillors' knowledge, it can neither confirm nor refute the statement that the dwelling has been used contrary to the Agricultural Occupancy. Condition dated July 9, 1968*

### Decisions

PA21/08692 APPROVED – To remove a section of garden wall and insert a gate – Merrivale, The Level, Constantine – *noted*

PA21/05741 APPROVED – Erection of an outbuilding for purposes incidental to the enjoyment of the dwelling house, to include domestic storage, garaging and workspace – Pixies Corner Brill – *noted*

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PA21/09879 NOT ACCEPTABLE AS AMENDMENT – Non-material amendment (NMA2) for change from natural stone finish to a lime or lime effect render finish on one elevation of the extension to PA20/00441 dated 02/03/2020 – The Cart House, Retallack Farm – *noted*

## 8 CLERK'S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE

### Correspondence

**Mrs Pearce** provision of street lighting at Brill – members noted Mrs Pearce's comments concerning the future of the Church Hall, the provision of Electric Vehicle charging points and the provision of street lighting between the village and Brill. The Clerk was asked to reply.

## 9 FINANCIAL MATTERS

The Clerk presented Councillors with a statement of Constantine Parish Council's financial position as at November 18, 2021. A copy of that statement is attached to these minutes.

Members considered the matter of payment to the Royal British Legion for the cost of a wreath and an additional donation towards the work it does in the community. Following discussion, it was proposed by Cllr Mrs Thomson, seconded by Cllr Jeffery, all others in favour that, using the General Power of Competence (re-adopted by Constantine Parish Council on May 20, 2021), Constantine Parish Council should forward the sum of £50.00 to the Royal British Legion.

It was noted that the following account has been paid following its oversight in September

		<b>GROSS</b>	<b>NET</b>	<b>VAT</b>
HMRC		£ 720.46		
The following accounts were tendered for payment				
		<b>GROSS</b>	<b>NET</b>	<b>VAT</b>
Mrs J.Pleasance		£ 308.90		
Biffa (Waste collection)		£ 92.16	£ 76.80	£ 15.36
R.Sanders				
Church and cemetery	£ 400.00			
Recreation Ground	£ 195.00			
	total	£ 714.00	£ 595.00	£ 119.00
SSE (public lighting)		£ 92.19	£ 87.80	£ 4.39
SSE (pillar in The Square)		£ 29.54	£ 28.14	£ 1.40
Colin Chapman				
Salary (October)	£ 625.77			
telephone	£ 49.97			
office expenses	£ 33.15			
travelling	£ 28.29			
use of home	£ 25.00			
	total	£ 762.18		

It was proposed by Cllr A.Carter, seconded by Cllr Andrew, all others in favour that the above six accounts be paid.

The following accounts in relation to expenses for the Recreation Ground were tendered

	<b>GROSS</b>	<b>NET</b>	<b>VAT</b>
SW Playground Safety Inspections	£ 30.00	£ 25.00	£ 5.00
EdF Energy	£ 51.39	£ 47.76	£ 3.63

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

Members noted the following receipts

Penrose Funeral Services (Mrs S.Symons)	£ 300.00
R.Pascoe and Sons (Capt. Jones)	£ 60.00
CC CIL payment	£ 750.00

## 10 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND REPRESENTATIVES

There were no reports from Committees or Representatives.

## 11 COMMENTS FROM COUNCILLORS

The Chairman thanked Cllr Painter and all those who had helped plant replacement Blackthorn whips on the Recreation Field hedge.

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The Chairman reported that he had had a meeting with Mrs Mullaly concerning the voluntary maintenance work she and a small group have offered to undertake.

Following discussion, it was agreed that Mrs Mullaly and her group of volunteers will, with immediate effect,

- keep the grass cut around the posts supporting the play-equipment in the Recreation Ground
- maintain the verge between the Recreation Ground and Trebarvah Road
- maintain the bus shelter and the surrounding area
- keep the grass cut around the oak trees and the low fencing posts on the picnic area

This arrangement will be reviewed in November 2022

The Clerk was asked to look into the matter of Public Liability Insurance.

Bob Sanders will be asked to trim the boundary of the Recreation Ground rather than using a herbicide: elsewhere the previously agreed strategy (minuted in June 2021) of maintaining public open spaces within the care of the Parish Council will remain in place.

The Chairman suggested and it was agreed to ask Bob Sanders not to cut the grass in the Churchyards in January, but rather to

- cut back the brambles from the boundary of the Recreation Ground, particularly in the children’s play area and between the concrete-block wall and the chain-link fencing
- cut back the branches overhanging the Welcoming Stone at the eastern end of the village
- to cut back the gorse and other bushes in the garden in The Square.

A discussion ensued concerning quite how the Parish should celebrate HM the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee next year (between Thursday June 2 and Sunday June 5). The Chairman stated that Mrs Tracey Clowes has expressed an interest in doing something within the village and the Clerk was asked to contact her. Quite where in the Parish to sow the red, white and blue flowered seed (poppy, camomile and cornflower), provided by CCllr Bastin through his share of the Community Chest, was debated with no real conclusion. However, an undertaking from Cllr Jeffery to construct a large wooden trough in which some of the seed might be sown was gratefully accepted. It was suggested that it might go on the Welcoming Stone corner near the school.

**12 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETINGS**

Thursday December 9, 2021 in The Vestry, Constantine.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.48pm.

Signed.....

Dated.....

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