

# CONSTANTINE PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Constantine Parish Council held on Thursday December 16, 2021 at 7.30pm in The Vestry.

<b>Present:</b>	Cllr P.Carter	Cllr E.Nicholls
	Cllr J.Andrew	Cllr C.Painter
	Cllr Mrs E.Batley-Birch	Cllr Mrs T.Thomson
	Cllr H.Bolt	Cllr R.Wickins
	Cllr A.Carter	Mr C.Chapman (Clerk)

**Visitors:** There were no visitors.

## PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no members of the public present

## 1 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

CCllr Bastin, Cllr Jeffery (personal) and Cllr Mrs Scott (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

There were no expressions 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 £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 Painter proposed, Cllr Mrs Thomson seconded, Cllr Mrs Batley-Birch, Cllr Bolt, Cllr Nicholls and Cllr Wickins who were absent from the meeting in November abstained, all others in favour that the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday November 18, 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

Speaking of the 20's Plenty initiative, Cllr Painter reported that, although he had found general support for the imposition of a 20mph limit on restricted roads, there are concerns about the halving of the existing 40mph limit which pertains throughout the North Helford zone and which would be viewed as a considerable inconvenience. The question had also been asked, once the 20mph limit is imposed will the speed humps all be removed?

## 5 CORNWALL COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

The Clerk reported that CCllr Bastin was unable to attend this evening's meeting, but wished everyone a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

## 6 PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS

### PA/20/06881 Trebarvah Court

Members noted the decision made by the West Sub-Area Planning Committee on November 15, 2021 to approve permission for the development of 25 dwellings on an exception site adjoining Trebarvah Court to the north of the village. Constantine Parish Council believes that, on the day, members of the Committee may have been misinformed about two matters in particular. The first concerns the statement that the Cornwall Local Plan allows for an exception site to be added to an exception site to be added to an exception site (which is the case in this application). If this is the case, then it would appear logical that further exception sites may legitimately continue to be added one to another

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until the county boundary is reached. The second concern is the statement that there are 49 individuals presently living within the Parish of Constantine, whose financial position enables them to be added to the Cornwall HomeChoice list and who each individually have need of a new dwelling. Whilst the Council understands that, under the terms of the GDPR, names and other details cannot be divulged, it questions whether or not the number could be justified were the application to be examined by either a Planning Inspector or a sitting Judge (who would both, of course, be able to check the legitimacy of the given figures).

Constantine Parish Council regrets the fact that the Planning Authority evidently views the rural village of Constantine as a dormitory, stating, as reported in the Committee's minutes, that "there is a range of services and facilities offered in the village" (despite the Parish Council's observations detailing the paucity of such services) and that "the local roads were challenging and narrow" despite the acknowledgment that "this development will increase traffic by a further 4%". Constantine Parish Council does not accept that the issues it has raised "have been addressed in the report"; rather it believes the issues it has raised have been swept under the carpet as being inconvenient. As an aside, the Council is surprised to note that with the one hand Coastline is selling property and with the other is seeking permission to build new. The Council hopes that the S106 legal agreement will require Coastline to offer properties to people on Cornwall's Homechoice list currently living in need in Constantine, rather than to people who have had their existing tenancies terminated simply because Coastline considers it expedient to sell the property.

## 7 PLANNING MATTERS

### Planning Enforcement

Cllr Nicholls voiced the view held by the Parish Council concerning the absence of any meaningful planning enforcement action by the Planning Authority within the Parish. The Parish Council, he reminded members, spends a considerable amount of time deliberating properly-presented planning applications, but it is the case that particular individuals have simply taken the law into their own hands and done what whatever they please and, seemingly, without consequence. There are certainly four long-term outstanding issues if not more within the Parish which have all been properly reported to the Authority and recorded by it, but which date back a considerable length of time and which have not been resolved. The Planning Authority is clearly failing in its duty to protect the Parish of Constantine from unlawful development. The Clerk was asked to contact Mr George Eustice MP to ask him to raise the matter during the course of his monthly meeting with Cornwall Council and, further, to forward copies of that request to the Portfolio Holder. The plainly-evident inaction is bringing Cornwall Council into disrepute.

### Applications

PA21/11508 Mr and Mrs Thomas – Raised ridge to incorporate bedrooms and shower room within the loft space, with 2 No. pitched roof dormers and 2 Juliet balconies to the rear – Pinfold, Bowling Green. Cllr Bolt proposed, Cllr Andrew seconded and it was agreed to return the following observation *Constantine Parish Council supports this application.*

PA21/11546 Mr R.Bassett – Proposed single-storey, oak-framed extension to existing house, creating dining-room. Landscaping works to create private parking area – Rose Cottage, Trevassack. Cllr Nicholls proposed, Cllr Mrs Thomson seconded and it was agreed to return the following observation *Subject to the approval of Historic Environment Planning, Constantine Parish Council will support this application.*

PA21/11634 Mr R.Bassett – Listed Building Consent for proposed single story oak framed extension to existing house, creating dining room. Landscaping works to create private parking area – Rose Cottage, Trevassack. Cllr Nicholls proposed, Cllr Mrs Thomson and it was agreed to return the following observation *Subject to the approval of Historic Environment Planning, Constantine Parish Council will support this application.*

PA21/12008 Mr G.North – Certificate of Lawfulness for the Existing use of a detached carport/garage. – Chi An Bownder, Brillwater Road, Constantine. Cllr Andrew proposed, Cllr Bolt seconded and it was agreed to return the following observation *This being a legal matter, Constantine Parish Council makes no comment.*

### Decisions

PA21/06650 REFUSED – To provide an extension to allow provision of modern kitchen and bathroom to a small and listed dwelling – Bosvathick Lodge, Constantine – *noted*

PA20/08996 APPROVED – Listed building consent for demolition of existing rear external steps. New rear external ground floor door opening for access to garden. Construction of new stair to first floor Lounge and new external first floor rear door – The Stables, Church Square – *noted*

PA21/09086 APPROVED – Demolition of existing rear external steps. New rear external ground floor door opening for access to garden. Construction of new stair to first floor Lounge and new external first floor rear door – The Stables, Church Square – *noted*

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PA21/09691 APPROVED – Erection of new dwelling house and new access road with variation of condition 2 (approved plans) in respect of decision PA19/06326 dated 11/09/2019 – Magpie Hill, Brillwater – *noted*

PA21/10026 APPROVED – Proposed single storey rear extension with replacement roof and associated works – Lizal, High Cross – *noted*

## 8 CLERK'S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk reported that the Official Custodian is now the Custodian Trustee for the Alice Hext Recreation Ground. Fields in Trust's association with the charity has ceased.

## 9 FINANCIAL MATTERS

The Clerk presented Councillors with a statement of Constantine Parish Council's financial position as at December 16, 2021. A copy of that statement is attached to these minutes.

Members considered the Precept for the year from April 1, 2022 to March 31, 2023. Following discussion, it was proposed by Cllr Nicholls, seconded by Cllr Mrs Thomson, all others in favour that the Precept for the year 2022/2023 should be set at £45,000 – members noted that this represents a decrease in the sum demanded for the current year of £5,000

The following accounts were tendered for payment

	GROSS	NET	VAT
HMRC	£ 719.49		
Mrs J.Pleasance	£ 764.95		
R.Sanders			
Church and cemetery	£ 450.00		
Recreation Ground	£ 390.00		
total	£ 1,008.00	£ 840.00	£ 168.00
Biffa	£ 30.77	£ 25.64	£ 5.13
SSE (public lighting)	£ 89.20	£ 84.96	£ 4.24
Colin Chapman			
Salary (November)	£ 625.77		
telephone	£ 42.88		
office expenses	£ 28.93		
travelling	£ 25.64		
use of home	£ 25.00		
total	£ 748.22		

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

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

	GROSS	NET	VAT
SW Playground Safety Inspections			
Inspection	£ 25.00		
Repairs to swing, zip wire & shelter	£ 646.00		
total	£ 805.20	£ 671.00	£ 134.20

It was proposed by Cllr Bolt, seconded by Cllr Mrs Thomson, all others in favour that the above account be paid.

Members noted the following receipts

Mr Bale (memorial wall plaque for his father)	£ 80.00
Kernow Stone (Mr and Mrs O'Boy)	£ 80.00

## 10 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND REPRESENTATIVES

Cllr Mrs Thomson reported that she had attended a virtual meeting of the Community Network Panel which had largely concerned itself with matters to do with Falmouth and Penryn. These had included the future development of a sixty-nine bed extra care unit in Falmouth for the over 55s; the development of the local cycling and walking infrastructure and a presentation from the newly-appointed Police Inspector Andy Shorten which had included information about the StreetSafe website, the spiking of drinks, drug-dealing and anti-social behaviour. The meeting had concluded with reminders about the vaccination centre at The Old Post Office in Falmouth and the public consultation document concerning the future of Leisure Centres in Cornwall.

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**11 COMMENTS FROM COUNCILLORS**

Members noted how very pretty and festive the village was looking – and how so much effort had again gone into making it look so special. Speaking on behalf of members, The Chairman thanked Mr and Mrs Clowes and the Christmas Lights team for all their efforts.

**12 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETINGS**

Thursday January 20, 2022 (venue to be confirmed).

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.35pm.

Signed.....

Dated.....

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