

CONSTANTINE PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Constantine Parish Council held on Thursday April 21, 2022 at 7.30pm in The Vestry.

Present:	Cllr H.Bolt	Cllr Mrs K.Scott
	Cllr C.Painter	Cllr R.Wickins
	Cllr Mrs T.Thomson	Mr C.Chapman (Clerk)

Visitors: CCllr J.Bastin.

In the absence of the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman, Cllr Bolt, assumed the Chair.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no members of the public present.

1 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Andrew (personal), Cllr Mrs Batley-Birch (personal), Cllr P.Carter (personal), Cllr A.Carter (personal), Cllr Jeffery (personal) and Cllr Nicholls (personal) sent their apologies for absence. Cllr Wickins proposed, Cllr Mrs Thomson seconded and it was agreed to accept these apologies.

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 £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 Wickins proposed, Cllr Painter seconded, Cllr Mrs Thomson who was absent from the last meeting abstained and it was agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday March 17, 2022 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 his report about the 20's Plenty meeting as recorded in last month's minutes, Cllr Painter confirmed that the North Helford 40mph speed limit will remain in place. The road through Treverva, which is presently limited to 30mph, will drop to 20mph in line with nearly all current 30mph zones in Cornwall. The consultation is now closed

Members noted that, to a certain extent, the surface of the road through Nancenoy and Polwheveral has been repaired: it is far from perfect, but it is considerably better than it was.

5 CORNWALL COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

CCllr Bastin reported that

- Covid levels in Cornwall remain a matter of considerable concern.
- the Expressions of Interest for funding from the Community Infrastructure Levy fund need to be in place before June 25
- bus fares in Cornwall have been substantially reduced as a result of a Government funded initiative by Transport for Cornwall. Moreover, all operators will accept all tickets, no matter which company has issued them

Chairman's initials.....

- the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Parade through Truro is now open to all community groups who wish to participate
- despite the fact that its original decision had been called in, the cabinet had decided to stand by the decision to close the Ships and Castles Leisure Centre in Falmouth. Unless somebody offers to run the service, the building itself will be sold in six months. Members noted that the company which had held the contract to run the facility (GLR) had evidently asset-stripped it of much of its equipment

CCllr Bastin asked members for their opinion on a proposal to elect a Mayor for Cornwall. Despite the fact that this further tier of government may bring extra money from central government, Members as a body were opposed to this step. To allow a single individual to exercise incontestable power was believed to be contrary to the strongly-held democratic views of Cornwall's residents: similar power currently exercised by Cornwall's cabinet is far from popular.

Members noted the intention to allow municipal recycling stations to accept items which, because, as matters stand, their disposal at a tip incurs a fee, might eventually curb the scourge of fly-tipping. The question of 'when' remains unanswered.

6 PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS

CALC

Members considered an invitation to renew membership of the Cornwall Association of Local Councils for the year to March 31, 2023 in the sum of £600.36 + VAT. Following discussion, Cllr Mrs Thomson proposed, Cllr Painter seconded, all others in favour to renew membership of the Cornwall Association of Local Councils in the sum of £600.36 + VAT

St Constantine Closed Churchyard

Members considered an offer to extend the contract with Cornwall Council for cutting the grass in the closed churchyard of St Constantine for a further year for the sum of £460.22 Cllr Painter proposed, Cllr Mrs Thomson seconded all others in favour to accept the offer and to continue with the maintenance of the closed churchyard at St Constantine.

Alex Hext Trust

Members noted that Milburn Fencing has withdrawn from the contract to replace the fencing around the Recreation Ground. An estimate in the net sum of £27,680.00 from Mr Tresidder through Greenstone Groundwork & Landscaping to do the necessary work using V security mesh was considered by the Council acting as the Trustee. Cllr Mrs Thomson proposed, Cllr Mrs Scott seconded and it was agreed to instruct Mr Tresidder to carry out this work.

Historic finger-post on the triangle near the school

Members noted that both this and a number of other finger-posts throughout the parish are badly in need of attention. It was noted that one of the fingers on this particular sign has been snapped off and that, although the broken portion is in safe custody and that therefore the finger is capable of repair, specialised welding skills are necessary to deal with cast iron. Cllr Painter proposed, Cllr Mrs Thomson seconded and it was agreed to ask the Parish Council's contractor to clean off and repaint this particular sign despite its broken finger.

7 PARISH MATTERS

HM The Queen's Platinum Jubilee

Members noted that, under the leadership of Mrs Clowes, plans for celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee within the village are well advanced. The Jubilee Memorial Magnolia tree will be planted near the existing Diamond Jubilee Oak tree, which will be moved to a more suitable location on the open space in October. The mugs are due for collection within the week.

The question of the Parish Council's legacy project was discussed and, following some discussion, Cllr Wickins proposed, Cllr Mrs Thomson seconded and it was agreed that the Council will have the official Platinum Jubilee logo incised onto a tall granite post which it has been offered. No firm decision was made about quite where the post should be sited.

8 PLANNING MATTERS

Applications

PA22/01931 Mr C.Brewer – Works to trees subject to a Tree Preservation Order (TPO), works include Fir tree, cut the remaining stump at the base. Tree damaged by the storm on the 18/02/22 as per photograph split half way up its height, top half is hanging and is dangerous – Portmerryn, Trewince Lane, Port Navas. Cllr Mrs Scott proposed, Cllr Mrs Thomson seconded and it was agreed to return the following observation *Subject to the agreement of the County Tree Officer, Constantine Parish Council supports this application.*

Chairman's initials.....

PA22/02179 Mrs D.Baker – Listed building consent to replace old sash windows – Buckshead House, Buckshead, Constantine. Cllr Mrs Scott proposed, Cllr Mrs Thomson seconded and it was agreed to return the following observation *Constantine Parish Council supports this application.*

PA22/02531 T.Orr – Conversion of redundant barns into three dwellings and the development of two new build dwellings following demolition of existing barns (in lieu of Class Q consent reference PA21/03630) – Carwythenack Farm, Constantine. Cllr Wickins proposed, Cllr Mrs Thomson seconded Cllr Painter and Cllr Mrs Scott abstained and it was agreed to return the following observation *Constantine Parish Council is disappointed to note the proposed use of so many modern materials on this historic site, but will, somewhat reluctantly, support the application.*

PA22/02653 Mr J.Seal – Replacement of dilapidated timber shed with new larger timber shed, erection of polytunnel, creation of wildlife pond – The Cart House, Retallack Farm, Tresahor. Cllr Mrs Thomson proposed, Cllr Painter seconded and it was agreed to return the following observation *Constantine Parish Council believes this application is retrospective in nature. The proposed shed is too large in every dimension and will have a detrimental impact on the surrounding countryside. Constantine Parish Council requests the Planning Authority to refuse permission for development,*

PA22/02740 Mr and Mrs Vella – Side extension and existing residence renovation – Polwartha Farmhouse, Bowling Green. Cllr Wickins proposed, Cllr Mrs Scott seconded and it was agreed to return the following observation *Constantine Parish Council supports this application.*

PA22/02807 Mr M.Mullaly – Extension, refurbishment and external works – The Orchard, Church Square. Cllr Painter proposed, Cllr Wickins seconded and it was agreed to return the following observation *Constantine Parish Council cannot support this application. It is particularly unhappy about the proposed use of ultra-modern materials which, it believes, will have a negative visual impact on the surrounding existing historic built environment. Constantine Parish Council requests the Planning Authority to refuse permission for development*

PA22/03171 Ms R.Purdy –Construction of side conservatory extension – 42 Penbothidno Constantine. Cllr Painter proposed, Cllr Mrs Thomson seconded and it was agreed to return the following observation *Constantine Parish Council supports this application.*

PA22/03347 Mr and Mrs Kennedy – Proposed field store, new bee storage building, alterations to existing garage to create honey kitchen and solar panels, small domestic single storey extension – Polwheveral Cottage, Constantine. Cllr Mrs Thomson proposed, Cllr Mrs Scott seconded and it was agreed to return the following observation *Constantine Parish Council supports this application.*

PA22/03613 PA22/03613 – Listed building consent for: Provide small extension to allow provision of modern kitchen and bathroom to an exceptionally small but listed dwelling – Bosvathick Lodge, Constantine. Cllr Wickins proposed, Cllr Mrs Scott seconded and it was agreed to return the following observation *Constantine Parish Council supports this application.*

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*

PA21/08767 APPROVED – Single storey extension to the rear of the existing dwelling and associated works – Windmill Cottage, Lower Treleggan, Lower Treculliacks – *noted*

PA21/11508 APPROVED – 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 – *noted*

PA22/00299 APPROVED – Demolition of a single storey kitchen and utility to the rear of the dwelling and replace with an extended ground floor – 1 Inow Cottages, Port Navas – *noted*

PA22/00544 DECIDED NOT TO MAKE A TPO – Works to a tree in a conservation area, works to include the felling of a Domestic Malus (apple tree) and replacement with a Cornish Aromatic or similar apple tree – 9 Church Square, Constantine – *noted*

9 CLERK'S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk asked members if he might ask the Parish Council's contractor to use a modern herbicide to kill the weeds growing between the wall and the pavement at The Cross. Our contractor has identified an acetic acid based biodegradable alternative to glyphosate which should prove more acceptable to the community as a whole. The Clerk was asked to authorise the contractor to carry out this work.

10 FINANCIAL MATTERS

The Clerk presented Councillors with a statement of Constantine Parish Council's financial position as at April 21, 2022. A copy of that statement is attached to these minutes.

Chairman's initials.....

Members noted that the Internal Auditor, Mr Peter Richards, had made no comment or recommendation concerning the financial accounts for the year April 1, 2021 – March 31, 2022.

Parish Councillors considered the Annual Governance Statement required by the Audit Commission for the Annual Return for the year ended March 31, 2022. Cllr Painter proposed, Cllr Mrs Thomson seconded, all others in favour that Constantine Parish Council should answer “Yes” to all the questions posed by the Statement of Assurance which forms part of the Annual Return for the year ended March 31, 2022.

The Clerk presented the accounts for Constantine Parish Council for the year April 1, 2021 – March 31, 2022. Cllr Mrs Thomson proposed, Cllr Painter seconded all others in favour that Constantine Parish Council should approve the Parish Council’s accounts for the year April 1, 2021 – March 31, 2022.

The Clerk presented the accounts for the Alice Hext Trust for the year April 1, 2021 – March 31, 2022. Cllr Mrs Thomson proposed, Cllr Painter seconded all others in favour that Constantine Parish Council, acting as the Management Trustee of the Recreation Ground, should approve the accounts for the Alice Hext Trust for the year April 1, 2021 – March 31, 2022.

Members noted that during the course of the year April 1, 2021 – March 31, 2022 invoices incurred by the Alice Hext Trust Recreation Ground amounting to the sum of £4,580.00 had been paid by Constantine Parish Council using the General Power of Competence adopted at the Annual Meeting on May 20, 2021

The following accounts were tendered for payment

		GROSS	NET	VAT
Edward Buckland Ltd		£ 379.15	£ 315.96	£ 63.19
Cornwall Council (Cemetery rates)		£ 286.39		
Biffa Waste Services Ltd		£ 39.55	£ 32.96	£ 6.59
Biffa Waste Services Ltd		£ 21.58	£ 17.98	£ 3.60
Enerveo (Street lighting maintenance)		£ 421.20	£ 351.00	£ 70.20
SSE (public lighting)		£ 92.19	£ 87.80	£ 4.39
Mrs J.Pleasance		£ 329.47		
J.P.Richards (Internal Auditor)		£ 318.50		
R.Sanders				
Church and cemetery	£ 400.00			
Installation of bench	£.250.00			
Recreation Ground	£ 195.00			
	total	£ 1,014.00	£ 845.00	£ 169.00
Information Commissioner		£ 40.00		
One of a Kind (materials)		£ 393.00		
Colin Chapman				
Salary (March)	£ 770.03			
telephone	£ 39.39			
office expenses	£ 37.53			
travelling	£ 28.29			
use of home	£ 25.00			
	total	£ 900.24		

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

The following account in relation to expenses for the Recreation Ground was tendered

	GROSS	NET	VAT
Southwest Playground Safety Inspections	£ 30.00	£ 25.00	£ 5.00

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

Members noted the following receipts

CC CTS grant	£ 250.89
CC Precept 1 st instalment	£ 22,500.00

11 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND REPRESENTATIVES

There were no reports from committees or representatives.

Chairman’s initials.....

12 COMMENTS FROM COUNCILLOR

Cllr Painter reported that he felt that Mrs Trudgeon’s response to the Parish Council’s enquiries concerning the Planning Committee meeting on November 15, 2021 had somewhat fudged the issue. However members recognised that the Parish Council cannot pursue the issue further. He also felt that Coastline’s response to George Eustice MP had been disingenuous, particularly in the matter of selling its property for reasons concerning the lack of effective insulation. He suggested that the open space within Coastline’s estate might be put to use for ground-source heating. However, Cllr Mrs Thomson (who has personal experience of both ground-source and air-source heating) stated that fitting both ground-source and air-source heating is less effective when done retrospectively.

13 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held in The Vestry on Thursday May 19, 2022 at 7:00pm
The Annual Meeting of Constantine Parish Council will be held in The Vestry on Thursday May 19, 2022 immediately following the Annual Parish Meeting.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.57pm.

Signed..... Dated.....

Chairman’s initials.....