

# CONSTANTINE PARISH COUNCIL

[www.constantinecornwall.com/parish-council/meetings/](http://www.constantinecornwall.com/parish-council/meetings/)

C.F.P.Chapman  
Clerk to the Council  
Chy Lean  
St Keverne Road  
Mawgan  
Helston TR12 6AY  
telephone 01326 221648  
[parish.clerk3@btinternet.com](mailto:parish.clerk3@btinternet.com)

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Constantine Parish Council held on Thursday October 20, 2022 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 K.Scott
	Cllr H.Bolt	Cllr R.Wickins
	Cllr E.Jeffery	Mr C.Chapman (Clerk)

**Visitors:** CCllr J.Bastin, Mr P.Bates, Mr P.Binns, Mr J.Brittain-Long, Mr J.Boote, Mr H.Brierly, Mr P.Brocket, Mrs R.Brocket, Mrs W.Deering, Mr F.Gendall, Mrs Gundry, Mr H.Metcalf, Mr E.Norman, Mrs L.Ouseley, Mr A.Pearce, Dr E.Steel, Mr M.Talbot, Mr V.White, Mr V.Williams.

## PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Referring to the Parish Meeting held on October 13 ...

Mr Gendall asserted that the minutes are biased and weighted in favour of the Parish Council's stand-point. He denied that he had impugned the Chairman's integrity and stated that he (the Chairman) had treated him rudely. He added that the minutes do not record that both Cllr Wickins and Mr Just had left the meeting (the Chairman having denied Mr Just the opportunity to speak) and that the result of the vote on whether or not to proceed with the purchase of the Church Hall had not been recorded.

Mr Talbot said that he had left the meeting at 9.00pm appalled that at its descent into chaos. He added that the form of behaviour he had witnessed is not representative of the village as a whole. He stated that he is unsure whether or not the community should buy the Hall, but he feels strongly that the public amenities (the car-parks, the green space under the trees and the public convenience) should be kept for the village. He spoke of a petition which shows strong support for the Parish Council and what it is trying to achieve.

Mrs Deering said that she was upset that the hard-work done by the Parish Council in its attempt to purchase the two car-parks, the green space under the trees, the public convenience and the Church Hall had been rubbished. She is willing to form or be part of a working party in an attempt to encourage a further Parish Meeting to move the process, (which is of vital importance to the village) forward. A petition she had organised had attracted 147 signatures in favour of proceeding with the project in just thirty-six hours.

Mr Boote asked the Parish Council to organise another meeting, adding that the people who spoke were not objecting to the purchase of the Hall but were expressing their fears about the cost. There are many people who are already finding the cost of living challenging and an increase of 66.6% in their Council Tax bill would be problematic. There is no mention of the proposed increase in Council Tax on the petition.

Mr Pearce stated that he understood that two petitions had been circulating in the village. One, he understood, had been left in the Spar Shop, but that when he had had been there, it had not been apparent. He believes it is only representative of people who are in favour of purchasing the Hall. He believes it is not necessary to purchase the Hall, but that there is a need to seek the view of every resident.

Mr Gendall (speaking for the second time) said that it is his opinion that the minutes are inaccurate in that they state that the Chairman ended the meeting not because it was descending into acrimony, but because the Hall was only hired until 9.30pm. Further they do not record the fact that a vote was taken and the conclusion was that the Parish Council should not purchase the Hall.

Chairman's initials.....

The Chairman stated that as far as the vote was concerned, no attendee had made a proposal, there had been no seconder and that a showing of hands is not a vote and has no influence on the outcome of a meeting. Nevertheless, he would agree that the majority of those who had spoken were not prepared to agree with a proposal to proceed.

Cllr Painter stated that he believes the Parish Council will act in accordance with the information available to it and, having taking everything into consideration, will make every effort to bring the community back together. Individuals may not agree with one another, but should accept the majority wish of the Parish.

## **1 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllr A.Carter (personal) and Cllr Mrs Thomson (personal) sent their apologies for absence. Cllr Bolt proposed, Cllr Nicholls seconded and it was agreed to accept their 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**

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 Nicholls seconded, Cllr Mrs Batley-Birch and Cllr Wickins being absent from the meeting abstained, all others in favour that the minutes of the Extra-Ordinary Meeting held on Thursday September 29, 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**

There were no matters arising from the minutes and not included on this agenda.

## **5 CORNWALL COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

CCllr Bastin reported that

- the number of Community Network Panels will be reduced from the existing nineteen to twelve and they will be known as Community Area Panels
- the next meeting of the CNP will be on November 15

In answer to questions, CCllr Bastin stated that

- outstanding planning enforcement issues within the Parish are currently being examined by Officers
- concerning the matter of the proposed appointment of Mayor of Cornwall (in order to access the devolution of greater powers from Central Government), in the knowledge that there are strong feelings against such an appointment, Cornwall Council and the five local Members of Parliament have asked the Secretary of State if Cornwall might enjoy the maximum devolution of powers (level 3) without the necessity of having an elected mayor in place
- speaking personally, he suggested that the money on offer as a result of any devolution of powers is possibly not as generous as it might at first appear.

Cllr Wickin again asked CCllr Bastin if he would have a word with Highways about the road surface at the southern end of Trewince Lane.

## **6 PARISH MATTERS**

### **The bus-shelter**

Members considered a proposal to renovate the bus-shelter in The Square. Following discussion, it was agreed to find someone capable of doing whatever is necessary and to ask for an estimate of the cost involved.

### **The Platinum Jubilee marker**

Cllr Painter suggested that perhaps a plaque similar marking the Queen's lifetime of service should be added to the marker before it is erected in the village. The Clerk was tasked to prepare some artwork using the Machin portrait of the Queen for further consideration at the meeting in November.

### **Roadside grit bins**

Members considered the maintenance of the roadside salt-bins in preparation for the winter. It was agreed to ask the Council's contractor, Mr Sanders, to undertake this task.

### **The historic sign post (Bowling Green)**

Members considered a quotation in the sum of £120 from Muddy Creek Signs to repaint the place names and manicules on the historic granite sign-post at the northern end of Bowling Green. Following discussion, Cllr Jeffery

Chairman's initials.....

proposed, Cllr Wickins seconded and it was agreed to commission Muddy Creek Signs to clean and repaint the historic sign-post at the northern end of Bowling Green for the sum of £120

## **7 PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS**

### **The Church Hall**

Members considered the Parish Council's position following the Parish Meeting on Thursday October 13, 2022. It was noted that a considerable number of e-mails from individual residents had been received concerning the draft minutes as published on the Parish Council's web-pages with varying perceptions of what had been said.

Cllr Painter said that, since the Parish Meeting, he had had met with sections of the community (who felt that their point of view had not been heard, not answered or had not been adequately informed at the Parish Meeting) not least because he had wanted to assist the village in achieving what he believes to be the wish of the majority of residents. He stated that it is his belief that solid information, professionally presented needs to be made available, possibly in The Vestry, when and where residents may seek answers to any questions they may have and that, following that static presentation, a further Parish Meeting to seek a definitive answer to the question raised but not answered at the earlier Parish Meeting should be called. Only in that way the village can decide if it wants to take the matter any further forward.

Cllr Nicholls said that he was pleased to see so many people representative of both sides of the coin at the meeting. He stated that he, personally, has a strong emotional attachment to the Hall: not only had his mother attended the school, but he had spent a great deal of time in his formative years within its walls joining in with various activities and clubs. He added that the village of Constantine is blessed with a number of community buildings and purchasing the Hall for community use may or may not be in the village's best interests. However he believes that this is a one-off opportunity and, if it is not grasped, there is a real risk that the car-parks and the green space under the trees will be lost to the village. He suggested that it would be irrational to call a further Parish Meeting before information concerning the purchase and the mechanics of running the Hall as a community building had been made available to residents.

Cllr Nicholls proposed, Cllr Bolt seconded and it was agreed that a Public Meeting should be called in approximately two week's time, which will give interested parties time (albeit limited) to prepare information for presentation to residents prior to the meeting. It was further agreed that Cllr Painter should coordinate efforts to make a static presentation available to the village prior to the Public Meeting.

### **Concerning a Directly Elected Mayor for Cornwall**

Members considered current proposals at County level for the adoption of the post of a Mayor of Cornwall complete with staff, budget and choice of Cabinet and the question of a referendum to decide whether to support the introduction of this change. Following discussion, although it was clear that individual members are not in favour of the appointment of a mayor for Cornwall, it was agreed that it is not the position of a Parish Council to suggest quite how the Unitary Authority should act.

## **8 PLANNING MATTERS**

### **Members noted the following observations returned using delegated powers during the summer recess**

PA22/02051 Mr C.Hunt – Demolition of existing summerhouse and former outbuildings to create home office and terrace – Higher Treglidgwith Farm, Ponjeravah. This application was returned marked *Constantine Parish Council supports this application subject to a condition limiting use for purposes incidental to the enjoyment of the dwelling now known as Higher Treglidgwith Farm.*

PA22/06741 Mr C.Kermack – Works to trees subject to a Tree Preservation Order (TPO), works include - Lime tree on the boundary removal of the lowest branches on the waterfront side of the tree – Ponsaverran, Port Navas. This application was returned marked *Constantine Parish Council supports this application subject to the approval of the County Tree Officer.*

PA22/07263 Mrs L.Nottingham – Replacement dwelling (resubmission of PA19/05294) – former Trenarth Bungalow, Trenarth. This application was returned marked *Constantine Parish Council supports this application.*

### **To consider observations concerning the following planning applications**

PA22/07962 Mr and Mrs Spinks – Listed Building Consent to enlarge the patio outside property's back door, move a 1.5M high garden wall further away from the property by 2M and create a new terrace in overgrown garden – The Old Manor House, Treviades. Cllr Painter proposed, Cllr Bolt seconded and it was agreed to return the following observation *Constantine Parish Council has concerns about the proposed felling of the Trachycarpus Palm and requests the planting of a replacement tree but otherwise supports this application.*

PA22/08208 Mr D.Handley Warleggan Holdings – To construct 2 no. agricultural implement sheds – Well Farm, land adjacent Hendrawna House, Polwheveral. Cllr Bolt proposed, Cllr Wickins seconded and it was agreed to return the following observation *Constantine Parish Council does not support this application. There is a notable absence of*

Chairman's initials.....

*demonstrable need for the proposed agricultural barns and their proposed location, their size and the use of materials will have an unfavourable visual impact on the immediately adjoining AONB. Constantine Parish Council requests the Planning Authority to refuse permission for development.*

PA22/08234 Ms S.Bellers – Change of use and incorporation of the Former Smithy into 41 Fore Street – 41 Fore Street, Constantine. Cllr Andrew proposed, Cllr Mrs Scott seconded and it was agreed to return the following observation. *Constantine Parish Council supports this application.*

PA22/08706 Mr M.Rowe – Application for Lawful Development Certificate in Respect to Commencement of Proposed Development PA11/10868 – 36 Fore Street, Constantine. Cllr Bolt proposed, Cllr Andrew seconded and it was agreed to return the following observation *Constantine Parish Council can neither confirm nor refute the statements made in this application*

PA22/09030 Mr N.Rodway – Removal of conservatory and replacement extension to create a large living area. New pitch roof, new windows and insulation throughout, exterior to be timber clad, air source pumps and solar panels – Primrose Cottage, Brill. The Chairman proposed, Cllr Mrs Batley-Birch seconded and it was agreed to return the following observation *Constantine Parish Council supports this application.*

## Decisions

PA21/11882 REFUSED – Outline planning permission with some matters (appearance, landscaping, layout and scale) reserved for the construction of a dwelling – land South of former Mill Garage, Trewardreva – *noted*

PA22/03119 APPROVED – Extension to existing cottage conversion of barn to allow additional accommodation. New vehicular access – Trebarvah Woon Cottage, Constantine – *noted*

PA22/03613 FAILED TO DETERMINE – 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 – *noted*

PA22/06741 APPROVED – Works to trees subject to a Tree Preservation Order (TPO), works include - Lime tree on the boundary removal of the lowest branches on the waterfront side of the tree – Ponsaverran, Port Navas – *noted*

## 9 CLERK'S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk reported that he understands that the key pads on the defibrillator cabinets at Seworgan and Port Navas are known to fail and that the Council should be ready to replace them as and when necessary.

## 10 FINANCIAL MATTERS

The Clerk presented Councillors with a statement of Constantine Parish Council's financial position as at October 20, 2022. A copy of that statement is attached to these minutes.

Members noted the conclusion of the audit for the year to March 31, 2021. The External Auditor had made no comments.

The following accounts were paid during August using delegated powers

		GROSS	NET	VAT
Mrs J. Pleasance		£ 329.47		
One of a Kind (Vestry window)		£ 1,465.00		
Hockerill Engraving		£ 87.00	£ 72.50	£ 14.50
R.Sanders (PROWs)		£3,618.00	£ 3,015.00	£ 603.00
PKF Littlejohn LLP (audit)		£ 300.00	£ 300.00	£ 60.00
R.Sanders				
Cemeteries	£ 425.00			
Recreation Ground	£ 205.00			
Village Car Park	£ 40.00			
Port Navas	£ 40.00			
	total	£ 852.00	£ 710.00	£ 142.00
Biffa (cemetery)		£ 75.52	£ 62.93	£ 12.59
Source for Business (mini-convenience)		£ 73.30		
Source for Business (cemetery)		£ 14.19		
SSE (public lighting)		£ 92.19	£ 87.80	£ 4.39
Colin Chapman				
Salary (July)	£ 636.83			
travelling	£ 41.55			
telephone	£ 42.01			

Chairman's initials.....

office expenses	£ 17.55	
use of home as office	£ 25.00	
	total	£ 775.84

The following account relating to the Alice Hext Trust was paid during August using delegated powers

	<b>GROSS</b>	<b>NET</b>	<b>VAT</b>
Southwest Playground Safety Inspections	£ 36.00	£ 30.00	£ 6.00

The following accounts were paid during September using delegated powers

	<b>GROSS</b>	<b>NET</b>	<b>VAT</b>
HM Revenue and Customs	£ 741.36		
Mrs J.Pleasance	£ 329.47		
Truro Diocesan Board of Finance (Car park)	£ 350.00		
Truro Diocesan Board of Finance (under the trees)	£ 150.00		
EdF Energy (Vestry)	£ 9.19	£ 8.75	£ 0.44
SSE (feed in pillar)	£ 44.50	£ 42.39	£ 2.11
R.Sanders			
Cemeteries	£ 425.00		
Recreation Ground	£ 205.00		
	total	£ 756.00	£ 630.00
Biffa (cemetery)	£ 75.52	£ 62.93	£ 12.59
SSE (public lighting)	£ 92.19	£ 87.80	£ 4.39
Colin Chapman			
Salary (August)	£ 636.83		
telephone	£ 10.92		
office expenses	£ 30.45		
travelling	£ 7.07		
use of home	£ 25.00		
	total	£ 710.27	

The following account relating to the Alice Hext Trust was paid during September using delegated powers

	<b>GROSS</b>	<b>NET</b>	<b>VAT</b>
Southwest Playground Safety Inspections	£ 36.00	£ 30.00	£ 6.00

The following accounts were tendered for payment

	<b>GROSS</b>	<b>NET</b>	<b>VAT</b>
HM Revenue and Customs	£ 741.36		
Mrs J.Pleasance	£ 329.47		
Truro Diocesan Board of Finance (Car park)	£ 350.00		
EdF Energy (Vestry)	£ 9.19	£ 8.75	£ 0.44
SSE (feed in pillar)	£ 44.50	£ 42.39	£ 2.11
R.Sanders			
Cemeteries	£ 425.00		
Recreation Ground	£ 205.00		
	total	£ 756.00	£ 630.00
Biffa (cemetery)	£ 75.52	£ 62.93	£ 12.59
SSE (public lighting)	£ 92.19	£ 87.80	£ 4.39
Enerveo	£ 842.40		
Colin Chapman			
Salary (August)	£ 636.83		
telephone	£ 10.92		
office expenses	£ 30.45		
travelling	£ 7.07		
use of home	£ 25.00		
	total	£ 780.21	

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

Chairman's initials.....

The following account relating to the Recreation Ground was tendered for payment

	<b>GROSS</b>	<b>NET</b>	<b>VAT</b>
SW Playground Safety Inspections	£ 36.00	£ 30.00	£ 6.00

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

Members noted the following receipts

Keith Penrose (Mr Lloyd)	£ 400.00
Pendle Funeral Services (Mrs Combella)	£ 1,600.00
CTS Grant	£ 250.49
Precept (2 <sup>nd</sup> instalment)	£ 22,500.00

# 11 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND REPRESENTATIVES

There were no reports from Committees or Representatives.

# 12 COMMENTS FROM COUNCILLORS

The Chairman reminded members that he was storing the recycling bins from the Recreation Ground and asked if it was time to replace them. Following discussion, it was agreed to ask Mr Sanders to replace them on the slab in the Recreation Ground.

Cllr Painter asked for an item to consider traffic-calming measures and further yellow-lining to be added to the November agenda.

Cllr Nicholls stated that he had attended the Social Club AGM and was pleased to report that the Club appears to be in a good financial position.

Cllr Jeffery reported that the replacement of the fencing around the Recreation Ground will be completed by the end of next week

Mrs Deering thanked Members for agreeing to hold another Parish Meeting

# 13 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETINGS

Thursday November 17, 2022 in The Vestry, Constantine.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.51pm.

Signed.....

Dated.....

Chairman's initials.....