

CONSTANTINE PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Constantine Parish Council held on Thursday April 20, 2023 at 7.30pm in The Vestry.

Present:

| | |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| Cllr P.Carter | Cllr C.Painter |
| Cllr H.Bolt | Cllr Mrs K.Scott |
| Cllr J.Andrew | Cllr Mrs T.Thomson |
| Cllr A.Carter | Cllr R.Wickins |
| Cllr Mrs W.Deering | Mr C.Chapman (Clerk) |

Visitors: Mrs Gregory, Mrs Grundy, Mr and Mrs Phillips.

The Chairman welcomed members and visitors to the meeting.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Introducing herself and Mrs Gregory as the Chair and Publicity Officer respectively of the Constantine Women's Institute, Mrs Grundy said that they were present simply to introduce themselves and hoped to be able to work with the Parish Council to further any concerns that may be raised by members of the Institute.

Cllr Wickins reported that, despite the fact that the problem with PROW 13 at Pixies Garden has been reported, the situation remains exactly as it was other than the fact that the sign is fast becoming overgrown. The Clerk undertook to instruct Bob Sanders the cut back growth obstructing the sign.

Cllr Wickins further reported that the road from Nancenoy up past Goongillings and Polwheveral and on to the cross-roads is in very poor condition. The Clerk undertook to report this.

Cllr Mrs Deering expressed concerns about the two bridges in Bosahan Wood serving PROW 54 and suggested that the Parish Council should undertake repairs. It was explained that the repair of the highway is the sole responsibility of the Unitary Authority and that the latest information available is that it is hoped that repairs will be undertaken in the summer. It was further explained that the greater the number of individual complaints received by the Authority about any particular issue the more likelihood there is of action.

1 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr E.Nicholls, Cllr Mrs Scott and CCllr Bastin all sent their apologies for absence. Cllr Wickins proposed, Cllr Painter seconded all others in favour that these apologies should be accepted.

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

In the spirit of openness, Cllr Mrs Deering declared a gift of treatment from a physiotherapist (the value of which she did not believe had exceeded £50 but which had been offered, she believes, because she holds the office of Councillor).

3 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Cllr Painter proposed, Cllr Andrew seconded, Cllr Mrs Thomson and Cllr Wickins being absent from the meeting abstained, all others in favour that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Thursday March 16, 2023 should be adopted as a true record and the Chairman signed them as such.

Chairman's initials.....

4 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES BUT NOT INCLUDED ON THIS AGENDA

In answer to a question, the Clerk replied that the Council had received no response from the Secretary of State concerning its application for permission to borrow money to purchase and refurbish the Hall. The Clerk was asked to write to Mr George Eustice MP with a view to enlisting his help in furthering this matter.

5 CORNWALL COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

In the absence of Cllr Bastin there was no report.

6 PARISH MATTERS

Maintenance of the Historic Finger-Posts

In the absence of Cllr Jeffery there was no further news concerning quotations for on-site shot-blasting of the historic finger-posts. Following some discussion, it was agreed that Cllr Painter will take a closer look at the finger-post at Brill with a view to removing the rust (prior to painting) in another way.

Road Safety within the village

Cllr Painter reminded members that he has particular concerns for pedestrian and cyclists approaching the village from Ponjerevah and suggested that a virtual pavement/cycle-track might be installed on the High Cross bound side of the road. Considerable discussion followed and it was agreed to contact the Highways Authority with this suggestion.

7 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 £618.31 + 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 £618.31 + 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 £494.74 Cllr Painter proposed, Cllr A.Carter seconded all others in favour to accept the offer and to continue with the maintenance of the closed churchyard at St Constantine.

Alice Hext Trust

Members considered the repair of that area of the fence immediately behind the goal (between the field and the Bowling Green) which has damaged, presumably by soccer players using the goal. It was suggested that stronger fencing, such as that protecting the garden of 1 Vicarage Terrace, should be used. It was proposed by Cllr Mrs Thomson, seconded by Cllr Andrew all others in favour that the Clerk should be authorised to make this a priority and to arrange to have done whatever he considers necessary.

8 PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND DECISIONS

To consider observations concerning the following planning applications

PA23/02046 Mrs C.White – Works to fell a tree of unknown species which is subject to a TPO – Green Valley, Seworgan. Cllr Bolt proposed, Cllr A.Carter seconded and it was agreed to return the following observation *Constantine Parish Council supports this application.*

PA23/02153 Mr and Mrs Morris – Double Storey Side Extension – Barrans. Port Navas. Cllr Wickins proposed, Cllr Bolt seconded and it was agreed to return the following observation *Constantine Parish Council supports this application.*

PA23/02287 Mrs S.Hodge – Proposed rear balcony extension with associated alterations to existing – The Old Telephone Exchange, Bowling Green. Cllr Mrs Thomson proposed, Cllr Andrew seconded and with two abstentions it was agreed to return the following observation *Constantine Parish Council supports this application.*

Decisions

PA22/04687 REFUSED –Application for Outline Planning Permission with all matters reserved for the construction of a rural exception site of three dwellings (2 Affordable & 1 Market-led) – land North of Inow Farm, Port Navas – *noted*

9 CLERK'S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk reported that the Platinum Jubilee stone will be installed tomorrow, April 21. Cllr Painter undertook to show Wearnes the previously agreed site.

10 FINANCIAL MATTERS

The Clerk presented Councillors with a statement of Constantine Parish Council's financial position as at April 20, 2023. A copy of that statement is attached to these minutes.

Chairman's initials.....

Members were asked to declare all conflicts of interest with BDO LLP (the external auditors). There were no such declarations.

Members noted that the Internal Auditor, Mr Peter Richards, had made no comment or recommendation concerning the financial accounts for the year April 1, 2022 – March 31, 2023.

Parish Councillors considered the Annual Governance Statement required by the Audit Commission for the Annual Return for the year ended March 31, 2023. Cllr Painter proposed, Cllr A.Carter 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, 2023.

The Clerk presented the accounts for Constantine Parish Council for the year April 1, 2021 – March 31, 2022. Cllr Painter proposed, Cllr Bolt seconded all others in favour that Constantine Parish Council should approve the Parish Council’s accounts for the year April 1, 2022 – March 31, 2023.

The Clerk presented the accounts for the Alice Hext Trust for the year April 1, 2022 – March 31, 2023. Cllr Painter proposed, Cllr Bolt 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, 2022 – March 31, 2023.

Members noted that during the course of the year April 1, 2022 – March 31, 2023 invoices incurred by the Alice Hext Trust Recreation Ground amounting to the sum of £32,526.84 had been paid by Constantine Parish Council using the General Power of Competence adopted at the Annual Meeting on May 20, 2021

Members noted payment of the following account

| | GROSS | NET | VAT |
|----------------------------------|--------------|------------|------------|
| Chown China (commemorative mugs) | £ 2,449.44 | £ 2,041.20 | £ 408.24 |

The following accounts were tendered for payment

| | GROSS | NET | VAT |
|---|--------------|------------|------------|
| Who Gives a Crap Ltd (public convenience) | £ 161.85 | £ 134.88 | £ 26.97 |
| Mrs J.Pleasance | £ 361.34 | | |
| Biffa | £ 77.69 | £ 64.74 | £ 12.95 |
| SSE (public lighting) | £ 97.73 | £ 93.08 | £ 4.65 |
| Information Commissioner | £ 40.00 | | |
| J.P.Richards | £ 334.50 | | |
| R.Sanders | | | |
| Cemeteries | £ 425.00 | | |
| Recreation Ground | £ 205.00 | | |
| Bus stop garden | £ 140.00 | | |
| Hedge Recreation Ground | £ 210.00 | | |
| Footpath no 1 (to well) | £ 25.00 | | |
| total | £ 1,206.00 | £ 1,005.00 | £ 201.00 |
| Colin Chapman | | | |
| salary (March) | £ 671.57 | | |
| telephone | £ 44.02 | | |
| office expenses | £ 56.69 | | |
| travelling | £ 28.29 | | |
| use of home | £ 25.00 | | |
| total | £ 800.57 | | |

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

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

| | GROSS | NET | VAT |
|---|--------------|------------|------------|
| Southwest Playground Safety Inspections | £ 30.00 | £ 25.00 | £ 5.00 |
| EdF Energy (Pavilion) | £ 40.71 | £ 38.77 | £ 1.94 |

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

Members noted the following receipts

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|
| Breage Memorials (Mr Gateley) | £ 80.00 |
| CC Precept 1 st instalment | £ 37,500.00 |

Chairman’s initials.....

11 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND REPRESENTATIVES

There were no reports from committees or representatives.

12 COMMENTS FROM COUNCILLORS

Concerning recent development, Cllr Mrs Deering asked if there had been any changes to the planning guidance for Conservation Areas in respect of solar panels. As far as members were aware the guidance had not changed.

13 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETINGS

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Thursday May 18, 2023 at 7:00pm

The Annual Meeting of Constantine Parish Council will be held on Thursday May 18, 2023 immediately following the Annual Parish Meeting.

Both the above meetings will be held in The Vestry, Constantine

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.08pm.

Signed.....

Dated.....

Chairman's initials.....