

CONSTANTINE PARISH COUNCIL

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

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

Present:

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

Visitors: CCllr J.Bastin, Mrs Pennington (Wildanet) and Mr Gendall.

The Chairman welcomed members and visitors to the meeting.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Mrs Pennington, who acts as the liaison officer between Wildanet (for which company she works) and Town and Parish Councils, reported that the company has a contract with Central Government to install a full-fibre network (for internet connection) to hard-to-reach communities within the West Country. Their intention is to install this network to 1,500 homes locally and will inevitably mean there are road-closures and disturbance while the necessary work is done. If residents experience problems during this period they are asked to speak to the contractors in the first instance and if this fails to telephone 0800 069 9906 or to e-mail hello@wildanet.com Project Gigabyte's target (of which this initiative is part) seeks to ensure that, when the copper wire network is switched off in 2025, Full Fibre to Property Service (FFTP) is available locally.

Mr Gendall sought the Parish Council's support for planning application PA23/03636. He stated that the proposed replacement dwelling is designed to be a super-efficient dwelling with an emphasis on sustainability. It replaces a dwelling which is both failing and does not meet the needs of the 21st century.

1 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Jeffrey sent his apologies for absence. Cllr Andrew proposed, Cllr Wickins seconded all others in favour that his apologies should be accepted.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST in items on the agenda

Cllr Nicholls declared a non-disclosable interest in agenda item 7 (PA23/04354).

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 received of a value greater than £50

3 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Cllr Painter proposed, Cllr Bolt seconded, and it was agreed that, with the addition of the hand-written amendment, the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Thursday June 15, 2023 are 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 which were not on this agenda.

Chairman's initials.....

5 CORNWALL COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

CCllr Bastin reported that

- the Community Area Partnerships are now up and running. They are designed to be more powerful than the old Neighbourhood Partnerships; they have more money; and seek to attract partners from all fields
- the CAP funding system will be guided by a sub-group which is made up of members from the Town and Parish Councils within the Partnership. Cllr Painter is expected to be appointed to serve on this sub-group as a representative Rural Parishes in the Partnership Area
- the Partnership is evolving – other sub-groups will follow
- funding is presently available from the Community Capacity Fund: local community-based projects can apply for grants between £2,000 and £25,000
- Cornwall Council has put the replacement of the bridge over the stream in Bosahan Woods out to tender.

Cllr Painter suggested that a cycle path through Bosahan Woods to Ponjeravah and up the hill to the village might be financed using the Community Capacity Fund.

Cllr Nicholls reminded Members that both the Carnival Committee and the Christmas Lights Committee are looking for storage space (possibly in containers) and suggested that an application for funding for both should be made to the Community Capacity Fund. He offered to provide the necessary information.

Cllr Painter reported that the allocation of dwellings through the Homechoice Allocation System was described as 'unfit for purpose' by Councillor Officer (Adam Birchall - Head of Planning & Housing Policy) at the Homechoice Review Teams Meeting of 20th and elsewhere by the Cornwall Council Portfolio Holder, Ollie Monk, on the BBC TV 'Spotlight' programme (6.30pm on 20th).. It was his opinion that it requires a knowledge of and familiarity with modern technology that many needy families lack. CCllr Bastin noted that permission for the development of rural exception sites takes no consideration of the impact such development will have on the local community and the eventual development with an influx of new residents can create a misleading effect on the Index of Poverty.

6 PARISH MATTERS

Maintenance of the Historic Finger-Posts

Following discussion, it was agreed not to pursue discussion of the refurbishment of the historic finger-posts until after the post at Brill has been reinstated and the associated costs may be considered. Cllr Painter stated that neither Cornwall Council nor the Milestone Society would be averse to each of the refurbished finger-posts being added to the register of listed buildings,

Waste bin at Ponjeravah

Members considered a request to site a waste-bin at Ponjeravah. Following discussion, Cllr Mrs Deering proposed, Cllr Bolt seconded and it was agreed to site a litter-bin at Ponjeravah in the lay-by near the salt bin.

7 PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS

Delegated Powers

Members considered awarding delegated powers to the Chairman and the Clerk to deal with day-to-day matters relating to the Parish Council during the month of August 2023. Following discussion, Cllr Nicholls proposed, Cllr Bolt seconded Cllr Mrs Deering against and with a single further abstention, it was agreed that the Chairman and the Clerk should have delegated powers to deal with day-to-day matters relating to the Parish Council during the month of August 2023.

Informal signage

Members considered the question of signage on Parish Council owned property and more particularly on the green space under the trees. It was noted that Cllr Mrs Deering had arranged for the removal of the controversial notices which have in recent months been hung from the trees and the fence. Cllr Painter suggested that a sign outlining the history of the area and welcoming visitors to the green space might be sited near the picnic area under the trees. At the Chairman's suggestion it was agreed to consider the matter at a later date, if circumstances so demand.

8 PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND DECISIONS

To consider observations concerning the following planning applications

PA23/02928 Mr C.Denny – Proposed erection of new dwelling-house – land North of Trewince Lodge, Trewince Lane, Port Navas. Cllr Wickins proposed, Cllr Andrew seconded and it was agreed to return the following observation *Constantine Parish Council believes this proposal seeks permission both for an extension of the built environment into the open countryside of the Cornwall Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and for a new home in the countryside in an unsustainable location. Accordingly, Constantine Parish Council requests the Planning Authority to refuse permission for development.*

PA23/03636 Mrs D.Carey – Demolition of existing two bedroom bungalow and construction of new contemporary two storey dwelling – The Meadows, Brill. Cllr Bolt proposed, Cllr Painter seconded and it was agreed to return the

Chairman's initials.....

following observation *Constantine Parish Council has no objections to the principle of rebuilding a replacement home on this site. However it is of the opinion that both the proposed design and the use of modern materials are at variance with the existing dwellings in Brill and will strike an unwelcome visual intrusion into the rural landscape. The Council has further concerns about the height of the proposed dwelling. Constantine Parish Council requests the Planning Authority to refuse permission for development.*

As an immediate neighbour, Cllr Nicholls declared a non-disclosable interest in the following application.

PA23/04354 Mr and Mrs M.Papastavros – Proposed new build and garage with variation of condition 2 in respect of decision PA22/02782 dated 30.11.22 – Panoramic View, Tucoyse Lane, Higher Brill. Cllr Mrs Thomson proposed, Cllr Painter seconded and it was agreed to return the following observation *Constantine Parish Council was far from convinced that the original application was acceptable in planning terms, observing at the time “Constantine Parish Council views this application as being one for a new residential property in the countryside and, in this location, as one which is unsustainable. The existing settlement is remote from services, and is incapable of supporting more housing. If permitted, it will create further vehicular movements on the narrow, twisting roads which serve the surrounding area and will represent an intrusion of the built environment into the rural landscape on which it will have an adverse effect. The Parish Council has further concerns about the proposed design which neither conserves nor enhances the landscape. Finally, the proposal does not provide safe and suitable access to the Site, as required by Policy 27 of the Cornwall Local Plan. For all these reasons, Constantine Parish Council requests the Planning Authority to refuse permission for development.” Despite the written description, this latest application seeks permission for a second, single-bedroom dwelling on the same site. Constantine Parish Council has not altered its original opinion and requests the Planning Authority to refuse permission for yet further development.*

PA23/04975 and PA23/04976 (Listed Building Consent) Mr and Mrs Clarke – Re-roofing of garage in natural slate and standing seam roof to low-pitched garage extension; Re-roofing of existing outbuilding in natural scantle slates; Installation of PV panels to outbuilding and garage including battery storage in garage; Supply from PV panels to mains board; Painted rendering to block extension of garage; 10mm granite chippings laid within driveway – Chestnut Cottages, Port Navas. Cllr Wickins proposed, Cllr Andrew seconded and it was agreed to return the following observation *Constantine Parish Council supports this application.*

PA23/05002 Mr A.Bowden – Erection of 100 ft x 40 ft (30.48 m x 12.19 m) general purpose agricultural storage building – Boswidjack Farm, Tucoyse Lane, Higher Brill. Cllr Nicholls proposed, Cllr Bolt seconded and it was agreed to return the following observation *Constantine Parish Council supports this application.*

PA23/05377 Mrs E.Thiessen – Reinstate bag rubbing on north face gable end, Change the design of proposed conservatory, siting of air source heat pump with additional screen fencing – The Farmhouse.. Polanguy. Trebarvah Woon. Cllr Bolt proposed, Cllr Mrs Thomson seconded and it was agreed to return the following observation *Constantine Parish Council notes that The Farmhouse at Polanguy lies within the Parish of Gweek although it is immediately adjacent to the parish boundary. With this in mind, Constantine Parish Council will support observations made by Gweek Parish Council concerning this application.*

Decisions

Members noted that the Clerk has forwarded a request from the Parish Council for planning application number PA22/06569 (construction of a single storey detached dwelling with detached double garage on land adjacent to Little Tregilly, Bridge) to be decided at a meeting of the Planning Committee rather than using delegated powers.

PA22/06082 APPROVED – Full planning application for the construction of 1 replacement dwelling in lieu of Class Q approval (PA21/05689) – Rosevine Farm, Seworgan – *noted*

PA23/01418 APPROVED – Change of use of land to equestrian, construction of sand school and storage building, and retention and extension of stables – land North of Rose Cottage, The Level – *noted*

PA23/03077 APPROVED – Works to trees under a tree preservation order (TPO) namely: T1-Oak- Reduce by 20%. T2-Beech- Fell. T3-Oak - Reduce by 20% – Poltoge, Port Navas – *noted*

PA23/03556 GRANTED – Application for a Lawful Development Certificate for an existing use as a domestic residential dwelling – Goongillings Orchard, Constantine – *noted*

PA23/04644 APPROVED – Works to trees under a tree preservation order (TPO) T1 (Field Maple) - Crown raise lower branches. Crown thin canopy. T2 (Field Maple) - Crown Raise. T3 (Holly) - Pollard. T4 (Oak) - Remove limb. T5 (Holly) - Pollard. T6 (Ash) - Remove. T7 (Sycamore) - Crown raise. T8 (Willows) Removal of nine Goat Willow trees – land adjacent to Port Navas Chapel – *noted*

Chairman’s initials.....

9 CLERK'S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk drew members' attention to the correspondence from the West Cornwall Healthwatch team and from Mrs Georgina Hayman of Coastline.

10 FINANCIAL MATTERS

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

Members considered a request from the Campaign to Protect Rural England Cornwall for financial help towards its work. Following discussion, it was agreed that, although the charity is deserving, it would be inappropriate to spend public money furthering its work.

The following accounts were tendered for payment

		GROSS	NET	VAT
Mrs J.Pleasance		£ 361.34		
Hockerill Engraving		£ 99.00	£ 82.50	£ 9.50
Hockerill Engraving		£ 55.80	£ 46.50	£ 9.30
Biffa		£ 77.69	£ 77.69	£ 12.95
SSE (public lighting)		£ 94.96	£ 90.44	£ 4.52
Cornwall ALC Ltd (training)		£ 36.00	£ 30.00	£ 6.00
P.J.Bradley (Flags for Coronation)		£ 40.00		
Cornwall Council (cemetery rates 2022/23)		£ 192.11		
Cornwall Council (cemetery rates 2023/24)		£ 361.34		
R.Sanders				
Cemeteries	£ 870.00			
Recreation Ground	£ 420.00			
Port Navas	£ 40.00			
Bowling Green Footpath	£ 25.00			
	total	£ 1,626.00	£ 1,355.00	£ 271.00
Colin Chapman				
Salary (June)	£ 671.57			
telephone	£ 29.51			
office expenses	£ 39.41			
travelling	£ 34.48			
use of home	£ 25.00			
	total	£ 799.87		

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

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

	GROSS	NET	VAT
Octopus Energy (Direct Debit)	£ 68.23	£ 64.98	£ 3.25
Southwest Playground Safety Inspections	£ 40.00	£ 33.33	£ 6.67
SWPSI (play equipment repairs)	£ 768.00	£ 640.00	£ 128.00

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

11 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND REPRESENTATIVES

There were no reports from committees or representatives.

12 COMMENTS FROM COUNCILLORS

Cllr Painter reported that he and Cllr Mrs Thomson had attended the inaugural meeting of the Community Area Partnership. He added that, in his opinion, the Partnership appears to mimic the old District Councils: certainly it has financial muscle. A brain-storming session, at which small groups of representatives had been asked to itemise individual parish concerns, had revealed that housing (and a holistic approach to planning), speeding and parking charges were foremost in the minds of representatives.

Cllr Painter reported the use of bicycles on the Recreation Ground and requested that additional notices banning such use should be considered. However, members noted that there are pieces of equipment designed specifically for use by cyclists installed on the Recreation Ground and moreover that the gift of the field to the community by Alice Hext had been specifically for the purpose of recreational use and that cycling fitted that description. The question of their use on the football pitch was dismissed: it was felt that this would be self-policing.

Chairman's initials.....

Cllr Mrs Deering reported that she had attended a meeting of the W.I at which she had been quizzed about the Parish Council. She had fielded questions concerning the repair of the bridge in Bosahan Woods, the size of the precept demand, the date of the Annual Parish Meeting in 2024, the purchase of the Church Hall (which is deemed by the W.I. to be unnecessary) and a suggestion that a further approach to purchase the car parks, the public convenience and the green space under the trees (rather than the whole parcel which is up for sale) be made to the Diocesan Finance Board.

Cllr Mrs Deering reported that the whereabouts of notice-boards within the Parish is unknown by some and further suggested that the web-site should be updated.

Cllr Wickins reported that the boards both for the tap and for water bottles are rotten and need replacing. The Clerk undertook to instruct Bob Sanders to do the necessary work.

13 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETINGS

Thursday, September 21, 2023 in The Vestry, Constantine

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.34pm.

Signed.....

Dated.....

Chairman’s initials.....