

GERMOE PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Germoe Parish Council held on Thursday January 10, 2008 at 7:00pm in Balwest Methodist Schoolroom.

Present: Cllr G.Ross (Chairman) Cllr S.Geake
Cllr Mrs E.Clarke (Vice-Chairman) Cllr A.Martin
Cllr A.Felstead Mr C.Chapman (Clerk)

Visitors: KDCllr Mrs Greenstreet, KDCllr Mrs Jenkin, KDCllr Keeling, WPC Butcher, PCSO Mitchell, Mr Ash, Mrs Foster, Mr Macloed, Mr Nicholls and Mrs Salter.

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from CCCllr Robertson and Cllr Taylor.

2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Cllr Geake proposed, Cllr Felstead seconded, all others in favour that, subject to the hand-written amendments, the minutes of the Ordinary Parish Meeting held on Thursday December 6, 2007 are a true record and the Chairman signed them as such.

3 MATTERS ARISING AND NOT COVERED IN THIS AGENDA

There were no matters arising.

4 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr Ash said that he was present (as were all other members of the public) to make representations about the application for development at Bargess Croft: he stated that

- a replacement dwelling is required to be built on the same footprint as the existing building
- there is no valid reason why the replacement dwelling should be a two-storey building
- contrary to what has been stated in the application, the new dwelling would be highly visible
- the design of the proposed dwelling is not in sympathy with surrounding buildings
- the plans provide insufficient information and are inconsistent
- the photographs accompanying the application are not of Bargess Croft
- no mention has been made of the historical significance of the site
- there has been no wildlife assessment of the site
- there is no indication of the proposed landscaping
- the issue of mine waste and contaminated land has not been addressed

Whilst not unsympathetic to a replacement dwelling on the site, he asked the Parish Council to urge the Planning Committee to refuse permission for development as described in this application.

Mr Nicholls stated that the new application does not address the reasons for refusal of the previous application for development and for that reason alone should be turned down. He added that he is unhappy about the manner in which Planning Enforcement Officers have dealt with complaints about the recently constructed garage.

Noting that the statutory site notice had been defaced and moved to a point some way away from the proposed development, Mr Macloed stated that the changes to levels which have already been created will cause damage to roots of trees. He asserted (and was widely supported in his assertion) that there is a badgers' set close to the proposed dwelling.

5 COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' COMMENTS

Speaking of the planning application for Bargess Croft, KDCllr Keeling noted the strength of feeling expressed at the meeting by members of the public and agreed to talk about it to the Planning Officer concerned. If he feels it appropriate, he will ask for the decision to be made by the Planning Committee rather than using delegated powers. He drew the attention of those present to the facility afforded to members of the public by Kerrier District Council to speak at Planning Committee meetings.

KDCllr Mrs Jenkin reported that

- she is involved in Mining Heritage projects throughout the District
- she is a member of the Culture and Heritage Single Issue Panel whose brief is to advise on the best ways of delivering service. In particular it aims to draw attention to events which are taking place throughout Kerrier and to encourage better use of the Helston Museum
- she hopes to create an Open Spaces Single Issue Panel with the intention of ensuring that a management plan is in place ready for the future
- Kerrier's intention is to make the Helston Sports Centre more of a focus for local clubs
- In future the RNLI will be shoulder the responsibility for beach safety throughout Kerrier and along the Helford river

KDCllr Mrs Greenstreet reported that

- KDC has drafted press releases concerning the public's newly-granted entitlement to speak at Planning Committee meetings and the disposal of surplus sports' equipment
- she is a member of the Homeless Panel Review.

She also cited a number of projects recently brought to successful fruition by Kerrier District Council and said that the present uncertainty at Kerrier made life very difficult for Officers who continued to do their best for the public.

6 POLICE REPORT

WPC Butcher reported that since October there have been three reported crimes in the area: the theft of an oil tank and two burglaries (the offenders have been arrested and court proceedings are imminent). The PACT scheme is now underway and, as a result of the first (admittedly small) batch of concerns, Paul Wilkinson from Cornwall Highways will visit the area on Tuesday January 15, 2008 to discuss various issues and in particular the absence of a speed limit past the school. Speaking of this, WPC Butcher noted that Central Government recommends a 20mph limit outside schools

7 PROVISION OF A CEMETERY FOR USE WHEN ST GERMOE'S IS CLOSED

The Clerk reported that he had visited Kerrier Planning Department where an Officer had confirmed that she foresaw no problems with an application for a cemetery on field 7247. He further reported that he had received a letter from Mr Bryant, who had confirmed his willingness to sell the field for use as a cemetery. Mr Bryant had stated that a surveyor had valued the field for burial purposes at £14,000. Following discussion, it was agreed that Germoe Parish Council should write to Mr Bryant drawing attention to the fact that the field does not presently have planning permission for use as a burial ground and requesting reconsideration.

8 FOOTPATHS, SIGNPOSTS, MAINTENANCE

The Clerk told members that he had reported both the dangerous stiles on footpaths 15 and 17 and the broken Public Bridleway sign at Badgers Holt. The response he had received from Cornwall Countryside Access on all these matters had not left him confident that repairs would be undertaken with any degree of urgency.

Correspondence

CCC Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 The County of Cornwall (Addition of Footpath from Footpath No 15 Germoe to the County Road at Balwest) Modification Order 2007 – *noted*

CCC Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 The County of Cornwall (Addition of Bridleway from the A394 to Higher Lane, Ashton in the Parishes of Germoe and Breage) Modification Order 2007 – *noted*

CCC LMP PPIP map of proposed cutting regime – *Councillors considered Cornwall's PIPP proposals which suggest that the grant Germoe Parish Council will receive from Cornwall for cutting the Public Rights of Way in the parish in the coming financial year will be £207.49 less than that received in the current financial year. Councillors decided to ask Cornwall to add Whippers Lane, the southern half of Moors Lane and other lengths of the Gold network of paths to the cutting regime.*

9 PROJECTS WITHIN THE PARISH

Planting of wild daffodil bulbs on open areas in the Parish

The Clerk reported that the Council's application to the Cornwall Bio-Diversity Improvement Grants committee for funding for this project has been rejected. He stated that he has now sourced 500 bulbs at a cost of just under £100.00 However, it was agreed that Germoe Parish Council should defer the project to a later date.

Siting traditional fingerposts and boundary stones within the Parish

The Clerk reported that

- there is a possibility of Kerrier helping with the funding of the boundary welcoming stones. However, following discussion, it was agreed that Germoe Parish Council should defer this project to a later date.
- he has no further news about the fingerposts.

10 PLANNING (*this item was discussed following item 5 County and District Councillors' Comments*) **Applications**

PA07/01969/F Mr M Berryman – Erection of a replacement dwelling and installation of a septic tank – Bargess Croft, Lower Balwest. Cllr Geake proposed, Cllr Mrs Clarke seconded, all others in favour to return this application with the following observations:

“Germoe Parish Councillors are disappointed that the essence of their comments on the earlier application for this site appears to have been disregarded by the applicant.

If the Planning Officer is minded to approve permission for this development, Germoe Parish Councillors request that it goes before the full Planning Committee.

If planning permission for development is granted Germoe Parish Councillors make a strong recommendation that a legal agreement is required from the applicant to the effect that the existing buildings will be removed and that the site will be reserved for a single dwelling. Furthermore, before building commences, Germoe Parish Councillors request that full surveys are made both of archaeological remains and wild life habitat.

Nevertheless, Germoe Parish Councillors urge the Planning Committee to refuse permission for this development on the grounds of its bulk, design, appearance and prominent setting within the landscape (which is adverse to visual amenities and within both the area of the World Heritage Site and an area of Great Landscape Value). Germoe Parish Councillors further note that the proposed site has the potential to prejudice historic mining artefacts and wild life.

Germoe Parish Councillors note that there is strong public feeling against this application.”

PA07/02036/F Mr J.Nowman – Erection of a replacement dwelling and installation of a septic tank – Trevabyn, Helston Road. Cllr Geake proposed, Cllr Felstead seconded, all others in favour that Germoe Parish Councillors support this application.

PA07/02017/LBC Mrs M Ostler – Listed Building Consent for the replacement of roof slates to dwelling – Rose Cottage, Germoe Lane, Germoe. Cllr Mrs Clarke proposed, Cllr Felstead seconded, all others in favour that Germoe Parish Councillors support this application.

Correspondence

KDC withdrawal of planning application PA/01062/F Mr J.Nowman – Demolition of existing dwelling and erection of two dwellings with integral garages – Trevabyn, Helston Road – *noted*

KDC Planning – changes to Delegated Powers – *noted*

11 MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

There were no questions from members.

12 CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

Referring to the recent repairs made to the road between Greatwork and Balwest, the Chairman said that it is his belief that the surface is now worse than it was formerly. The Clerk was asked to contact CCC Highways about the matter.

13 REPORT OF CLERK AND CORRESPONDENCE

Following discussion, the dates for Parish Council meetings in the coming year were agreed as follows

February 7, 2008

Ordinary Meeting

Balwest Methodist Schoolroom

March 6, 2008

Ordinary Meeting

Balwest Methodist Schoolroom

April 3, 2008	Ordinary Meeting	Balwest Methodist Schoolroom
May 1, 2008	Annual Parish Meeting	Church Hall, Germoe
May 1, 2008	Annual Meeting	Church Hall, Germoe
June 5, 2008	Ordinary Meeting	Church Hall, Germoe
July 10, 2008	Ordinary Meeting	Church Hall, Germoe
August 28, 2008	Ordinary Meeting	Church Hall, Germoe
October 2, 2008	Ordinary Meeting	Church Hall, Germoe
November 6, 2008	Ordinary Meeting	Balwest Methodist Schoolroom
December 4, 2008	Ordinary Meeting	Balwest Methodist Schoolroom
January 8, 2009	Ordinary Meeting	Balwest Methodist Schoolroom
February 5, 2009	Ordinary Meeting	Balwest Methodist Schoolroom

Correspondence

CCC Consultation document proposed 40mph speed limit Ashton to Great Work – *noted*

Inter-link Cornwall magazine – *noted*

English Heritage changes to contract conditions re grant for War Memorial – *noted*

CCC OneCornwall Newsletter Issue 4 – *noted*

CCC acknowledgement of and thanks for response to consultation on the proposed 40mph speed limit (Ashton to Great Work) – *noted*

Environment Agency Calendar (Don't ignore the risk. Be prepared for flooding) – *noted*

KDC Kerrier's Citizen of the Year and Young Citizen of the Year award – *noted*

KDC Changes to the Council's Management Structure – *noted*

CALC Annual Meeting, Finance Update and County Bulletin – *noted*

KDC brochure Out There – Things to Do, Places to Go – *noted*

Clerks and Councils Direct Newsletter – *noted*

KDC Preparing for Local Government Review seminar 9:00am – 4:30pm at the Penventon Hotel, Redruth – *the Chairman and the Clerk will attend*

14 FINANCE

Following discussion, it was proposed by Cllr Geake, seconded by Cllr Mrs Clarke all in favour that the Precept for the year 2008/2009 be set at £6,000

The Clerk reported a request from Balwest Methodist Church for financial help towards the maintenance of the cemetery. Following discussion, it was proposed by Cllr Geake, seconded by Cllr Felstead all in favour that the sum of £300.00 be forwarded to Balwest Methodist Church under the terms of Section 214(6) of the Local Government Act 1972

The following accounts were presented for consideration:

	GROSS	VAT
SLCC subscription	£ 43.00	
Colin Chapman		
Salary (December)	£ 158.35	
telephone	£ 35.65	
office expenses	£ 20.80	
travelling	£ 28.40	
use of home	£ 20.00	
	total	£ 263.20

Cllr Felstead proposed, Cllr Martin seconded, all in favour that the above two accounts be paid.

15 MATTERS FOR INCLUSION AT FUTURE MEETINGS

No matters for inclusion at future meetings were tabled

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next Ordinary Parish Council Meeting will be held on Thursday February 7, 2008, 2007 in Balwest Methodist Schoolroom.

Signed.....

Dated.....