

GERMOE PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Germoe Parish Council held on Thursday April 5, 2012 at 7:00pm in Balwest Methodist Schoolroom.

Present: Cllr S.Geake (Chairman) Cllr R.Royds
Cllr D.Blencowe Cllr J.Taylor
Cllr Mrs E.Clarke
Cllr Mrs K.Doesser Mr C.Chapman (Clerk)

Visitor: CCllr Keeling and PCSO Sadler.

The Chairman welcomed members and visitors to the March meeting.

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

in items on the agenda

Cllr Taylor declared a personal and prejudicial interest in Agenda Item 9 PA12/02028

All other members declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 9 PA12/02028

of gifts (received as a result of being a member of the Council) of a value greater than £25

There were no declarations of gifts of a value greater than £25.

3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Cllr Mrs Clarke proposed, Cllr Mrs Doeser seconded, Cllr Taylor being absent from the last meeting abstained, all others in favour that the minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday March 1, 2012 are a true record and the Chairman signed them as such.

4 MATTERS ARISING AND NOT COVERED IN THIS AGENDA

Cllr Blencowe reported he had spoken to Mr Berryman about the stile on footpath 20, but that Mr Berryman had told him that, according to his deeds, he does not own the hedge. The Clerk was asked to follow the matter through with Cornwall Countryside and the footpaths' officer.

5 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no members of the public present.

6 CORNWALL COUNCILLOR'S COMMENTS

CCllr Keeling reported that

- as part of Cornwall Council's study relating to the benefits of strategic partnerships with private sector companies, he recently spent two days in Birmingham with Sandwell Borough Council discussing their arrangements with BT following which he spent two days in Cumbria with the NHS observing their arrangements with a large computer services company
- following a judgment against Bideford Town Council, the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government took steps to "fast track" the general power of competence for local authorities with the stated aim of providing Councils with the freedom of choice to hold prayers during meetings.
- this matter was recently debated at Cornwall and the council has now reverted to the practice of holding prayers during Full Council meetings
- no public money will be used to fund the Stadium for Cornwall
- he has been reviewing Cornwall's provision of Affordable, Strategic and Private Sector Housing (and particularly the needs of people living in insecure and temporary housing including Park Homes) and the value the service gives residents in terms of expenditure

Chairman's initials.....

7 POLICE REPORT

PCSO Sadler reported that no crimes were reported to the Police during the month of March. However, thefts of oil and garden machinery have been reported in neighbouring parishes and she urged residents to take proper care of all their property.

8 PARISH MATTERS

The purchase of a gas-fired beacon for occasional use on Tregonning Hill

The Clerk reported that, once *Bullfinch (Gas Equipment) Ltd* has Germoe Parish Council's cheque in settlement, a delivery date for the beacon will be confirmed. It was agreed that the Clerk should purchase the necessary gas. Members noted that Mr and Mrs Liddicoat intend lighting a beacon fire at the eastern end of the hill.

The requirements of Aviva Insurance in respect of Diamond Jubilee celebrations

The Clerk reported that Aviva will require written notification concerning the lighting of the beacon and a copy of the accompanying Risk Assessment document. It was agreed that clarification about this should be sought particularly because Germoe Parish Council intends neither to advertise the event nor to invite residents to be present. The lighting of the beacon is designed simply to form a single part of the chain. Nevertheless, mainly because of the risk of fire on the hillside, Cllr Geake working with Cllr Taylor agreed to write a Risk Assessment document

An acknowledgement of TalkTalk's contribution towards the re-making of the notice-board at Greatwork

Cllr Blencowe proposed Cllr Mrs Clarke seconded all in favour to commission a small plaque with the following wording *Germoe Parish Council gratefully acknowledges the financial contribution made by TalkTalk towards the cost of this notice-board.* The plaque to be affixed to the notice-board.

9 PLANNING

Applications

PA12/01932 Mr & Mrs A Apple – Replacement single storey front extension – Cobbernoon, Germoe. Cllr Royds proposed, Cllr Taylor seconded all others in favour that Germoe Parish Council should return this application marked "Germoe Parish Council has no observations."

As the applicant, Cllr Taylor declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the following planning application and left the room. As the applicant's friends and fellow Councillors, all remaining members declared a personal interest in the following application.

PA12/02028 Mr J.Taylor – Construction of conservatory and garage – Cloudbreak, Tresowes Hill. Cllr Geake proposed, and it was agreed that Germoe Parish Council should return this application marked "As the applicant is a sitting Councillor, Germoe Parish Council feels it is unable to comment on this application. The Council will, however, pass on any comment concerning the application received from residents at the Council meeting in May."

Cllr Taylor returned to the room.

Decisions

PA12/01475 APPROVED Non-material amendment in respect of application PA11/01601 for a two storey extension to dwelling (amendment to use uPVC windows instead of timber) – Rosemary Cottage, Germoe – *noted*

10 FINANCE

The Clerk presented the accounts for the year April 1, 2011 – March 31, 2012. Cllr Blencowe proposed, Cllr Mrs Clarke seconded, all others in favour that Germoe Parish Council accepts the accounts for the year April 1, 2011 – March 31, 2012.

Parish Councillors considered the Statement of Assurance required for the Annual Return for the year ended March 31, 2012. Cllr Blencowe proposed, Cllr Mrs Clark seconded, all others in favour that Germoe Parish Council should answer "Yes" to each of the questions posed by the Statement of Assurance which forms part of the Annual Return for the year ended March 31, 2012.

The Clerk presented Councillors with a statement of Germoe Parish Council's financial position as at April 5, 2012. A copy of that statement is attached to these minutes.

The following accounts were presented for consideration:

	GROSS	VAT
HM Revenue and Customs	£ 152.00	
RTS (Garden Services) Ltd	£ 211.20	£ 35.20
Bullfinch (Gas Equipment) Ltd	£ 370.80	£ 61.80

Chairman's initials.....

Colin Chapman		
Salary (March)	£ 202.50	
telephone	£ 13.68	
office expenses	£ 19.46	
travelling	£ 12.47	
use of home	£ 20.00	
	total	£ 268.11

Cllr Royds proposed, Cllr Blencowe seconded, all others in favour that the above four accounts should be paid.

11 REPORT OF CLERK AND CORRESPONDENCE

CC notification that the Engineering Design Group will no longer issue paper copies of consultations. All consultations may be viewed and commented upon using the Cornwall Council website – *noted*

CC Easter Holiday Activity Programme for young people aged 8 – 16 – *noted*

St John Ambulance community access to a defibrillator – *noted*

Community Energy Plus Warm Me Up! project – *noted*

CC Your Guide to Winter Wellbeing – *noted*

Germoe Primary School request for help with sign – *the Clerk was asked to follow this matter through*

CALC invitation to join the Cornwall Association of Local Councils in the sum of £163.73 + VAT – *members agreed that, in the present financial circumstances, this represents an unnecessary expense*

12 MEMBERS' QUESTIONS AND REPORTS

Cllr Blencowe reported that he had attended a presentation delivered by the Planning Authority on the pre-application process (which had proved to be simply a matter of explaining to Town and Parish Councils that the arrangement is up and running). There appear to be two schools of thought about the scheme: those who are in favour (because it eases the way for development) and those who are against (because alterations to proposals made as a result of this procedure suggest a degree of predetermination contrary to the democratic process). Benefits arising may apply more particularly to bigger developments.

Cllr Mrs Doeser reported that she had attended the recent Community Network meeting at which Health and Well-Being issues in West Cornwall had been discussed. There had been three slide presentations. The first had outlined proposals at the West Cornwall Hospital both for a 24 hour Urgent Care Centre (leaflets will shortly be available detailing what can and what cannot be treated at the Centre) and for increased diagnostic services. The second had been delivered by the Matron at Helston Community Hospital, who had outlined the sort of work currently being undertaken there (and who had been keen to promote the Friends of the Hospital). The final presentation had been given by CCllr Mrs Carolyn Rule who, as the Portfolio Holder for Health and Well-being at Cornwall Council, had spoken of a needs based services within the County for which an updated strategy will be written shortly

Cllr Royds reported that he had attended a meeting of Germoe School Council (which is composed of eight children and which has won awards for the manner in which it conducts itself). He had spoken to the children about the Parish Council and had then listened while they had spoken about the school. He confirmed that they want a sign positioned at the crossroads directing people to the school and explained the difficulty they have encountered. In answer to a question he stated that he has no details about the proposed presentation of the Diamond Jubilee Commemorative mugs on June 1.

Cllr Royds further reported that he had attended a meeting of the Cornwall AONB Forum. Three presentations had been given: the Cornwall AONB Management Plan to 2016, the Cornwall Wildlife Trust and a talk from Mr Matthew Brown (from Cornwall's Planning Delivery department) in which the importance of Parish Plans in planning terms, certainly in the interim period before Cornwall's Strategic Plan is published, had been stressed.

13 CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

Further to CCllr Keeling's informal comments about the World Mining Games which were held at the King Edward Mine, the Chairman reported that they had proved a resounding success.

14 MATTERS FOR INCLUSION AT FUTURE MEETINGS

Balwest triangle.

Notice-boards at Great Work and at Nevada House.

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Annual Parish Meeting – Thursday May 3, 2012 at 7:00pm in Balwest Methodist Schoolroom.

Annual Meeting – Thursday May 3, 2012 following the Annual Parish Meeting in Balwest Methodist Schoolroom.

Signed.....

Dated.....

Chairman's initials.....