

GERMOE PARISH COUNCIL

www.germoeparishcouncil.org.uk

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Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Germoe Parish Council held on Thursday May 3, 2012 following the Annual Parish Meeting in Balwest Methodist Schoolroom.

Present:

Cllr S.Geake (Chairman)	Cllr G.Ross
Cllr D.Blencowe	Cllr R.Royds
Cllr Mrs E.Clarke	Cllr J.Taylor
Cllr Mrs K.Doeser	Mr C.Chapman (Clerk)

Visitors: CCllr Keeling, Mr Ash and Mrs Price.

1 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Cllr Ross proposed, Cllr Mrs Doeser seconded, all others in favour that Cllr Geake be elected to the Chair of Germoe Parish Council for the year 2012 – 2013.

2 CHAIRMAN'S DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

Cllr Geake read aloud and signed the statutory Declaration of Acceptance of the Office of Chairman of Germoe Parish Council for the year 2012 – 2013 in the presence of the Clerk and the Council.

3 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from PCSO Sadler.

4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest in items on the agenda.

There were no declarations of gifts (received as a result of being a member of the Council) of a value greater than £25.

5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Cllr Blencowe proposed, Cllr Mrs Clarke seconded, Cllr Ross being absent from the last meeting abstained, all others in favour that the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday April 5, 2012 are a true record and the Chairman signed them as such.

6 MATTERS ARISING AND NOT COVERED ELSEWHERE ON THIS AGENDA

There were no matters arising which were not on the agenda.

7 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Speaking of the application for a replacement dwelling at Bargess Croft, Mr Ash voiced the following concerns

- although the application is apparently for an amendment to the earlier approved design, it is in fact (and despite the shortage of accompanying information) a full application
- the previous application was approved with some fifteen conditions. As there is no material change, it is imperative that those conditions are retained
- previous experience suggests that, for the safety of members of the public using both the footpath and Germoe Lane, a traffic management scheme should form part of any permission.

Stating that members of the public using the footpath had to walk past a pile of broken asbestos, Mrs Price asked for assurance that it will be removed in the event of planning permission being granted.

8 CORNWALL COUNCILLOR'S COMMENTS

CCllr Keeling congratulated Cllr Geake on his re-election as the Chairman of Germoe Parish Council. He went on to report that it has again been a very busy month

- the new waste collection contract with CORY has been the cause of considerable irritation and annoyance to residents throughout the County. The Corporate Resources Scrutiny Committee, of which he is the Chairman, raised the matter of consequential damage to the council's reputation and the Waste Advisory Panel and Environmental Scrutiny Committee will now look into what went wrong
- political management of the council is up for debate and possible change following the Localism Bill, which gives Local Authorities the option of returning to the Committee System of governance. A number of Cornwall Councillors wish to return to this Committee system and a Governance Review Group has been set up to take forward recommendations towards the end of the year
- he attended a "Have Your Say" session at the Innovation Centre in Pool at which residents' opinions on how they would like to see the Council acting following the elections in 2013 had been sought
- he believes there is a need for the council to engage more fully with the public and to listen more closely to the needs of the people they represent.
- he has spoken to the owner of the Cornwall Motel who has agreed that granite boulders will be placed across the entrance to prevent access by unauthorised vehicles and resultant fly-tipping. In the meanwhile, efforts are being made to tidy the site before the passage of the Olympic flame
- Praa Sands Community Centre held a successful Open Evening and is now in a position to hold an Extraordinary General Meeting to elect a new Management Committee. That meeting is to be held at 7.00pm on Wednesday 9th May at the Community Centre
- following publication of the *Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Landscape Study* he is arranging training relating its potential impact on planning for Councillors
- he is aware that the corner at Boscreege still lacks chevrons. He will speak again to the powers that be.

9 POLICE REPORT

Through the Clerk, PCSO Sadler reported that a single crime, that of criminal damage to a vehicle, was reported to the police in the month of April: a single crime was also reported in the same period last year. She warned of a rogue workman who is preying on the elderly who live locally. What starts as a simple job of cleaning facias at a reasonable price, escalates into expensive painting and, possibly, repairs to driveways. If anyone is aware of similar work being sought or done in Germoe they are asked to telephone the emergency 101 number.

The Chairman proposed and it was agreed to discuss the following agenda item at this point.

16 PLANNING

Applications

PA12/02202 Mr M.Berryman – Construction of replacement dwelling – Bargess Croft, Lower Balwest. Cllr Mrs Clarke proposed, Cllr Blencowe seconded all others in favour that Germoe Parish Council should return this application marked "Germoe Parish Council is conscious of the history of this site and, whilst on the surface this application appears to be a minor amendment to a previously approved scheme, the Council feels strongly that the earlier discussions, correspondence and history are still entirely relevant. It would therefore wish to see exactly the same planning conditions incorporated in decision notice W2/PA10/00287/F imposed on this application, were permission to be granted. If these conditions are now not considered to be appropriate, Germoe Parish Council would wish to object strongly to this application.

"Works on this site demonstrated the restrictive nature of vehicular access and the nuisance caused both on the public highway and to adjoining properties. The Parish Council considers that an enforceable traffic management condition should also be imposed in the event of planning permission being granted.

"The Council notes that its request for toning down the visual impact of the music room and garage does not appear to have been successful."

Decisions

PA12/01475 APPROVED Construction of 50kW photovoltaic installation and associated works – Tresowes Farm, Tresowes – *noted*

Correspondence

Mrs Hoyland and Mr Ash concerning the planning application at Bargess Croft – *noted*

10 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

Cllr Geake proposed, Cllr Royds seconded, all others in favour that Cllr Mrs Doeser be elected to be Vice-Chairman of Germoe Parish Council for the year 2012 – 2013.

11 STANDING ORDERS

Cllr Blencowe proposed, Cllr Mrs Doeser seconded all others in favour that Germoe Parish Council should re-adopt Standing Orders as last substantially revised in April 2006.

12 FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

Cllr Blencowe proposed, Cllr Ross seconded all others in favour that Germoe Parish Council should re-adopt Financial Regulations as last substantially revised in April 2006.

13 ELECTION OF COUNCILLORS TO POSTS OF RESPONSIBILITY

Bank signatories

It was agreed that Cllr Blencowe, Cllr Mrs Clarke, Cllr Geake and Cllr Ross should continue to sign cheques on behalf of Germoe Parish Council.

Financial Scrutineer

It was agreed that Cllr Ross should continue to scrutinise the accounts on a quarterly basis.

Notice-boards

It was agreed that the following Councillors should continue to be responsible for the notice-boards

Balwest	Cllr Blencowe
Great Work	Cllr Ross
Nevada House	Cllr Mrs Clarke
Germoe	Cllr Taylor
Newtown	Cllr Geake
Tresowes Green	Cllr Mrs Doeser

Footpaths and bridleways

It was agreed that Cllr Mrs Clarke and Cllr Mrs Doeser should continue to be responsible for footpaths and bridleways.

Planning

It was agreed that Cllr Geake should, in the first instance, continue to be responsible for planning observations.

Helston and the Lizard Peninsula Community Network Panel

It was agreed that Cllr Mrs Doeser should continue to represent Germoe Parish Council at meetings of the Helston and the Lizard Peninsula Community Network Panel.

Press Liaison

It was agreed that Cllr Blencowe should continue to act as the Press Liaison Officer

Germoe School

It was agreed that Cllr Royds should continue to liaise with the school on behalf of the Parish Council

14 PARISH MATTERS

A gas-fired beacon for occasional use on Tregonning Hill

Members noted that the beacon has now been delivered and that it and a full canister of gas is in Cllr Mrs Doeser's garage in readiness for participation in the Chain of Beacons to mark HM Queen Elizabeth II's Diamond Jubilee on June 4, 2012

The repair of the triangle at Balwest

Following discussion, during the course of which it was noted that, in order to preserve the triangle, rainwater running off the hill simply needs to be diverted away from it and down onto the road, it was agreed that the Clerk should ask Bob Sanders to look at the problem with Cllr Blencowe. In the meanwhile Cllr Royds will speak to residents living on the lane with a view to gaining their agreement for any work that needs to be done.

The notice-board opposite Nevada House

Cllr Mrs Clarke reported that the notice-board opposite Nevada House is in need of substantial repair or, possibly, replacement. It was agreed that the Clerk should ask Tom Salkeld for a quotation for a new board similar to the ones he has made for Germoe Churchtown and for Great Work and that the matter should be discussed at the meeting in June.

The Clerk reported that he has received a cheque in the sum of £500 from TalkTalk in respect of the re-working of the notice-board at Great Work.

15 PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS

Appointment of the Internal Auditor for the year to March 31, 2013

Cllr Mrs Doerer proposed, Cllr Blencowe seconded and it was agreed that Mr J.P.Richards (formerly Kerrier District Council's Senior Auditor) should continue to act as Germoe Parish Council's internal auditor.

The adoption of a revised Code of Conduct

Members noted that Cornwall Council is in the process of preparing a model Code of Conduct for adoption by Town and Parish Councils should they so wish. They further noted that the new Code should be in position by July 1. However, in the absence of guidance from the regulating body, it was agreed to defer consideration and adoption of a new Code to the next meeting.

Local Maintenance Partnership

Members considered an invitation to renew partnership working with Cornwall Council with the offer of a grant of £989.00 (or 100% of the eligible costs whichever is the lower). In the year to March 31, 2012 Germoe Parish Council's costs for cutting footpaths and open spaces amounted to £1,420.00 and £965.00 of Cornwall's offer of £990.00 was claimed. Cllr Ross proposed, Cllr Mrs Clarke seconded, all others in favour that Germoe Parish Council should accept Cornwall Council's invitation to renew partnership working.

17 REPORT OF CLERK AND CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence

CC Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places – *the Clerk to reply*

Town Mayor-Elect of Helston invitation to the Chair and partner to a Civic Service and Diamond Jubilee Commemoration on Sunday June 3, 2012 – *the Chairman to reply*

18 GERMOE PARISH COUNCIL'S INSURANCE POLICY

Members reviewed the terms of Germoe Parish Council's Insurance Policy which, with a policy excess of £250, insures

Mandatory cover

Public liability	£10,000,000
Employers Liability	£10,000,000
Money	£ 250,000
Fidelity guarantee	£ 100,000
Legal expenses	£ 100,000

Optional cover

Property damage (War Memorial)	£ 5,670.42
Officials' indemnity	£250,000.00
Libel and slander	£250,000.00

Also included in the cover, at no extra charge on the premium, are the following

Personal accident (16-80)	
capital benefit	£ 50,000
temporary total disablement (per week)	£ 200.00

Additionally, when on Parish Council business, all volunteers are covered under this insurance.

Cllr Royds proposed, Cllr Taylor seconded all in favour to insure Germoe Parish Council through Aviva and to pay the premium demanded of £265.00.

Cllr Blencowe proposed, Cllr Ross seconded, all in favour that Germoe Parish Council should self-insure all assets other than the War Memorial for the year to May 31, 2013. The Clerk was, however, asked to seek an insurance quotation for the new notice-boards.

19 FINANCE

The Clerk presented Councillors with a statement of Germoe Parish Council's financial position as at May 3, 2012. A copy of that statement is attached to these minutes.

The Clerk reported that Mr Peter Richards, Germoe Parish Council's Internal Auditor, has signed off the Annual Return for the year to March 31, 2012 making no comments, observations or suggestions.

The following accounts were presented for consideration:

	GROSS	VAT
R.Sanders (gold paths)	£ 146.35	
J.P.Richards (Internal Auditor)	£ 137.50	
Semmens Fuels (gas for beacon)	£ 38.85	
Colin Chapman		
Salary (April)	£ 202.50	
telephone	£ 12.84	
office expenses	£ 21.72	
travelling	£ 8.60	
use of home	£ 20.00	
	total	£ 265.66

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

The following receipt was noted

HM Revenue & Customs (VAT repayment)	£ 355.77
CC ½ precept payment	£ 3,950.00
Mrs Clarke (mugs)	£ 15.00
TalkTalk (grant)	£ 500.00

20 MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

There were no comments or questions from members.

21 CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

The Chairman made no comment.

21 MATTERS FOR INCLUSION AT FUTURE MEETINGS

No matters for inclusion at future meetings were tabled.

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday June 7, 2012 at 7.00pm in Balwest Methodist Schoolroom.

Signed.....

Dated.....