

GERMOE PARISH COUNCIL

www.germoeparishcouncil.org.uk

C.F.P.Chapman
Clerk to the Council
Chy Lean
St Keverne Road
Mawgan
Helston TR12 6AY
telephone 01326 221648
colinchapman@lineone.net

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Germoe Parish Council held on Thursday May 9, 2013 following the Annual Parish Meeting 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.Doeser Mr C.Chapman (Clerk)

Visitor: Mr Thomas

1 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Cllr Blencowe proposed, Cllr Mrs Doeser seconded, all others in favour that Cllr Geake be elected to the Chair of Germoe Parish Council for the year 2013 – 2014.

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 2013 – 2014 in the presence of the Clerk and the Council.

3 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from CCllr Keeling and PCSO Whitford.

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 Mrs Clarke proposed, Cllr Royds seconded all others in favour that the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday April 4, 2013 are a true record and the Chairman signed them as such.

6 MATTERS ARISING AND NOT COVERED ELSEWHERE ON THIS AGENDA

Cllr Mrs Clarke raised the issue of the poor state of Higher Lane at the point where it is joined by Whippers Lane.

7 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no comments from members of the public.

8 CORNWALL COUNCILLOR'S COMMENTS

Through the Clerk, CCllr Keeling stated that he is looking forward to the challenges presented by representing what is now an even larger rural division. He has been coordinating the Youth Bus Project with CCllr Dr Jenkin over the last twelve months or so and hopes to continue to provide an outreach service to youngsters in rural areas in some form for the foreseeable future (always subject, of course, to a funding source being available).

9 POLICE REPORT

Through the Clerk, PCSO Whitford reported that a single crime, that of the theft of heating oil, was reported to the police during the month of April. He advised residents to make it as difficult as possible for thieves to abstract fuel from tanks or vehicles and again drew attention both to the non-emergency 101 number and the local answering machine service available on 01326 555158.

Chairman's initials.....

10 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

Cllr Blencowe proposed, Cllr Taylor seconded, all others in favour that Cllr Mrs Doeser be elected to be Vice-Chairman of Germoe Parish Council for the year 2013 – 2014.

11 STANDING ORDERS

With the proviso that Standing Orders are looked at again during the coming year, Cllr Mrs Clarke proposed, Cllr Royds 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 Mrs Doeser proposed, Cllr Blencowe 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 Mrs Doeser and Cllr Geake act as signatories for Germoe Parish Council's bank account.

Financial Scrutineer

It was agreed that Cllr Blencowe should scrutinise the accounts on a quarterly basis.

Notice-boards

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

Balwest	Cllr Blencowe
Great Work	Cllr Royds
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

The Adit

Members noted that two contractors, Roger McLean and Joe Morris, have been to see the extent of the damage and have forwarded specifications and quotations for the repair. In the meanwhile, Cllr Blencowe proposed, Cllr Mrs Doeser seconded all in favour to place advertisements in the local press inviting the owner of the Adit to come forward. The Clerk was asked to speak to Andrew Richards, Cornwall Listed Buildings Planning Officer, concerning the proposed repair.

Cornwall Association of Local Councils

Members consider an invitation to subscribe to membership of the Cornwall Association of Local Councils for the year to March 31, 2014 in the sum of £166.24 + VAT. Following discussion, it was again agreed, partly on the grounds of cost, not to subscribe to this Association.

15 PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS

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

Cllr Mrs Clarke proposed, Cllr Mrs Doeser 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.

Chairman's initials.....

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, 2013 Germoe Parish Council's costs for cutting Public Rights of Way amounted to £1,034.43 and £989.00 the full extent of Cornwall's offer was claimed. Cllr Taylor proposed, Cllr Royds seconded, all others in favour that Germoe Parish Council should accept Cornwall Council's invitation to renew partnership working.

The Power of Competence

Members noted that Germoe Parish Council meets the criteria set out in the Parish Councils (General Power of Competence) (Prescribed Conditions) Order 2012 of the Localism Act 2011 s 1-8. Following discussion, Cllr Royds proposed, Cllr Mrs Clarke seconded all others in favour that Germoe Parish Council should adopt the General Power of Competence.

Quality Council status

Members noted that, on the whole, Germoe Parish Council already meets the criteria required to achieve Quality Council status. Following discussion, it was agreed that Germoe Parish Council should pursue the goal of achieving Quality Council status.

Co-opted Member

Members noted that there is a vacancy on the Council. It was agreed to advertise the position.

16 PLANNING

Applications

PA13/02364 Mrs M.Rogers – External insulation to the front, rear, left-hand side and part of right-hand side wall – St Aubyn, Helston Road. Cllr Taylor proposed, Cllr Royds seconded all others in favour that Germoe Parish Council should return this application marked *Germoe Parish Council supports this application*.

PA13/03080 Felling of 1 Monterey Cypress and 1 Sycamore – Hillside, Tresowes Hill. Cllr Mrs Clarke proposed, Cllr Royds seconded all others in favour that Germoe Parish Council should return this application marked *Germoe Parish Council deplores the inadequacy of the submitted drawing. However, having identified the two trees concerned, Germoe Parish Council would support the pruning or felling of the Sycamore, but considers that the Monterey Cypress presently represents an important addition to the rural landscape (and the Conservation Area) and is worthy of retention. It would therefore request the Planning Authority to protect the Monterey Pine with a Tree Preservation Order*.

17 REPORT OF CLERK AND CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence

Western Power Distribution newsletter – *noted*

Cornwall and West Devon Mining Landscape World Heritage Site Management Plan 2013 – 2018 – *noted*

Clerks and Councils Direct newsletter – *noted*

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 the following

Mandatory cover

Public liability	£10,000,000
Hirers' Liability	£ 5,000,000
Employers Liability	£10,000,000
Money	
non-negotiable	£ 250,000
negotiable	£ 1,000
Fidelity guarantee	£ 150,000
Commercial legal protection	£ 100,000

Optional cover

Property damage (War Memorial)	£ 5,670.42
Property damage (Great Work and Germoe Churchtown notice boards)	£ 2,163.00
Officials' indemnity	£500,000.00
Libel and slander	£250,000.00

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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 Mrs Doeser proposed, Cllr Mrs Clarke seconded all in favour to insure Germoe Parish Council through Aviva and to pay the premium demanded of £268.67.

It was agreed that insurance covering the notice-board at Nevada House should be added to the schedule.

Members noted that Germoe Parish Council will self-insure all its assets other than the War Memorial and the notice-boards at Great Work, Germoe Churchtown and Nevada House during the year to May 31, 2014.

19 FINANCE

The Clerk presented Councillors with a statement of Germoe Parish Council's financial position as at May 9, 2013. 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, 2013 making no comments, observations or suggestions.

The following accounts were presented for consideration:

	GROSS	VAT
R.Sanders (open spaces)	£ 345.00	
J.P.Richards (Internal Auditor)	£ 137.50	
Colin Chapman		
Salary (April)	£ 213.40	
telephone	£ 22.16	
office expenses	£ 53.44	
travelling	£ 33.00	
use of home	£ 20.00	
	total	£ 342.00

Cllr Mrs Clarke proposed, Cllr Taylor seconded, all in favour that the above three accounts be paid.

The following receipts were noted

CC (Precept 1 st instalment)	£ 4,000.00
CC (CTS grant)	£ 287.72
HMRC (VAT refund)	£ 148.63

20 MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

It was noted that the Chairman and other members will attend the pre-application meeting to view proposals for the future use of the Cornwall Motel site on Monday May 20.

Concerns were expressed about the Balwest Triangle and the loss of this amenity area to long-term parking. It was agreed to discuss this matter at the next meeting and to circulate nearby residents with a letter drawing attention to this discussion.

21 CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

Other than to welcome members back onto the Council, the Chairman made no comment.

22 MATTERS FOR INCLUSION AT FUTURE MEETINGS

Balwest Triangle.

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday June 6, 2013 at 7.00pm in Balwest Methodist Schoolroom.

Signed.....

Dated.....

Chairman's initials.....