

GERMOE PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Germoe Parish Council held on Thursday June 6, 2013 at 7:00pm in Balwest Methodist Schoolroom.

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

Visitors: CCllr Keeling, Mr Ash, Mr Berwick, Mrs Blencowe, Mrs Price, Miss Smith, Mrs Windle and Mr Thomas.

The Chairman welcomed members and visitors to the June meeting.

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

PC Wearne and PCSO Wickford sent their apologies for absence.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

in items on the agenda

Cllr Taylor declared a non-pecuniary interest in Agenda Item 9 (Tree Preservation Order).

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 Doeser proposed, Cllr Mrs Clarke seconded, all others in favour that the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Thursday May 9, 2013 are a true record and the Chairman signed them as being accurate.

Cllr Blencowe proposed, Cllr Mrs Clarke seconded, all others in favour that, with the addition of the hand-written amendment, the minutes of the Annual Meeting held on Thursday May 9, 2013 are a true record and the Chairman signed them as such.

4 MATTERS ARISING AND NOT COVERED IN THIS AGENDA

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

5 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

In respect of the proposal to prevent parking on Balwest triangle, Members noted that there are two unrelated problems: rain-water coming off the hill which runs down the lane and onto the triangle thereby softening the ground and making parking challenging and the selfish action of an individual who, for about four weeks in the year, uses the triangle as an extension to his domestic parking. Members of the public present stated that

- they are opposed to the proposal
- the site has been used for short-term parking for many years
- nobody living locally wants to prevent parking on the triangle
- cars can be left in relative safety at this spot while visitors climb the hill
- the site, particularly the bench, is a popular place to stop and picnic or watch the sunset or admire the view
- barriers will alter the appearance of and bring urbanisation to the rural landscape
- the Parish Council does not own the triangle and to spend money erecting barriers would represent a mis-use of public money
- there are other ways to halt the deterioration of the parking area
- a (very) informal 'Balwest Triangle Preservation Society' has been created by people living locally who will undertake remedial action as and when it becomes necessary

Chairman's initials.....

Because of the public interest in this agenda item, the Chairman proposed and it was agreed to deal with the issue immediately. No member spoke in favour of introducing measures to prevent cars from parking on the triangle at Balwest and the matter was therefore dropped. The Chairman thanked those members of the public who were present for attending the meeting, stated that the Parish Council would continue to cut the grass and maintain the bench and welcomed the action being taken by residents. Members also agreed that the sign, having been ineffective in its objective, should be removed.

Members noted that the maintenance of the surface of the lane (over which a PROW, Footpath 25, runs) is the responsibility of the landowner and those who use it for vehicular access to their property. The present damage to the surface is attributable to vehicles and not to walkers.

6 CORNWALL COUNCILLOR'S COMMENTS

CCllr Keeling reported that

- following a frustrating period of talks and deliberations, the Liberal Democrats and the Independents jointly will form the administration at New County Hall. A Leader from the Independent alliance will head a cabinet split equally between the two groups
- the Conservatives, who have decided to act in opposition, may be offered a number of committee chairs
- he has been appointed to the West Planning Committee and will also be taking up appointments on the Standards Committee, the Scrutiny Management Committee and the Governance and Constitution Review Panel
- one of the chevrons near Boscreage is missing: he will try to find out where it is and have it replaced
- the new owner of the Cornwall Motel is keen to meet both Breage and Germoe Councils to explain his plans for the site. A meeting will be arranged
- the recent memorial service on the Green at Praa Sands to commemorate the crew of the severely damaged Sunderland Flying Boat and their achievement in flying it home seventy years ago had been well attended
- he will hold a surgery from 11.00am to 1.00pm on the third Saturday of each month at the Parish Rooms in Breage.

7 POLICE REPORT

Through the Clerk, PCSO Paul Whitford reported that in May no crimes had been reported to the police. He warned residents that there has been an increase in rural areas of thefts of domestic heating oil and diesel fuel and asked everyone to make it as difficult as possible for thieves to steal fuel from tanks and vehicles.

8 PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS

Co-option of a Councillor

The Clerk reported that he had received an expression of interest in standing for co-option as a Parish Councillor from Mr Antony Thomas. He read aloud a short letter of introduction from Mr Thomas.

Following discussion, Cllr Mrs Doerer proposed, Cllr Mrs Clarke seconded all others in agreement that Mr Thomas should be co-opted as a Parish Councillor.

Cllr Thomas read aloud and then signed his declaration of acceptance of office before Mr Chapman, Clerk to Germoe Parish Council, the Proper Officer. The Chairman welcomed Cllr Thomas as a member of Germoe Parish Council.

9 PARISH MATTERS

The Adit

The Clerk reported that advertisements inviting the owner of the Adit to come forward had been placed in *The West Briton*, *The Cornishman* and the *Camborne and Redruth Packet* as well as on-line. No-one had replied. He further reported that he had spoken to Mr Andrew Richards who had stated that a like-for-like repair does not require planning permission. However, he does suggest that, if Germoe Parish Council decides to go ahead, a very thorough record (photographs etc) is kept of what is done. He asks that he be kept in the picture at all times (and particularly if problems occur). If they do, for example if it is felt necessary to create a concrete base to the wall, (which would count as an alteration rather than a repair) then he will be receptive to a retrospective planning application.

Following extensive discussion, Cllr Mrs Clarke proposed, Cllr Blencowe seconded all others in favour that Germoe Parish Council should carry out the repair of the adit using the authority of the General Power of Competence. Cllr Taylor said that he would ask his son, a Chartered Surveyor, to draw up a specification for the work necessary which will be forwarded for approval to the Planning Authority. Once approval is in place, quotations will be sought from the three contractors who have expressed an interest in undertaking the work. In the meanwhile, the Clerk was asked to write to Mr and Mrs Hollis concerning the question of access to the adit over their land.

Balwest Triangle

This matter was discussed under Agenda Item 5.

Chairman's initials.....

As the owner of the neighbouring property, Cllr Taylor declared a non-pecuniary interest in the following agenda item. The Chairman granted permission for Cllr Taylor to remain in the room where he took no part in the discussion or the voting

Tree Preservation Order

In the light of the decision to amend PA13/03750 and therefore not to fell the Monterey Cypress on land at Hillside, members considered making a request to the Planning Authority for a Tree Preservation Order to be made on the two Monterey Cypresses at Hillside. Following discussion, Cllr Thomas proposed, Cllr Mrs Clarke seconded, Cllr Taylor abstained, all others in agreement that Germoe Parish Council should petition the Planning Authority to protect these trees with a TPO because they represent important additions to the rural landscape (and the Conservation Area of Tregonning Hill) and are therefore worthy of protection.

10 PLANNING

Decisions

PA13/03080 Decided not to make a TPO – Felling of 1 Sycamore tree – Hillside, Tresowes Hill – *noted*

PA13/03580 S52/S106 and discharge of condition apps – Submission of details to discharge conditions 5 and 9 attached to decision notice PA12/06543 – Bargess Croft Lower Balwest – *noted*

11 FINANCE

The following accounts were presented for consideration:

		GROSS	VAT
Bob Sanders			
Open spaces	£ 120.00		
Granite boulders (Whippers Lane)	£ 45.00		
Gold paths	£ 280.70		
	total	£ 445.70	
Colin Chapman			
Salary (March)	£ 202.50		
travelling	£ 57.00		
telephone	£ 13.98		
office expenses	£ 29.10		
use of home as office	£ 20.00		
	total	£ 322.58	

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

12 REPORT OF CLERK AND CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence

Mrs Blencowe concerning the triangle at Balwest – *noted*

Mrs Windle concerning the triangle at Balwest – *noted*

CC request for Councillors' statement of expenses to be forwarded as a matter of urgency – *noted*

13 MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

Members noted that the June meeting of the Community Network Panel has been postponed.

14 CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

The Chairman stated that he had no further comments.

15 MATTERS FOR INCLUSION AT FUTURE MEETINGS

No matters for inclusion in future meetings were tabled.

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next Ordinary Parish Council Meeting will be held on Thursday July 11, 2013 at 7.00pm in Balwest Methodist Schoolroom.

Signed.....

Dated.....

Chairman's initials.....