

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 an Ordinary Meeting of Germoe Parish Council held on Thursday September 5, 2013 at 7:00pm in Balwest Methodist Schoolroom.

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

Visitor: CCllr Keeling, PCSO Whitford, Mr and Mrs Benzing.

The Chairman welcomed members and visitors to the September meeting.

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies for absence were received.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

in items on the agenda

As one of the original contributors towards the cost of the repair work, Cllr Royds declared a personal and prejudicial interest in Agenda Item 10 (consideration of a proposal to make a contribution toward the costs of work undertaken to improve the Balwest Triangle parking and seating area).

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 Blencowe proposed, Cllr Mrs Clarke seconded, all others in favour that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Thursday August 8, 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 in this agenda.

5 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Apologising for not having earlier attended a meeting of the Parish Council to speak of their plans for Field OS 7075 at Balwest, Mr and Mrs Benzing stated that, having debated the matter for some six years, they now have a clearer idea of how they wish to work the land. The current situation is that

- they produce salad bags and vegetables
- they have planted a small forest garden containing over 40 varieties of fruit, trees and shrubs
- they have run three basket-making workshops using hazel and willow grown on the field
- they have been running a free-of-charge outdoor education programme on Wednesdays for children and their parents
- they have kept sheep, pigs and chickens and sold the meat locally
- they have based their ideas for use of the land on permaculture principles

Future plans are to expand what they are doing presently and, ultimately, to build a home and live on the field.

Thanking Mr and Mrs Benzing for coming to the meeting to explain what they proposed, the Chairman stated that the existing legal use of the field is purely agricultural and that therefore none of the uses to which they have put the field is authorised – and that in particular both the hut and the polytunnel lack permission. He advised them to employ a good and experienced planner to draw up an application covering everything they wish to do.

Speaking as a resident of Ashton, CCllr Keeling commended to the Council the request for help with funding from the Trustees of the Ashton Amenity Area.

Chairman's initials.....

6 CORNWALL COUNCILLOR'S COMMENTS

Cllr Keeling reported that

- unusually for August, he has again been kept busy with meetings, in particular meetings concerning contentious planning applications
- a meeting at which Cornwall Council will present its proposals for the budget for the coming year will be held in Helston on September 10 at the Guild Hall
- he was delighted to be able to donate £500 from the Community Chest funds towards the repair of the Adit – and invites further applications from local organisations
- it is considered to be good practice for communities to plan for, or to respond to emergencies in their locality and training for parish councillors within the electoral division for such contingencies may become available during the course of this month. Cornwall Council's Emergency Planning Officer will also provide help and support.

Speaking on behalf of Germoe Parish Council, Cllr Mrs Clarke thanked Cllr Keeling for arranging to have the hole in the road at the northern end of Whippers Lane repaired.

7 POLICE REPORT

PCSO Paul Whitford reported that a single crime under the Dogs (Minor and Non-Injury) Act 1871 (a dog-on-dog attack) was reported to the police during July and August. He warned residents that the police will be proactive in pursuing traffic issues during September.

8 PARISH MATTERS

The Adit

The Clerk reported that he had sent the specification for the work necessary for the repair of the adit wall to the three contractors who had originally expressed an interest. Two of those contractors have written back to say that they are now busy and will therefore not be quoting. Following discussion, Cllr Thomas agreed to contact Mr McLean with a request that he considers quoting now and undertaking the repair once his time permits.

Moors Lane

The Chairman reported that he had spoken to Mr Molcher, who is of the opinion that the damage is caused by rain-water washing off from the road and exacerbated by the loss of the drainage ditch. Members acknowledged that the repair is the responsibility of the owners of the land adjacent to Moors Lane. However, Cllr Keeling undertook to speak to Cornwall Highways about the possibility of reinstating the gully.

Airmen's Memorial on Tregonning Hill

The Airmen's Memorial, being situated within the Parish of Breage, the Clerk was asked to write to Breage Parish Council to ask if consideration might be given to a joint initiative to make the memorial more accessible and to erect an interpretation stone at the entrance to the footpath which leads to the memorial.

Community First Responder Service

Cllr Blencowe reported that the South West Ambulance Service is currently actively pursuing the policy of community-based Community First Responders (rather than site-based) so that the proposals aired at the meeting in July will not be supported. However, the question of Community First Responders (whether community- or site-based) is clearly a matter for serious consideration under the Local Emergency Plan.

9 PLANNING

Applications

PA13/07314 Mr & Mrs Payne – Construction of extension and alterations to dwelling – Tresowas, Tresowes. Cllr Mrs Clarke proposed, Cllr Blencowe seconded all others in favour that Germoe Parish Council should return this application marked *Germoe Parish Council has reservations about the introduction of wood cladding into the built environment of this community. Additionally, and if planning permission is granted, Councillors request that a condition be imposed restricting the extent to which the Velux windows may be opened in order to avoid loss of privacy for the neighbouring properties.*

Decisions

PA13/02383/PREAPP Planning Permission required (Erection of a polytunnel) – Land at Trewithen Terrace – *noted*

Correspondence

Mr and Mrs Beard PA10/06381 and the consequences of planning permission approval – *the Clerk to reply*

10 FINANCE

Members considered a request to provide financial assistance for necessary improvement and maintenance work at the Ashton Amenity Area. Following discussion and using the General Power of Competence (adopted by Germoe

Chairman's initials.....

Parish Council on May 9, 2013), Cllr Mrs Doeser proposed, Cllr Mrs Clarke seconded all in favour that the sum of £200 be forwarded to the Trustees of the Ashton Amenity Area and, further, that the Trustees should be invited to make a similar request on an annual basis.

Members considered a request from Cruse Bereavement Care in Cornwall for financial help towards volunteer costs. Following discussion, Members agreed that Germoe Parish Council cannot accede to this request.

Having declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the following matter, Cllr Royds left the room

Members considered a proposal to make a contribution toward the costs of work undertaken to improve the Balwest Triangle parking and seating area. Following discussion (during the course of which it was noted how popular this area is with residents) and using the General Power of Competence (adopted by Germoe Parish Council on May 9, 2013), Cllr Mrs Clarke proposed, Cllr Blencowe seconded all in favour that the cost of materials (a total of £123.20) for the improvement work at Balwest Triangle should be met from Germoe Parish Council's reserves.

Cllr Royds returned to the room.

The following account was presented for consideration:

	GROSS	VAT
Colin Chapman		
Salary (August)	£ 214.39	
travelling	£ 18.00	
telephone	£ 15.86	
office expenses	£ 34.12	
use of home as office	£ 20.00	
	total	£ 302.37

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

Members noted the following receipts

Grant towards the repair of the adit	£ 500.00
Precept 2 nd instalment	£ 4,000.00
CTS grant	£ 287.72

11 REPORT OF CLERK AND CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk reported that he had attended a meeting with representatives of Beage and Sithney Parish Councils, with CCllr Keeling and with Maxine Hardy (who is the Community Network Manager for Helston and the Lizard) at which the future direction of Network meetings was discussed. The present intention is to move away from the urban-centric emphasis of network-wide meetings to smaller meetings between individual Ward Members and Town and Parish Council representatives from within that Member's district.

Correspondence

CC confirmation of and notification of work to introduce new speed limits within the Parish – *noted*

Mrs Whitehead on behalf of St Germoe PCC request for the parking area opposite the Church Hall to be cut back – *Cllr Mrs Clarke proposed, Cllr Mrs Doeser seconded and it was agreed that this work should be done as a matter of urgency*

12 MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

Members noted that a residential caravan has been parked and is in use in the lay-by near the fishing lake in Tresowes. The Clerk was asked to report the matter to Planning Enforcement.

Cllr Royds reported that the School is still grateful for adult assistance on a regular basis with the children's reading and individual members agreed to help.

13 CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

The Chairman made no further comments at this stage of the meeting.

14 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 October 3, 2013 at 7.00pm in Balwest Methodist Schoolroom.

Signed.....

Dated.....

Chairman's initials.....