

# GERMOE PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of Germoe Parish Council held on Thursday June 4, 2015 at 7:00pm in Balwest Methodist Schoolroom.

**Present:** Cllr Mrs K Doeser Cllr R.Royds  
Cllr D.Blencowe Cllr J.Taylor  
Cllr W.Dear Mr C.Chapman (Clerk)

**Visitors:** CCllr Keeling, Mr and Mrs Praed and Mrs Rutherford.

In the absence of the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman, Cllr Mrs Doeser, assumed the chair and welcomed members and visitors to the meeting

## 1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Geake sent his apologies for absence.

## 2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

### in items on the agenda

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

### 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 Royds proposed, Cllr Blencowe seconded, Cllr Dear being absent from the meeting abstained, all others in favour that the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Thursday May 7, 2015 are a true record and the Chairman signed them as being accurate.

Cllr Blencowe proposed, Cllr Royds seconded, Cllr Dear being absent from the meeting abstained, all others in favour that the minutes of the Annual Meeting held on Thursday May 7, 2015 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

Members noted the following points expressed by those members of the public who were present

Referring to PA15/04357

- applications for the same barns have already been refused on several occasions
- the amended application represents a threat to the landscape, to the open countryside and to the community
- the amendments to the original application are minor and none addresses the concerns already expressed
- the barns are not presently redundant
- the barns will need significant and extensive rebuilding
- the new building does not reflect the style of the existing barns
- the proposed development is just fourteen feet from the nearest existing dwelling
- the proposed driveway loops into the open countryside: the southern access is on a blind corner, the northern access has the potential to cause damage to an existing drainage system
- access is from a very narrow country lane subject to the national speed limit
- the plans show the position of neither the public footpath nor Trethewey House
- the existing paddock will no longer be useable
- there will be a significant impact on the wild life in the area.

*Chairman's initials.....*

*The Chairman proposed and it was agreed to discuss the following Agenda Item immediately*

## **9 PLANNING**

### **Applications**

PA15/02409 Mr E.Barker – Construction of a pair of domestic garages – Tresheba, Main Road, Ashton. Members noted that this application has already been determined.

PA15/03451 Mr & Mrs J.Beedle – Proposed new side garage with loft studio – St Marys, Helston Road. *Cllr Blencowe proposed, Cllr Dear seconded all others in favour that Germoe Parish Council should return this application marked Germoe Parish Council makes no observations.*

PA15/04267 Mr Robert Royds – Fell Cherry tree – Tredrea, Balwest. Members noted that the Planning Authority has already decided not to make a Tree Preservation Order.

PA15/04357 Mrs B.Thornton – Conversion and extension of a traditional barn to create a self-contained dwelling and installation of septic tank. Formation of new vehicular access (amended scheme PA14/12130) – barns NW of Trethewey Farm, Germoe. Cllr Blencowe proposed, Cllr Royds seconded Cllr Taylor against, all others in favour that Germoe Parish Council should return this application marked *Germoe Parish Council sees no reason to alter its views concerning the previous application PA14/12130 which were:*

*Germoe Parish Council can see no material difference between this application and the application which was refused planning permission in 1990 – a decision that was endorsed by the Planning Inspector on appeal.*

*Germoe Parish Council questions the accuracy of the plans: the barns concerned do not contribute to the enhancement of the area and are not worthy of retention. Moreover, the existing agricultural field has been sub-divided to create a paddock.*

*The scale of the proposed dwelling is out of proportion with the existing buildings and the location. Vehicular access on to the very narrow lane, particularly at this point, will create an unacceptable hazard to other road users as will the inevitable subsequent increase in traffic .*

*Germoe Parish Council views this application as being one for a new home in the countryside, in an unsustainable location and therefore contrary to the National Planning Policy Framework.*

*Germoe Parish Council requests the Planning Authority to refuse permission for development.*

### **Decisions**

PA15/02352 APPROVED – Conversion and extension of outbuilding to form annexe accommodation – Hillside, Tresowes Hill – *noted*

### **Correspondence**

**Mrs and Mrs Praed** copy of letter of objection to PA15/04357 – *noted*

**Mr and Mrs Rutherford** copy of letter of objection to PA15/04357 – *noted*

## **6 CORNWALL COUNCILLOR'S COMMENTS**

Through the Clerk, CCllr Keeling reported that

- the CEO, Andrew Kerr, is leaving the authority after 18 months in post. He has accepted the position as Chief Executive of Edinburgh City Council
- during Andrew Kerr's period of office, there have been significant changes at Cornwall not least the restructuring of the top management
- he, CCllr Keeling, is on the selection panel for a new CEO
- the proposed licensing of water sports activities on Cornwall Council owned beaches was hotly debated at a recent meeting of the full Council
- Civic Awards were presented at a ceremony at County Hall to fourteen recipients in recognition of their work in the voluntary community. He is seeking nominations from within the community for the next round of awards
- toilets, PROWs and flooding issues were amongst topics presented by the Environment Service at a recent members' briefing
- during the month, as the Ward Member he has met with case officers concerning various contentious planning applications
- the proposed 'hard' federation between Germoe and Boskenwyn Schools will be going ahead.

## **7 POLICE REPORT**

There was no report from the Police.

*Chairman's initials.....*

## 8 PARISH MATTERS

### A defibrillator for Balwest

The Clerk reported that he has completed the Community Chest application form for financial help towards the purchase of a defibrillator. Following confirmation from CClr Keeling that this money will be forthcoming, he will order both the defibrillator and the cabinet. Cllr Taylor offered to fix it to the wall of the Stable and Trap House at Balwest Methodist Schoolroom

### PROW 25 Footpath along the top of Tregonning Hill

The Clerk reported that Mr Liddicoat has reported that he has a number of flattish stones which are suitable for this project. Cllr Royds offered to meet Mr Liddicoat on the hill to organise final details.

### Projects within the Parish

No further projects for consideration by the Council were tabled.

## 10 FINANCE

The Clerk presented Councillors with a statement of Germoe Parish Council's financial position as at June 4, 2015. A copy of that statement is attached to these minutes.

Members noted the conclusion of the audit for the year to March 31, 2015. The External Auditor had made no comments.

Members considered a request from the Helston and The Lizard Foodbank for financial help. Following discussion, Cllr Blencowe proposed, Cllr Royds seconded all in favour that using the power of competence Germoe Parish Council should forward the sum of £50.00 to the Helston and The Lizard Foodbank. Following further discussion, it was agreed that the Clerk should seek clarification of the need.

The following accounts were presented for consideration:

	<b>GROSS</b>	<b>VAT</b>
HMRC	£ 164.20	
St Germochus PCC (minuted 06/11/14 para 11)	£ 500.00	
R.Sanders		
Open spaces (April, May)	£ 294.73	
Gold paths (first cut)	£ 230.00	
	total	£ 524.73
Colin Chapman		
Salary (May)	£ 219.11	
travelling	£ 20.00	
telephone	£ 17.47	
office expenses	£ 42.15	
use of home as office	£ 20.00	
	total	£ 318.73

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

## 11 REPORT OF CLERK AND CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk reported that the Chairman and he had attended a meeting in St Germochus at which representatives of both the Parochial Church Council and the Germoe Village Association had been present. Particular issues raised had included the refurbishment of St Germoe's Well and the state of the Common in front of the Church. Both the Chairman and the Clerk had felt that the meeting had been useful and that their recommendations for managing these problems had been well-received.

### Correspondence

No correspondence via the postal system had been received during the course of the month.

## 12 MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

The question of increasing inappropriate use by motorcyclists and horse-riders both of the white-way from Hillside up to and PROW 25 along the ridge of Tregonning Hill was raised. The Clerk agreed to contact the police about the matter.

Members expressed concerns about the closure of the Helston bound lane of the A394 on Sithney Hill. In particular it was felt that both the lack of urgency in completing the necessary work (members understand that a date in September has been mooted) and the interval between traffic-light sequences (members felt that by lengthening the time lights are set on 'go' will alleviate delay) are the root cause of dissatisfaction among residents. Additionally, they were at a loss to understand why, when the lane had been closed for health and safety reasons, it was re-opened

*Chairman's initials.....*

for Flora Day and subsequently immediately closed. The Clerk was asked to write to the Portfolio Holder CCllr Bert Biscoe about the matter.

**13 CHAIRMAN’S COMMENTS**

The Chairman reported a request to advertise the Community Shop in Ashton on the Parish’s notice-boards. This was agreed, although it was suggested that the advertisements should be limited to a single A5 sheet.

The Chairman further reported that she had attended a meeting of the Helston and The Lizard Community Network Panel at which the Helford River Children’s Sailing Trust gave a presentation and the question of parish lengthsman was again discussed.

**14 MATTERS FOR INCLUSION AT FUTURE MEETINGS**

No matters for inclusion at future meetings were tabled.

**DATES AND TIMES OF NEXT MEETING**

Thursday July 9, 2015 at 7.00pm in Balwest Methodist Schoolroom.

Signed.....

Dated.....

*Chairman’s initials.....*