

GERMOE PARISH COUNCIL

www.germoeparishcouncil.org.uk

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Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of Germoe Parish Council held on Thursday December 3, 2015 at 7:00pm in Balwest Methodist Schoolroom.

Present: Cllr S.Geake Cllr R.Royds
Cllr D.Blencowe Cllr J.Taylor
Cllr Mrs K.Dooser
Cllr Mrs G.Praed Mr C.Chapman (Clerk)

Visitors:. CCllr Keeling

The Chairman welcomed members and visitors to the December meeting.

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no 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 Blencowe proposed, Cllr Royds seconded, all others in favour that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Thursday November 5, 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

There were no members of the public present.

6 CORNWALL COUNCILLOR'S COMMENTS

CCllr Keeling reported that

- he has had busy month including a County Council Network Meeting at Guildford in Surrey
- from amongst a strong field, Kate Kennally has been appointed as the new Chief Executive Officer of Cornwall Council
- through the Safer Cornwall Partnership, Cornwall Council will be supporting Domestic Abuse Awareness Week
- consequent upon electoral imbalance, a boundary review will be undertaken in advance of the elections for Cornwall Council in 2017
- The Autumn Statement and Spending Review was presented by the Chancellor on November 25 and included the following matters of particular significance to Cornwall Council
 - the creation of a social care precept to give local authorities the ability to raise new funding to be spent exclusively on adult social care
 - confirmation of the abolition of Uniform Business Rates by the end of this Parliament, at which time local authorities will retain 100% of Business Rates
 - notification that Councils will retain 100% of receipts following the sale of assets for spending on the 'reform of local services'
 - the introduction of a new 3% surcharge on stamp duty for buy-to-let properties and second homes

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- the doubling of the housing budget to £2bn per year to make house building a priority. (The Government intention is that more than 400,000 affordable homes will be built in England.)

7 POLICE REPORT

No report from the Police had been received.

8 PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS

Dates of Parish Council meetings 2015/2016

Members agreed that, unless there are pressing reasons for change, the times, dates and places for the meetings in 2016 – 2017 will be as follows

January 7, 2016	Ordinary Meeting	Balwest Methodist Schoolroom
February 4, 2016	Ordinary Meeting	Balwest Methodist Schoolroom
March 3, 2016	Ordinary Meeting	Church Hall
April 7, 2016	Ordinary Meeting	Church Hall
May 5, 2016	Annual Parish Meeting	Church Hall
May 5, 2016	Annual Meeting	Church Hall
June 2, 2016	Ordinary Meeting	Balwest Methodist Schoolroom
July 14, 2016	Ordinary Meeting	Balwest Methodist Schoolroom
September 1, 2016	Ordinary Meeting	Balwest Methodist Schoolroom
October 6, 2016	Ordinary Meeting	Balwest Methodist Schoolroom
November 3, 2016	Ordinary Meeting	Church Hall
December 1, 2016	Ordinary Meeting	Church Hall
January 5, 2017	Ordinary Meeting	Church Hall
February 2, 2017	Ordinary Meeting	Church Hall

All meetings are due to begin at 7:00pm

9 PARISH MATTERS

Christmas in Germoe

It was proposed by Cllr Mrs Praed, seconded by Cllr Mrs Doeser all others in favour that the informal group set up to oversee the Christmas Lights Switch-On Ceremony and Celebrations on Germoe Green on Thursday December 10, 2015 should act as an advisory committee of Germoe Parish Council and that therefore Germoe Parish Council will be responsible for the proper running of that event.

Following discussion of a request from the newly-formed advisory committee for financial help towards the village Christmas celebrations, Cllr Mrs Doeser proposed, Cllr Blencowe seconded all others in favour, that, using the General Power of Competence (adopted by Germoe Parish Council on May 9, 2013), the sum of £100 should be made available for underwriting activities in Germoe over Christmas 2015.

A defibrillator for Balwest

Cllr Blencowe reported that the free short training course designed to equip interested parties with the skills and confidence to use a defibrillator took place the evening of Wednesday November 18, 2015 at Balwest Methodist Schoolroom. Twenty residents were present and all are now considered competent to use the defibrillator and to act in the event of an emergency. Members noted the generosity of the Trustees of Balwest Methodist Church in permitting the training to take place in the Schoolroom without charge. Members further noted the professionalism of the trainer, Mr Leon Hosking, acting on behalf of the Ronnie Richards Trust.

Projects within the Parish

Cllr Mrs Doeser reported that her husband, Bernie, has created a Germoe Parish Council page on Facebook thereby making the Council a little more accessible to younger people. Members requested that their appreciation be noted in the minutes.

It was suggested that perhaps there should be a defibrillator sited in Germoe Churchtown.

10 PLANNING

Applications

PA14/11356 Ms Laura Russell – Retrospective change of use of land for the keeping of horses and the erection of two stable blocks – Chywoon, Rosudgeon. Cllr Geake proposed, Cllr Mrs Doeser seconded all others in favour that Germoe Parish Council should return this application marked *Germoe Parish Council makes no observations*.

Decisions

PA15/08091 APPROVED – Erection of a dwelling and a detached garge – Kel Don, Germoe Lane – *noted*

PA15/08184 WITHDRAWN – Stationing of 20 additional static caravans and associated landscaping works – Boscreege Caravan Park Boscreege Ashton – *noted*

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11 FINANCE

A copy of a statement of Germoe Parish Council's financial position as at December 3, 2015 is attached to these minutes.

Following discussion, it was proposed by Cllr Blencowe, seconded by Cllr Mrs Doeser all others in favour that the Precept for the year 2016/2017 should be set at £8,600 and that it should be noted that the increase of £500 is largely due to Cornwall Council's unilateral (and arguably illegitimate) decision to adopt paperless planning.

The following accounts were presented for consideration:

	GROSS	VAT
HMRC	£ 164.40	
Balwest Methodist Church (hall hire)	£ 165.00	
Colin Chapman		
Salary (November)	£ 219.11	
travelling	£ 20.00	
telephone	£ 19.00	
office expenses	£ 29.48	
Councillors' training (CC)	£ 20.00	
use of home as office	£ 20.00	
	total	£ 327.59

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

12 REPORT OF CLERK AND CORRESPONDENCE

War Memorials Trust newsletter – *noted*

North Coast Cluster Group copy of a letter to CCllr Adam Paynter regarding the rate payable to Parish Councils under the Local Maintenance Partnership Agreement – *noted*

13 MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

Questions were raised concerning

- Planning Enforcement measures being taken about the use both of Field OS7075 at Balwest and The Old Vicarage in Germoe Churchtown
- the possibility of extending the 20mph limit on the road from Germoe Churchtown to Balwest
- an electric fence near to and possibly across the line of PROW 11

Speaking of the recent Community Network Meeting, Cllr Mrs Doeser reported that

- Cornwall Council's Environmental Services is currently undertaking an audit of the open spaces it owns and which it should therefore be maintaining (it appears there are a number of sites it maintains historically but which do not belong to the Authority)
- a representative from the Police and Crime Commissioner's office had addressed concerns about the forthcoming closure of Helston Police Station and about the 101 non-emergency number (which is considered by many to be unfit for purpose). Future community policing may be run from libraries and/or One-Stop Shops. The Commissioner is less anxious than he was following the announcement concerning the policing budget in the Autumn Statement. Those present at the Community Network meeting had noted that Central Government's original calculations had been based on historic figures, a fact to which the Commissioner had drawn the Budget Office's attention and which is currently being addressed.

14 CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

The Chairman offered his personal thanks to Cllr Blencowe for organising the defibrillator training and to Mr Bernie Doeser for developing and up-dating Germoe Parish Council's Facebook page. He wished members and their families a very happy Christmas.

15 MATTERS FOR INCLUSION AT FUTURE MEETINGS

No matters for inclusion at future meetings were tabled.

DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING

Thursday January 7, 2016 at 7.00pm in Balwest Methodist Schoolroom.

Signed.....

Dated.....

Chairman's initials.....