

# GERMOE PARISH COUNCIL

www.germoeparishcouncil.org.uk

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Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of Germoe Parish Council held on Thursday December 1, 2016 at 7:00pm in Germoe Church Hall.

**Present:**

Cllr Mrs K.Doesper	Cllr Mrs G.Praed
Cllr D.Blencowe	Cllr Mrs D.Whitehead
Cllr B.Dear	
Cllr S.Geake	Mr C.Chapman (Clerk)

**Visitor:** CCllr J.Keeling.

The Chairman welcomed members and visitors to the December meeting.

## 1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Taylor 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 MEETINGS

Cllr Geake proposed, Cllr Mrs Whitehead seconded, Cllr Dear being absent from the last meeting abstained, all others in agreement that, subject to the hand-written amendment, the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Thursday November 3, 2016 are a true record and the Chairman signed them as such.

## 4 MATTERS ARISING AND NOT COVERED IN THIS AGENDA

Cllr Blencowe reported that he had attended the Local Planning Conference (held on the day that a Judicial Review had supported publication of the St Ives Neighbourhood Plan, which includes a clause restricting new housing for full-time residents only). He will forward details of the Conference (which had dealt mainly with recent developments in Neighbourhood Plans) to members once he has them.

## 5 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no members of the public present.

## 6 CORNWALL COUNCILLOR'S COMMENTS

CCllr Keeling reported that November had once again been a busy month

- the full council had agreed a rise in Council Tax of 1.97%, plus a levy of 2% to be spent solely on Adult Social Care, for the financial year 2017/18 (an overall increase of 3.97%, equivalent to a Band D charge of £1,398.70)
- he had voted against the proposed budget because of the lack both of meaningful oversight and of engagement with the wider membership of the council
- the Local Plan has finally been adopted and should now be given more weight in deciding planning applications
- at a County Council Network meeting in Guildford, he had questioned the new Secretary of State for Communities, Sajid Javid, about the imposition of a mayoral model of governance in Cornwall
- locally, he continues to seek a more equitable financial solution from the Unitary Authority for the costs involved in running the toilets at Praa Sands

*Chairman's initials.....*

- he recently met with WPC Butcher to discuss a proposal to set up a pool of people to carry out voluntary speed watch duties within the Ward. It will not be a quick fix but sounds as if it may be a solution to the problem of speeding in our villages. Those people involved would become official Police Volunteers. Equipment including a speed gun and a spreadsheet to record information to be forwarded to Plymouth for analysis and action against repeating speeding would be provided. He is actively seeking volunteers and, if these are forthcoming, he will arrange for an initial introductory course locally. He is looking for about four people from each parish.

## 7 PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS

### Local Maintenance Partnership and Service Level Agreements

Members considered consultation documents from Cornwall concerning the Local Maintenance Partnership (maintenance of public rights of way) and Service Level Agreements (maintenance of the closed churchyard at St Germochus).

It was agreed to return the LMP document with the following comments:

*The scheme might be improved by devolving responsibility for minor repairs to the PROW network to those Town and Parish Councils which have signed up to the LMP. This might include repairs to bridges, handrails, stiles, steps and the placement of stepping stones in wet patches etc. to a maximum value of £500 per item and to an annual total of £3,000 (these totals to be reviewed on a biennial basis and, as a minimum, increased by the Consumer Price Index and then published in the October preceding the LMP year). Major repairs should remain the responsibility of Cornwall Council.*

*The sums paid under the scheme should be reviewed on a biennial basis and, as a minimum, increased by the Consumer Price Index and then published in the October preceding the LMP year.*

It was agreed to reply to the Service Level Agreement document with the following comment:

*The sums paid under the scheme should be reviewed on a biennial basis and, as a minimum, increased by the Consumer Price Index and then published in the October preceding the new Financial Year.*

### Dates of Parish Council meetings 2017/2018

Members agreed that, unless there are pressing reasons for change, the times, dates and places for the meetings in 2017 – 2018 will be as follows

January 5, 2017	Ordinary Meeting	Church Hall
February 2, 2017	Ordinary Meeting	Church Hall
March 2, 2017	Ordinary Meeting	Church Hall
April 6, 2017	Ordinary Meeting	Balwest Methodist Schoolroom
May 11, 2017	Annual Parish Meeting	Balwest Methodist Schoolroom
May 11, 2017	Annual Meeting	Balwest Methodist Schoolroom
June 1, 2017	Ordinary Meeting	Balwest Methodist Schoolroom
July 13, 2017	Ordinary Meeting	Balwest Methodist Schoolroom
September 7, 2017	Ordinary Meeting	Balwest Methodist Schoolroom
October 5, 2017	Ordinary Meeting	Balwest Methodist Schoolroom
November 2, 2017	Ordinary Meeting	Church Hall
December 7, 2017	Ordinary Meeting	Church Hall
January 4, 2018	Ordinary Meeting	Church Hall
February 1, 2018	Ordinary Meeting	Church Hall

## 8 PARISH MATTERS

### Christmas in Germoe

It was proposed by Cllr Geake, seconded by Cllr Blencowe 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 8, 2016 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. Cllr Mrs Whitehead will represent the Parish Council on that Committee.

Following discussion of a request from the newly-formed advisory committee for financial help towards the village Christmas celebrations, Cllr Geake proposed, Cllr Blencowe seconded, Cllr Mrs Whitehead abstaining, 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 2016.

Chairman's initials.....

### Churchtown defibrillator

The Clerk reported that training following the installation of the defibrillator in Churchtown will be organised on a date yet to be decided but early in the New Year.

Cllr Blencowe agreed to continue to keep an eye on the defibrillator at Balwest and similarly Cllr Mrs Whitehead agreed to do the same with the defibrillator in Germoe Churchtown.

### Projects within the Parish

Cllr Geake reported that he has heard nothing concerning the siting of a memorial to the airmen who had crashed into the quarry during the Second World War and, further, that he will follow up the matter of the repair of the adit wall once again.

The Clerk reported that he has yet to receive a reply from Breage Parish Council concerning Germoe's offer of help towards the maintenance of the public convenience in Praa Sands.

## 9 PLANNING

### Applications

PA16/10433 Mr and Mrs S.Wyatt – Proposed porch extension to an existing domestic dwelling – Rose Cottage, Boscrege. Cllr Geake proposed, Cllr Dear seconded all others in favour that Germoe Parish Council should return this application marked *Germoe Parish Council makes no observations.*

PA16/10743 Mr and Mrs D.Ballard – Two-storey rear elevation extension – 8 Trewithen Terrace, Ashton. Cllr Geake proposed, Cllr Blencowe seconded all others in favour that Germoe Parish Council should return this application marked *Germoe Parish Council makes no observations.*

### Correspondence

CC invitation to join the pre-application agreement scheme – *members noted that it appears that this scheme may be costly in terms of time – and the result of that time spent may be of little worth. However, it was further noted that, for larger developments, it may be a useful tool. The Clerk was asked to investigate the options.*

## 10 FINANCE

A copy of a statement of Germoe Parish Council's financial position as at December 3, 2016 was placed before members and 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 2017/2018 should be set at £9,000 and that it should be noted that the year-on-year increase of £400 is due to Cornwall Council's proposed recharge for a contested election of £2,035.00 (the balance to come from Germoe's reserves).

The following accounts were presented for consideration:

	GROSS	VAT
HM Revenue and Customs	£ 167.60	
Mr Oliver Ross (defibrillator electricity)	£ 150.00	
Balwest Methodist Church	£ 105.00	
Colin Chapman		
Salary (November)	£ 223.57	
keys for Newtown notice-board	£ 9.90	
travelling	£ 10.00	
telephone	£ 18.10	
office expenses	£ 13.92	
use of home as office	£ 20.00	
	total	£ 295.49

Cllr Geake proposed, Cllr Mrs Whitehead seconded all others in favour that the above four accounts should be paid.

Members noted the following receipt

Transparency Funding	£ 663.12
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## 11 REPORT OF CLERK AND CORRESPONDENCE

**Cllr Potter (Helston Town Council)** request for support for hosting a stage of the Tour of Britain cycling race through the County – *members agreed to support Cllr Potter's request*

**St Ives Constituency Conservative Association** request for support for changing the name of the constituency from St Ives and Isles of Scilly to West Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly – *members agreed to reply noting that the St Ives constituency has a long history and that they are in favour of maintaining the status quo*

Chairman's initials.....

**12 MEMBERS' QUESTIONS**

It was agreed that Cllr Mrs Whitehead should hold the key to the Churchtown notice-board while Cllr Dear is working away from home.

The stream through Germoe Churchtown now appears to be flowing properly.

**13 CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS**

The Chairman drew members' attention to the recently published proposals for the future of Health and Social Care within the community. This will be discussed at the next Community Network Meeting – and be open to public discussion early in the New Year.

She wished members and their families a very happy Christmas.

**14 MATTERS FOR INCLUSION AT FUTURE MEETINGS**

No new matters for inclusion on next month's agenda were tabled.

**DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING**

Thursday January 5, 2017 at 7.00pm in the Church Hall, Germoe.

Signed.....

Dated.....

*Chairman's initials.....*