

GERMOE PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Germoe Parish Council held on Thursday October 5, 2017 in Balwest Methodist Schoolroom.

Present: Cllr Mrs K.Dooser (Chairman) Cllr R.Johnson
Cllr G.Bell Cllr Mrs G.Praed
Cllr D.Blencowe Mr C.Chapman (Clerk)

Visitors: CCllr Keeling, Mr Felstead, Mr Golay, Mr and Mrs Holmwood, Mrs S.Holmwood, Mr Marshall and Mr Taylor.

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Molcher and Cllr Mrs Whitehead sent their 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 Johnson proposed, Cllr Blencowe seconded, Cllr Mrs Praed being absent from the last meeting abstained, all others in favour that the minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday September 7, 2017 are a true record and the Chairman signed them as such.

4 MATTERS ARISING AND NOT COVERED IN THIS AGENDA

The Chairman reminded members that Breage Parish Council is holding two Neighbourhood Planning meetings; the first in Carleen on Saturday and the second in Ashton on Wednesday.

5 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

In the matter of PA17/07794 (the stationing of ten additional static caravans and associated landscaping works at Boscreege Caravan Park) members noted that

- there has been a caravan park at Boscreege for more than forty years
- the park is supportive of the local community, offering local employment and aiding the local economy
- there are locations which might be considered more unsightly than that of the caravan park when viewed from Tregonning Hill
- the caravans are for holiday use only (it is not a residential park)
- the current scheme allows for considerable landscaping (trees, hedges) which will further soften development lines when viewed from Tregonning Hill
- should this application prove successful, the number of tents and caravans permitted on the site as a whole will exceed one hundred
- there are concerns about the transient nature of the occupants of the caravan park and the effect they and their vehicles have on local residents
- the population of the site will exceed that of Trewithan Terrace.

In answer to a question about the Freedom Camping Club, visitors were told that

- the Club (which launched in 2016) has statutory powers to grant individual land-owners exemption from planning requirements should they wish to open a non-profit making camp site
- Cornwall Council is currently looking closely at the exemptions the Freedom Camping Club can grant

Chairman's initials.....

- there is considerable scepticism about the basis on which permission to open a camp-site is granted by the Club
- the exemptions the Club appears able to grant appear to be making a mockery of the planning process.

Members noted that a motorist speeding along the road under Tregonning Hill had been using his 'phone when he narrowly missed a pedestrian and his dog.

Mr Golay stated that he was present to seek the Council's initial thoughts on building two affordable homes on land opposite Trewithen Terrace. It is intended that the houses will be built of traditional materials (stone, slate and wood) and that planting and screening will mitigate their impact on the rural nature of the surrounding landscape. The Homechoice Register records eighteen requests for housing within the Parish of Germoe, although Mr Golay's clients do not live within the Parish. He further acknowledged that an initial enquiry to the World Heritage Site office had not been well received. Members noted that this application is at a very early stage indeed and offered no opinion.

The Chairman proposed and it was agreed to take agenda item 8 at this point

8 PLANNING

To make observations on planning applications including the following

PA17/07794 Mr C.Holmwood – The stationing of ten additional static caravans and associated landscaping works – Boscreege Caravan Park. Cllr Johnson proposed, Cllr Mrs Praed seconded, all others in favour that Germoe Parish Council should return this application marked *Subject to a condition requiring that the total number of units on site will not increase, Germoe Parish Council supports this application.*

6 CORNWALL COUNCILLOR'S COMMENTS

Cllr Keeling reported that

- the proposed Chicken Farm at Nancegollan continues to occupy considerable time
- the Communities' Secretary visited Cornwall last week and a suggestion that EU funding might be replaced with a Shared Prosperity Fund was discussed. He is confident that Cornwall will continue to receive the level of funding it does at present
- The Boundary Commission has determined that the number of Cornwall Councillors from May 2021 onwards will be 87 which now focuses minds on Ward Boundaries
- he attended a briefing from the Police and Crime Commissioner and offered to facilitate a similar event for the parishes in his division
- locally, at Wheal Gray, he has worked with planning enforcement officers following allegations of work done on the site.

7 PARISH MATTERS

Pop-up camp sites and Freedom Camping

Members noted the comments made during Public Participation and agreed to visit the matter again at the meeting in November when Cllr Molcher will be present to put the business point of view.

Speeding within the Parish

Individual Councillors again reported incidents of thoughtless driving along the rural roads in the Parish and the Chairman reported that similar issues had been a major topic of discussion at the recent Community Network meeting. It was agreed to continue with the poster campaign with the aim of having everything in place in time for the Easter holiday. Cllr Mrs Praed will liaise with Cllr Mrs Whitehead and through her with the school where a prize for the best road safety poster will be offered.

9 FINANCE

A copy of a statement of Germoe Parish Council's financial position as at October 2, 2017 was placed before members and is attached to these minutes.

The following accounts were presented for consideration:

	GROSS	VAT
Grant Thornton	£ 120.00	£ 20.00
Bob Sanders (Greens: April to August)	£ 1,032.00	£ 172.00
Colin Chapman		
Salary (September)	£ 228.74	
travelling	£ 10.00	
telephone	£ 22.20	
office expenses	£ 24.71	
use of home as office	£ 20.00	
	total	£ 305.65

Chairman's initials.....

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

10 REPORT OF CLERK AND CORRESPONDENCE

Local Government Boundary Commission Electoral review of Cornwall: Division Arrangements – *noted*

Balwest Methodist Church acknowledgment of and thanks for donations – *noted*

Mr Royds concerning the future maintenance of the ditch and culverts on the lane from Tregonning Hill down to Balwest – *the Chairman proposed and it was agreed to ask Bob Sanders to carry out this work on a regular basis*

11 MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

Members noted that

- during the winter, Bob Sanders has undertaken to clean off and repair where necessary the benches owned by the Parish Council
- there is a stand of knotweed on PROW 19 which CCllr John Keeling undertook to report
- the knotweed on PROW 28 has still not been treated.

12 CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

The Chairman reported that at the recent Community Network Meeting it had been noted that Cornwall is committed to reviving the role of Community Networks as a whole and to taking notice of what they have to say, but has offered no money to allow them to improve their communities .

The landowner of the fields and lake on the northern side of Moors Lane has had problems relating to a blocked ditch on the southern side of the lane and, in particular, a recent diesel spill. This resulted in run-off from the lane filtering through to the lake and potentially causing harm to the fish. The matter has been reported to Cornwall Council and Cormac is currently developing a scheme to improve drainage on the southern side of the lane. In the meanwhile, the landowner concerned has blocked the gaps which allow run-off from Moors Lane onto his property. Members noted with disappointment that the blockages have since been vandalised with obscene language.

13 MATTERS FOR INCLUSION AT FUTURE MEETINGS

Pop-up camp sites and Freedom Camping

Speeding within the Parish

DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING

Thursday November 2, 2017 at 7.00pm in Germoe Church Hall

Signed.....

Dated.....

Chairman's initials.....