

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 April 5, 2018 at 7:00pm in Balwest Methodist Schoolroom.

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

Visitors: CCllr Keeling, Mrs Keeling, Mr Taylor and Mrs Warwick

The Chairman welcomed members to the April meeting.

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Molcher 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 Blencowe proposed, Cllr Johnson seconded, Cllr Bell and Cllr Mrs Whitehead who were absent from the last meeting abstained, and it was agreed that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Thursday March 8, 2018 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

Mrs Keeling stated that she was present on behalf of the Breage and Germoe Bridleways' Association. She reminded Members that some while ago Germoe Parish Council had sought a Modification Order for the addition to the Definitive Map of a footpath along the route of the old white way from Hillside to the top of Tregonning Hill. Some months later, the Bridleways' Association had sought a Modification Order over the same route, but for a bridleway. She asked if the Parish Council would give consideration to withdrawing its application in favour of that of the Bridleways' Association. Following discussion, CCllr Keeling undertook to seek advice from the legal department at County Hall about the validity of such an action.

6 CORNWALL COUNCILLOR'S COMMENTS

Through the Clerk, CCllr Keeling reported that

- he felt that the money spent on the recent trip to Cannes by senior members of Cornwall Council might have better spent in the provision of much needed services and hard to get equipment
- a review of CORMAC has been undertaken and recommendations made for the improvement of the service including the need both to deliver value for money and to improve public perception of CORMAC in terms of Cornwall's Highway Maintenance Service and other services
- the Cabinet has decided to recommend that £6m of public money should be used to secure the Stadium for Cornwall Project: this means a decision will be taken by the full council in due course. Here again, he felt that the money might be better spent on potholes, hedges, roadside verges, planning enforcement and a host of other issues

Chairman's initials.....

- Cornwall has developed a new partner organisation, New Frontiers, designed so that County works with its partners in opening dialogue with government to seek further powers and funding
- locally limited progress regarding blocked culverts and other matters has been made
- highway safety issues are still very much on his mind and it is his intention to secure funding through the Community Network Highway budget to invoke Traffic Regulation Orders and improvements to existing road markings
- Community Chest grant funding should be available before the end of the month.

In answer to a question concerning the allocation of some £400,000 to the Cornish language by the Unitary Authority, Cllr Keeling reminded members of the minority status granted to the County in 2014 under European rules which draws attention to and respects the ethnic, cultural and linguistic identity of people belonging to a national minority.

7 PARISH MATTERS

St Germoe Closed Churchyard

Members considered an offer to extend the contract with Cornwall Council for cutting the grass in the closed churchyard of St Germoe for a further year at an annual rate of £76.22 (the same rate as last year). Cllr Blencowe proposed, Cllr Bell seconded all others in favour to continue with the maintenance of the closed churchyard at St Germoe.

Cornwall Association of Local Councils

Members noted an invitation to join the Cornwall Association of Local Councils in the sum of £212.03 + VAT. Following discussion, it was agreed not to accept the invitation.

8 PLANNING

Applications

PA18/02226 Mr and Mrs P.Ashton – Conversion of reception room and garage into ancillary accommodation – Holly Cottage, Tresowes Hill. Cllr Johnson proposed, Cllr Blencowe seconded all other in agreement that this application should be returned with the following observation *Germoe Parish Council supports this application.*

PA18/02293 Mr S.Cooper – Demolition of existing dwelling and garage and construction of replacements – Rojeska, Tresowes. Cllr Blencowe proposed, Cllr Mrs Doeser seconded all other in agreement that this application should be returned with the following observation *Germoe Parish Council supports this application.*

PA18/02434 Mr S.Neal – Erection of a replacement dwelling – Norbury, Tresowes. Cllr Blencowe proposed, Cllr Mrs Praed seconded all other in agreement that this application should be returned with the following observation *Germoe Parish Council supports this application.*

PA18/02717 Mr P.Wilkinson – Retrospective application to alter access to the property – Wide Horizons, Tresowes Hill. Cllr Mrs Whitehead proposed, Cllr Bell seconded all other in agreement that this application should be returned with the following observation *The new hedge just allows adequate visibility when emerging from the adjacent access road of on-coming traffic. If vegetative growth on the hedge is not managed, visibility will be lost. If the Planning Authority imposes conditions (1) to restrict the overall height of the hedge including vegetation to 1.3m and (2) to maintain the face of the wall free from vegetation then Germoe Parish Council would not object to the proposal.*

Decisions

PA18/01451 APPROVED – Notification of proposed works to trees in a conservation area. Felling of three Lawsons Cypress trees – Thalasa, Balwest, Ashton – *noted*

PA17/11777 WITHDRAWN – Construction of new dwelling and formation of new access – land East of St Marys, Helston Road – *noted*

9 FINANCE

A copy of a statement of Germoe Parish Council's financial position as at April 5, 2018 was placed before members and is attached to these minutes.

In the absence of a Statement showing Germoe Parish Council's balance at the bank at close of business on March 31, 2018 Members agreed to defer noting the Internal Auditor's report and the receipt and approval of the Financial Statement for the year to March 31, 2018 to the Meeting in May.

Parish Councillors considered the Statement of Assurance required for the Annual Return for the year ended March 31, 2018. Cllr Blencowe proposed, Cllr Mrs Praed seconded, all others in favour that Germoe Parish Council should answer "Yes" to each of the questions posed by the Statement of Assurance which forms part of the Annual Return for the year ended March 31, 2018.

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Members considered a resolution that Germoe Parish Council, having a turnover for the year 2017 – 2018 of less than £25,000 should declare that it is an exempt authority within the definition contained in the Local Audit (Smaller Authorities) Regulations 2015. Members noted that this means that the Internal Auditor's report alone is sufficient for the Year's accounts to be signed off and that there is no requirement, as in the past, for a Limited Assurance Review to be undertaken by an External Auditor. Following discussion, Cllr Johnson proposed Cllr Blencowe seconded and it was agreed that for the financial year 2017 – 2018 Germoe Parish Council will declare itself an exempt authority within the definition contained in the Local Audit (Smaller Authorities) Regulations 2015.

The following accounts were presented for consideration:

	GROSS	VAT
R.Sanders	£ 102.00	£ 17.00
Colin Chapman		
Salary (March)	£ 224.08	
travelling	£ 27.00	
telephone	£ 25.75	
office expenses	£ 52.54	
use of home as office	£ 20.00	
keys for Newtown notice-board	£ 11.90	
	total	£ 341.27

Cllr Blencowe proposed, Cllr Mrs Whitehead seconded and it was agreed that the above two accounts should be paid.

10 REPORT OF CLERK AND CORRESPONDENCE

Derek Thomas MP surgery dates – *noted*

11 MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

Cllr Bell reported that the new cover for St Germoe's well is now in place and that the Village Association is planning an official opening ceremony to which Councillors will be invited.

12 CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

The Chairman reported that she had attended the recent Community Network Meeting at which Andy James (who is Cornwall's General Manager of Highways and the Environment) had presented an overview of the manner in which Highways deals with road maintenance issues. Mr James urged everyone to report potholes as a matter of course. Rachel Murray of the NHS Kernow Clinical Commissioning Group had spoken of future developments at the Helston Community Hospital, where the plan is to open out the waiting room and create a community space where access to support groups throughout Kerrier is available. Cllr Mrs Edwina Hannaford, the Portfolio Holder for Neighbourhoods, had spoken of Cornwall's vision for the future of Community Network Panels, adding that Cornwall Council has allocated a pot of some £50,000 to each Network for Highways projects.

13 MATTERS FOR INCLUSION AT FUTURE MEETINGS

No matters for inclusion in future meetings were tabled.

DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING

Annual Parish Meeting – Thursday May 3, 2018 at 7:00pm in **Balwest Methodist Schoolroom**

Annual Meeting – Thursday May 3, 2018 following the Annual Parish Meeting in **Balwest Methodist Schoolroom**

Signed.....

Dated.....

Chairman's initials.....