

GERMOE PARISH COUNCIL

www.germoeparishcouncil.org.uk

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Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of Germoe Parish Council held on Thursday January 3, 2019 at 7:00pm in Germoe Church Hall.

Present: Cllr Mrs K.Doesper
Cllr G.Bell
Cllr D.Blencowe
Cllr R.Johnson
Cllr L.Molcher
Cllr Mrs G.Praed
Mr C.Chapman (Clerk)

Visitors: Ms Garrard, Mrs Lewis and Mr Marshall (all from Transition Helston), Mr Barker and Mr Harrington.

Wishing everyone a happy New Year, the Chairman welcomed visitors and members to the January 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 any 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, Mrs Praed seconded and it was agreed that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Thursday December 6, 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 this agenda.

5 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

In view of the increase of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere and the advice that man-kind's activities on the surface of the planet are contributing to this increase, Mr Marshall asked the Parish Council to consider declaring a Climate Emergency in line with Ladock Parish Council and others. This is about taking those initial small steps in the belief that it will lead to an increasing ground-swell of action and opinion in which everyone, from individuals to world leaders, will have to play a part. He added that there are issues that the Parish Council can support by using its influence on the associated departments of the Unitary Authority (which is due to debate the issue shortly).

Ms Garrard stated that evidence shows that Climate Change will adversely affect residents of the parish within twelve years.

Mrs Lewis added that Transition Helston is working hard to bring local communities together.

It was agreed that the issue should be debated at the next meeting.

Mr Harrington stated that he was present as a friend of Mr Barker to seek the Council's support for planning application PA18/11446. He added that the proposal was for a dwelling to provide Mr and Mrs Barker with suitable assisted living benefits and that what is proposed is more visually appealing than the existing caravan. Cllr Blencowe stated that the application is for a single-storey dwelling to replace the existing caravan: it is not for a change of use and occupation of the site as a whole remains reserved for members of the gipsy and travelling community. Pre-application advice had made it clear that change of use would not be supported, not least because there are insufficient sites in the County for the gipsy and travelling community. The fact that a gipsy or a traveller has ceased to travel does not mean that he or she is no longer a member of that community.

The Chairman proposed and it was agreed to discuss the following agenda item at this point.

Chairman's initials.....

9 PLANNING

Applications

PA18/11446 Mr E.Barker – Single storey dwelling to replace residential caravans – Tresheba Caravan, Main Road, Ashton. Cllr Blencowe proposed, Cllr Bell seconded and it was agreed that this application should be returned with the following observation *Germoe Parish Council supports the continued use of the permanent travellers' site and the change of accommodation to support health and well-being. However, it would object to additional pitches being allowed on this site.*

Members noted the following planning decision

PA18/08400 APPROVED – Erection of a dwelling – Geal Cottage, Tresowes Hill – *noted*

PA18/10169 Decided not to make a TPO – Sycamore (T1) - fell because of excess shading and low amenity value. Also, preparation for ground works in advance of possible application for extension to rear of property. See attached plan and photos – Larkspur Cottage, Germoe Lane – *noted*

6 CORNWALL COUNCILLOR'S COMMENTS

Cllr Keeling congratulated Cllr Blencowe on his summation of the rules concerning the gipsy and travelling community and reinforced the point that Cornwall is lamentably short of dedicated sites. He went on to report that

- just before Christmas, a full meeting of Cornwall Council had debated the issues of Brexit, second homes and enforcement amongst others
- as far as Enforcement is concerned, a protocol has been developed which allows Cornwall Councillors to be kept informed of concerns within their Wards
- second homes nowadays pay the full Council Tax: the problem lies with a loophole in the law which allows owners of holiday homes who make a business out of them to legitimately claim Council Tax relief – and further, with many of the same holiday home owners who, illegally, allow the waste those businesses create to be collected by the household waste collection service
- Cornwall Council is still waiting to hear from Central Government about the funding for the Stadium for Cornwall
- the appeal against Cornwall Council's refusal for development of a Chicken Farm at Nancegollen is on-going. Members of the public who have an opinion about this are urged to contact the Planning Inspectorate.

During the course of general discussion, it was noted that, all too frequently, Cornwall Council appears to be concentrating on 'important' matters and ignoring local issues.

In respect of the proposed changes to the collection of household waste and recylates, Members noted the likelihood of unintended consequences in the shape of increased incidents of fly-tipping.

7 PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS

Co-option of a Councillor

The Clerk reported that he had received no expression of interest in co-option.

Community Governance Review – Parish Boundaries

Members considered whether or not there are any issues relating to the governance of the Parish or its boundaries which need to be addressed in order to bring it in line with change. Following a short discussion, it was agreed that, as matters stand, there are no reasons to seek changes.

8 PARISH MATTERS

Welcoming stones

Members noted that the grant from Cllr Keeling's share of the Community Chest towards the cost of the additional wording has been received.

10 FINANCE

A copy of a statement of Germoe Parish Council's financial position as at January 3, 2019 was placed before members and is attached to these minutes.

The following accounts were presented for consideration:

	GROSS	VAT
Colin Chapman		
Salary (December)	£ 235.03	
travelling	£ 10.00	
telephone	£ 26.13	
office expenses	£ 27.72	
use of home as office	£ 20.00	
	total	£ 318.88

Chairman's initials.....

Cllr Johnson proposed, Cllr Blencowe seconded and it was agreed that the above account should be paid.

Members noted the following receipt

CC (Community chest grant)	£ 200.00
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11 REPORT OF CLERK AND CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence

St Germoe PCC acknowledgment of and thanks for contributions towards the maintenance of the churchyard and towards the cost of the Christmas tree – *noted*

Mr Derek Thomas MP appointment dates, places and times – *noted*

12 MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

Cllr Johnson reported that it is his understanding that neither the defibrillator at Germoe nor the one at Balwest are registered with the Emergency Services. Cllr Mrs Praed undertook to look further into the matter. Members further thought that a couple of refresher courses on the use of a defibrillator would prove popular and the Clerk was asked to arrange this.

Members noted receipt of a letter concerning the illegal riding of horses along designated footpaths and in particular along PROW 36 in the Parish of Breage (from the Brick Works to Tregonning Hill House). Cllr Mrs Praed undertook to take this matter to the Breage and Germoe Bridleways Association.

13 CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

The Chairman made no further comment.

14 MATTERS FOR INCLUSION AT FUTURE MEETINGS

Climate Change.

DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING

Thursday February 7, 2019 at 7.00pm in **Germoe Church Hall**.

Signed.....

Dated.....

Chairman's initials.....