

GERMOE PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of Germoe Parish Council held on Thursday September 5, 2019 at 7:00pm in Balwest Methodist Schoolroom.

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

Visitors: CCllr J.Keeling and Mr Dear.

The Chairman welcomed visitors and members to the September meeting.

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

in items on the agenda

As the owner of the property concerned, Cllr Molcher declared a pecuniary interest in agenda item 9 (PA19/05149).

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 Molcher being absent from the last meeting abstained and it was agreed that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Thursday July 4, 2019 are a true record and the Chairman signed them as such.

4 MATTERS ARISING AND NOT COVERED IN THIS AGENDA

Cllr Blencowe noted that residents living on the Tresowes Hill road who had replied to the invitation to make representations concerning the proposed removal of the 40mph speed limit had all received a response from Cornwall Council. In light of 31 objections having been received and monitoring that revealed the majority of traffic travels at less than 30mph, the proposed deregulation has been put on hold. It was agreed that this letter should be published on social media. In the meanwhile, Mike Peters from Cornwall Highways is looking at different gateway and quiet lane signage and it is expected that his report will be available in time for the meeting in October.

Cllr Bell asked about progress on the renovation and repair of the bus shelter at Germoe cross-roads. Replying, the Clerk said that Bob Sanders had not forgotten about it.

5 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr Dear said that as the owner of the China Clay works at Tresowes, he wondered if the Council had any thoughts about its future. He is aware of the historic nature of the buildings and is particularly concerned about the Furnace House (which is dilapidated and in danger of collapse). He would like to restore both the house and part of the dry. He was advised that if he did decide to apply for planning permission he would need to commission an Historic Impact Assessment and that, possibly, one way forward would be to involve the World Heritage Site team.

Speaking as a member of the public and about his planning application, Mr Molcher told members that

- he is seeking to diversify his business by replacing existing transient camping numbers by offering permanent quality accommodation for longer than his existing licence permits
- however, he does not anticipate the year-round use that he is seeking
- the two pods will replace four camping pitches

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- the siting of the two pods is such that they have the best view of Mounts Bay from his property (He is aware that the World Heritage Site team would prefer the pods to be sited nearer the existing buildings.)
- he is of the opinion that the two pods will have less visual impact on the surrounding countryside than the four tents
- he offered to show members around the site.

6 CORNWALL COUNCILLOR'S COMMENTS

CClIr Keeling reported that

- although August is traditionally a quiet month, he has been in touch with the police and, more particularly, with WPC Anne Butcher, the Neighbourhood Beat Manager, about the introduction of a speed watch initiative throughout the South Kerrier area
- coupled with this and in advance of the Community Network Meeting, he had attended a meeting to discuss speed signage options
- a major piece of work on customer consultation and engagement is being undertaken by a scrutiny committee focus group at Cornwall. Resident volunteers had been invited to County Hall where they were asked a series of questions about their experiences when dealing with Cornwall Council, about their areas of concern and where they thought communication and consultation might improve
- in particular, the residents' group had sought greater clarity on decision making and reassurance that consultation is not just a box-ticking exercise.
- interestingly, the group wanted Cornwall Council to work for residents in a non-political fashion. He believe this happens anyway, but it needs to be reinforced
- he reminded Members about the "Dogs on Beaches" consultation process
- the Community Network meetings provide a great deal of useful information and he encouraged members and residents alike to attend.

In answer to a question concerning SatNav recommended routes along inappropriately narrow lanes in Cornwall, he said he would bring the matter up in Council with a view to Cornwall raising the issue with the companies concerned.

7 PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS

Germoe Parish Council, social media and the wider reporting of the Council's activities

Members noted that Germoe Parish Council's Facebook page is once again up and running and that additionally some reports have been posted on the NextDoor neighbourhood website. Members had already agreed to post documents relating to the proposed deregulation of the road along Tresowes Hill.

8 PARISH MATTERS

Climate Emergency

The Chairman reported that she has rewritten the leaflet and will send it to members. She drew members' attention to the fact that the Helston Transition Group is starting a Repair Café and that the first meeting of that will take place during the course of the coming week. It was reported that Cornwall Council, having decided to create a forest of some 8,000 hectares, is offering native trees to communities with suitable plots of land.

Clean Cornwall

The Clerk had reported that the grant to purchase litter-picking items for use by the community had been paid into Germoe's bank account. The Chairman proposed and it was agreed to go ahead and purchase these items immediately.

Public Rights of Way within the Parish of Germoe

The Clerk reported that he has been given considerable help with the history of PROW 9 by Bob Fraser the Cornwall Ramblers' Rights of Way Officer, but that he needs to visit the Cornwall Records' Office (which reopens on September 11) in order to obtain copies of the Finance Act 1910 maps and the Definitive Map statement. It is his opinion that the historic evidence now gathered will be sufficient to include the missing link between the village and the point at which PROW 5 turns off, but that it may be necessary to seek Witness Statements concerning the use of the link along the track past Cobbernoon.

9 PLANNING

Members noted the following planning applications received during August and returned with the attached observations using delegated powers

PA19/05925 Mr and Mrs Beedle – Proposed Extension – St Marys, Helston Road. This application was returned marked *The site is located to the southwest of Tregonning Hill and is set between an Area of Great Landscape Value to the north and west, and an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty to the south. The view to the southwest of Tregonning Hill is greatly valued by the public and is one of tranquil farmland leading to spectacular views of*

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the coast and Mounts Bay beyond. The landscape is generally consistent with the Landscape Characteristics of Mount's Bay East.

St Marys is visible within this view as part of an increasing group of modern buildings that stand on the brow of a rise in the land that obscures Praa Sands and the A394 from the southwest view from Tregonning Hill.

The proposed extension will increase the bulk of the modern buildings visible to the south west from Tregonning Hill and consequently will increase the potential for visual harm. However it is considered that the increased harm would be of minimal, and consequently Germoe Parish Council does not object to this proposal.

PA19/05936 Mr W.J.Buckett – Proposed change of use and conversion of Traditional Barn to Create a Single Dwelling with associated works Greenbank Farm, Tresowes Hill. *This application was returned marked Germoe Parish Council supports this application.*

To make observations on planning applications including the following

PA19/01879 Mr M.Hawkins – To erect a block built store for the storage of large garden equipment and for the storage of beekeeping equipment. To erect a wooden store for the storage of gardening equipment (hand tools), gardening consumables and the storage of chicken feed. The erection of a chicken coop to keep rescue chickens and the erection of two polytunnels to enable growing of seeds and fruit and vegetables out of season – land opposite Trewithen Terrace. Cllr Blencowe proposed, Cllr Molcher seconded and it was agreed that this application should be returned with the following observation *Subject to the Planning Authority's approval of the positioning and fabric of the buildings, Germoe Parish Council will support the use of this site as a small-holding for growing fruit and vegetables and for keeping bees and chickens.*

Having declared a pecuniary interest in the following application, Cllr Molcher left the room.

PA19/05149 Mr L.Molcher – To site two purpose built Glamping pods with a footprint of 25 square meters per unit, on existing camping pitches, with all year use – Tremorvu, Tresowes Hill. Cllr Blencowe proposed, Cllr Bell seconded and it was agreed that this application should be returned with the following observation *Germoe Parish Council supports this application.*

Cllr Molcher returned to the room

PA19/05908 Mr C.Bows – Proposed two storey rear extension with first floor raised terrace – Coppernoan, Germoe. Cllr Blencowe proposed, Cllr Mrs Praed seconded and it was agreed that this application should be returned with the following observation *Germoe Parish Council supports this application.*

PA19/06582 Mr Ballard – Application for approval of reserved matters (Appearance, Landscaping, Layout and Scale) following outline permission of PA18/08595 Construction of single sustainable dwelling including parking and on site drainage – land South of West Acre, Helston Road. Cllr Mrs Praed proposed, Cllr Molcher seconded and it was agreed that this application should be returned with the following observation *Germoe Parish Council is unable to support this application because the layout of the building on the site makes poor use of this otherwise adequate space for a good-sized family dwelling. In particular the garden to the west of the property is unnecessarily restricted in size and requires the unnecessary removal of the hedge.*

Decisions

PA19/03410 APPROVED – Erection of a Replacement Dwelling with variation of condition 2 of PA18/08639 – Norbury, Tresowes – *noted*

PA19/04752 REFUSED – Change of use of land to extend the holiday season of an established campsite The Little Wild Campsite, Balwest, Ashton – *noted*

PA19/05925 APPROVED – Proposed Extension – St Marys, Helston Road, Germoe – *noted*

PA19/04677 APPROVED – Proposed 2-storey extension and internal alterations to convert the Hillside Dwelling and Hillside Barn Annexe into a single dwelling – Hillside, Tresowes Hill – *noted*

10 FINANCE

A copy of a statement of Germoe Parish Council's financial position as at September 5, 2019 was placed before members and is attached to these minutes.

Members considered a request from St John Ambulance for help with funding the work it does in Cornwall. Following discussion, it was agreed that the size and resources of Germoe Parish Council preclude making any donation to this cause.

The following accounts were presented for consideration:

	GROSS	NET	VAT
HM Revenue and Customs	£ 181.40		
RRMC (Defibrillator cabinet)	£ 420.00	£ 350.00	£ 70.00

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R.Sanders			
Greens (03/07 and 17/07)	£ 204.00	£ 170.00	£ 34.00
R.Sanders (Public Rights of Way)	£1,157.08	£ 964.23	£ 74.25
Colin Chapman			
Salary (July)	£ 241.52		
Salary (August)	£ 241.72		
travelling	£ 10.00		
telephone	£ 54.78		
office expenses	£ 28.66		
use of home as office (2 months)	£ 40.00		
	total	£ 616.68	

Cllr Johnson proposed, Cllr Mrs Praed seconded and it was agreed that the above five accounts should be paid.

Members noted the following receipt

CC LMP payment	£ 1,234.89
CC Precept 2 nd instalment	£ 4,700.00
CTS grant 2 nd instalment	£ 74.30

11 REPORT OF CLERK AND CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence

Derek Thomas MP Surgery appointment dates – *noted*

disAbility Cornwall Discover (magazine) – *noted*

12 MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

Cllr Johnson drew members' attention to

- the thoughtless way in which some parents park their cars outside the school when delivering or collecting children. He had fielded a complaint from a resident who had told him that because of cars parked on the pavement, she and her young children had had to walk in the middle of the road
- a resident questioning a horse-rider riding on a footpath had been subjected to abuse. The police had been informed and Cllr Praed, as a Committee Member of the Breage and Germoe Bridleways Association, sought further details
- scrambling and quad bikes are again being used on footpaths
- a further complaint concerning a couple of signs requesting owners to clean up after their dogs that have been posted in Germoe had given offence.

Cllr Blencowe reported that he had been told that camping on the Little Wild Site has continued for longer than the permitted twenty-eight days. Further, it was alleged that one of the tents is being used for residential purposes.

Cllr Mrs Praed reported that the notice-board at Great Work had been vandalised and congratulated the Parish Council's contractor, Bob Sanders, for his speedy action. She further reported that work appears to have started on the barns opposite Trethewey Farm.

13 CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

The Chairman reported that she will forward her notes on the recent Community Network meeting to members.

14 MATTERS FOR INCLUSION AT FUTURE MEETINGS

No matters for inclusion on the agenda at future meetings were raised.

DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING

Thursday October 10, 2019 at 7.00pm in **Balwest Methodist Schoolroom**.

Signed.....

Dated.....

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