

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
parish.clerk3@btinternet.com

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

Present:

Cllr Mrs K.Dooser	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 PCSO Julia Berry.

The Chairman welcomed members and visitors to the November 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 (PA19/09232).

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 Mrs Praed proposed, Cllr Blencowe seconded and it was agreed that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Thursday October 10, 2019 are a true record and the Chairman signed them as such.

4 MATTERS ARISING AND NOT COVERED IN THIS AGENDA

Cllr Blencowe reported that Mike Peters of Cornwall Council's Highways Team is optimistic that initial drawings for the gateway scheme on the Tregonning Hill road will shortly be available

5 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

PCSO Julia Berry reported that

- she hopes to be able to attend Parish Council meetings from time to time
- Anne Butcher, whom many people in Germoe will remember, will shortly be retiring from the Force
- the Beat Managers presently based in Helston are PC Marie Moore and PC Mark Mitchell
- a Speed Watch meeting for all those interested will be arranged towards the end of November: the necessary protocol is being developed by PC Mark Mitchell, who has been tasked with the project. (CCllr Keeling stated that, personally, he favours a Kerrier-wide team for Speed Watch duties rather than simply drawing residents from the local community).

PCSO Berry drew members' attention both to the Helston and Falmouth Police FaceBook page and to its Twitter account. She further suggested that members and residents might like to sign up to the Devon and Cornwall Alert Community Messaging System and to the Keyholder Scheme under which householders trust friends and/or neighbours with a key to their property, which in turn enables Police Officers to gain entry to a property without having to break a window in an emergency.

6 CORNWALL COUNCILLOR'S COMMENTS

Through the Clerk, CCllr Keeling reported that

- he has been working with the Countryside Access Department on the matter of modification orders. There are a number of orders that have yet to be resolved and there is an increase in cases being referred to the Secretary of State, who, if so minded, can instruct the council to resolve the case within a certain time

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- he supported a motion in January this year to put more funding and resources into the service and an underspend of some £140K has been passed over to the department. Additional funding will be made available in the 2020-2021 budget to help address the shortfall in that department
- the Community Network meeting of Cornwall Councillors was dominated by discussions with Kevin Bryant, Head of Highways and Infrastructure and some very frank comments were expressed about highway matters. The Community Network Highways budget was top of the list and it was suggested that instead of a £50k Budget for each year we think along the lines of a £200k budget over four years. Nevertheless, there was general dissatisfaction with the length of time it takes from project start to finish
- he continues to deal with local issues concerning traffic and speeding and appreciates the help of local people and the parish councils
- as already noted, further discussions about Community Speed Watch continue with police and community members
- the Community Network Meeting on Wednesday 6th November included an overview of the Shoreline Management Plan with Dave Watkins, Flood and Coastal Strategic Lead for Cornwall Council. Members and visitors also discussed dark sky designations for the network area
- planning and enforcement have lately represented a major part of his work and last week he had held a surgery to discuss further alleged breaches of planning and to help with planning applications.

7 PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS

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

Members noted that there have been a number of additions to Germoe Parish Council's FaceBook page in the last month. It was suggested that perhaps the report of the monthly meetings might profitably be reduced to no more than twenty lines, but that links are available for readers to gain more insight into particular subjects. It was also suggested that items of wider interest might attract more followers of the group.

8 PARISH MATTERS

Christmas in Germoe

It was proposed by Cllr Blencowe, seconded by the Chairman and agreed that, following a request from the Germoe Village Association, an advisory committee of Germoe Parish Council with the remit of overseeing the Christmas Lights Switch-On Ceremony and Celebrations on Germoe Green should be set up and that consequently Germoe Parish Council will be responsible for the proper running of that event. Cllr Bell will represent the Parish Council on the Advisory Committee.

Climate Emergency

The Chairman reported that she had nothing to note this month, but it was agreed that a public meeting should possibly be held in the not too distant future to discuss ways in which individuals might make an impact no matter how small that impact might be. She drew members' attention to the Unitary Authority's plans for a 'Forest for Cornwall' which proposes significantly increasing the number of trees across multiple locations within the county within a decade.

Footbridge to the Church

Cllr Blencowe reported that the thinner of the two slates, which make up the bridge across the stream on Germoe Common, is resting on precious little – the underlying bank abutment having collapsed. Cllr Johnson kindly stated that he would make the necessary repair.

Public Rights of Way within the Parish of Germoe

The Clerk reported that User Evidence Forms have been prepared for the gap in the Public Right of Way between the adopted road in Churchtown and the stile at the eastern end of PROW 9. The gaps in PROW 11, PROW 13 and PROW 14 will, all being well, be modified using Express Dedications at Common Law.

9 PLANNING

To make observations on planning applications including the following

PA19/07088 Mr S.Neal – Erection of a detached garage (amended design) – Norbury, Tresowes. Cllr Mrs Praed proposed proposed, Cllr Johnson seconded and it was agreed that this application should be returned with the following observation *Germoe Parish Council remains of the opinion that the proposed garage is both too high in relation to the main house and that the built extension to the east of the miner's cottage frontage will detract from the appearance and setting of this significant heritage asset. It will therefore be contrary to CLP Policy 24 and Germoe Parish Council requests the Planning Authority to refuse permission for development.*

PA19/07339 Mr Cox (as agent) – Demolition of existing redundant outbuildings. Proposed 2 storey side extension, proposed replacement double garage and associated landscaping, proposed replacement of existing boat shed with an annex for ancillary use – Catherstone Cottage, Tresowes Hill. Cllr Blencowe proposed, Cllr Molcher seconded,

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Cllr Johnson abstained and it was agreed that this application should be returned with the following observation *Germoe Parish Council notes that the original building precedes 1840 in origin. At the time of the 1841 census under the tenancy of Elanor Williams, it was home to three miners. Catherstone Cottage should therefore be considered to be a non-designated historic asset within the Conservation Area and Mining World Heritage Site. Cornwall Local Plan Policy 24 requires historic assets in these designated areas to be protected and, where possible, enhanced.*

The Cottage is typical of the remaining mining industry workers' dwellings that are dispersed along this minor road (which skirts the south-west slope of Tregonning Hill) and, as such, provides a valuable contribution to the distinctiveness of the area and more specifically to the public's appreciation of the World Heritage Site.

Germoe Parish Council considers the proposed form of the two-storey extension to the east end of the cottage would be harmful to the public's appreciation of the building and would be detrimental to the distinctive character of the Conservation Area and the World Heritage Site contrary to the requirements of the Cornwall Local Plan Policy 24.

Germoe Parish Council welcomes and supports the proposals to replace the existing outbuildings, but objects to the form of the proposed two-storey extension to the east end of the cottage. It therefore requests the Planning Authority to refuse permission for development.

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

PA19/09232 Mr L.Molcher – Without compliance of condition 2 PA16/04828 The construction of six holiday lodges to improve existing accommodation – Tremorvu Camp Site, Tresowes Hill. Cllr Johnson 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.*

Cllr Molcher returned to the room

Decisions

PA19/01879 APPROVED – 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. Resiting of field shelter – land opposite Trewithen Terrace – *noted*

PA19/05936 APPROVED – Proposed change of use and conversion of Traditional Barn to Create a Single Dwelling with associated works – Greenbank Farm, Tresowes Hill – *noted*

PA19/07160 APPROVED – Replacement of existing poly-tunnel for green-house structure – Bos Verbas, Helston Road – *noted*

PA19/07255 APPROVED – Demolition of existing extension, replacement single storey kitchen and sun room – 5 Trewithen Terrace – *noted*

10 FINANCE

A copy of a statement of Germoe Parish Council's financial position as at November 7, 2019 was placed before members and is attached to these minutes.

Members noted that a wreath for the Armistice Day/Remembrance Sunday Service has been ordered and considered the question of a donation towards the work of the Royal British Legion. Cllr Blencowe proposed Cllr Johnson seconded all others in favour that, under the terms of S137 of the Local Government Act 1972, Germoe Parish Council should forward the sum of £50.00 to the Royal British Legion.

Members considered a request from for financial help towards the village Christmas celebrations. Cllr Blencowe proposed, Cllr Mrs Praed seconded all others in favour, that, under S137 of the Local Government Act 1972 the sum of £100 should be made available for underwriting activities in Germoe over Christmas 2018.

The following accounts were presented for consideration:

	GROSS	NET	VAT
D.Blencowe (projector)	£ 299.99	£ 249.99	£ 50.00
Colin Chapman			
Salary (October)	£ 241.72		
travelling	£ 10.00		
telephone	£ 21.49		
office expenses	£ 44.55		
use of home as office	£ 20.00		
	total	£ 337.76	

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

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11 REPORT OF CLERK AND CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence

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

Germoe Village Association concerning the village signs all of which are in a poor state of repair – *it was agreed that the Clerk should report these matters to Cornwall Highways*

Clerks and Councils Direct newsletter – *noted*

12 MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

The service on Armistice Day (November 11) will be held at the War Memorial on Tregonning Hill commencing at 10.45

Members noted that damage has occurred to the edge of the road which borders the stream outside Little Brook. The Clerk was asked to report it to Cornwall Highways.

13 CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

The Chairman reported that as CCllr Keeling had already stated, at the recent meeting of the Community Network Panel both the Shoreline Management Plan and an enquiry from Grade Ruan Parish Council concerning Dark Skies Designation had been of particular interest. The Clerk was asked to contact Maxine Hardy at the Community Network Office to register Germoe Parish Council's interest in Dark Skies Designation.

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 December 5, 2019 at 7.00pm in **Germoe Church Hall**.

Signed.....

Dated.....

Chairman's initials.....