

GERMOE PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of Germoe Parish Council held on Thursday March 5, 2020 at 7:00pm in Germoe Church Hall.

Present: Cllr G.Bell Cllr G.Praed
Cllr D.Blencowe Cllr J.Pickles
Cllr R.Johnson Mr C.Chapman (Clerk)

Visitors: CCllr Keeling and Mrs Bell.

In the absence of the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman, Cllr Praed, assumed the chair and welcomed members and visitors to the March meeting.

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Doeser and Cllr Molcher 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 Blencowe proposed, Cllr Bell seconded, Cllr Pickles who was absent from the last meeting abstained, and it was agreed that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Thursday February 6, 2020 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 in the meeting's agenda.

5 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Speaking as the representative of the Germoe Village Association, Mrs Bell drew members' attention to the Association's request for permission to repair Germoe Green which has been badly damaged by vehicles during the course of the winter and for help with funding the cost of necessary materials. She further asked that the Parish Council considered the provision of alternative parking within the village, possibly at the School. Considerable discussion followed which was resolved by CCllr Keeling offering to speak to an engineer from Cormac both about the lack of parking in the village and about the possibility of creating an edge between the road and the Common. It was agreed that a decision on funding the cost of repair would be deferred to the meeting in April when CCllr Keeling will report back.

Mrs Bell further stated that the Village Association hopes to encourage residents to make this year a little more wild-life friendly.

6 CORNWALL COUNCILLOR'S COMMENTS

Through the Clerk, Cllr Keeling reported that

- Cornwall Council has set the 2020-21 budget and increased Council Tax for a Band D property by 3.99% 2% of which is ring-fenced for Adult Social Care
- he had voted against the proposal on the basis that little or no scrutiny of the budget proposals had taken place, which begged the question of value for money
- the Town and Parish precepts for the same period increased by 7.18% resulting in an average Band D Council Tax figure of £133.60 Germoe Parish Council's demand is for £42.32

Chairman's initials.....

- together with Cllr Nicholas he recently met Cormac engineers to discuss traffic issues on the A394 between Rosudgeon and Breage and to try to identify short, medium and long term proposals to resolve those issues. He will keep members updated
- the Police Force is actively seeking co-ordinators and volunteers to undertake training in the use of speed-guns with a view to setting up Kerrier-wide teams to monitor traffic. Speed Watch sites, including sites in Ashton, Germoe and along the A394 Praa Sand straight, have been identified
- residents should be particularly aware of vulnerable neighbours and to act when they feel it necessary
- finally, he drew members' attention to his Facebook page: Cornwall Councillor John Keeling MBE.

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 reached forty-eight people in the course of the last month. Cllr Bell continues to update it and it was agreed to advertise the page on the Parish notice-boards.

8 PARISH MATTERS

Public Rights of Way

In the hope that individual residents will complete a Public Path User Form testifying to the use of the track between the present end of PROW 9 at Cobbernoon and the village, it was agreed to leave the question of future action to the April meeting.

Litter bins

The Clerk reported that the two litter bins are now with Bob Sanders and that Biffa has agreed to service them on a fortnightly basis once they are installed. Cllr Johnson reported that a resident of Boscreege had asked the Council to site a litter bin near her home: inconsiderate dog-owners are simply throwing plastic bags of dog faeces into convenient hedges.

Footbridge to the Church

Cllr Blencowe reported that he expects Roger McLean to contact him and to quote for the repair of the bridge over the stream on Germoe Green once the weather has become more clement.

Climate Emergency

Cllr Blencowe stated that existing planning rules ensure that plans for new development on an unsustainable site are likely to be refused. Those rules are reinforced if planners believe development will be harmful to the existing environment (unless that harm can be mitigated). This may mean that future plans for development on an unsustainable site which include a public charging point for electric cars may be agreed because planners believe that the existence of a charging point mitigates the perceived harm to the environment.

Gateway Scheme

Cllr Blencowe reported that the 'gateway' scheme on the Tregonning Hill road remains "on-going" (though he hopes to hear something from Cornwall Highways before the next meeting).

9 PLANNING

To make observations on planning applications including the following

PA20/00992 Mr S.Neal – Proposed erection of Stables – Cornerstone, Tresowes. Cllr Blencowe proposed, Cllr Johnson seconded all others in favour that this application should be returned with the following observation *Germoe Parish Council supports this application.*

Decisions

PA19/10188 APPROVED – Demolition and rebuild of farmhouse including temporary site office and store with additional new vehicular access – Higher Chygwins Farm, Tresowes – *noted*

PA19/10189 APPROVED – Demolition of former stables and pigsties and construction of 2 x modern agricultural buildings (Barn C and Barn D) – Higher Chygwins Farm, Tresowes – *noted*

10 FINANCE

A copy of a statement of Germoe Parish Council's financial position as at March 5, 2020 was placed before members and is attached to these minutes.

The request from the Germoe Village Association to purchase topsoil and grass seed for the repair of Germoe Green was discussed during public participation and a decision deferred to the meeting in April.

Members considered a request from the Friends and Relatives of Germoe School for financial help towards the replacement of a storage shed. Following discussion, it was agreed that the Council needs more information before committing public money to this project.

The following accounts were presented for consideration:

GROSS	NET	VAT
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Chairman's initials.....

HMRC		£ 181.20		
Broxap Limited (2 litter bins)		£ 135.00	£ 112.50	£ 22.50
R.Sanders (Greens)		£ 102.00	£ 85.00	£ 17.00
Colin Chapman				
Salary (February)	£ 241.72			
travelling	£ 10.00			
telephone	£ 24.09			
office expenses	£ 30.68			
use of home as office	£ 20.00			
		total	£ 326.49	

Cllr Johnson proposed, Cllr Bell seconded and it was agreed that the above four accounts should be paid.

11 REPORT OF CLERK AND CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence

Clerks and Councils Direct newsletter – *noted*

12 MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

Cllr Bell drew members' attention to the recently published draft Breage Neighbourhood Plan. He stated that it is his opinion that it is a very worthwhile document, but was concerned that some of the policies it contains may influence planning within Germoe. It was noted that this is a planning policy document for the parish of Breage and not for Germoe, but agreed that Germoe Parish Council should discuss the matter further in April once all Councillors have had the opportunity to read the document.

13 CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

The Chairman made no further comments.

14 MATTERS FOR INCLUSION AT FUTURE MEETINGS

Other than the issues already agreed, no further matters for inclusion in future meetings were tabled.

DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING

Thursday April 2, 2020 at 7.00pm in **Balwest Methodist Schoolroom**.

Signed.....

Dated.....

Chairman's initials.....