

# GERMOE PARISH COUNCIL

www.germoeparishcouncil.org.uk

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Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of Germoe Parish Council held on Thursday February 4, 2021 at 7:00pm using the Zoom facility.

**Present:** Cllr K.Do eser Cllr R.Johnson  
Cllr G.Bell Cllr G.Praed  
Cllr D.Blencowe Mr C.Chapman (Clerk)

**Visitor:** CCllr J.Keeling and Mr Morley.

The Chairman welcomed members and visitors to the meeting.

## 1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Molcher (personal) and Cllr Pickles (personal) sent their 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, Cllr Praed seconded and it was agreed that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Thursday, January 7, 2021 are a true record.

## 4 MATTERS ARISING AND NOT COVERED IN THIS AGENDA

Members noted that the replacement/repair of the footpath finger-posts as reported at the last meeting is in hand.

## 5 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr Morley said that he was present simply to listen in to the meeting.

## 6 CORNWALL COUNCILLOR'S COMMENTS

Cllr Keeling reported that

- issues relating to highway matters were once again discussed at the Community Network meeting last week
- a presentation concerning the mental health issues which people are experiencing during this awful period had formed part of the same meeting
- he had able to assure a local resident that an additional Vehicle Activated Sign will be located in Ashton in the near future
- reports on a couple of enforcement matters should be publically available soon
- he continues to offer advice concerning planning proposals to concerned local residents
- virtual meetings for Cornwall Councillors continue apace on all manner of subjects: these include a weekly Covid brief from the Director of Public Health
- additionally, last week, there had been a lengthy discussion on the budget for 2021/22 which will be set late in February. The Authority is required to set a balanced budget, but with the £30m impact of Covid reducing normal income levels this will be far from easy
- the main driver of any increase will be the continuing extension of the Adult Social Care Precept: this requirement will be reflected with an increase of 3% in council tax bills
- additionally, in order to fund a £30m increase in the police precept, the coming year will see an additional charge of £14.92 on a Band D property

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- at the moment, together with the Speed Watch scheme, the neighbourhood watch service is on the back burner
- on an exploratory basis, Cornish Tin Limited intends to drill some 35 holes of an average depth of 200 metres in a triangular area marked by Carleen, Wheal Vor and Poldown (in neighbouring parishes). This will take about 6 months and will commence in April/May 2021.

Cllr Blencowe reported that, although he has reported flooding on the road between Greenbank and Tresowes on a number of occasions and although Cornwall Highways has dealt with the problem each time it has been reported, the underlying issue lies in the fact that the drainage gullies are not working as they should be. CCllr Keeling undertook to take the matter further.

Speaking on behalf of a neighbour who has reported the presence of Japanese knotweed on the footpath between Churchtown and Cobbernoon, Cllr Bell reported that, despite an undertaking from Cornwall Council to spray it off, residents believe that this has not been done. CCllr Keeling undertook to take the matter further.

## 7 PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS

### Publicity

Cllr Bell reported that in the last four weeks he has added fifteen posts to the Parish Council Facebook page: there have been 27 page views (the number of times people logged in), 78 posts were viewed (an estimate of the number of people who saw the posts at least once) and 51 engagements (the number of times people engaged with the posts through reactions, comments, shares and clicks).

### Environmental Policy

Members noted that a draft copy of a proposed Environmental Policy had been circulated earlier by the Chairman. Following discussion and a minor alteration, Cllr Praed proposed, Cllr Bell seconded and it was agreed to adopt the document.

## 8 PARISH MATTERS

### Public Rights of Way

Members considered an invitation from Cornwall Council to continue with the Local Maintenance Partnership scheme. The grant offered for the year to March 31, 2022 is £1,300.52 (or 100% of eligible costs, whichever is the lower). Cllr Praed proposed, Cllr Blencowe seconded and it was agreed that Germoe Parish Council should accept the terms relating to the Local Maintenance Partnership as offered by Cornwall Council for the year to March 31, 2022.

### Footbridge to the Church

The Clerk reported that the bridge is still awaiting underpinning with a galvanised steel brace.

### Climate Change

Members noted that there was nothing further to report.

### Gateway Scheme

CCllr Keeling reported that the Tresowes Hill gateway scheme is due to be installed in March.

## 9 PLANNING

### To make observations on planning applications including the following

PA20/09859 Mr W.Tate – Outline Planning Permission with all matters reserved - Construction of Residential Housing Development of up to three dwellings – land adj to Myrtle Cottage, Tresowes. Cllr Blencowe proposed, Cllr Bell seconded and it was agreed that this application should be returned with the following observation *As previously pointed out, the proposed development does not conform to the requirements of CLP Policy 21 which states 'To ensure the best use of land, encouragement will be given to sustainably located proposals that increase building density where appropriate, taking into account the character of the surrounding area and access to services and facilities.'*

*Properties in Tresowes Green are generally set within good sized gardens and are reasonably well spaced out. The proposed compact development of houses with small gardens does not maintain or enhance the character and setting of the surrounding area.*

*Germoe Parish Council considers the proposal is contrary to CLP Policy 21 and therefore requests the Planning Authority to refuse permission for development.*

PA20/11046 Mr and Mrs J.Armour – Full Planning Permission for the change of use and conversion of an agricultural building to form a single dwelling unit with associated curtilage at the Barn, Germoe, TQ20 9QU – barn North of Trethewey Farm Cottage, Germoe. Cllr Blencowe proposed, Cllr Bell seconded and it was agreed that this application should be returned with the following observation *Subject to Cornwall Council determination*

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that the building is appropriate for conversion, and subject to Cornwall Council approval of an appropriate local stone source for wall facings, Germoe Parish Council supports the application.

PA21/00275 Mr and Mrs Curtis – New build holiday letting unit to replace existing traditional style block and slate stables and storage buildings – Higher Chygwins Farm, Tresowes. Cllr Blencowe proposed, Cllr Bell seconded and it was agreed that this application should be returned with the following observation *The proposal is for a new house in a countryside location.*

*The proposal does not meet any of the requirements set out in CLP Policy 7 "Housing in the Countryside" and therefore it does not comply with the requirements of the Cornwall Local Plan.*

*Germoe Parish Council therefore requests the Planning Authority to refuse permission for development.*

PA21/00280 Mr and Mrs Curtis – Re-application to amend design of replacement barn approved under PA19/10189 (Demolition of former stables and pigsties and construction of 2 x modern agricultural buildings (Barn C and Barn D)) – Higher Chygwins Farm, Tresowes. Cllr Blencowe proposed, Cllr Praed seconded and it was agreed that this application should be returned with the following observation *Germoe Parish Council supports the application for the replacement of two agricultural barns with a new single agricultural barn, and requests that Drawing No TM7313Pl is amended to remove details of a "New Holiday Letting Unit" which is not part of this application and could subsequently give rise to confusion.*

### Decisions

PA20/08270 APPROVED – Demolition of existing dwelling which is suffering from subsidence due to mining feature. Reconstruction of new dwelling house of the same scale with minor alterations to external fenestration – Castle View, Newtown – *noted*

PA20/07867 APPROVED – Extension to a dwelling to create a self-contained annexe for dependent relatives – Highfield House, Germoe – *noted*

PA20/09762 APPROVED – Installation of 12 solar panels on the east facing roof – Germoe Veor, Germoe – *noted*

### Correspondence

**Cornwall Council** Withdrawal of the application for development at Wheal Grey – *noted*

## 10 FINANCE

A copy of a statement of Germoe Parish Council's financial position as at February 4, 2021 was placed before members and is attached to these minutes.

The following accounts were presented for consideration:

|                          | GROSS    | NET | VAT |
|--------------------------|----------|-----|-----|
| Information Commissioner | £ 40.00  |     |     |
| Colin Chapman            |          |     |     |
| Salary (January)         | £ 248.41 |     |     |
| telephone                | £ 27.38  |     |     |
| office expenses          | £ 18.26  |     |     |
| use of home as office    | £ 20.00  |     |     |
| total                    | £ 314.05 |     |     |

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

Members noted the following receipt

|                              |            |
|------------------------------|------------|
| Cornwall Council (LMP grant) | £ 1,259.60 |
|------------------------------|------------|

## 11 REPORT OF CLERK AND CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk reported that the notice-board in Germoe Churchtown has been repaired and will shortly be put back in position.

## 12 MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

There were no questions or reports from Councillors .

## 13 CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

The Chairman reported that she had attended the recent Community Network Panel Meeting at which Leanna Cox, a Social Prescribing Link Worker, had spoken of her work advising members of the public who, being unsure of where to go and who to speak to, had turned for help to local doctors' surgeries. She drew members' attention to a request made at the meeting by the Police representative who asked members of the public to report issues to the Police rather than simply describing apparent incidents of lawlessness on social media.

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The Chairman drew Members' attention both to the forthcoming Census in March and to Cornwall's Localism Vision and Strategy document which was launched on January 25, 2021

**14 MATTERS FOR INCLUSION AT FUTURE MEETINGS**

No matters for inclusion in future meetings were tabled.

**DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING**

Thursday March 4, 2021 at 7.00pm. This meeting will be held using the Zoom facility.

Signed.....

Dated.....

*Chairman's initials.....*