

# GERMOE PARISH COUNCIL

www.germoeparishcouncil.org.uk

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Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of Germoe Parish Council held on Thursday April 8, 2021 at 7:00pm using the Zoom facility.

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

**Visitors:** CCllr J.Keeling.

The Chairman welcomed members to the final meeting of the present Council.

## **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, Cllr Mrs Praed seconded, and it was agreed that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Thursday March 4, 2021 are a true record and the Chairman signed them as such.

## **4 MATTERS ARISING AND NOT COVERED IN THIS AGENDA**

Members noted that Cornwall Highways does not consider the damage to the edge of the river bank outside Little Brook and Hawthorn Cottage currently warrants repair. It was agreed to keep an eye on this issue and to report it again, once it deteriorates further.

Cllr Blencowe reported that the sign indicating the way to the car-park at Balwest has now been delivered and that he will attach it to the public footpath sign-post on the triangle.

## **5 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There were no members of the public present.

## **6 CORNWALL COUNCILLOR'S COMMENTS**

In his final report to the Parish Council before the election, CCllr Keeling stated that

- he has enjoyed attending Germoe's meetings and is grateful for the support shown by members over the past four years
- the impact of the pandemic on all of us has taken its toll in many ways and has not made for an easy time particularly during the last twelve months. Indeed, there have been times when it has been more than simply frustrating trying to get things done
- there remains a great deal to do within the community
- it is his fervent hope that the new Cornwall Council will put a lot more emphasis on providing the first-class services that the people of Cornwall so richly deserve
- he will remain actively involved in helping the public with planning and enforcement issues throughout the election period

Chairman's initials.....

- the headache of highway issues continues. It is an ongoing problem that needs to be resolved within both the old and the new electoral divisions.
- whether or not he is successful in the forthcoming elections remains to be seen, but he will ensure that all outstanding matters have a high priority in the future.
- he wished members good luck going forward and in the forthcoming parish council elections.

## **7 PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS**

### **Social Media**

Cllr Bell reported that he has posted nineteen items on the Germoe Parish Council Facebook page and that there have been thirty-nine engagements.

## **8 PARISH MATTERS**

### **Footbridge to the Church**

Members noted that the repair of the bridge on Germoe Green is now complete: Roger Maclean has installed the galvanised steel brace.

### **Climate Change**

The Chairman stated that she had nothing further to report.

### **Gateway Scheme**

Members noted that the ‘gateway’ scheme on the Tregonning Hill still awaits execution. Cllr Blencowe undertook to contact Rupert Spencer at Cornwall Highways about the matter.

## **9 PLANNING**

### **Decisions**

PA21/00275 REFUSED – New build holiday letting unit to replace existing traditional style block and slate stables and storage buildings – Higher Chygwins Farm, Tresowes – *noted*

PA21/00280 APPROVED – Re-application to amend design of replacement barn approved under PA19/10189 – Higher Chygwins Farm, Tresowes – *noted*

PA21/02025 APPROVED – Non-material amendment to decision notice PA18/08400 to change material of windows and doors and for the removal of a window – Geal Cottage, Tresowes Hill – *noted*

### **Correspondence**

Cornwall Council PA19/10252 – Morvagh, Balwest, Ashton – Mr W Costeloe – Appeal Allowed. No Costs claimed – *noted*

## **10 FINANCE**

A copy of a statement of Germoe Parish Council’s financial position as at April 8, 2021 was placed before members and is attached to these minutes.

The Clerk reported that Mr Peter Richards, Germoe Parish Council’s Internal Auditor, has approved the Annual Return for the year to March 31, 2021 making no comments, observations or suggestions.

Parish Councillors considered the Statement of Assurance required for the Annual Return for the year ended March 31, 2021. Cllr Johnson proposed, Cllr Blencowe seconded, all others in favour that Germoe Parish Council should answer “Yes” to each of the questions posed by the Statement of Assurance which forms part of the Annual Return for the year ended March 31, 2021.

The Clerk presented the accounts for the year April 1, 2020 – March 31, 2021. Cllr Johnson proposed, Cllr Blencowe seconded, all others in favour that Germoe Parish Council accepts the accounts for the year April 1, 2020 – March 31, 2021.

Members considered a resolution that Germoe Parish Council, having a turnover for the year 2020 – 2021 of less than £25,000 should declare that it is an exempt authority within the definition contained in the Local Audit (Smaller Authorities) Regulations 2015. Members noted that this means that the Internal Auditor’s report alone is sufficient for the Year’s accounts to be signed off and that there is no requirement, as in the past, for a Limited Assurance Review to be undertaken by an External Auditor. Following discussion, Cllr Johnson proposed, Cllr Blencowe seconded and it was agreed that for the financial year 2020 – 2021 Germoe Parish Council will declare itself an exempt authority within the definition contained in the Local Audit (Smaller Authorities) Regulations 2015.

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The following accounts were presented for consideration:

	<b>GROSS</b>	<b>VAT</b>
R.Sanders		
Greens 24/02	£ 90.00	
Balwest car-park	£ 561.50	
	total	
	£ 781.80	£ 130.30
Signomatic	£ 69.10	£ 11.52
R.Sanders (Greens 19/03)	£ 108.00	£ 18.00
Colin Chapman		
Salary (March)	£ 248.61	
travelling	£ 54.00	
telephone	£ 34.33	
office expenses	£ 43.82	
use of home as office	£ 20.00	
	total	
	£ 400.76	

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

Members noted the following receipts

Mrs E.Richards (Walks booklet)	£ 5.00
Mrs C.Richards (Walks booklet)	£ 5.00
CC Precept (1 <sup>st</sup> instalment)	£ 4,850.00
CTS grant (1st instalment)	£ 62.03

## **11 REPORT OF CLERK AND CORRESPONDENCE**

The Clerk stated that he had nothing to report

## **12 MEMBERS' QUESTIONS**

To general acclaim, Cllr Blencowe paid tribute to the work that the Chairman had done whilst in office and to the professional manner in which the meetings had been conducted.

Cllr Praed reported that she had posted the dog stickers on the road up to Balwest and that she was of the opinion that it had had a positive effect. She again drew attention to the footpath finger-post at the northern end of PROW 28. The Clerk agreed to jog Bob Sanders' memory about that and about the two notice-boards (in Germoe Churchtown and at Great Work) which are awaiting reinstatement.

Cllr Keeling urged members and residents alike to report potholes using the on-line facility. Cornwall has been awarded £12 million to repair roads, so there should be no delay in completing repairs.

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## **13 CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS**

The Chairman thanked members for their support while she had been Chairman and the Clerk for his work and advice.

## **14 MATTERS FOR INCLUSION AT FUTURE MEETINGS**

Re-publication of *Six Walks through the ancient parishes of Breage and Germoe*.

## **DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING**

Annual Parish Meeting – Thursday May 13, 2021 at 7:00pm in **Balwest Methodist Schoolroom**

Annual Meeting – Thursday May 13, 2021 following the Annual Parish Meeting in **Balwest Methodist Schoolroom**

Signed.....

Dated.....

Chairman's initials.....