

# GERMOE PARISH COUNCIL

www.germoeparishcouncil.org.uk

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Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Germoe Parish Council held on Thursday May 24, 2021 immediately following the Annual Parish Meeting in Balwest Methodist Schoolroom.

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

**Visitor:** CCllr J.Keeling.

The Chairman welcomed Members and Visitors to the Annual Meeting

## 1 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Cllr Blencowe proposed, Cllr Doeser seconded and it was agreed that Cllr Praed be elected to the Chair of Germoe Parish Council for the year 2021 – 2022.

## 2 CHAIRMAN'S DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

Cllr Praed read aloud and signed the statutory Declaration of Acceptance of the Office of Chairman of Germoe Parish Council for the year 2021 – 2022 in the presence of the Clerk and the Council.

## 3 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies for absence were received.

## 4 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 relating to membership of the Council of a value greater than £25.

## 5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Cllr Blencowe proposed, Cllr Doeser seconded and it was agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday April 8, 2021 are a true record and the Chairman signed them as such.

## 6 MATTERS ARISING AND NOT COVERED ELSEWHERE ON THIS AGENDA

There were no matters arising which were not covered by this agenda.

## 7 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no members of the public present

## 8 CORNWALL COUNCILLOR'S COMMENTS

CCllr Keeling reported that

- he was delighted to be back in office and looked forward to working with Germoe for the coming four years
- the first full meeting of Cornwall Council, which will deal with business issues relating to the new Council will be held on Tuesday. The Conservative Party has a majority, but he hopes and believes it will work together with the Liberal Democrats and Independents for the benefit of Cornwall's residents
- he has every intention of holding the Cabinet to account as far as services are concerned
- even during the election period he had been kept busy with issues concerning planning, planning enforcement and road-safety. He added that he hopes Planning Enforcement measures will be made stronger and more effective well within the next four years.

In answer to a very general question concerning the forthcoming G7 summit meeting, it was noted that the county would not only be welcoming world leaders but also a number of vociferous protest groups.

<https://www.facebook.com/germoepc>

Chairman's initials.....

## **9 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN**

Cllr Blencowe proposed, Cllr Doeser seconded and it was agreed that Cllr Johnson be elected to be Vice-Chairman of Germoe Parish Council for the year 2021 – 2022.

## **10 CODE OF CONDUCT**

Cllr Johnson proposed, Cllr Doeser seconded and it was agreed that Germoe Parish Council should re-adopt Standing Orders as last fully revised in July 2018. It was noted that Cornwall Council has written a revised Code of Conduct for Councillors throughout the County and agreed to consider its adoption at a future meeting.

## **11 STANDING ORDERS**

Cllr Blencowe proposed, Cllr Bell seconded and it was agreed that Germoe Parish Council should re-adopt Standing Orders as last fully revised in July 2018. It was further agreed that this document would be re-visited within the next few months.

## **12 FINANCIAL REGULATIONS**

Cllr Blencowe proposed, Cllr Doeser seconded and it was agreed that Germoe Parish Council should re-adopt Financial Regulations as last reviewed and revised in September 2018. It was further agreed that this document would be re-visited within the next few months.

## **13 RISK ASSESSMENT DOCUMENT**

Cllr Doeser proposed, Cllr Johnson seconded and it was agreed that Germoe Parish Council should re-adopt the Risk Assessment document as first adopted in March 2015 and last reviewed in June 2018. It was further agreed that this document would be re-visited within the next few months.

## **14 APPOINTMENT OF COUNCILLORS TO POSTS OF RESPONSIBILITY**

### **Bank signatories**

It was agreed that Cllr Mrs Praed, Cllr Blencowe and Cllr Mrs Doeser should continue to act as signatories for Germoe Parish Council's bank account.

### **Financial Scrutineer**

It was agreed that Cllr Blencowe should scrutinise the accounts on a quarterly basis.

### **Notice-boards**

It was agreed that the following Councillors should be responsible for the following notice-boards

Balwest	Cllr Blencowe
Great Work	Cllr Mrs Praed
Nevada House	Cllr Mrs Doeser
Germoe	Cllr Bell
Newtown	Cllr Johnson
Tresowes Green	Cllr Mrs Doeser

### **Footpaths and bridleways**

It was agreed that Cllr Mrs Praed and Cllr Bell should be responsible for footpaths and bridleways.

### **Planning**

It was agreed that Cllr Blencowe and Cllr Bell should, in the first instance, be responsible for planning observations.

### **Helston and South Kerrier Area Community Network Panel**

It was agreed that Cllr Mrs Doeser should represent Germoe Parish Council at meetings of the Helston and South Kerrier Area Network Panel.

### **Germoe School**

It was agreed that Cllr Mrs Doeser should continue to liaise with the school authorities.

### **Press Liaison and Social Media Officer**

It was agreed that Cllr Bell should act as the Press Liaison and Social Media Officer.

## **15 PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS**

### **Appointment of the Internal Auditor for the year to March 31, 2022**

Cllr Blencowe proposed Cllr Doeser seconded and it was agreed that Mr J.P.Richards (formerly Kerrier District Council's Senior Auditor) should continue to act as Germoe Parish Council's internal auditor.

### **Co-option of two Parish Councillors**

It was noted that Germoe Parish Council currently lacks a full complement of Councillors. Considerable discussion concerning differing ways of attracting residents to stand for co-option followed, but it was agreed that notices inviting

eligible individuals to stand for co-option should be posted on the notice-boards and on the Parish Council's Facebook page.

## 16 PARISH MATTERS

### Climate Change

It was noted that the consultation on the Climate Emergency Development Plan Document has ended and that it will now go to Cornwall Council for adoption

### Gateway Scheme

Members noted that although the 'gateway' scheme on the Tregonning Hill road has been installed, there are problems of design and visibility with the western gateway. Cllr Blencowe had met with a representative of Cornwall Highways who agreed that the gateway as installed was less than satisfactory and that the western gateway should be re-installed in the previously agreed position. All being well, this work will be completed by the end of June.

### Projects within the Parish

It was agreed to take the matter of the revision of the Six Walks booklet and the associated maps and explanations which feature on the Parish Council's notice-boards further.

## 17 PLANNING

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

PA21/03042 Mr and Mrs I.Foster – Replacement single storey rear and linked side extension – 17. Trewithen Terrace, Ashton. Cllr Blencowe proposed Cllr Johnson seconded and it was agreed that this application should be returned with the observation *Germoe Parish Council supports this application.*

PA21/03389 Mrs S.Fletcher – Proposed Extension to form Bathroom & Porch (inc. Balcony from first floor living room) – Fox Cottage, Tresowes. Cllr Blencowe proposed Cllr Doeser seconded and it was agreed that this application should be returned with the observation *Germoe Parish Council supports this application.*

### Decisions

PA21/04350 Decided not to make a TPO – Proposed works to coppice a group of Blackthorn trees in the Conservation Area – Wide Horizons, Tresowes Hill – *noted*

## 18 GERMOE PARISH COUNCIL'S INSURANCE POLICY

Members reviewed the terms of Germoe Parish Council's Insurance Policy and the offer from Covea Insurance Ltd to insure the council for the following liabilities at an annual premium of £ 341.24

### **Mandatory cover**

Public liability	£10,000,000
Employers Liability	£10,000,000

### **Legal Liabilities**

Money	
negotiable	£ 2,500
Employee dishonesty	£ 250,000
Commercial legal protection	£ 100,000
Officials' indemnity	£ 250,000

### **Optional cover**

Libel and slander	£ 250,000
Property damage (War Memorial)	£ 7,000
Defibrillators and cabinets	£ 6,000

Also included in the cover are the following

Hirers' Liability	£ 1,000,000
Personal accident	
capital benefit (up to)	£ 10,000
temporary total disablement (per week)	£ 100

Additionally, when on Parish Council business, all volunteers are automatically covered.

Cllr Doeser proposed, Cllr Johnson seconded and it was agreed to insure Germoe Parish Council through Covea Insurance Ltd and to pay the premium demanded of £341.24

Members noted that Germoe Parish Council will self-insure all its assets other than the War Memorial during the year to May 31, 2022.

## 19 FINANCE

The Clerk presented Councillors with a statement of Germoe Parish Council's financial position as at May 24, 2021. A copy of that statement is attached to these minutes.

The following accounts were presented for consideration:

	<b>GROSS</b>	<b>VAT</b>
Sign Trade Supplies Ltd	£ 33.40	£ 5.57
R.Sanders		
Churchtown notice-board)	£ 390.00	
Greens	£ 90.00	
	£468.00	£ 78.00
Colin Chapman		
Salary (April)	£ 248.66	
telephone	£ 21.75	
office expenses	£ 44.15	
Zoom Video Communications	£ 14.39	
use of home as office	£ 20.00	
	total   £ 348.95	

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

## 20 REPORT OF CLERK AND CORRESPONDENCE

**Clerks and Councils Direct** newsletter – *noted*

## 21 MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

Members noted that

- there are an increasing number of mountain bikes being used on parish footpaths particular on and near Tregonning Hill. The Clerk advised members to report this to the Police using the 101@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk e-mail address
- at the request of a neighbour, Cllr Bell had joined a meeting of interested parties concerned with the incidence of Ash Dieback in the mature trees in the closed church-yard. He reported that those trees will all have to be removed (three will have to be removed within six months), which will inevitably alter the present-day look of the village, but members noted that in the late fifties and early sixties there were no trees in the church-yard. It is anticipated that young trees will be planted as replacements.

## 22 CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

The Chairman thanked members for their confidence in her, undertook to work hard for the Parish and looked forward to seeing everyone at the next meeting.

## 23 MATTERS FOR INCLUSION AT FUTURE MEETINGS

These have been noted in the text of these minutes.

## DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday July 1, 2021 at 7.00pm in Balwest Methodist Schoolroom.

Signed.....

Dated.....