

GERMOE PARISH COUNCIL

www.germoeparishcouncil.org.uk

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Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of Germoe Parish Council held on Thursday April 7, 2022 at 7:00pm in Balwest Methodist Schoolroom.

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

Visitors: Miss Motley and Mr Taylor.

The Chairman welcomed all those present to the meeting.

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from CCllr Keeling.

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 £50 either in the form of a single gift or as a cumulative total

There were no declarations of gifts of a value greater than £50.

3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Cllr Mrs Doeser proposed, Cllr Foster seconded and it was agreed that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Thursday, March 3, 2022 are a true record and the Chairman signed them as such.

4 MATTERS ARISING AND NOT COVERED ELSEWHERE ON THIS AGENDA

There were no matters arising that were not covered on this agenda.

5 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr Taylor stated that he was present to explain the amendments to his earlier application PA21/12500 (alterations and extension to existing dwelling and construction of a new garden store building at Bowji Barn, Great Work). Since the earlier submission, he had noted and acted upon the Planning Officer's suggestions and the result is the amended plans which are before the Council and which will be discussed later in the meeting. He noted that an earlier comment from the Parish Council had suggested that the gable-end of the extension which faces the road should be constructed of stone: neither he nor the Planning Officer are in favour of doing that and, in line with the Cornwall Policy 21 Design, he proposes that the gable-end should be larch-faced and thus distinct from the existing historic stone dwelling.

6 CORNWALL COUNCILLOR'S COMMENTS

In the absence of CCllr Keeling there was no report.

7 PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS

Germoe Parish Council: Environment Policy

Members reviewed Germoe Parish Council's Environment Policy. It was agreed that there should be an audit of the policies contained within this document and the Chairman asked Members to consider each of the policies and whether or not it might be fairly stated that the Parish Council is acting in line with them and to report back at the next meeting.

Purchase of a computer

Members noted the purchase of a computer for use with the projector.

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CALC

Members considered an invitation to take up membership of CALC in the sum of £270.77 + VAT for the current year's subscription. Following discussion, members agreed that, as matters stand, this represents an unnecessary expense.

Siting of a third defibrillator within the Parish at Trewithen Terrace

Members noted that a defibrillator to be sited in the telephone box at Trewithen Terrace has been ordered, but that it will not be delivered until after receipt of the Parish Council's cheque.

St Germoe Closed Churchyard

Members considered an offer from Cornwall Council to cut the Closed Churchyard at St Germoe's in the sum of £162.74. The Clerk reported that the PCC intends doing this work and that the financial grant offered would be gratefully accepted. Cllr Mrs Doeser proposed, Cllr Foster seconded and it was agreed to accept the grant.

8 PARISH MATTERS

Climate Change

There was nothing further to report.

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee (Thursday June 2, 2022 to Sunday June 5, 2022)

The Chairman reported that she had handed over the Chairmanship of the advisory committee to Cllr Foster at the meeting on February 16, 2022 in the sure knowledge that he will drive the project forward. She added that planting seeds at this time of the year in the hope that they will be in flower on June 2nd is probably wishful thinking and that therefore the committee would be considering the purchase of young plants. The next meeting of the advisory committee will be on Tuesday April 20 in the Church Hall.

The Clerk reported that he is still awaiting details of a suitable boulder, but that in the meanwhile he had drawn up a draft of a form of words which might prove a starting point for discussion. Members reviewed the document and agreed to use that as a basis for the metal insert on the stone.

9 PLANNING

To make observations on planning applications including the following

PA22/02349 Mr J.Stevens – Proposed conversion of and extensions to existing single storey stone structure to create two-storey residential dwelling – land south-west of Western Power Electrical Distribution Centre, Boscrege. Cllr Blencowe proposed, Cllr Bell seconded and it was agreed to return this application marked *This application is made under CLP Policy 21 which covers the best use of land and promotes the reuse of "previously developed land" for sustainable development. However for individual market housing the use of such land is limited to "previously developed land immediately adjoining a settlement" as detailed in CLP Policy 3 para. 1.68.*

The proposed development site is within the countryside and is not in immediate proximity to a settlement consequently it does not comply with the requirements of Cornwall Local Plan Policy 3 Role and Function of Places. For this reason Germoe Parish Council is not able to support the application.

PA21/12500 Mr Taylor – Alterations and extension to existing dwelling and construction of a new garden store building – Bowji Barn, Great Work. Cllr Blencowe proposed, Cllr Johnson seconded and it was agreed to return this application marked *Germoe Parish Council supports this application.*

Decisions

PA21/12733 REFUSED – Demolition of dwelling and domestic garage and construction of 2 houses and domestic garages. (Amended scheme to PA18/02293) – former Rojeska, Tresowes – *noted*

10 FINANCE

The Clerk presented Councillors with a statement of Germoe Parish Council's financial position as at April 7, 2022. A copy of that statement is attached to these minutes.

The Clerk reported that Mr Peter Richards, Germoe Parish Council's Internal Auditor, has approved and signed the Annual Return for the year to March 31, 2022 making no comments, observations or suggestions.

Parish Councillors considered the Statement of Assurance required for the Annual Return for the year ended March 31, 2022. Cllr Mrs Doeser 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, 2022.

The Clerk presented the accounts for the year April 1, 2021 – March 31, 2022. Cllr Blencowe proposed, Cllr Mrs Doeser seconded, all others in favour that Germoe Parish Council accepts the accounts for the year April 1, 2021 – March 31, 2022.

Members considered a resolution that Germoe Parish Council, having a turnover for the year 2021 – 2022 of less than £25,000 should declare that it is an exempt authority within the definition contained in the Local Audit (Smaller

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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 Mrs Doeser proposed, Cllr Blencowe seconded and it was agreed that for the financial year 2021 – 2022 Germoe Parish Council will declare itself an exempt authority within the definition contained in the Local Audit (Smaller Authorities) Regulations 2015.

The following accounts were presented for consideration:

	GROSS	NET	VAT
Ronnie Richards Memorial Charity (defibrillator)	£ 1,538.10		
David Blencowe (laptop, cable, case)	£ 304.67	£ 253.89	£ 50.78
Chown China Ltd	£ 745.68	£ 621.40	£ 124.28
R.Sanders (Open spaces)	£ 108.00	£ 90.00	£ 18.00
Biffa (2 bins 25/09/21 – 16/03/22)	£ 144.77	£ 120.64	£ 24.13
Colin Chapman			
Salary (March)	£ 305.27		
telephone	£ 27.82		
office expenses	£ 25.80		
travelling	£ 27.00		
use of home as office	£ 20.00		
	total	£ 405.89	

Cllr Mrs Doeser proposed, Cllr Foster seconded and it was agreed that the above six accounts should be paid.

11 REPORT OF CLERK AND CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk stated that he had nothing further to report.

12 MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

Members noted that the recent Community Network Panel meeting had accepted all nine agreed bids for highways projects, but that the total the cost overshoots this year's budget by some £12,000. The portfolio holder will be asked if it is possible to deduct this sum from next year's allowance, but in the meanwhile, member Councils are asked to rank the nine bids in their preferred order. Members agreed that it would be invidious for Germoe to do this and the Clerk was asked to report the Council's belief.

The Community Speed Watch scheme is currently being promoted and Cllr Keeling is keen to attract volunteers.

Cllr Bell asked if the Council would consider putting a fourth defibrillator in the telephone kiosk at Tresowes. It was noted that the kiosk is not one which has been offered for sale to the community and the Clerk was asked to investigate further.

Members noted the continuing complaints about the misuse of the litter-bin at Great Work by dog-owners.

It was finally noted that large vehicles using the lane between Germoe Churchtown and Bolwest have struck buildings abutting the highway causing damage.

13 CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

The Chairman had nothing to report.

14 MATTERS FOR INCLUSION AT FUTURE MEETINGS

Review and audit of Germoe Parish Council's Environmental Policy.

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETINGS

Annual Parish Meeting – Thursday May 5, 2022 at 7:00pm in **Balwest Methodist Schoolroom**

Annual Meeting – Thursday May 5, 2022 following the Annual Parish Meeting in **Balwest Methodist Schoolroom**

Signed.....

Dated.....

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