

Gwennap Parish Council

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD AT GWENNAP CHURCH HALL ON 23rd AUGUST 2007

Present.	Cllr I Herbert (Chairman) , Cllr R Snell, Cllr D Squibb, Cllr R Humble, Cllr K Furnish, Cllr J Ward, Cllr J Wharton (Vice Chairman)
In attendance	Alan Blamey - Clerk, District Cllr J Whiteley
Apologies	none
Also present :	Mr Pickles, Mr & Mrs Allard, Mrs Wharton, PCSO's Vincent & Wood

PARISHIONERS' DISCUSSION

1. Mr Pickles spoke regarding the proposed closure of Old Carnon Hill. Along with most other Frogpool residents, were strongly against the plan. It was explained that the Parish Council would be opposing it and it was suggested Mr Pickles himself writes an individual objection, and encourages as many other to as possible.
2. A letter had been handed to the Clerk before the meeting from resident Mrs Grande of Glebe Vale, Gwennap. The problems of water draining off fields onto the highway and across her property had previously been reported to Highways, and the Clerk would send a copy of the correspondence asking for immediate attention.
3. Mr & Mrs Allard and Mrs Wharton had come to register their dismay at their perceived lack of action on the part of the Parish Council to prevent the noise nuisance at Wheal Maid. The Chairman explained where we were in the process of waiting for the Environment Agency's report, following which a remediation plan would be worked up, but none of this solved the current problem. After much debate the Council agreed to discuss in the meeting proper proposals to lobby the County Council to complete their fencing of the valley and to create further trenches at strategic points to prevent 4x4 access.
4. The Police fully supported the request for fencing as it would minimise the number of access points in and out of the valley, making it easier to patrol.
5. PCSO Vincent then gave his report on activity in the Parish during the past month. There had been a slight increase in reported crime compared with the same period last year, and the Force Enquiry Centre had received 33 calls, quite a few regarding Wheal Maid. However, recently, a vehicle had been seized for returning to Wheal Maid after a warning, and this would hopefully be seen as a message to others.
6. PCSO Vincent was making his last appearance before leaving to become a regular police officer, and he was thanked for his efforts whilst covering our area.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

07/216 none.

MINUTES.

07/217

It was RESOLVED that the minutes of the July meeting be signed as a true record..

ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES.

07/218

1. Crofthandy Village Hall's proposals for a new building had progressed from the 1-in-1500 stage to the 1-in-500 stage. They were now looking for letters of support from users and it was RESOLVED that the Parish Council writes a letter in this vein. The Chairman of the Village Hall would be asked to formally contact the Clerk outlining the requirements.
Cllr Humble spoke from previous experience elsewhere when he explained the rigorous criteria that would have to be met. The Chairman also had some background information that he would share.

WHEAL MAID

07/219

1. Cllr Squibb wanted to place on record that we (the Parish Council) do care about the issues at Wheal Maid. This followed a comment to the contrary made in the public clinic debate. The Council spends considerable time on the subject, and would continue to do so.

2. The Clerk had received legal advice from the NALC regarding the Permissive Path Licence that County Council wanted us to enter in to. At this stage, the advice was to sign nothing until the EA report had been received and its implication fully understood. There were other pints raised, and the Clerk had written to the County Legal section outlining them and awaited their comments.
3. The Clerk had spoken to Joe Ryan at the EA for an update on the long awaited report. Again, it was not ready, but was 'almost there', with just the HPA element outstanding, following which it would be discussed at a senior level within the EA before being shared with us and the District Council.
4. It was RESOLVED that the Clerk engages the services of a JCB to carry out the ditching and other works necessary.
5. It was further RESOLVED that a letter be sent to Mike Hawkey at the County Council urging him to reinstate the fencing programme as soon as possible to help the police control the area better.
6. It was also RESOLVED that the Clerk writes to Wheal Jane asking if they could begin their work-up of remediation plans in advance of the EA report in an effort to cut down on the overall time scale. They would also be asked to put in writing their offer to help, as this had only previously been verbally discussed. The Chairman felt it would be wise to have on record why they want to help us and their intentions.
7. Cllr Snell expressed his disappointment that at the recent meeting at Wheal Jane, the Parish Councillors did not withdraw from the meeting as a body. Instead, two Councillors remained. It was generally felt that it would have provided a better impression of a united Council if all had left at the same time. Something to bear in mind for the future perhaps.
8. Cllr Wharton mentioned that Wheal Jane had the sole rights should any tipping take place in the valley. He was sure the deeds stated this. The Clerk would check this and report back, as it came as quite a surprise to Councillors.
9. The Police had replied to our query regarding a recent 4x4 incident in the valley, stating that their handling of the matter was felt to be the most appropriate for the particular circumstances.

PARISH COMMUNICATIONS (NEWSLETTER & WEBSITE)

07/220

1. Cllr Furnish produced his final draft of what the Newsletter would look like when it was posted out the following week, and asked Councillors to get back to him immediately with any concerns/amendments they felt necessary.
2. Cllr Whitely had obtained a disc from Carrick with the addresses of all parish households. This would be used for the first quarterly issue but following editions would be hand delivered by Councillors and other volunteers, with some outlying addresses being posted.
3. It was formally RESOLVED that the Parish Council meets the postage and other printing/production costs of the newsletter. The Clerk and Cllr Furnish urged Councillors to provide articles of parish interest for the next edition, which would be sent out in early December. Without interesting articles, the venture would sink.
4. Cllr Furnish was thanked for his work and Councillors were impressed with the final product.
5. It was also RESOLVED to pay for the fees necessary in setting up the Parish Web Site. This was probably a month away from the final polished launch, and would include Parish minutes, the newsletter and details of the working of Council.
6. Councillors expressed their support for this exciting modern way of improving our communication links with the public.

07/221 WHEAL JEWEL REFURBISHMENT

The County Council had been awarded a large grant to refurbish Wheal Jewel Gypsy Site and invited comments on ways in which the money could be invested. The Clerk would write to ask for low-level lighting to avoid the neon glow in the night sky, for all new pipe work to be plastic, as copper tended to attract crime, and for the site size not to be increased. If anything, it would be beneficial if it were reduced in size.

PROPOSED ROAD CLOSURE – OLD CARNON HILL

07/222

1. The Clerk and Chairman, along with Perranarworthal Parish Council, had been invited to Feock Parish Council's offices to have the background to the proposal explained. Whilst understanding this, it was felt we could not support the idea as so many of our residents were opposed to it. It was RESOLVED that the Clerk would write a strong letter of objection to the County Surveyor, outlining many of the points raised by residents. There was similar opposition in Perranwell where a petition was being signed, and also at Carnon Downs itself, in the shop.
2. At the meeting with Feock and Perranarworthal, the suggestion was made that the three Councils should form a working group to improve the local traffic flows, adding weight to proposals. This idea was felt to be worth exploring.

CORRESPONDENCE

07/223

1. CCC Environment & Heritage - Kath Statham, Mineral Tramways Project Manager had written to explain she was moving away from Mineral Tramways and handing over to Simon Murray.

2. Carrick DC - Their Chairman would like to visit as many Parish meetings as possible. The Clerk had supplied our future dates as requested.
3. Carrick DC - New Code of Conduct acceptance by Parish Councils, & training on Thursday 18th October at 6.00 p.m. would be attended by all 5 of the Councillors who had not previously managed to attend.
4. CCC Surveyor - Our query regarding road safety at Cusgarne School had been referred to our local member for possible funding.
5. Stithians Parish Council had written to enquire whether Gwennap Parish had any cemetery capacity that could be used for their residents, as their own available space was filling fast. It was RESOLVED not to offer any of our capacity as our own problems would then be advanced.
6. May Gurney were carrying out Water meter essential maintenance at the Playing Field.
7. CCC Highways had now completed their consultation process regarding the footway between the Cornish Arms and Pencantol and thanked the Parish Council for their observations.
8. CCC Chief Executive had written on the subject of "One Cornwall, One Council chosen by Government" – and promised dialogue with all Parish Councils in the near future on potential devolution of duties.
9. Devon & Cornwall Police Authority were holding their Carrick Liaison Meeting on 6th September at Falmouth School, at 7.30 p.m.

PLANNING
07/224

1. Appeal decision on 1 Chellean Vean, Frogpool (Fence). Appeal dismissed.
2. Withdrawal of plans – Penventon Nursery (railings and fence)
3. Decision notice, Penventon Nursery, Treviskey - Tea room changes **GRANTED.**

NEW APPLICATIONS

Appn Ref PA12/1062/07/B
 Applicant Kensa Heat Pumps Ltd
 Location Mount Wellington Mine, Fernsplatt
 Development demolition of existing redundant concrete and steel structures
 Grid Ref 176070/41720
SUPPORT

Appn Ref PA07/00994/F
 Applicant Mr S Danks
 Location Treviskey, Lanner
 Development erection of two storey office building with associated parking
 Grid Ref -
SUPPORT

Appn Ref PA12/1098/07/R
 Applicant Mr & Mrs Penna
 Location Tresamble Hill, Pulla Cross
 Development conversion of existing redundant agricultural building to residential use
 Grid Ref 175560/39490
SUPPORT

Appn Ref PA12/1573/07/B
 Applicant T-Mobile Ltd
 Location St Day Telephone Exchange, Little Beside
 Development erection of 23.7m timber clad monopole & 3 antennas
 Grid Ref 173310/42990
SUPPORT

FINANCE

07/225

IT WAS RESOLVED to pay the following accounts: -

CHEQUE NO.	TO WHOM	DETAIL	AMOUNT (£)
100726	Cwll & Devon Media Ltd	Adverts	35.26
100727	Crofthandy Village Hall	Hire of Hall 06/07	35.00
100728	Brewers Business Solutions	office sundries	59.51
100729	L Moody	cleaning/litter June- Aug	255.95
100730	M P Chegwidden	grass / footpaths	992.87
100731	VCGW Church Hall	hire of hall	15.00
100732	K Furnish	Newsletter / WebSite exp.	117.18

REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE

07/226

1. The small 'island' at Crofthandy crossroads was a grassy area that was used by all pedestrians to get to and from the bus stop. In winter it becomes muddy and therefore dangerous. The Clerk will write to the Surveyor to see if they are prepared to put some macadam down.
2. It was RESOLVED that the Council instructs Paul Chegwidden to repair the stone hedge at the rear of Gwennap Village Hall where it is falling into the drive of a resident.
3. The Clerk will write to the Parochial Church Council to see if they will give permission to top the holly trees on the churchyard hedge alongside Court Farmhouse.
4. It was RESOLVED that the Clerk sends out details of the works required to the Cornish Arms Bus Shelter, inviting local builders/carpenters to quote for the work.

FOOTPATHS

07/227

1. The Clerk had inspected the footpath from Gwennap Church to Pulla and found stile areas had an electric fence across them. The owner felt this was acceptable and that walkers could unhinge it at the plastic handle point. The Clerk has now written to the Countryside Access Team to seek their views.

Signed.....
Chairman

27th September 2007