

Gwennap Parish Council

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD AT GWENNAP CHURCH HALL ON 23rd APRIL 2009

Present.	Cllr I Herbert (Chairman) ,Cllr R Snell, Cllr R Humble, Cllr M Padmore, Cllr K Furnish, Cllr P Roscorla
Apologies	The Police
Also present :	J.Bawden, D.Lanyon, S.Trelease, S.Oates , Mrs Allard, Mrs Wharton, Ms Ward

PUBLIC CLINIC

1. Mr Trelease spoke as secretary of Crofthandy Village Hall, and was disappointed with the Parish Council's response to the recent letter asking for assistance, either financial or in other areas. They were planning to build a new hall but anticipated a shortfall, possibly in the region of £10k.
The Chairman explained that the Parish Council were not shutting the door to the Village Hall Committee, as perceived, but were in a similar process of planning to build new Parish Rooms at Pulla Cross, and at this stage did not know what Parish financial balances would be , as grant applications were still uncertain.
Mr Lanyon intimated that all the Parish Council's money, including the Section 137 funding, was being spent in the Pulla Cross area. It was pointed out that Crofthandy had received several thousand pounds recently in lane resurfacing and other works, and that the actual total sum involved at Pulla Cross was as yet unknown, with no Section 137 monies committed to the project. Mr Lanyon also felt it was important to have a facility in Crofthandy, whereas the Parish Council could continue to hire other halls rather than replace their own Portakabin.
Cllr Humble suggested the Co-Operative Community Project could be an avenue of grant funding for the Village Hall Committee to explore.
Mrs Wharton suggested that funds held by the Parish Council specifically for Wheal Maid would not now be required as the Environment Agency would be paying for everything, so that money could be channelled into the Village Hall. The Clerk explained that the funding passed on to the Council by the mining company was for environmental planting and would still be required for that purpose.
2. Mr Lanyon had seen the plans for the improvements at Pulla Cross and made several suggestions for improving the design. He was invited to write to the Council with a list that could then be discussed when the project moved on to the next stage.
3. Mr Lanyon asked for the minutes of Council meetings to be put on notice boards earlier, but the Chairman explained that until the whole Council had agreed them to be a true record, and he had signed them as such, then they could not be made public. However, he did point Mr Lanyon in the direction of a summary that appeared in the West Briton the week following the meeting.
4. Ms Ward asked the Council why a digger had travelled across Council property at Wheal Maid at the weekend. The Chairman had no knowledge and the Clerk confirmed it did not feature in the police report, but in a conversation with the police earlier in the day they had mentioned the digger, saying it was a landowner going to his fields. No more was made of it. Mrs Wharton suggested it was Cllr Furnish on the digger and asked him for an explanation. He declined, feeling it was a personal matter. Cllr Roscorla asked Mrs Wharton to put her questions in writing to the Chairman and he confirmed he would look into the matter and respond accordingly.
5. The question of what happens at United Refuse Disposal Site now that the planned incinerator at St Dennis had been turned down, was raised. As yet, there were no answers, but the Parish Council representatives that sat on the SITA liaison group would raise the question along with other points of concern.
6. The poor state of the road surfaces across the parish was raised again, and it was pointed out that the approach road to the Wheal Jewell Site at Carharrack had been resurfaced. The Clerk explained that this was likely to be from specific funding allocated to the scheme last year by the County Council, ring fenced for that project only.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

09/001

Cllr Padmore on anything SITA related.

Cllr Humble on anything related to the caravans at Pulla Bridge or the Trehaddle Farm development.

PREVIOUS MINUTES.

09/002

It was RESOLVED that the previous minutes be signed as a correct record of events after one minor amendment.

ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES.

09/003 nil.

WHEAL MAID

09/004

1. The Clerk had carried out the monthly visual inspection of the valley and reported nothing untoward. He had replaced seven of the “contaminated land” signs.
2. Cornwall Council would be replacing the stolen gate at the stile on the north entrance to the valley. The structure had been erected to restrict vehicular access from that side of the valley, and to assist the police when trying to apprehend offenders. It was not erected to denote a definitive footpath.

PLANNING

09/005

Plans for comment by Parish Council:

1. Mr D C Nicholls, Primrose Farm, United Road, St Day - agricultural machinery storage. SUPPORT AGRICULTURAL ASPECT, OBJECT TO MOBILE HOME .
2. Mrs S Ely, The Studio, Highlands, Fernsplatt - certificate of lawfulness for existing residential use. NO RELEVANT COMMENT.
3. Mr Saunders, 6 Trelawney Estate, Frogpool - proposed new dwelling at rear of No 6. SUPPORT IF CORNWALL COUNCIL ARE SATISFIED WITH REDUCED PARKING SPACES FOR ESTATE.

Decision Notices received back from Carrick:

1. Mrs B Richards, The Brook, Crofthandy - extension to dwelling APPROVED
2. Mr Stephen, Granston Cottage, Coombe Hill - extension to dwelling APPROVED.
3. Mr D Datson, Riverside, Point Mills - demolish and replace garage. APPROVED
4. Mr Morgan, Pengreep Cottage, Ponsanooth - single storey extension. APPROVED.
5. Miss Andrew & Mr Clack, Chelston, Coldwind Cross - alterations and extension. APPROVED
6. Mr G. Beconsall, Unit 19/20, United Downs Ind. Park - motor auction building. APPROVED
7. Mr M Smith, Robins Hill, Gwennap - double garage. APPROVED.

CORRESPONDENCE

09/006

- The Minutes of Carharrack Parish Council meeting held on 23rd March 2009 had been received.
- The Equality and Human Rights Commission drew our attention to the forthcoming Equality Bill, and as part of our Public Sector Duties we were expected to continue to meet existing obligations until the new bill became law, probably in 2011.
- Cornwall Council Community Network Manager, Mark James was calling an initial meeting of Parish & Town Councils to outline the new way of working now that Community Network Areas were in place. It would be held at Gwennap Church Hall on Thursday next, and the Clerk and Cllr Humble would attend.
- Cornwall Hospice Care had sent literature promoting their “Make a Will Week”.
- The Boundary Commission had written to confirm the details of the electoral review. There would be no review of the grouping until at least 2013, so we will share a Cornwall Councillor with Carharrack and Stithians after the 4th June elections.
- Casual Vacancy new arrangements had been advised. We now looked to the officers at the old Kerrier D.C. for our admin support.
- The Cornwall Council precept payment for the first six months had been received.
- The Information Commissioner’s Office (ICO) had sent a “Freedom of Information” DVD for our information.
- County Highways had advised of a temporary road closure at Badger Hill, Gwennap from 27th April to 15th May.
- Our lack of representation at the recent Community Fete meeting was commented on, and Cllr Roscorla would attend on our behalf in future. It was also requested that the Parish Council puts forward someone to look over the financial governance of the fund raising, and Cllr Furnish agreed to do this by liasing with the committee’s treasurer.
- The Police report was handed around. It indicated four crimes had been reported in the past month, down from seven in a similar period last year. There had also been a concerted police effort in the Wheal Maid Valley which had resulted in a further two Section 59/60 warning notices being issued.

REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE

09/007

1. Cllr Humble had replaced the playing field gate catch and playhouse roof timbers as drawn to our attention from the last safety inspection. Paul Chegwidden had sawn off the protruding bolts and repaired the timber seat.
2. It was RESOLVED that the Council pays for the external hard drive required to ensure the computerised records of the Council are safely backed up.

FOOTPATHS

09/008

1. The Clerk had met with Countryside Access to express our dismay at the low offer for footpath trimming for the forthcoming year. He proposed that twenty footpaths be re-classified which would attract a higher reimbursement and this would be considered by County. A reply was anticipated in a month.
2. At the same meeting, the Clerk pressed for a reply to our request to have the byway through the Hale Mills tunnel downgraded to a footpath. Since the acknowledgement some months ago, nothing had been heard. He also explained our intention to erect a locking post at the entrance to the tunnel to prevent vehicular access, with local landowners having a key as the Parish Council acknowledged their need to access to their land.
3. Cllr Humble pointed out that at Path 39 off Race Hill the path entrance was obstructed by an electric fence and other obstacles. The Clerk would draw this to the attention of Countryside Access.

FINANCE

09/009

1. Income had been received in the past month of £42 – newsletter advert: £285 burial fees : £13,500 part precept : £1647.87 vat rebate.
2. The Annual Return and Annual Governance Statement were signed by the Clerk and Chairman in preparation for submission to the Auditors.
3. The Chairman and Vice Chairman also signed the Income and Expenditure Cash Book for the 2008/09 financial year.
4. It was RESOLVED that the following cheques be signed for payment:

CHEQUE	PAYEE	SERVICE	AMOUNT
100861	Cornwall Council	Planning Application Fee	£335.00
100862	Frogpool Methodist Church	Hire of Rooms	£84.00
100863	Cwll & Devon Media	Car Boot Adverts	£36.80
100864	A Burton	Design fees	£600.00
100865	M P Chegwidden	Grass Cutting/other works	£1301.80
100866	Premier-PC	external back-up device	£109.25
100867	Gwennap Church Hall	hire of hall	£18.00

PORTAKABIN REPLACEMENT.

09/010

The planning application had now been submitted on our behalf by Andy Burton. Whilst Cornwall Council were deliberating on this, work needed to continue on the detail for the building and it was agreed that Cllrs Roscorla, Furnish and Padmore, plus the Clerk meet with Mr Burton to further the process. The Clerk will arrange a mutually convenient date.

OTHER MATTERS.

09/011

1. The Chairman had been approached by a film company that wanted to use the Wheal Maid Valley for a couple of days to shoot a film. In principle, the Council had no objections but much more detail was needed. If there was any fee due it was suggested that it should be passed on to the Crofthandy Village Hall fund.
2. Questions had been asked in the Frogpool area as to the future of the T7 bus service. It was confirmed that although there were minor changes to timings, no reduction in service was to occur, although it would no longer be the T7 - probably the T34.

Signed.....
Chairman

28th May 2009