

Gwennap Parish Council

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD AT THE PARISH ROOMS, PULLA CROSS ON 15th DECEMBER 2011

Present. Cllr Furnish (Chairman), Cllr Humble (Vice Chairman), Cllr Roscorla, Cllr Padmore, Cllr Evans, Cllr Lanyon

Apologies Cllr Barton

Also present : Mr Reburn, Mr Bawden, Mr & Mrs Medlyn, Mrs Rowe, PCSO Gamble, PC Jones

PUBLIC CLINIC

1. Mrs Medlyn asked for Higher Goongumpas Lane to be trimmed back by the landowner. She had raised this matter several months ago, and now delivery lorries were refusing to use the lane unless branches and growth were cut. The matter would be discussed in the meeting under Footpaths, as would her other request for attention to potholes in Lower Goongumpas Lane.
2. Mr Bawden thanked the Council for their efforts during the past year, feeling that they had worked hard to provide a service to the residents.
3. PCSO Gamble gave her report for the past month. There had been 4 reported crimes, a slight increase on the previous period. Only nine calls had been received at the Force Enquiry Centre relating to the parish during the month. Theft of scrap metal was still on the increase. She introduced PC Bob Jones as our neighbourhood police contact, and he spoke of changes currently being made in the way policing was delivered locally.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

11/226 none.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING TO APPROVE

11/227

The minutes of the November meeting were signed as a true record.

MATTERS ARISING.

11/228

1. There had been no new information from the Football Club regarding the acquisition of a container.
2. A reply had been received from Mrs Holt of Goon Farm regarding the land ownership problem. She was of the opinion that the land had suffered from 'double conveyancing' and that the Parish Council should complete forms she had received from the Land Registry, pay a £50 fee and transfer the land back to her. It was unanimously agreed that as the Parish Council held the registration of the land that no public monies should be expended to prove our ownership. It lay with Mrs Holt to discuss with Wheal Jane how to find the proof necessary that the land was still in her ownership and to trace where an error may have occurred. The Clerk will bring our Land Registry document to the next meeting.
3. It was understood that the Football Club were awaiting a meeting with the Youth Football Manager. Following this, they would inform the Parish Council of their thoughts.
4. Cllr Lanyon was disgusted that the Parish Council had misguidedly supported the planning application of the Chairman to erect a shed on an ancient track that was still classified as a byway. If it had not been an application from the Chairman, he felt it would have been viewed differently. The ancient track was part of the World Heritage Site and should be protected from development. Cllr Humble, who was acting Chairman for the meeting in question, refuted that there had been any bias – the application was decided on its merits. He took exception to Cllr Lanyon's comments. Cllr Furnish (Chairman) asked for it to be recorded that he was not present at the meeting when the application was discussed.
5. The tipping taking place on the northern boundary of Wheal Maid was confirmed by the E.A. as having a three year U1 exemption to receive controlled waste. It would expire in July 2013. The Planning department would be asked for their views on the way the tipping had changed the profile of the land in the World Heritage Site.

CORRESPONDENCE

11/229

1. Cornwall Council Planning was making an expansion of their Householder Team (West) to give faster response to applications. The success of a trial in the West means a roll-out to the Central section, and could mean the Parish having to respond to applications faster than normal.
2. The Wheal Maid inspection for December was noted.

3. The litter report for December was read. It was appreciated that the contractor also reported incidents of fly tipping, and followed them up if not removed.
4. A letter from a resident regarding the road from Gwennap Church to Sunny Corner was discussed. It mentioned heavy good vehicles using the road and the weight restricted bridge at Gwennap, and also speeding of vehicles. The Clerk was asked to inform the police so that they could monitor the situation.

PLANNING

11/230

Planning Applications received for comment:

1. Mr S Grant, Clifford House, Race Hill, Bissoe - conditions modification for two cottages from holiday to residential SUPPORT
2. Mr R Drew, Harmony Cottage, Goongumpas - change of use of garages to form single holiday unit and extension of cartilage SUPPORT

REPORTS FROM EXTERNAL MEETINGS ATTENDED

11/231

1. The Clerk and Cllr Humble had attended the Mining Villages meeting held on 1st December. The MVR Group had been successful in obtaining a grant for a website to promote Mining Trails. We had previously resolved to commit £500 towards the venture, and we would now be expected to provide details of three circuits in our Parish, all leaving and returning to the Mineral Tramways paths. The Clerk had agreed to provide the routes.
2. Following the Mining Villages meeting, the Community Network Group met. A speaker from Cornwall Council spoke of the changes that would be required to our Code of Conduct following the introduction of the Localism Bill. There were still some uncertainties, but the suggestion is that we adopt Cornwall Council's version, giving uniformity throughout the County. The current split between personal and prejudicial interests is likely to be removed, with a member having an interest being unable to speak or vote on the topic. A Councillor's Register of Interests would have to appear on the Council's website. A full summary of the final version should be available in the new year.
3. Cllr Humble had attended the Geothermal Liaison Group meeting on 29th November, and had already sent a report via e-mail to all Councillors. Any likely start has been deferred to Winter 2012.

WHEAL MAID

11/232

1. The Clerk had written to 'FullySussed' to confirm the Parish Council's agreement to a Mountain Bike Event being held in the Valley in the new year, subject to certain conditions being met. The Clerk showed Councillors the proposed course, which did not use public rights of way, although it did cross them. These points would have stewards. Some of the land was not in our ownership, and the Clerk has spoken to Cornwall Council who had also been copied in to the map, as they were the owners of some of the land. They were in agreement with the proposals, and were also looking to agree another event for the following day. 'FullySussed' had been informed of the land in our ownership. The Clerk would discuss with the organisers what fee was appropriate. £1 per entrant was felt to be a nominal, yet affordable, sum.
2. Natural England had given the Council a map showing areas of growth they required clearing or controlling as part of our ten year agreement. In the current year, only an area of 0.41 hectares of buddleia had to be completely removed, and the Clerk had obtained quotes for the work, sharing them with Natural England. Paul Chegwidden had been successful and would be completing the work before the end of February 2012. Next year, areas of Bracken needed to be sprayed, and because of the imminent deadline in acquiring the approved herbicide before it was removed from sale, Natural England had agreed that BTNC would be carrying out the work. In both cases, after payment, we would still be left with the majority of the annual grant. Whilst accepting that the contracts had been allocated, Councillors asked the Clerk to clarify with Natural England the reason for the withdrawal of the preferred bracken spray.
3. The Information Signs had now been agreed by the Environment Agency, and the Clerk and Chairman will be meeting with Cornwall Council in the new-year to discuss sign materials and positioning. They will then assist in obtaining quotes for the manufacture and erection. Natural England, who were funding the project, now wanted the expenditure to fall in the next financial year, so it was likely the signs would be erected in April 2012. The Clerk had also prepared a Remediation Statement as required by the E.A. and this had received their approval.
4. The Chairman felt we now needed to consider "what next" for the valley. The wishes and aspirations of the community could be sought by using the newsletter. Councillors who lived close to the valley, and might benefit from an improved landscape needed to discuss whether it constituted a declaration of interest.

REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE

11/233

1. It was agreed that the Clerk asks Paul Chegwidden to replace the post at the Cemetery that holds the Dog Bin. It had rotted at the base and fallen over. However, if the street sweeping contractor was in agreement, the dog bin would be replaced by a general purpose bin. This would save the Council £100 per annum for the emptying of the dog bin.

FOOTPATHS

11/234

1. Regarding the matter raised by Mrs Medlyn at Higher Goongumpas Lane, Cllr Lanyon was the landowner responsible for the cutting and he offered to take a look and do what he felt was necessary. The Chairman asked Cllr Lanyon to inform him of his findings as the matter would need resolving, possibly by involving Cornwall Council.
2. Lower Goongumpas Lane was the responsibility of Cornwall Council, and in the past they had always refused to improve the surface as it was deemed good enough for pedestrians to negotiate without harm. The Chairman would speak to Cornwall Council to see if it was still their view.
3. Byway 55 at Triplet Road was still badly flooded, despite regular visits from Highways. The Clerk will draw it to their attention again.

DIAMOND JUBILEE COMMEMORATIVE PLANS

11/235

1. Helen Rowe, the secretary of the Fete Committee asked whether the Parish Council were thinking of presenting mugs to children to commemorate the Diamond Jubilee. This had happened for the Silver and Golden Jubilees and the Millennium. Councillors debated the matter, and it was RESOLVED to buy "something". The Clerk would check stocks and delivery times from mug manufacturers.
The Fete in 2012 would be a joint Parish Council & Fete Committee venture, and the next meeting would focus on other inputs we could have to make the day memorable.

PLAYING FIELD MATTERS

11/236

1. Another floodlight was now not working. The Clerk and the electrician had tried to find the fault using ladders, but it proved unsafe, so a cherry picker was needed. The Football Club had contacts in this area, and they would liaise with the Clerk following enquiries. However, the weather would postpone any immediate repair as the ground was too wet to take a heavy vehicle.
2. The Chairman had checked out prices for the freezer and water boiler for the Rooms kitchen. It was RESOLVED that he could expend up to a £550 limit. He would look at the kitchen to decide where they could be sited, and also share the information with the GPRA to see if they felt the proposals would be satisfactory for car boot sales.

FINANCE

11/237

Payments were authorised in respect of :-

Cheque number	payee	service	value
101081	M P Chegwidden	contract cutting Nov&Dec	£2,187.60
101082	R Cook	litter picking	£99.45
101083	Post Office Ltd	income tax qtr.3	£298.94
101084	A Blamey	salary, expenses qtr.3	£1,754.65
101085	L Moody	P.Field duties	£87.30

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

11/238

1. Betterment projects
2. Wheal Maid – next steps

Signed..... Chairman

19th January 2012