

CONSTANTINE PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Constantine Parish Council held on Thursday July 19, 2007 at 7.00pm in The Vestry, Constantine.

Present:	Cllr P.C.Carter (Chairman)	Cllr C.Gray
	Cllr E.Nicholls (Vice-Chairman)	Cllr R.E.Just
	Cllr H.Bolt	Cllr R.J.Williams
	Cllr J.E.G.Boote	Cllr N.J.Wiseman
	Cllr K.Cavanagh	Mr C.Chapman (Clerk)

Visitors: CCCLlr N.Hatton, Mr B.Bowden, Mr Evans.

The Chairman welcomed members and visitors to the meeting.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

It was noted that

- the fence between the car park and the cemetery is in need of repair
- there are concerns about the inappropriate speed of vehicles and in particular that of farm tractors and trailers as they pass through the village and along the lanes.

PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

On behalf of Constantine Parish Council and in recognition of thirty-seven years of service to the Parish of Constantine, the Chairman presented Mr Bernard Bowden with a clock.

1 CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLORS

Mrs Parnell sent her apologies, stating that due to a change of circumstances she no longer wished to serve as a co-opted member of Constantine Parish Council. It was agreed to re-visit the co-option of councillors at a future meeting

2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from KDCllr R.Sadler.

3 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 £25

There were no declarations of gifts of a value greater than £25.

4 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Cllr Boote proposed and it was agreed that, subject to the hand written amendments, the minutes of the Ordinary Parish Meeting held on Tuesday June 21, 2007 are a true record and the Chairman signed them as such.

5 POLICE, COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

There was no report from the Police. Councillors were of the opinion that the Police should be fully engaged with both Town and Parish Councils and it was accordingly resolved to write to Inspector Eccles expressing Councillors' disappointment at the non-attendance of a police officer.

Kerrier District and Cornwall County Councillor Hatton reported that

- PC Cormack had been present at the Stithians Show where a number of parishioners from Constantine had spoken to him
- Cornwall Highways will not remove signs from roadside verges within the Parish without first informing him
- Conditional Permission for development has been granted for the Helford Fishermen's Quay
- he has received a written report on Chy-An at Halvasso: many of the planning breaches have been resolved and the County Land Agent is due to report on whether or not any aspect of the business requires planning permission
- as Kerrier's Housing Portfolio Holder he was pleased to learn that a team from Kerrier had visited the village during the month to attempt to identify possible exception sites for affordable housing. In the matter of Affordable Housing it was agreed that he should liaise with Cllr Boote
- Cornwall County Council's bid for Unitary Status has been opposed by five of the six District Councils, but nevertheless the bid has not been withdrawn. An announcement concerning the success or otherwise of Unitary Authority bids will be made by Central Government on July 27.

6 COMPLETION OF ANNUAL AUDIT

The Clerk, Mrs Evans, reported that the accounts for the year to March 31, 2007 have been audited by the External Auditor who has observed simply that the Internal Auditor should have sight of the Asset Register. The Certificate received has been put on display on notice boards.

7 THE REVISED CODE OF CONDUCT

Cllr Boote proposed, Cllr Wiseman seconded and it was agreed to adopt the revised Model Code of Conduct 2007 and further to adopt paragraph 12(2) which allows a Councillor with a personal and prejudicial interest on a particular matter to participate in discussion as a member of the public might do, but not to debate or vote as a Parish Councillor on that particular issue.

8 APPOINTMENT OF ADDITIONAL COUNCILLORS TO COMMITTEES

The Chairman and Vice Chairman are automatically members of all Committees. The following is a full list of Councillors who have been appointed to serve on committees:

- a) Planning – Cllrs Boote, Gray, Wiseman, Just
- b) Emergencies – Cllrs Gray, Bolt, Cavanagh
- c) Finance – Cllrs Wiseman, Williams
- d) Burial Ground – Cllrs Wiseman, Bolt
- e) Footpaths co-ordinator – Cllr Williams
- f) Housing – Cllrs Boote, Wiseman
- g) Recreation Ground Users Group – Cllrs Gray, Bolt, Cavanagh
- h) Port Navas Village Hall representative – Cllr Boote

Cllr Gray arrived during discussion of the following agenda item

9 AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Cllr Boote reported that, together with Cllr Carter and Cllr Nicholls, he had attended a meeting in the village which Kerrier Officers Jody Jeffrey and Kelly Hargreaves had also attended. The object had been to try to identify sites which might be considered Exception Sites for Affordable Housing.

Cllr Boote reported that he had also attended a very useful meeting at County Hall at which Cllr Mrs Heather Kidd from South Shropshire had spoken. The points raised which appear to be relevant to Constantine Parish Council are

- Affordable Homes built on Exception Sites should be reserved for local people only
- the cost of Affordable Homes should be tied to wages
- Affordable Homes should be built to a very high standard and should also be eco-friendly
- Affordable Housing should be scattered throughout the community rather than on a separate estate
- a public relations exercise helps to dispel fears concerning tenants of Affordable Housing
- the design of Affordable Housing should be such that it allows for additional living accommodation to be created in the roof space
- the District Council should be encouraged to allow farmers to convert barns into homes (in South Shropshire this is permitted either on payment of a sum of £60,000 or on the sale of a piece of land to a Housing Association for the sum of £10,000)
- Parish Plans provide essential evidence of the need for Affordable Homes

- at the moment, Kerrier's Housing register reveals that there is a need for eleven Affordable Homes in the Parish of Constantine.

It was agreed to write to Kerrier District Council requesting a change of direction over the issue of the use of redundant barns and over the conditions surrounding planning consent for Affordable Housing. It was further agreed to write to Restormel Borough Council where last year one third of all the Affordable Homes in Cornwall was built asking for a copy of the rules they apply for Affordable Housing.

10 EXTENSION OF CAR PARK

The Chairman reported that he had outlined ideas for the extension of the car-park with the Agent for the Glebe Land who had agreed to consult the Committee following which he would write to the Clerk.

It was noted that presently, on occasions, thoughtless car parking near the Church jeopardises access for emergency vehicles.

11 PORT NAVAS QUAY

Parishioners' concerns regarding the use of the quay and the tenant's rights and responsibilities were discussed at length. Cllr Cavanagh proposed, Cllr Nicholls seconded, Cllr Gray abstained and it was agreed that Constantine Parish Council is pleased to note that the two parties are moving towards an amicable solution

12 ROAD IMPROVEMENTS/TRAFFIC WORKING PARTY

It was agreed that the Committee should meet again in the early autumn in order to re-visit the proposals made earlier. It was further noted that KDCLr Hatton is moving the recommendations made forward but that County Highways has a long list of minor improvements to carry out.

13 FUNDING REQUESTS

The Clerk, Mrs Evans, reported a request from the Ist Constantine Girl Guides for help with funding the costs of equipment and resources. Cllr Wiseman proposed, Cllr Williams seconded and it was agreed to forward a cheque in the sum of £100 under the terms of S137 of the Local Government Act 1972.

14 CHANGES TO BANK SIGNATORIES

As required, the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman and the newly appointed Clerk signed the form necessary to Barclays Bank PLC, bankers to Constantine Parish Council.

15 ACCOUNTS FOR CURRENT MONTH

The Council received the Clerk's report on the Accounts for the month. Cllr Boote proposed, Cllr Wiseman seconded and it was resolved that the Accounts at Appendix A be approved.

16 PLANNING MATTERS

Applications

PA07/01040/TPO Mr R.Clowes – Removal of lower branches from 9 oak, 3 beech and 1 sycamore tree – The Gazebo & Bridge House, Bridge. Cllr Carter proposed and it was agreed that Constantine Parish Council supports this application.

PA07/01069/F Mr D.Cummins – Conversion of domestic garage into ancillary accommodation, erection of a dormer extension and erection of a new domestic garage – Iddesleigh, Penbothidno, Constantine. Cllr Carter proposed and it was agreed that Constantine Parish Council supports this application with the provisos that no window which overlooks the adjoining property should be constructed in the existing garage conversion and that the garage conversion be ancillary to the domestic use of Iddesleigh.

Decisions

PA07/00496/LBC Listed Building Consent (addition of new timber windows and doors) – Trecombe Farmhouse – *noted*

PA07/00501/F Conditional Permission for Development (erection of agricultural building) – Rose Vale Farm – *noted*

PA07/00752/F Conditional Permission for Development (erection of extension to dwelling) – 25 Trebarvah Close – *noted*

PA07/00203/F Conditional Permission for Development (conversion of redundant building to dwelling) – Seworgan Farm – *noted*

17 MATTERS TO BE RESOLVED

Delegated Powers for August

Cllr Wiseman proposed, Cllr Cavanagh seconded and it was agreed that executive powers should be given to the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman between now and the next meeting.

Next Meeting

It was agreed that this should be held on Tuesday September 11, 2007 at 7:00pm in the Vestry

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8:53pm

Following the meeting the Chairman presented a cut glass vase to Mrs Frances Evans to mark her ten years of service as Clerk to the Parish of Constantine.

Signed.....

Dated.....