

# CONSTANTINE PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Constantine Parish Council held on Thursday February 21, 2008 at 7.00pm in The Vestry, Constantine.

<b>Present:</b>	Cllr P.C.Carter (Chairman)	Cllr R.Just
	Cllr A.H.Bolt	Cllr M.J.Reynolds
	Cllr J.E.G.Boote	Cllr R.J.Williams
	Cllr D.Cummins	Cllr N.J.Wiseman
	Cllr C.Gray	Mr C.Chapman (Clerk)

**Visitors:** CCCLlr N.Hatton and Mr Mynett.

The Chairman welcomed members and visitors to the meeting.

## PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

It was noted that

- the recent article in *Gweder Myras* and at least two independent poster campaigns appear to have lessened the incidence of dog-fouling in the village. Kerrier's Dog Warden has also visited the village
- the highways' road sweeper has swept Fore Street for the first time for some while. The Clerk was asked to contact Cornwall Highways with a request for this work to be done on a more regular basis and for other residential areas within the village to be treated similarly
- the landowner over whose property the footpath at Ponjerevah passes intends to improve the Right of Way at the point where it is wet underfoot. The landowner will do his best to minimise inconvenience to users of the footpath while this work is being done
- a planning enforcement notice has been served on the houseboat moored at Anna Maria Creek.

Concerns were expressed about hedges which are growing out into the highway at various points throughout the Parish. It was noted that cutting them is the responsibility of landowners.

## 1 TO ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

KDCllr Sadler, PC Cormack and PCSO Huddlestone, sent their apologies for absence. Cllr Nicholls (ill) and Cllr Cavanagh (ill) both sent their apologies for absence. Cllr Gray proposed, Cllr Just seconded all in favour to accept Cllr Nicholls' and Cllr Cavanagh's apologies.

## 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 £25

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

## 3 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Cllr Boote proposed, Cllr Gray seconded, Cllr Just being absent from the last meeting abstained, all others in favour that the minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday January 17, 2007 are a true record and the Chairman signed them as such.

## 4 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES BUT NOT INCLUDED ON THIS AGENDA

In answer to a question, CCCLlr Hatton reported that, using a temporary emergency traffic regulation (which remains valid for eighteen months), yellow no-parking lines have been painted along Treleaver Road in

Mabe. This work is being funded by the Campus Redevelopment Fund and not by Cornwall County Council. A document outlining the second phase of development at the University has recently been published: this shows that, although accommodation for five hundred first-year students is envisaged, there are no plans to provide any extra parking. CCCLr Hatton added that, plainly, there is a need to address relations between the university and the community.

## **5 COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**

CCCLr Hatton reported that

- conditional planning permission for work at the Spar shop has been granted
- there are concerns (which are being addressed by the Environment Agency and Natural England) about the expansion of business at the Oyster Farm at Port Navas
- a boundary review (which is likely to increase the present number of County Councillors' wards) is anticipated in preparation for the new Unitary Authority
- Kerrier District Council is losing key officers to OneCornwall and that this is having an impact on the delivery of services to residents
- Cornwall County Council has increased its precept by 4.94%, this despite having received a larger than anticipated grant from Central Government
- Kerrier District Council has increased its precept by 1.5% largely because there is no capital works programme
- a statutory consultation paper on the proposed 20mph limit past the school should be received by the Parish Council during the course of the coming week. This prompted discussion particularly about the speed humps or 'pillows'. It was agreed that Parish Councillors should discuss this on the same date as the informal planning meeting: that is on Tuesday March 18 at 7:00pm.

## **6 POLICE REPORT**

Through the Clerk, PCSO Huddleston reported that he and PC Cormack have been in regular and positive contact with the young people of the village, recently and in particular in connection with the creation of a basketball team. There have been two incidents of vandalism during the course of the last month, but it appears (although there is no evidence to support the contention) that those responsible were from outside the village.

## **7 PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS**

Constantine Parish Councillors reviewed their Standing Orders. Cllr Williams proposed, Cllr Wiseman seconded all in favour that, with the correction of a single grammatical error, Constantine Parish Council should re-adopt Standing Orders as amended in October 2004.

## **8 PARISH MATTERS**

### **Recreation Ground**

#### **Wheelchair ramp**

Through the Clerk, Cllr Cavanagh reported that he had met Derek Giles' representative on site and described the two aspects of the proposed work: namely the creation of an access path suitable for wheel-chairs from the parking area to the Social Club and the creation of a surfaced parking area opposite The Vicarage. Following discussion, it was agreed both that Cllr Cavanagh should pursue a second quotation and that the Clerk should seek funding for this project.

#### **Replacement of springer**

The Clerk reported that he is still awaiting a response from Kerrier's Community Grants Fund.

#### **Safety surface under swings**

The Clerk reported that Mr Geoff Jorey has completed the necessary work. He further reported that Mr Brian Jorey has undertaken to repair the Multi-Play equipment during the course of next week.

### **Car park**

The Chairman reported that, although he understands that the Glebe Committee has agreed to the Parish Council's proposal, nothing written has been received. The Clerk was asked to write to Mr Humphreys (who acts as Land Agent for the Glebe Committee) to prompt him for a written response.

## **9 PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND DECISIONS**

### **Applications**

*Cllr Boote declared a personal interest in the following application, took no part in the discussion and abstained from voting*

PA08/00112/F Mr D.Morris – Erection of a replacement dwelling – Barrans, Port Navas. Cllr Williams proposed, Cllr Cummins seconded all others in favour that the plans be returned with the following observations “Constantine Parish Councillors urge the Planning Department to refuse permission for this development.

“The size of the proposed development and its consequent negative impact on the environment both go against Kerrier District Council’s Local Plan regarding Replacement dwelling Houses in the Countryside (policy H 15). This development would, if permitted, represent a fundamental departure from the principles set out in Para. (ii) of that Policy which require that " The siting, bulk, form, design, building styles, and use of materials are in keeping with character of its surroundings, respect their qualities of local distinctiveness and would not harm the character and appearance of the built environment, the landscape or the open countryside".

“The Helford River is sited within the Cornwall AONB the protection of which Kerrier District Council has endorsed. Applications to construct a timber jetty at Bodergy (PA03/00629/F) and a replacement dwelling at Bosulla (PA07/00532/F) were both refused permission for development partly because of the detrimental effect each would have on the environment.”

*Cllr Boote declared a personal interest in the following application, took no part in the discussion and abstained from voting*

PA08/00197/F Mr T.Taylor – Erection of extensions and alterations to dwelling and annex and installation of a septic tank – The Oyster House, Port Navas. Cllr Williams proposed, Cllr Gray seconded all others in favour that the plans be returned with the following observations “Constantine Parish Councillors urge the Planning Department to refuse permission for this development.

“The size of the proposed development and its consequent negative impact on the environment both go against Kerrier District Council’s Local Plan regarding Extensions to dwellings – design and Amenity . This development would, if permitted, represent a fundamental departure from the principles set out in Para. (v) of that Policy which require that "Outside of towns and villages there is no significant harm from the siting, design and materials, or from the impact of an increase in the size of the dwelling proportionate to the existing, on the character and appearance of the open countryside or the natural beauty of the landscape".

“The Helford River is sited within the Cornwall AONB the protection of which Kerrier District Council has endorsed. Applications to construct a timber jetty at Bodergy (PA03/00629/F) and a replacement dwelling at Bosulla (PA07/00532/F) were both refused permission for development partly because of the detrimental effect each would have on the environment.”

## **Decisions**

PA07/01758/F Mr M.Rowe – Conditional Permission for Development (erection of a warehouse) – 28 Fore Street, Constantine – *noted*

PA07/01890/TPO Mr & Mrs C.Brewer – Notice of Consent for the Felling, Lopping or Topping of Trees and Woodlands (Felling of Oak tree) – Portmerryn, Trewince Lane, Port Navas – *noted*

PA07/01906/F Mr A.Birchall – Conditional Permission for Development (erection of a garden room extension to dwelling) – Trecobben Farm, Trecombe, Mawnan Smith – *noted*

PA07/01926/F Mr & Mrs P.Leighton – Conditional Permission for Development (change of use of existing studio to holiday accommodation) – The Studio, Tresahor Vean – *noted*

PA07/01965/F Mr & Mrs P.Zschiesche – Conditional Permission for Development (renewal of temporary permission for the retention of a caravan whilst building) – Little Lestraynes Barn, Rame – *noted*

PA07/02018/F Ms G.Matthias – Conditional Permission for Development (erection of a wooden shed in rear garden) – 10, Glebe Terrace, Trebarvah Road, Constantine – *noted*

PA07/02104/LD Mr & Mrs L.Maxwell – Certificate of Lawfulness for proposed use or development (formation of hardstanding) – The Reens and Magpie Hill, Brillwater – *noted*

## **Correspondence**

**KDC** Planning Enforcement complaints received – *noted*

**KDC** Planning Committee Training Programme invitation to Parish Councils – *noted*

**KDC** PA07/01237/F application withdrawn (replacement dwelling at Barrans, Port Navas) – *noted*

## 10 CLERK'S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE

### Correspondence

**Communities and Local Government** Consultation on Orders and Regulations relating to the Conduct of Local Authority Members in England – *noted*

**Fields in Trust** notification of Play Area inspection contractor – *noted*

**CCC Interlink** meetings to help develop a Vision for Cornwall – *noted*

**KDC** Full Council agenda for the meeting on January 30, 2008 – *noted*

**CCC** Annual Minerals & Waste Monitoring Report 2006/07 – *noted*

**Julia Goldsworthy MP** reply accepting the invitation to attend a Parish Council meeting – *noted*

**Audit Commission** appointment of External Auditor for the coming five years (comments invited) – *noted*

**CPRE** Newsletter no. 2 February 2008 – *noted*

**CCC** Environment & Heritage questionnaire survey February 2008 – *noted*

**Peter Wills** planning questionnaire for Masters Degree dissertation – *Cllr Williams was volunteered to respond to this request*

**Charity Commission** TrusteeVoices Newsletter – *noted*

**KDC Older People's Forum** Over 50s Life Skills Event – *noted*

**OneCornwall** Engagement Events 9:30 am – 4:00pm Truro on March 11, Pool on March 20 – *noted*

**CCC** Temporary Prohibition of Traffic Bowling Green Road 27<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> February – *noted*

**Tony Mogford Associates** Annual Inspection of Playgrounds and Play Equipment – *noted*

**Keil Property Maintenance** advertisement – *noted*

## 11 FINANCIAL MATTERS

The Clerk presented Councillors with a statement of Constantine Parish Council's financial position as at February 21, 2008. A copy of that statement is attached to these minutes.

Members considered a request from Constantine Bowling Club for a temporary repair to be made to the Club House roof. It was agreed that Cllr Cummins should meet a representative of the Club, should inspect the roof, make a preliminary judgement and report his findings to the Clerk. Members were agreed that a temporary repair should, if necessary, be authorised. The matter of a replacement roof will be considered at a future meeting.

Members considered a request from the West Cornwall 50+ Management Committee for help with funding this year's programme of Leisure Weeks. Following discussion it was agreed that Constantine Parish Council is unable to help this organisation at this time.

Members considered a request from the Cornwall County Playing Fields Association for help with funding its work in the County. Following discussion, it was proposed by Cllr Williams, seconded by Cllr Gray all in favour that the sum of £50.00 be forwarded to the Cornwall County Playing Fields Association under the terms of Section 19(3)(a) of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976.

Members considered a request from the Home-Start West Cornwall for help with funding. Following discussion, it was proposed by Cllr Boote, seconded by Cllr Just all in favour that the sum of £50.00 be forwarded to Home-Start West Cornwall under the terms of Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972.

The following accounts were presented for payment

	GROSS	NET	VAT
Fields in Trust (Membership fee)	£ 35.00		
South West Water (Churchyard)	£ 74.91		
South West Water (Public Toilets)	£ 10.37		
Gweek Garage	£ 27.00		
Mr G.Jorey	£ 250.20		
Mrs J.Jennings	£ 44.16		
J.J.Gyll-Murray	£ 200.00		
Veolia (January 2008)	£ 53.99	£ 45.95	£ 8.04
EDF Energy (Church Square)	£ 4.00	£ 3.81	£ 0.19
Roger Peacey (repair of fence)	£1,163.25	£ 990.00	£ 173.25
Brian Jorey (repair of guttering etc)	£ 192.00		
Brian Jorey (repair of multi-play equipment)	£1,058.00		
Colin Chapman			
Salary (January)	£ 313.69		

telephone	£	3.22
office expenses	£	42.70
travelling	£	26.52
use of home (December)	£	25.00
	total	£ 411.13

Proposed by Cllr Cavanagh, seconded by Cllr Boote, all others in favour that the above thirteen accounts be paid.

The following receipts were noted

The Elms Funeral Directors (Mr Blatherwick)	£	432.00
Colin Matthews Funeral Directors (Mrs Williams)	£	54.00

## 12 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND REPRESENTATIVES

Cllr Wiseman reported that he has inspected the waste bin in the cemetery during the course of the month and that it has not been emptied once despite the fact that Veolia is charging the Parish Council to do this on a fortnightly basis. Cllr Wiseman was asked to continue to monitor the situation and to report back to the Council and the Clerk.

Cllr Wiseman reported that he, Cllr Boote and the Clerk had attended the recent *Preparing for Local Government Review – OneCornwall* meeting facilitated by Kerrier District Council. He said that the Clerk has circulated a summary of that meeting with which he recommended to members. He drew member's attention in particular to the following sentences "With the proposed changes to Local Government there is a danger that two parallel arms, both of which are there to serve the community, may develop. The traditional, tried and tested version of Central Government – Cornwall County Council (and its successor OneCornwall) – Towns and Parish Councils and a new, parallel Central Government – South West Regional Authority – Regional Development Authority – Community Network Area (all of which are or would be quangos). Such a parallel arm implies that democracy at local level would be lost." He urged Councillors to be aware of this.

Cllr Wiseman reported that he, Cllr Cummins and the Clerk had attended KDC Planning Department's Information Briefing Session. He said that the afternoon had been useful and noted in particular the changes to Kerrier's rules which now allow a Parish Council to make a written request (giving planning reasons) for a Planning Application to be decided by the full Planning Committee rather than under Delegated Powers.

Cllr Just reported that he had attended the recent Partners and Communities Together (PACT) meeting in Helston. This initiative, which is the result of a directive from Central Government to all governmental departments, has been embraced by the Devon and Cornwall Police Authority. However, it does not mean that there will be extra resources available to rural policing. Despite this, the meeting in Helston had been largely concerned with police matters. Inspector Eccles had confirmed that the Police would listen to what local people want from the Force and that, to this end, Community Police Officers had been tasked with attending Parish Council meetings on a minimum of four occasions during the year.

Cllr Just showed Councillors the first draft copy of Constantine's Parish Plans and said that the final version should be available for Councillors to endorse at the next meeting. Cllr Just drew members' attention to the first initiative emanating from these Parish Plans, that of 'greening' Constantine. He said that the first step (which is already underway) is to audit the energy used in public buildings throughout the Parish. He foresaw that, with the use of small scale hydro-electric schemes and larger windmills, the Parish might one day become energy self-sufficient.

## 13 COMMENTS FROM COUNCILLORS

Councillors made no further comments.

## 14 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday March 20, 2008 at 7:00pm in The Vestry, Constantine

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9:30pm

Signed.....

Dated.....