

CONSTANTINE PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Constantine Parish Council held on Thursday April 17, 2008 at 7.00pm in The Vestry, Constantine.

| | | |
|-----------------|----------------------------|----------------------|
| Present: | Cllr P.C.Carter (Chairman) | Cllr R.Just |
| | Cllr E.Nicholls | Cllr M.J.Reynolds |
| | Cllr A.H.Bolt | Cllr R.J.Williams |
| | Cllr J.E.G.Boote | Cllr N.J.Wiseman |
| | Cllr K.Cavanagh | |
| | Cllr D.Cummins | Mr C.Chapman (Clerk) |

Visitors: Miss J.Goldsworthy MP, CCCLr N.Hatton, Mr T.A.Axe, Mr and Mrs J.T.Axe and Mr B.Mynett.

The Chairman welcomed members and visitors to the meeting.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Mr J.T.Axe explained the details of the planning application that he and his wife had made and asked for the Council's support. The Clerk relayed the observations on this application made by the Council at the last meeting.

It was noted that Cornwall's recommendation to the Boundary Committee concerning future electoral boundary divisions will be decided by the Implementation Executive tomorrow, Friday April 18, 2008 and that the thirty-six hour opportunity which had been offered to comment on these proposals amounted to an insult.

1 TO ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

KDCllr Sadler, PC Cormack and PCSO Huddleston sent their apologies for absence. Cllr Gray sent his apologies for absence. Cllr Williams proposed, Cllr Nicholls seconded all in favour to accept Cllr Gray's apologies.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

in items on the agenda

All Councillors present declared a personal interest in Planning Application no PA08/00493/F in that Cllr Gray is an immediate neighbour of the applicant.

Cllr Bolt and Cllr Wiseman declared a personal interest in the request for help with funding from the Constantine Cottage Garden Society.

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 Just seconded, Cllr Wiseman being absent from the last meeting abstained, all others in favour that the minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday March 20, 2007 are a true record and the Chairman signed them as such.

Miss Julia Goldsworthy MP entered the room and, suspending Standing Orders, the Chairman welcomed her on behalf of Councillors stating that this, he believed, was the first time that an MP had attended a meeting of Constantine Parish Council

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

There were no matters arising which were not covered in this month's agenda.

5 COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Speaking of the future electoral boundary divisions as proposed by officers of OneCornwall, CCCLr Hatton stated that

- the Boundary Committee is an independent body
- Cornwall County Council is simply a consultee
- draft decisions will be made before August
- there will then be an opportunity for interested bodies to comment on those proposals
- final decisions will be made in October in readiness for elections in May 2009
- there is a requirement to make wards of similar numbers of electors
- it is not considered ideal to create warded parishes.

He has written to the Boundary Committee urging that, when its members are making their decisions and grouping parishes, they consider

- the creation of either rural or urban identities
- the geographic boundaries of the groups of parishes and
- the relationships presently existing between parishes.

On other matters, CCCLr Hatton

- congratulated all those involved with Parish Plans on the publication of the final document and in particular on the ease with which it can be read
- noted that the West Briton is seeking people from the community to report on local matters
- drew Councillors' attention to the transfer of parking enforcement measures from the Police Force to the local authority (who will initially employ ten wardens throughout the County)
- reported that he had chaired a meeting at which serious concerns had been expressed both about the proposed expansion of the oyster fishery at Port Navas and about the construction of a mussel farm at the mouth of the Helford
- stated that, although there was nothing positive to report about the future provision of affordable housing within the parish, the matter had not been forgotten
- said that, as a result of comments received concerning the proposals relating to 20mph Speed Limit throughout the village, he had agreed with the Policy Design Officer that the need for speed humps outside the Social Club would be re-assessed and that the number of associated traffic signs would be kept to a minimum. In answer to a request from the Parish Council he agreed to invite the Policy Design Officer to a meeting with Councillors on May 20th.

6 POLICE REPORT

Through the Clerk, PC Cormack reported that there have been four crimes (two of damage to property and one each of assault and of theft) in the last month compared to six in the same period last year. As a response to some of the issues involved, both Police Officers have increased their foot patrols in the village. PCSO Huddleston has made initial enquiries concerning the possibility of activities and support for young people during the summer, but that there is a problem of funding. It was noted that PACT postcards on which residents are encouraged to write their concerns (not simply about policing matters) are available from the Post Office

7 MATTERS RELATING TO CENTRAL GOVERNMENT AND THE CONSTITUENCY OF FALMOUTH AND CAMBORNE

Stating that she had really come to listen, Miss Goldsworthy said that

- although the number and location of Post Office closures in Cornwall is as yet unknown she had received many messages of support in her campaign to keep them open and as a result had petitioned Downing Street
- implementation of the Sustainable Communities Act commences in October, when not only will it provide greater transparency in government spending but will also provide a route for communities to press for changes in law, for example in planning.

In answer to questions Miss Goldsworthy said that

- the question of access to funding for Parish Councils from the Unitary Authority will pose similar problems to those which will arise between the Unitary Authority and the Regional Assembly

- it is essential that any provision of services is devolved rather than simply delegated: in other words that the authority taking on delivery of services is empowered to take all necessary decisions and that full funding follows that empowerment
- she does not believe that the proposed figure of 68,000 new homes in the South West of England can be justified. There are clearly issues of accountability, of the lack of infrastructure and of the prescriptive nature of the proposal
- she was unaware that ageism, at least as far as Jury Service is concerned, is alive and well in this country (people over the age of 70 cannot presently serve on a jury)
- although the House of Parliament is a Royal Palace and therefore exempt from the no-smoking law, Members of Parliament have agreed that the building, like all public buildings, shall be a 'smokeless zone'
- second homes, which remain empty for most of the year, threaten the viability of individual communities although it should be recognised that holiday homes, which are let for a number of weeks, are an essential part of the wider tourism economy in Cornwall. She acknowledged that if planning permission for a second home had to be sought from Parish Councils the present worrying situation would not arise.

8 PARISH MATTERS

Recreation Ground

Wheelchair ramp

The Clerk reported that, as requested, he had written to the Territorial Army asking if they might be interested in undertaking this work, but that, as yet, there had been no reply. He further reported that he had asked MoJo Construction Ltd to quote for the work. Cllr Cummins suggested that perhaps Helston Community School might be prepared to undertake this work as one of their Community Projects. It was agreed that Cllr Cavanagh should draw up specification send it to the Clerk who would write to the Headmaster of the Helston School with a request for help.

Replacement of springer

The Clerk reported that Kerrier's Community Grants Committee had sent a cheque for £1,166.00 to help fund the new springer and that as a result he had ordered a three-way cockerel springer from Wicksteed. He anticipated that it would be installed and in use before the end of May.

Safety Surfaces

The Clerk reported that, following receipt of the Risk Assessment report from Tony Mogford Associates, he has instructed Mr Jorey to clean the safety surfaces in order to avoid any risk of accident.

Car park

The Clerk reported that he has still to hear from Mr Humphreys (the Land Agent for the Glebe Committee). The Chairman reported that he had telephoned Mr Humphreys' secretary and that she had agreed to remind Mr Humphreys about this matter.

The Wheeled Bier

Members considered an offer from Penryn and Falmouth Funeral Directors both to restore and to house the hand-drawn Parish Bier. Following lengthy discussion, Cllr Cavanagh proposed, Cllr Boote seconded all in favour that, in principle, Constantine Parish Council agrees that Penryn and Falmouth Funeral Directors should be entrusted with the restoration and subsequent housing of the Parish Bier. To this end it was further agreed that the Chairman and other Councillors should meet with Mr Hattswell-Burt (who is one of the proprietors of Penryn and Falmouth Funeral Directors) to discuss the way forward.

9 PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND DECISIONS

Applications

PA08/00355/F Mrs E.White – Erection of a replacement dwelling – 2, Brillwater Road, Constantine. Cllr Wise proposed, Cllr Bolt seconded all in favour to return this application marked "*In principle, Constantine Parish Councillors support this application: however, they do have concerns about the proposed new access onto the highway and visibility.*"

All Parish Councillors present declared a personal interest in the following application in that one of the neighbours of the applicant is a fellow Councillor. Cllr Boote and Cllr Just took no part in the discussion and abstained from voting.

PA08/00493/F Mr & Mrs P.Garrard – Erection of an extension to dwelling and erection of a replacement shed and store – 4 Valley View, Bowling Green. Cllr Williams proposed, Cllr Wiseman seconded Cllr Boote

and Cllr Just abstained all others in favour to return this application marked *“Constantine Parish Councillors have serious concerns about the proposed development: in particular about its size and the consequent impact (which will include the loss of light) it will have on neighbouring properties. They therefore urge the Planning Committee to refuse permission for development.*

“However, if members of the Planning Committee are minded to grant planning permission, Constantine Parish Councillors urge them first to call a site meeting.”

PA08/00508/F Mr & Mrs Robertson – Erection of extensions and alterations to dwelling, erection of a first floor extension to cottage and alterations to piggery building – Mulberrys, Retallack Farm, Tresahor. Cllr Bolt proposed, Cllr Williams seconded all in favour to return this application marked *“In principle, Constantine Parish Councillors support this application: however, they do have concerns about the proposed use of weatherboarding / timber cladding in the development. This is not a traditional style of building in West Cornwall.”*

PA08/00515/F Mr R.Wickins – Erection of an extension to dwelling – Hebaska, Trewince Lane, Port Navas. Cllr Williams proposed, Cllr Wiseman seconded all in favour to return this application marked *“No observations.”*

PA08/00628/F Mr D.Thomas & Mr P.Skerrett – Erection of extension and alterations to dwelling – Inow Barn, Port Navas. Cllr Williams proposed, Cllr Bolt seconded all in favour to return this application marked *“In principle (and although they would have liked to have known the terms of the S106 agreement on this property) Constantine Parish Councillors support this application: however, they do have concerns about the proposed use of weatherboarding / timber cladding in the development. This is not a traditional style of building in West Cornwall.”*

Correspondence

KDC Planning Enforcement complaints received – *noted*

KDC Erection of a replacement dwelling (Barrans, Port Navas) notification that the decision will be determined by Committee – *it was agreed that Cllr Williams should attend the Planning Committee meeting in order to reinforce the Parish Council’s observations on this planning application*

KDC notification of withdrawal of application (erection of extensions and alterations to dwelling and annex and installation of a septic tank at The Oyster House, Port Navas) – *noted*

10 CLERK’S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk reported that Mr John Gyll-Murray had contacted him concerning the contract for footpath maintenance throughout the Parish. Cllr Williams proposed Cllr Cavanagh seconded all in favour that Mr Gyll-Murray should be invited to continue this work. It was reported that the finger-post on Footpath 1 needs re-erecting.

The Clerk reported that Cornwall County Council has condemned the sycamore tree on the hedge of the car park and the beech tree in the field near the car park. These have been marked with a red cross. As the trees are in a Conservation Area, once felled they must be replaced. It was agreed that this work should be done before the autumn.

Correspondence

To receive correspondence addressed to Constantine Parish Council

Fields in Trust FIT Focus Newsletter – *noted*

Cornwall Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre acknowledgement of and thanks for donation of £25 – *noted*

Land Registry voluntary First Registration of Title – *it was agreed to invite an Officer from the Land Registry to the Parish to discuss this matter further*

CCC Cornwall Countryside Access Forum Annual Recruitment 2008 – *noted*

OneCornwall Newsletter Issue 7, Parish and Town Council Liaison Team (Helen Couch), Unitary Council for Cornwall update and Cornwall Electoral Review – *noted*

SEC maintenance of public lighting: notification of increase in prices – *noted*

CCC Civil Parking Enforcement – *noted*

CCC acknowledgement of response to the proposed 20mph speed limit and traffic calming – *noted*

Cornwall AONB invitation for a representative to attend the Annual Conference on May 17, 2008 at Pensilva, near Liskeard – *noted*

Cornwall Hospice Care Make a will week – *noted*

Constantine Cottage Garden Society a request to hold the Annual Show on the Recreation Ground between July 17-21 – *it was agreed to permit the Society to hold their show during these dates*

KDC survey of cultural events and activities – *noted*

CCC Electoral Review – *it was noted that on Friday (tomorrow) the Officer will recommend to the Implementation Executive that Constantine should be placed in a ward with Gweek and part of Wendron*

11 FINANCIAL MATTERS

The Clerk presented Councillors with a statement of Constantine Parish Council's financial position as at April 17, 2008. A copy of that statement is attached to these minutes.

The Clerk presented the accounts for the year April 1, 2007 – March 31, 2008. Cllr Williams proposed, Cllr Nicholls seconded all others in favour that Constantine Parish Council approves the accounts for the year April 1, 2006 – March 31, 2007.

Both the Chairman and the Responsible Financial Officer signed and dated the Statement of Accounts contained in the Annual Return for the year ended March 31, 2008 in the appropriate places.

Parish Councillors considered the Statement of Assurance required for the Annual Return for the year ended March 31, 2008. Cllr Wiseman proposed, Cllr Williams seconded all others in favour that Constantine Parish Councillors should answer 'Yes' to all the questions save number 7 which should read 'Not Applicable' contained in the Statement of Assurance for the Annual Return for the year ended March 31, 2008.

Both the Chairman and the Responsible Financial Officer signed and dated the Statement of Assurance contained in the Annual Return for the year ended March 31, 2008 in the appropriate places.

Parish Councillors considered the appointment of an Internal Auditor. Cllr Williams proposed, Cllr Wiseman seconded all in favour that James Peter Richards FMAAT, PIIA, DMS (Kerrier District Council's Principal Auditor) should act as the Internal Auditor.

Members considered a request from Constantine Silver Band for support for the Brass on Grass event and for funding for encouraging participation from younger people. Following discussion, it was proposed by Cllr Boote, seconded by Cllr Bolt that, under the terms of Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972, the sum of £50.00 be forwarded to Constantine Silver Band to be put towards staging the Brass on Grass event later in the year. Following further discussion, it was proposed by Cllr Williams, seconded by Cllr Boote that, under the terms of Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972, the sum of £200.00 be forwarded to the Constantine Silver Band

Members considered a request from Cruse Bereavement Care in Cornwall for help with funding. Following discussion, it was agreed that Constantine Parish Council cannot support this cause.

Members considered a request from Constantine Gweder Myras for help with funding. Following discussion, it was proposed by Cllr Bolt, seconded by Cllr Nicholls that the sum of £100.00 be forwarded to Constantine Gweder Myras under the terms of Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972.

Cllr Bolt and Cllr Wiseman declared a personal interest in the following request. They took no part in either the discussion or the voting.

Members considered a request from the Constantine Cottage Garden Society for help with funding the prizes for the Annual Show. Following discussion, it was proposed by Cllr Boote, seconded by Cllr Just that the sum of £100.00 be forwarded to the Constantine Cottage Garden Society under the terms of Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972.

Members considered an invitation from Zurich Municipal to renew insurance at a premium of £1,907.48 The Clerk tabled an alternative invitation covering the same risks from Allianz Insurance at a premium of £1,330.96 Following discussion, it was proposed by Cllr Williams, seconded by Cllr Just that the invitation from Allianz Insurance should be accepted and the premium forwarded immediately.

The following accounts were presented for payment

| | GROSS | NET | VAT |
|--|-----------|---------|--------|
| Mr G.Jorey | £ 253.00 | | |
| Mrs J.Jennings | £ 44.16 | | |
| Gweek Garage | £ 20.00 | | |
| Veolia Environmental Services | £ 38.42 | £ 32.70 | £ 5.72 |
| Travis Perkins (Bowling Club) | £ 45.03 | £ 38.32 | £ 6.71 |
| Brewers Business Solutions Ltd (printing) | £1,015.00 | | |
| Brewers Business Solutions Ltd (envelopes) | £ 18.80 | £ 16.00 | £ 2.80 |
| EDF Energy (Church Square) | £ 3.69 | £ 3.51 | £ 0.18 |
| Colin Chapman | | | |

| | | |
|-----------------|----------|----------------|
| Salary (March) | £ 321.73 | |
| telephone | £ 36.94 | |
| office expenses | £ 59.34 | |
| travelling | £ 43.32 | |
| use of home | £ 25.00 | |
| | | total £ 486.33 |

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

The following receipts were noted

| | |
|---|-----------|
| D.Tresise and Sons (Mrs Williams) | £ 27.00 |
| Kerrier District Council (grant for Springer) | £1,166.00 |

12 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND REPRESENTATIVES

Cllr Just reported that Parish Plans have been printed and that a majority of households in the Parish should have received a copy.

The Clerk reported that a meeting of the Recreation Ground Friends' and Users' Group had been held on Monday afternoon. The following recommendations arose from this meeting:

- to replace the sand in the sand-pit

following discussion, the Clerk was instructed to ask Community Services if they would be prepared to undertake this work

- to upgrade the play area with equipment designed to suit all ages
- to accept Wicksteed's proposal that, in order to achieve the aim described above, the Parish Council should make use of a person skilled in locating and gaining access to funding streams but at no cost or risk to the Parish

the Clerk was asked to implement the latter recommendation with the aim of achieving the former.

13 COMMENTS FROM COUNCILLORS

Councillors made no further comments.

14 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The Annual Meeting will be held on Thursday May 22, 2008 in The Vestry, Constantine following the Annual Parish Meeting which will also be held in The Vestry commencing at 7:00pm

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9:22pm

Signed.....

Dated.....