

CONSTANTINE PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Constantine Parish Council held on Thursday, January 15, 2009 at 7.00pm in The Vestry, Constantine.

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

Visitors: CCCLlr Hatton, Mr Agnew, Mrs Badger, Mr and Mrs Baker and Mr Gribble.

The Chairman welcomed members and visitors to the meeting.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Concerning the proposals for the extension to the car-park, Mr Baker said that

- the present proposals for two small parking areas might be improved by the provision of a single continuous line of parking parallel to Bowling Green. This would have the added benefit of increasing the size of the proposed amenity area
- there are few places in the village from which the open countryside may be viewed and, for this reason, parking places should be on a level with the road
- the removal of two substantial trees is unacceptable.

Commenting on these matters the Chairman said that one of the trees has been found to be in a dangerous condition by the County Forestry Officer and must be felled. It was his opinion that Constantine Parish Councillors would be reluctant to authorise the felling of the other tree, although judicious trimming might be necessary. In conclusion, he stated that final decisions let alone any actions are some way off.

Cllr Boote reported that

- the parking spaces at the top of Well Lane have yet to be marked out. Further, because of the way in which motorists are presently parking, there is a danger that vehicles turning out of Well Lane may be involved in an accident. CCCLlr Hatton stated that he will be meeting Paul Wilkinson from Cornwall Highways during the course of next week and invited Cllr Boote to join them to describe the dangers and his proposals for parking spaces
- the Well Lane sign is obliterated by a bush. It was agreed to ask Mr Geoff Jorey to trim this bush
- the notice-board in the square needs tidying and keeping tidy. Mrs Boote's offer, relayed by Cllr Boote, to do this was gratefully accepted. It was further agreed to ask Mr Brian Jorey to take a look at the board with a view to its renovation.

1 TO ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

KDCllr Sadler, Cllr Just and Cllr Cummins sent their apologies for absence. Councillors asked the Clerk to write and congratulate KDCllr Sadler on his appointment as a Member of the British Empire.

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 Williams proposed, Cllr Gray seconded (Cllr Cavanagh and Cllr Nicholls, being absent from the last meeting abstained), all others in favour that, subject to the hand-written amendments, the minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday December 18, 2008 are a true record and the Chairman signed them as such.

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

There were no matters arising from the minutes which were not included on the agenda.

5 COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

CCCLlr Hatton reported

- that the speed limit sign on the eastern entrance to the village has been repaired and the graffiti will be removed on a later date
- his concerns about the cumulative effect of development within the AONB which he recently expressed at a meeting at Kerrier when delegated planning powers were discussed
- that a letter has been sent by a neighbouring parish to Kerrier's Planning Service Manager, Nicola Stinson, expressing concerns about the current use of delegated powers
- his understanding that interim planning committee arrangements may involve the co-option of local members and perhaps Parish Councillors with particular areas of expertise
- that the Boundary Committee has not, as yet, committed itself to approving a Unitary Authority of 123 members. The draft recommendations join Constantine, Mabe and Budock into a single ward despite the fact that Constantine possibly has more in common with Gweek
- that, if the Boundary Committee cannot shortly reach a conclusion, elections to the new Authority may be in June (when they will be based on the current County Council membership of 82) otherwise they will probably be in October
- the decision to go ahead with the work at the bus stop opposite the Spar shop despite the views of the Parish Council (a statutory consultee) is worrying. In defence of the decision, he said that the motivation behind the scheme as a whole is to lessen dependence on the use of cars.

6 POLICE REPORT

There was no report from the police.

The Clerk reported that, on the morning of January 8, Cllr Just had reported that the door to the Vestry had been vandalised and was therefore not secure. He, the Clerk, had asked Brian Jorey to make whatever repairs were necessary and had reported the matter to the police who, having investigated, had logged it as two incidents, both of burglary. A similar incident had occurred on the night of January 10 and that too had been logged by the police as being one of burglary. On this occasion various items had been taken away by the police in the hope that fingerprinting might identify the culprit. Councillors agreed that the door to the Vestry probably needs replacing and, because the Vestry is a Listed Building, the Clerk was asked to speak to Kerrier's Planning Officer about it and then to invite Mr Brian Jorey to quote for the necessary work.

7 PARISH MATTERS

Bus shelter

The Clerk reported that he had received a quotation from Mr Beckerleg in the sum of £217.00 to clean down the bus shelter with fine glass paper, to apply one coat of primer/undercoat and, to apply one top coat of Hammerite. Following discussion, Cllr Williams proposed, Cllr Wiseman seconded all others in favour that Mr Beckerleg's quotation to paint the bus shelter should be accepted. It was also agreed to instruct Mr Geoff Jorey to buy sufficient bark to suppress the weeds in the garden by the bus stop.

Constantine Social Club – Disabled Access

Apologising for the oversight, the Clerk reported that he had not, as requested, contacted Mr Alan Harris about the proposed disabled access to the Social Club. Cllr Cavanagh agreed to speak to Mr Harris when next he saw him and to show him what is required.

Young People

Mr Gribble (who leads the youth group) reported that

- strenuous efforts are being made to create a coherent youth group in the village
- there have been six meetings to date
- he is drawing up contracts of behaviour
- he is trying to involve more young people
- the street dance classes have been very popular

- he hopes to be able to introduce more activities.

Through the Clerk, Cllr Just reported that

- an application for a grant to carry forward the present youth initiative has been made to Kerrier
- the Tolmen Company has booked Monday evenings for Youth Group work for the next four months
- Mr Mike Bridgeland (the West Cornwall Senior Youth Work Officer) has reiterated that help is available for the Parish and suggested that Constantine should, like other parishes, consider providing money towards local youth work. He has agreed to visit the village to talk to adults willing to provide voluntary help in running a youth group
- the fact that the current size of the youth group remains small is of concern. The group must expand if it is to attract funding and, to this end, a “recruitment drive” on the school buses is planned.

Members recognised that part of the problem in Constantine is that there is nowhere for young people to meet on an informal basis. They agreed that publicity might further the present initiative and hoped that *Gweder Myras* will publish an article with a view to encouraging more young people to join the club. The suggestion was made that representatives from the youth club might eventually be invited to attend Parish Council meetings and be allowed to speak on relevant matters. It was noted that a number of parish councils have a so-called youth council. This gives a voice to young people, provides a forum where young people’s views may be taken seriously and fosters responsibility.

Constantine’s Public Wells

Cllr Williams reported that he and other members of the sub-group are meeting Karen Pritchard (Kerrier District Council’s Conservation Officer) on Tuesday with a view to examining the built historic artefacts within the village. A definitive list will then be drawn up, following which he hopes the Parish Council will look at adopting and maintaining a number (if not all) of these significant relics of Constantine’s past.

Oyster Farming in The Helford

Following a request last month, members discussed the farming of oysters in the Helford River. It was noted that

- the erection of tables (which can be seen at low water) had been done without the permission of Natural England. The belief was aired that permission for their retention had been granted until December 31, 2008. To date these tables have not been removed
- further tables have been erected to the east of Helford village: visually these are not concerning, ecologically they may well be
- access to the quay has been the cause of division within Port Navas. The seats on the quay are in need of repair and local residents have undertaken to do this
- it is reasonable to expect public access to the quay to be denied when work is in progress
- it is understood that a Limited Company has been formed with the intention of suing the Duchy of Cornwall over the present state of the quay **please refer to the minutes of February 2009 paragraph 3 Matters arising from the Minutes but not included on this agenda*
- as a result of complaints, Kerrier District Council's Planning Enforcement Officer has investigated and found that there has been no breach of planning laws
- the Environment Agency, Natural England and the Planning Authority are all aware of local concerns.

Summing up, the Chairman stated that this is a matter between the lessee of the Oyster Farm and a number of agencies and is not the business of the Parish Council.

Car park

The Clerk reported that, having received quotations from Mr Osgood and from Mr Peacey to repair the damage to the wall to the right of the car-park entrance, O.J.Williams had decided to use their in-house builder to do the work and that he, the Clerk, understands that the work should be completed within the next week.

The Clerk reported that he had met with the Planning Development Officer for the Parish to discuss the proposals for the extension to the car-park and had been informed that, because the Parish Council intends to provide a service for residents, it may not be necessary to apply for planning permission. However, this required ratification from an (absent) senior officer because the proposed car-park is in a Conservation Area. He is still waiting for a response

9 PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND DECISIONS

Applications

PA09/00009/F Mr & Mrs R Kerswell – Erection of a replacement dwelling and erection of a domestic garage – Oak View, Ponjeravah. Cllr Wiseman proposed, Cllr Bolt seconded all others in favour to return this application marked *Constantine Parish Councillors support this application.*

PA09/00018/TPO Mr G Brew – Felling of one Eucalyptus tree – Bettys Meadow, Trewince Lane, Port Navas. Members noted that this application is in fact for the felling of a beech tree and is supported by Cornwall County Council's Tree Officer. Cllr Boote proposed, Cllr Cavanagh seconded all others in favour to return this application marked *Constantine Parish Councillors note that this application is for the felling of one beech tree rather than one eucalyptus tree as described in the accompanying letter. With that in mind, they nevertheless support the application.*

Decisions

PA08/01654/F Mr T.Taylor – Conditional Permission for Development (erection of extensions and alterations to dwelling and annex and installation of a septic tank) – The Oyster House, Port Navas – *noted*

PA08/01782/F Mrs M.Rubery – Conditional Permission for Development (erection of a dwelling and formation of a replacement access) – The Bungalow, Trebarvah Road – *noted*

PA08/01818/F Mr R.T.Mangan – Conditional Permission for Development (erection of an extension to garden shed) – Treetops, Trewince Lane, Port Navas – *noted*

Correspondence

KDC PA08/01623/F notice that the application for the erection of an agricultural storage barn at Ponjeravah Cottage has been withdrawn – *noted*

KDC PA08/01654/F explanation of decision contrary to Constantine Parish Council's observations – *noted*

10 CLERK'S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk reported that the public conveniences had been closed on his instructions because the thaw had revealed a burst pipe as a result of which water had entered an electrical circuit. The plumber, Mr Pinch, had received a shock when he went to repair the pipe. The Clerk had instructed ADK Electricals to inspect and repair the electrical circuit who had strongly recommended that a modern box with an earth leakage trip be installed to prevent further shocks. The Clerk had agreed that this work should also be done.

The Clerk reported that the pavilion on the Recreation Ground had been badly damaged by burst pipes and that he had contacted the Parish Council's insurers with a view to making a claim. He had been authorised to ask a plumber to repair the leaks, to seek a single quotation for the repair of the electricity supply and to seek two quotations for the repair of the fabric of the building. Mr Pinch has done the plumbing work and Mr Brian Jorey is seeking the three necessary quotations. The Clerk had warned Mr Brian Jorey that the insurance excess of £125 payable may be sought from the Football Club.

The Clerk reported that he has contacted Cornwall County Council with a view to the County taking on full responsibility for the public lighting in the village. He anticipates being able to report more fully at the meeting in February.

Correspondence

KDC Constantine Parish Council's funding request – *noted*

Communities and Local Government consultation document on the code of recommended practice on local authority publicity – *noted*

Environment Agency South West Region Calendar for 2009 – *noted*

Port Navas Village Hall programme of events January – August 2009 – *noted*

CCC acknowledgement of receipt of copy of letter to Mr Glyn Stanley (County Highways) from the Chief Executive – *noted*

CPRE an offer of support to anyone raising objections to planning applications in Cornwall which are contrary to local plan policies; that threaten protected areas of the landscape and that are considered to be an inappropriate development – *noted*

CCC reorganisation of the Highway Service (new contacts) – *noted*

Cornwall Blind Association acknowledgement of and thanks for donation – *noted*

Clerks and Councils Direct magazine – *noted*

CCC reorganisation of the Highway Service (new contacts) – *noted*

Cornwall Blind Association acknowledgement of and thanks for donation – *noted*

Clerks and Councils Direct magazine – *noted*

Constantine Cottage Garden Society request to use the Recreation Ground between July 16 and 19 for the Annual Show – *Cllr Boote proposed, Cllr Cavanagh seconded all in favour to agree to this request*

CALC request for a view on whether or not Constantine Parish Council would, on April 1, 2009, prefer to see the Implementation Executive abolished and its function taken on by Cornwall County Council – *the Clerk was asked to reply expressing the belief of Councillors that after March 31, 2009 decisions should only be made by elected members and to state that this belief also extends to County Planning Committees*

CCC Falmouth to Helston (Route 2 and T4) key quality infrastructure: notification that the proposed scheme at Trebarvah Road has been reduced to the eastbound works – *noted*

CCC Falmouth to Helston (Route 2 and T4) key quality infrastructure reply to the Parish Council's letter – *noted*

CALC latest updates and notification of the AGM on Saturday February 7, 2009 – *noted*

CCC acknowledgement of request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 – *noted*

11 FINANCIAL MATTERS

The following accounts were presented for payment

	GROSS	NET	VAT
Mr G.Jorey	£ 269.43		
Mrs J.Jennings	£ 45.48		
SEC (routine maintenance)	£ 240.09	£ 208.72	£ 31.32
Travis Perkins (safety boots)	£ 14.50		
Gweek Garage	£ 20.00	£ 17.39	£ 2.61
Kevin Pinch (repairs of leaks)	£ 25.00		
CRCC (repayment Parish Plan)	£ 1,390.08		
Mr Brian Jorey (repairs to Vestry door)	£ 121.50		
EDF Energy (electricity in the square)	£ 3.90	£ 3.71	£ 0.19
EDF Energy (public lighting since 12/2007)	£ 1,331.50		
Colin Chapman			
Salary (December)	£ 328.28		
telephone	£ 38.34		
office expenses	£ 32.74		
travelling	£ 47.74		
use of home	£ 25.00		
	total	£ 472.10	

Proposed by Cllr Wiseman, seconded by Cllr Gray, all others in favour that the above eleven accounts be paid.

Members noted the following receipt

Mrs Stoffel (gift)	£ 50.00
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12 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND REPRESENTATIVES

Reporting on the meeting with OneCornwall which he, Cllr Gray and Cllr Wiseman had attended, Cllr Boote said that

- it is assumed that the Council of the new Unitary Authority will have 123 members
- it appears that the Boundary Commission is more concerned with electoral equality than preserving community boundaries
- forecasts made over a year ago concerning the numbers of electors living in individual communities cannot be changed despite the economic downturn
- the closing dates for comments to be received by the Boundary Committee in response to the draft recommendation is February 10, 2009
- both Community Network boundaries and Parliamentary boundaries are likely to differ from Unitary Authority boundaries
- there will be One-Stop Shops in Falmouth, Penryn and Helston, where planning applications in particular may be viewed
- despite the many promises being made by OneCornwall, he advises caution.

It was agreed to invite Mr Mark James to address the Parish Council on a date convenient to him.

13 COMMENTS FROM COUNCILLORS

The Chairman made no comment at this time.

14 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next Ordinary Parish Council Meeting will be held on Thursday February 19, 2009 in The Vestry, Constantine commencing at 7:00pm

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9:10pm.

Signed.....

Dated.....