

**Konsel Pluw Erens
Gerrans Parish Council**

**MINUTES of the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
held on Tuesday 6th February 2024 at 7.30 pm
in the Memorial Hall**



Present:

Cllrs Kate Greet (KG) (Chairman), John Crombie (JC), Charles Emmett (CE), Ralph German (RG), Joanna Holah (JH), Nev Meek (NM), Val Neal (VN), Amelia Sumner (AS), Laura Wilson (LW); CC Julian German (JG)

4 members of the public attended.

022401

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

- Councillor Jane Andain (JA), Clerk Steve Skull (available by telephone)

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE ABSENCES

- KG proposed (seconded JC) that the absence be approved. This was agreed unanimously.

022402

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

- NM declared an interest in item 12.

022403

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Those members who had been present approved the minutes of the meeting held on 2nd January 2024 as being a true record of that meeting (proposed JC, seconded RG), with one abstention. KG signed the minutes.

022404

REVIEW OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS - MATTERS ARISING

KG explained that the applications to the MMO for licenses for two seaweed farms in Gerrans Bay had been withdrawn on 5th January, and that this meant the meeting planned for 9th January was cancelled and no comment was necessary and the matter did not need to be considered further. However, The Clerk had written a letter to the MMO to request that GPC be treated as an important stakeholder and added to the list of parties to be informed, if there are ever any further licence applications in Gerrans Bay.

CE asked to have a debrief discussion of how GPC had handled the consultation process but was advised that this could not be discussed at this meeting because it was not an agenda item. JG suggested an informal discussion rather than an agenda item would be more appropriate. NM agreed and KG suggested staying behind after the meeting for a short while.

022405

REPORT FROM CORNWALL COUNCIL WARD MEMBER

JG stated there would be quite a lot of activity with national elections this year and Cornwall Council and Parish elections next May. Thinking ahead, it would be good if the Parish could consider what they want in the future for the community and local government in the form of a Parish Plan, looking ahead 5 to 10 years. This was last considered in 2004 but never completed.

A Plan could include thoughts on the school, housing, local clubs, transport, etc, and involve discussions with both individuals and Parish organisations. RG said it would be a good way of engaging with the community.

022406

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr Steve Hooper mentioned that the cricket club would like to leave work to the ash trees at the cricket field as long as possible, and that some should be left standing.

012407

PLANNING MATTERS

a) Cornwall Council Applications

There were three applications for consideration. These are outlined below, and the Council's comments are noted on the Cornwall Council planning website.

Application	Address	PC decision
PA24/00120	27 North Parade, Portscatho	Support (unanimous)
PA234/00609	Percuil House, Gerrans Hill	Support (unanimous)
PA234/00610	Percuil House, Gerrans Hill (listed building consent)	Support (unanimous)

b) Decisions since last meeting

Application	GPC comment	CC Decision
PA23/09168 1 Tregassick Road, Gerrans	Support	Approved
PA23/09575 Percuil Hous, Gerrans Hill	Support	Approved
PA23/09529 5 Parc-an-Dillon Road	Support	Approved

022408

AFFORDABLE HOUSING POLICY AND LOCAL HOUSING NEED

JC reported that he understood slow but positive progress was being made by Roseland Community Land Trust.

012409

ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

Roseland Environmental Action Community Team (REACT)

JC read out a report received from REACT. No action was required by the PC.

022410

OTHER REPORTS

From Committee representatives, Working Groups and/or liaison members

Noticeboard Working Group – LW reported initial drafts had been drawn up, and shared printouts. RG preferred to include the whole parish rather than focus on Gerrans and Portscatho villages, so that more businesses could be included. AS suggested a map of the whole parish alongside a more detailed one of the villages. This was proposed by JH, seconded by RG and unanimously agreed, so LW said she would take this suggestion back to the designer. In the meantime, she would contact local businesses about sponsorship.

Police liaison - NM reported that Farmwatch is very active currently. Some former police offices may be opening up again.

Memorial Hall - NM reported that the refurbishment has started and is progressing well.

Parish Charity - JC reported the charity is rebranding as the GAP Community Fund. There would be more publicity about this.

022411 JUBILEE/CORONATION LEGACY PROJECT

KG explained that the Jubilee Committee and Coronation Group had combined their funds to give a total of around £2000 being held by the Memorial Hall Committee. This was not enough for the preferred option of swings in Church Close, but offers of further donations had been received to reach the full amount required. Councillors voted unanimously (proposed RG, seconded AS) to allow the swings to be sited in Church Close. Subject to receipt in advance of sufficient monies to cover the cost of supply and installation, the PC would adopt the project and take on responsibility for insurance and maintenance costs.

RG suggested the PC might provide a plaque.

022412 ROSELAND CAROL PROJECT

JC referred to a letter previously received from the Old Cornwall Society and suggested that an amount between £100 and £200 would be appropriate as a s137 donation. RG proposed £200, VH seconded and this was unanimously agreed. (NM left the room during this discussion.)

022413

FINANCIAL MATTERS

a) Main budget for 2024-2025

KG reported that the Finance Committee had met immediately prior to this meeting, and the Clerk had explained all the budget documentation previously circulated to Councillors. The draft budget had been thoroughly appraised, with the Clerk answering questions about the figures. She confirmed that it was the recommendation of the Finance Committee that the Parish Council should approve the full document as drafted. This was seconded by JH and confirmed by 8 votes to 1.

b) Accounts for payment

The Clerk had reported that all payments submitted for approval were materially within budget, or within forecast and agreed contingency levels where actual figures were unknown at the time of setting the budget. It was resolved that the outstanding invoices totalling £19,307.76 (including VAT of £2,930.47) be paid (proposed RG, seconded VN. A schedule of all the payments is available from the clerk.

2. Bank Reconciliation

The reconciled bank balance as at 25th January 2024 was £61,066.40

022414

OTHER PARISH MATTERS

- AS commented on the amount of drink-driving in the Parish. NM offered to mention this at the next police liaison meeting and advised that it could also be reported via 999 or the non-emergency number or Crimestoppers.

JH reported that the Bosom Buddies breast cancer charity collection bin in Treloan carpark was overflowing, but there is no phone number on it. KG would investigate.

022415

CLERK'S ANNUAL REVIEW

It was resolved under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, that the Council should exclude the press and public during this item due to the confidential nature of the business to be discussed. (Proposed KG, seconded JH)

KG explained that she had received formal notification from the clerk that he will be retiring on 5th April 2024, but he had kindly offered to act on a consultancy basis if the council needs his services after that date. Everyone remarked on what a wonderful job he has done and how greatly he will be missed. Councillors especially appreciated his management of the Council's finances.

KG reminded all Councillors that this matter would be confidential until the recruitment system was in place. She explained that both she and the clerk had been in touch with Sarah Mason (SM) of CALC for advice about recruiting a new clerk and had received a recruitment pack. SM

had advised that the first step would be to appoint a Staffing Committee to handle the process and agree Terms of Reference which she had provided. It was agreed this committee would have five members, KG (Chair), JC (Vice Chair), CE, JH and AS and would aim to meet monthly with their first meeting on Monday 12th February. The TOR were agreed, and a full policy will be considered at that meeting.

SM also advised there should be a recruitment working group (RWG) to deal with the details of the recruitment process and report back to the Staffing Committee. It was agreed that the RWG would comprise KG, JC and JH. TOR were agreed for this group and a budget of up to £500 approved. The group agreed to meet the following day to consider the first stages of the recruitment process.

All proposals were made by KG and seconded by JH and carried by 8 votes to 1.

022416

NEXT MEETING

As the next scheduled meeting date for the Parish Council clashes with Saint Piran's Day it was unanimously agreed that the date should be moved to Tuesday 12th March in the Memorial Hall annexe at 7.30 pm.

012417

MEETING CLOSE

KG declared the meeting closed at 9:05pm.

End of Minutes