

**Konsel Pluw Erens
Gerrans Parish Council**

**MINUTES of the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
held on Tuesday 1st March 2022 at 7.30 pm
in the Memorial Hall**



Present:

Kate Greet (KG) (Chairman), Richard Cochrane (RC), John Crombie (JC), Will Gill (WG), Helen Hastings (HH), Joanna Holah (JH), Nev Meek (NM), Chris Pope (CP); Steve Skull (Clerk), CC Julian German.

Five members of the public attended.

032201

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

- Cllrs Val Neal, Ralph German

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE ABSENCES

- See above

032202

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

- None

032203

REPORT FROM WARD MEMBER

JG confirmed that it was no longer permissible for business premises to trade from the public highway without special licence. (Feb minute ref 022213.3). He also reminded members of the Community Network Panel meeting scheduled for 15th March, at which the CNP Highways Scheme would be further discussed.

032204

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- Mr Steve Hooper spoke in support of planning application ref PA21/09084 re 3, Treventon Road, which was due to be considered in item 7a.

032205

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Members unanimously approved the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 1st February as being a true record of the meeting (proposed JC, seconded WG). KG signed the approved minutes.

KG also signed the minutes of the meeting of the Finance Committee also held on 1st February prior to the full Council meeting, they having been accepted as a true record by the other Committee members who attended.

032206

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS - MATTERS ARISING

- None not covered in other items on the agenda.

032207

PLANNING MATTERS

a) Applications

There were two new applications for consideration. These are outlined below and detailed comments are noted on the Cornwall Council planning website.

Application	Address	PC decision
PA21/09084	3, Treventon Road (Revised plans)	Support: 6 Support, 2 abstain
PA22/01754	3, Parc An Dillon Road (NMA)	Support. Unanimous

b) Decisions since last meeting

Application	GPC comment	CC Decision
PA21/11038 re Land NW of Highfield House	Object	Refused
PA21/12117 re 3-6 California Gardens	Support	Approved
PA21/11997 re Tregaire Barton	Object	Approved
PA21/11045 re Quay House	Support	Approved
PA21/11064 re High Curgurrell	Support	Approved
PA21/11223 re Percuil House	Support	Approved
PA22/00389 re 33 Churchtown Road (NMA)	Support	Approved
PA22/00403 re Tree works at Church Close	N/A (PC's own appl.)	Approved
PA22/00084 re 9, Admiralty Terrace	Support	Approved

c) Letter to MP

Members considered a draft, previously circulated by HH, of a written submission to Cheryl Mackrory, MP, regarding the operation of the planning appeals system. The draft was approved unanimously (proposed JC, seconded WG). The text of the letter may be seen at Appendix 1 to these minutes. The clerk was asked to include this issue as an item for discussion on the April agenda.

032208

AFFORDABLE HOUSING POLICY AND LOCAL HOUSING NEED

JH reported on behalf of the PC's Affordable Housing Working Group (AHWG) the Local Housing Need Survey was now ready for online use, and the proposed introductory letter was in its final stages of completion. She confirmed that the survey would launch on March 17th and continue until 28th April. Publicity would be via posters, Roseland magazine, Roseland Online and local radio. NM was keen that the PC should be more inclusive of the Cornish minority when producing publicity material.

JC reported there was an informal meeting with members of the Community Land Trust and local landowners scheduled for the coming Thursday.

032209

ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

a) Roseland Environmental Action Community Team (REACT)

RC presented a report and update on REACT's recent activities. A summary of the report can be seen at Appendix 2 to these minutes. It was agreed to include in April's agenda consideration of making a pledge to protect the local marine environment.

b) Pledge for nature

Members agreed unanimously to authorise RC to make a "pledge for nature" on behalf of the PC as part of Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly Local Nature Partnership's Ecological Emergency Summit, scheduled for March 24th.

032210

PLATINUM JUBILEE OF HM THE QUEEN.

On behalf of the Jubilee Working Group, CP reported on the open public meeting held in the Memorial Hall on 15th February. The meeting had been well attended, and an organising committee (The Gerrans and Portscatho Platinum Jubilee Committee) had been set up, to be chaired by CP, with KG acting as secretary. Proposed events included a Jubilee beacon, tea parties, a “big lunch”, and children’s sports and competitions.

He requested funding from the PC’s Jubilee provision for publicity flyers costing £79.00 and Customised Jubilee mugs costing £827.20 plus VAT. This was seconded by NM and agreed unanimously.

032211

OTHER REPORTS - From Committee representatives, Working Groups and/or liaison members

- None

032212

PARKING MATTERS

a) Parking Charges

It was unanimously agreed to leave the basic charges in New Road car park, and for parking permits, unchanged for 2022-23 (proposed KG, seconded JH).

b) Cashless Payment

The clerk had previously circulated information exploring possible options for providing cashless methods of payment at New Road car park. It was unanimously agreed (proposed JC, seconded CP) that the Flowbird App should be made available, with a convenience fee of 20p per transaction to be added, to cover admin costs.

032213

THE GREAT BRITISH SPRING CLEAN 2022

It was unanimously agreed that the PC would not sign up for this event, sponsored by Keep Britain Tidy (proposed CP/seconded WG)

032214

FINANCIAL MATTERS

1. Accounts for payment

The clerk 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 £4,589.90 (including VAT of £105.53) be paid (proposed JH, seconded JC). A schedule of all the payments is available from the clerk.

2. Bank Reconciliation

The reconciled bank balance as at 25th February was £36,971.45

032215

OTHER PARISH MATTERS

1. Any urgent business

- None

2. Matters to be included on the next agenda

- None, other than heretofore minuted.

3. Minor items for report only

- WG reported a street light failure in New Road

- NM said he was pleased with Councillors’ support in his correspondence concerning the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.

- NM also wished colleagues “Gool Peran Lowen” for the coming Saturday, 5th March.

032216

CO-OPTION OF NEW MEMBER

No applications had been received to fill the remaining vacant seat on the Council.

032217

NEXT MEETING

It was unanimously agreed that Tuesday 5th April 2022 be set for the next meeting of the Parish Council, to be held in the Memorial Hall.

032218

MEETING CLOSE

KG declared the meeting closed at 9.03 pm.

End of Minutes

APPENDIX 1

Text of letter to MP (Agenda item 7 c)

Dear Mrs Mackrory,

The members of Gerrans Parish Council have asked me to write to you urgently again, following our previous two letters of 8th January and 3rd February. You may or may not be aware that the Planning Inspectorate in Bristol recently upheld an appeal by the owner of the former post office in Portscatho to allow change of use from commercial to residential use.

The grounds for this decision were that, in the view of the Inspectorate, the property had been appropriately marketed as a commercial concern for a suitable length of time and at a reasonable price. This decision was taken in spite of overwhelming evidence to the contrary supplied by Gerrans Parish Council and in a number of well-argued objections by local residents. Refusal of the application was backed by Cornwall Council Planning Department and our local member, Julian German.

Decisions like these by the Inspectorate destroy the working heart of villages, which will increasingly become investments and playgrounds for people with money but without any connection or loyalty to local people and local community interests.

The power and role of the Inspectorate in decision-making is not fit for purpose. Its decisions affect the lives of local people, without recognition of the wider impacts beyond limited planning terms and regulations. The system needs a radical overhaul if the needs of local people are to be met.

As you yourself have commented, it is wrong that local residents have no mechanism and no powers to put forward any other side of the argument. They cannot put their case on equal terms and are specifically excluded from this stage of the planning process. The present system means that their views can be discounted and disregarded as inspectors are not permitted to canvas local opinion during their site visits. Once the Inspectorate has taken a view there is no further redress.

The impact of these decisions is far-reaching. Just this last week, our local much valued butchers' premises has gone on the market as a 2-bedroom detached house, as if permission for change of use might now be

considered a foregone conclusion. Where will this end? We need your help to stop this destruction of village life. Please let us know how you may be able to intercede with government on our behalf.

Steve Skull (etc)

End of Appendix 1

APPENDIX 2

Summary of report from RC re REACT (Agenda item 9.1)

REACT met on the 28th February.

We have had confirmation from RCEF that the applications for the Tregony Hydro and the Solar and food waste Schemes have been received. There were various areas for further clarification but hopefully all the information needed has now been provided.

REACT have submitted a response to the Cornwall for a pledge to protect the marine environment but it would be good to explore whether the parish council would also like to submit something on this call.

There is also the wider pledge for nature which we would like to support a Parish Council application for.

We are now exploring CiL funding options for the car share scheme, EV charge points and potentially the solar or hydro schemes depending on the timing of the feasibility sites.

The infra-red camera has been used at further events and further engagement with other schools is planned.

The tree nursery has still been going well with further planting out and sapling collection for this year.

Our next meeting is planned for the 28th March at 6pm via Zoom.

End of Appendix 2