

**Konsel Pluw Erens  
Gerrans Parish Council**



**MINUTES of the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
held on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2024 at 7.30 pm  
in the Memorial Hall**

Present:

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

3 members of the public attended.

**032401**

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

- Councillor Joanna Holah (JH), Clerk Steve Skull (available by telephone)

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE ABSENCES**

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

**032402**

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

- None

**032403**

**MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

Those members who had been present unanimously approved the minutes of the meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> February 2024 as being a true record of that meeting (proposed VN, seconded AS). KG signed the minutes. As JH was absent it was not possible to approve the minutes of the Finance Committee and this will be deferred until next month.

**032404**

**REVIEW OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS - MATTERS ARISING**

KG reported that there had been a site meeting with the supplier regarding the proposed installation of the commemorative swings on Church Close and that most donations had been received. The installation will be managed by our contractor as soon as possible.

**032405**

**REPORT FROM CORNWALL COUNCIL WARD MEMBER**

JG reported some blackthorn overhanging the road into Portscatho at Highertown and stressed that the public should be encouraged to report relevant matters directly to Cornwall Council.

**032406**

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Mr Steve Hooper has liaised with the tree surgeon regarding the cricket ground. He also reported there is a lot of dog fouling and asked the council to mention it in communications. KG offered to send him some posters.

**032407**

**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.

<b>Application</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>PC decision</b>
PA24/00042	Pendower Beach Hotel	Not required until April – see notes below
PA24/01281	43 North Parade	Support (unanimous)
PA24/01272	1 Shute Meadow	Support (unanimous)

Helen Hastings (Friends of Pendower Beach) explained her group's objections to the revised planning application. They feel the plans are in conflict with the NPPF and the SSSI status of Pendower and that the development is much larger than currently, essentially a change of use from class C1 to C3 as the proposed apartments would not be under single management. She cited a recent judicial review where viability had been considered a key issue and was worried that, if approved, further changes would undoubtedly be requested. Concerns about the construction phase and access were also mentioned.

There will be a drop-in meeting open to the public in Philleigh Village Hall from 4-6pm on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March, followed by a session for councillors at 6:15pm. On Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March Friends of Pendower will be holding an Open Meeting in Portscatho Memorial Hall at 7:30 pm when they will clearly lay out their objections.

**b) Decisions since last meeting**

<b>Application</b>	<b>GPC comment</b>	<b>CC Decision</b>
PA23/09801 Droskyn, Rosevine	Support	Approved
PA24/00120 27 North Parade	Support	Approved
PA23/08211 Knightor Vineyard	Agree 5 day protocol	Approved with new conditions

**032408**

**AFFORDABLE HOUSING POLICY AND LOCAL HOUSING NEED**

JC reported that he understood slow but positive progress was being made by Roseland Community Land Trust, who would be meeting the following day. Unfortunately, Cornwall's grant funding has run out but other routes are being explored.

**032409**

**ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS**

**Roseland Environmental Action Community Team (REACT)**

Councillors had received a report from REACT prior to the meeting and this is attached as Appendix 1. No action was required by the PC.

**032410**

**STAFFING**

The committee minutes from 12<sup>th</sup> February and 5<sup>th</sup> March were approved and signed by KG (proposed AS, seconded JC). A recruitment process is now in place. KG explained that adverts for the role of Clerk/RFO had been posted to Roseland Online, CALC and GPC web sites as well as noticeboards, and widely shared on social media. 7 expressions of interest were received resulting in 4 applications and the Recruitment Working Group (RWG) shortlisted 3 candidates. The interviews will take place on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March with the panel comprising the RWG and AS; The current clerk will also be present to answer any questions. It is hoped a decision can be taken on the day and a conditional job offer made.

**032411**

## **OTHER REPORTS**

### **From Committee representatives, Working Groups and/or liaison members**

**(i) Noticeboard Working Group** - LW reported the majority of local businesses had offered to sponsor the project but a few responses were outstanding. Once these come through the project can progress swiftly.

**(ii) Memorial Hall** - NM reported that the improvements are progressing well and should be finished in the next month.

**(iii) Heritage Centre** - NM reported the HC is opening at Easter with an exhibition of music on the Roseland. There is an open day to discuss this on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March, all welcome.

## **032412 CONTINUITY OF OPERATION**

The Clerk had written to KG with a proposal to act as a consultant during the handover period and induction of the new Clerk. The amount of time would be flexible depending on the expertise of the candidate and he would need continued access to GPC documentation and records during this time, including the Council's bank account. An hourly rate was discussed and the proposal agreed unanimously (Proposed KG, seconded JC).

**032413**

## **ANNUAL REVIEWS**

The Clerk referred to the preaudit documents below, which had been circulated to councillors.

- a) - Risk Assessment and Management Plan
- b) - Privacy Statement
- c) - Statement of Internal Control 2023-2024 pre-audit

He confirmed they were robust and all risks had been evaluated. Councillors agreed unanimously to approve these (proposed RG, seconded AS). The Annual Governance Statement 2023-2024 pre-audit was not yet available.

**032414**

## **PARISH PLANS**

JG had circulated information about producing a Parish Plan as the previous version was 20 years old. He stressed this is different from a Neighbourhood Development Plan and should include a 10-year vision. NM felt that producing a plan might help with future grant funding and that new items would need to be included. KG mentioned that the Levelling Up and Regeneration Act (LURA) includes proposals for parishes to develop 'Neighbourhood Priority Statements' which appear similar but which will not be clarified until the autumn: she would circulate information. NM proposed that a Working Group could be set up to investigate the best way forward and JC suggested councillors conduct further research, including potential funding sources, before the next meeting. RG seconded the proposal and it was carried unanimously. NM reminded councillors they are expected to read documentation thoroughly before meetings and KG suggested that any useful research or interesting ideas could be shared by email so that everyone would be informed.

**032415**

## **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 £4618.16 (including VAT of £428.49) be paid (proposed RG, seconded CE). A schedule of all the payments is available from the clerk.

### **2. Bank Reconciliation**

The reconciled bank balance as at 25<sup>th</sup> February 2024 was £46,891.07

**032416**

**OTHER PARISH MATTERS**

- RG reported 2 abandoned cars in Treloan car park. KG agreed to investigate.
- AS mentioned that her previous comments on the amount of drink-driving in the Parish seemed to have had a positive effect.
- VN mentioned a possible breach of planning permission had been reported to her. KG explained that enforcement issues should be reported directly to Cornwall Council on their web site, and that she had herself also received a similar approach during the previous month.

**032417**

**CO-OPTION OF NEW MEMBER**

Despite some enquiries to the clerk, no applications had been received to date.

**032418**

**NEXT MEETING**

It was unanimously agreed that this will be on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April in the Memorial Hall annexe at 7.30 pm.

**032419**

**MEETING CLOSE**

KG declared the meeting closed at 9:00pm.

**End of Minutes**

**Appendix 1 – Report from REACT**

REACT will hold the AGM at 7.30pm on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March at the Gerrans Parish Memorial Hall – ratification of the REACT constitution.

REACT -screening of Down the Drain in February was attended by 60+ people and there were good discussions on fresh water and quality/health of our local rivers/streams. Speakers were Carolyn Cadman of SW Water, Anna Seal of West Country Rivers Trust and Nick Taylor of Three Bays and the Riverfly project.

Updates from subgroups:

AD/PV – subgroup meeting will be held on 5<sup>th</sup> March

Climate Environment and Action Plan – final stages of the document

Thermal Imaging – Surveys are continuing to be undertaken but will soon cease (when the weather warms up!)

Funding/fund raising (Sheelah & Karen) – no update

Tree Nursery/NT and Pelyn – on February 10<sup>th</sup> a group met at Pelyn to finish the tree planting/management prior to the arrival of the new owners. A slate plaque marks the area as ‘Richard’s Wood’. There was a short tribute to Richard Cochrane by Felicity Notley to mark the occasion.

Tree work has been done for Ruan PC to replace trees along the river.

Richard Cochrane legacy- awaiting responses about the Eco Innovation Award.

Marine/seaweed group – met on February 22<sup>nd</sup> to look at coastal issues including seaweed, conservation areas. The group will meet again in March

Big Plastic Count – 11-17 March [Sign up | The Big Plastic Count](#)

**End of Appendix 1**