

MINUTES of a MEETING of ST AUSTELL BAY PARISH COUNCIL held on THURSDAY 28 MARCH 2019 at 6.00pm in THE PATTERN HALL, CHARLESTOWN

Present: Cllrs Bill Leach, Sue Leach, Malcolm Neill, Steve Morris, Richard Hallows, Sue Osbrink, Peter Tombs, Dave Nicklin

In attendance: Cllr Tom French CC; Julie Larter (Clerk); 9 members of the public.

(18/191) Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Trudy Reynolds.

(18/192) Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held on 21 February 2019

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held on 21 February 2019 be signed as an accurate record of the meeting.

(18/193) Matters to Note

The Clerk reported that the surveyor's report on the condition of The Pattern Hall roof has now been received. The report concluded that there is reasonable life left in the roof, although it will need frequent attention as some of the slates are failing. There is currently no justification to have the roof replaced. The parish council is liable for the repair of the roof, not its replacement.

A survey on the failing cliff in Charlestown is due to be undertaken in the next fortnight but the report is unlikely to be ready until May.

(18/194) Declarations of Interest on Items on the Agenda

There were no declarations of interest. The Chairman suggested given their involvement in the Charlestown CIC, Cllr Hallows and Cllr Nicklin may wish to consider declaring an interest in some of the items on the agenda. He advised Cllr Hallows and Cllr Nicklin to speak to the Monitoring Officer. Cllr Hallows explained that he and Cllr Nicklin will not become directors until the CIC's first meeting and that he had spoken to the Monitoring Officer already.

(18/195) Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman had no announcements to make.

(18/196) Public Participation

A member of the public asked to be able to speak about agenda item 17a – Charlestown Road trees. The Chairman said he would permit her to speak when that agenda item came up for discussion.

(18/197) Planning Applications and Related Matters

(i) PA19/01375 – Porthpean House, Porthpean Beach Road: Change of use: proposal – application for premises to be approved as a venue for marriages

It was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk should respond to the Planning Authority (Cornwall Council) stating that the parish council has no objections to the proposal.

(ii) PA19/01930 – Duporth Lodge, The Drive, Duporth: Application for works to trees subject to a Tree Preservation Order – reduce height and spread of Yew tree (T3) and fell Holly tree (T4)

It was **RESOLVED that the Clerk should respond to the Planning Authority (Cornwall Council) stating that the parish council has no objections to the proposal.**

(iii) PA19/02059 – Southwinds, Porthpean Beach Road: Erection of a workshop in the garden
It was **RESOLVED that the Clerk should respond to the Planning Authority (Cornwall Council) stating that the parish council has concerns about the size and possible use (other than a workshop) of the proposed building and would like a condition attached to any permission stating that the building may only be used as a domestic workshop.**

(PA19/02452 – Shipwreck and Heritage Centre, Quay Road: Non-material amendment (no2) for relocation of previously approved opening and general design amendments to lower roof platform lift and the reinstatement of existing window and additional new window in respect of (PA17/08006) Demolition of single storey extension to the north-west, alterations, ground floor extensions to provide additional exhibition and retail space and toilets and refuse store, first floor extension to provide new multi-use space, new two storey entrance, external landscaping.
It was **RESOLVED that the Clerk should respond to the Planning Authority (Cornwall Council) stating that the parish council has no objections to the proposed amendments but is disappointed that this is a retrospective application.** The Clerk was asked to write to the applicant expressing the parish council's disappointment to him.

(b) The Clerk gave an update on the following planning applications:

(i) PA18/11740 – The Retreat, Porthpean Beach Road: Proposed extensions including balcony, and alterations (resubmission of PA18/04317). The Planning Officer has stated that there is insufficient justification for this application to be called in and it will be determined by delegated authority.

(ii) PA18/11421 – Wreckers, Charlestown Road: Proposed glass box extension to property (Amended plans)
This application has been refused.

(iii) PA18/07961 - Land adjacent to 179 Charlestown Road: Outline Planning Permission with all matters reserved for a dwelling.
This application has been refused.

(c) Planning Appeal: PA18/04417 – Land at Beach Road, Porthpean: Construction of a 3-4 bedroom house on domestic recreation ground
It was noted that this application has gone to appeal. Draft comments had been circulated prior to the meeting and it was **RESOLVED that these comments should be submitted to the Planning Inspector.**

(d) The Rashleigh Arms

Concern was expressed that the current development work bears little relation to the extant plans. Comments received from St Austell Brewery's Property Manager were noted and the Clerk was asked to speak to the Planning Officer seeking an assurance that the matter will be resolved. The Clerk was also asked to write to James Staunton of St Austell Brewery indicating that via the St Austell Economic Forum he had repeatedly commented how important Charlestown is for the area, yet he permits his company to act contrary to planning permission. The Chairman asked Cllr French to speak to James Staunton.

(e) Strategic Planning Overview of Charlestown

The Clerk reported that there had been a delay in the application being verified as Cornwall Council advised that this might not be the best route possible for the outcome it desired. The Clerk had circulated this information to councillors and the consensus at that time was that the application should go ahead as a pre-application as previously decided.

(18/198) Neighbourhood Development Plan

Cllr Sue Leach and Cllr Sue Osbrink jointly gave the feedback. It was reported that the housing needs survey was currently online and has a closing date of 28 April. It is also available in a paper copy if required. Flyers for the Local Landscape Character Assessment events will be delivered by the middle of April and the Strategic Group asked for authorisation of £200 to cover the cost of running the sessions, which will be taken out of the Lottery grant. It was **RESOLVED to approve the expenditure.**

Cllr Osbrink said that she has received some free promotional material from the Lottery Fund. The Lottery has to be acknowledged on all publicity.

Regarding the business surveys, all replies received to date have been entered onto a spreadsheet and the date has been extended to 30 April.

Cllr Reynolds and a member of the Strategic Group attended a recent Neighbourhood Plan surgery and met Cornwall Council's new Neighbourhood Plan support worker. The officer was very positive about the progress made so far.

Cllr Sue Leach said she was perplexed about why Cllr Nicklin had felt it necessary to contact Richard Hawkey, the Cornwall Council officer who is leading the Housing Needs survey. It appears that Cllr Nicklin asked for the responses to a question to be deleted from the survey. The Chairman told Cllr Nicklin that he did not have the right to question a decision of the parish council, which had voted to commission this standard survey on 20 December. The Chairman went on to say that he felt that Cllr Nicklin and Cllr Hallows may have a conflict of interest given their involvement with the Charlestown Community Interest Company. Cllr Hallows said that he has spoken to the Monitoring Officer. Cllr Neill asked Cllr Nicklin why he went direct to Cornwall Council as Cllr Neill felt it would have been courteous to ask someone involved with the Neighbourhood Development Plan. Cllr Morris said that councillors work with a common aim, to look after the whole community and this was not the way to do business. The Chairman then expressed his concern about an article in the Polmear Post in which the Neighbourhood Development Plan survey summary had been mis-quoted. Cllr Osbrink said that this was disrespecting of the NDP Strategic Group, fellow councillors whose NDP it is, and of the hours of hard work that members of the NDP team have put in. Cllr Morris said that the newspaper should not be used to mimic and make fun of all the hard work that has gone on and that the editorial team should have spoken to the NDP team and not been underhand, unhelpful and destructive. He suggested that if the Polmear Post editorial team have any queries in the future they should ask the NDP team first. Cllr Leach explained that the results of the residents' questionnaire was in draft form and that residents had responded in good faith to the survey, which had been passed by the parish council, so to poke fun at their response was also disrespectful of parishioners. The Chairman asked Cllr Hallows whether he felt the article was appropriate or not. Cllr Osbrink said that she felt that a line had been crossed which was unacceptable. Cllr Morris said that he hoped the CIC hadn't been set up to undermine the parish council, or to communicate personal views as that was not what CICs are for.

The Chairman expressed thanks to the NDP team on behalf of the parish council for the amount of time they have all given up.

(18/199) Cornwall Councillor's Report

Cllr French said that he has received complaints about the proposed yellow lining at the bottom of Duporth Road. The Chairman said that he saw debris on the road this morning which was probably evidence of another bump.

Cllr French has been approached by the owner of Charlies Boathouse who is bothered by coaches parking outside his premises as they obstruct his business signs. There is evidence that coaches are parking up there rather than dropping off and collecting. Cllr French said that a solution needs to be found, but in the meantime he will ask for Civil Enforcement to monitor the situation.

(18/200) Tree Warden

On behalf of Cllr Reynolds, the Clerk reported that there has been a delay in replanting the street trees on Charlestown Road because of obtaining the specific trees required. Trees have now been sourced and the 4 replacement trees should be in situ by Easter. As mentioned previously it is Cornwall Council's intention to replant the other 2 trees in the next financial year. The tarmac that has been laid there is a temporary measure to improve the aesthetics of the area.

(18/201) Traffic Survey

Members discussed the various points raised by the Highways Officer in response to the quote for the second element of the survey, which had been previously circulated. Members were keen to pursue a traffic survey, but dismissed Highways' proposed solutions. on residents' parking, the continuation of a 20 MPH speed limit on Charlestown Road, 20 MPH speed limit on Duporth Road and a one-way system due to the cost involved. The World Heritage Team has commented on the various options and the Clerk was asked to circulate their report. It was **RESOLVED to proceed with the first element of the traffic survey, as agreed on 17 January, and then negotiate further.**

(18/202) Information and Data Protection Policy

It was **RESOLVED to adopt the draft Information and Data Protection policy to replace the current Data Protection policy.**

(18/203) Operation London Bridge

The Clerk's report was noted. It was suggested that it would be more appropriate for the Town Council to open a book of condolence rather than the parish council, and the Clerk will speak to the Town Clerk.

(18/204) Benches

The Clerk reported that the benches at Carrickowel Point and on the green at Porthpean beach needed refurbishing. A member of the public has asked if she could put a memorial bench on the green. The Clerk was asked to obtain quotes and the matter will be discussed again next month.

(18/205) Highways Matters

(a) Charlestown Street Trees

This matter had been dealt with previously. A member of the public commented on the expanse of tarmac the scheme has created.

(b) St Austell and Mevagissey Traffic Regulation Orders

The Clerk reported that she has received complaints about the Duporth Road proposal from 2 members of the public.

It was **RESOLVED that the Clerk should respond to the consultation stating that the parish council has no objections to the proposal for lining in Porthpean Road and Ridgewood Close and at the bottom of Duporth Road.**

(c) Other Highways Concerns

A complaint has been received about worn white lines and the Clerk has reported this to Highways. The Clerk reported that the resurfacing work at the junction of Church Road/Crinnis Road/Holmbush Arch Road will be undertaken overnight on 8 April. The work was not completed at the same time as the other resurfacing work in the parish because of the junction's close proximity with the railway line – it has to be undertaken when there are less trains operating.

A member of the public complained about speeding motorists at night on Charlestown Road. It appears that the road is being used as a racetrack late at night. The Clerk will speak to PCSO Carpenter.

Cllr French left the meeting.

(18/206) Financial Matters

(a) Grant Funding Request

Cornwall Air Ambulance has applied for a grant of £250 towards its New Heli Appeal. It was **RESOLVED to make a grant of £250.**

(b) Asset Register

The parish council's Asset Register was reviewed and considered to be in order.

(c) Insurance

Members considered 4 quotes to renew the council's insurance policy, considered that there was appropriate cover and it was **RESOLVED to accept a quote from Zurich Insurance on a 3 year long term agreement.**

(d) Pattern Hall Acoustics

The Clerk reported that Cllr Hallows has inspected the hearing loop system in the hall and found it to be working, but recommended that the system is extended by adding 4 additional microphones. The Clerk is awaiting a quote from the electrician. The Clerk has not been able to source an acoustic engineer locally. The Clerk contacted Cornwall Council's Audiology Department but was told that they only give advice to schools. The Clerk was asked to speak to Cornwall Council's Environmental Health department to ascertain whether they can help. If this proves unsuccessful it was **RESOLVED that the Clerk should arrange for a survey to be conducted by The Woolly Shepherd.**

(e) Current balances were noted and the following payments authorised

DD	SSE	Electricity for toilets	£61.58
DD	E-On	Electricity for hall	£499.19
DD	BT	Telephone and Broadband	£83.59
DD	Cornwall Council	Business rates for toilets	£74.00
BACS	ITEC	Photocopy charges	£26.70
BACS	Cornwall Council	Print work for NDP questionnaire	£110.38
BACS	S Wingfield	Remove plasterboard in hall loft	£110.38
BACS	Lyreco	Toilet consumables	£109.25

BACS	Mrs J Larter	Expenses	£179.02
BACS	Employees	Wages and oncosts	£2716.95
BACS	Complete Business Solutions	Paper	£17.10
BACS	Cornwall Council	Planning fee	£945.00

It was noted that the noticeboard in Porthpean Beach Road has been vandalised and the Clerk has arranged repairs under her delegated powers.

It was further noted that Cllr Osbrink undertook an internal control check on 26 February.

(18/207) Meetings/Training Attended

- 5 March – Cllr Neill and the Clerk attended the St Austell and Mevagissey Community Network Panel meeting. Matters discussed included the Community Governance Review and The St Austell Green and Gold Masterplan
- 6 March – Cllrs Neill and Tombs attended a meeting of Cornwall Design Review Panel
- 9 March – Cllr Reynolds attended a climate change conference. Members noted her report
- 21 March – Cllrs Nicklin, Reynolds and Morris together with the Clerk attended the Cornwall Council Area Planning Team Update. The presentation was previously circulated
- 22 March – Cllrs Neill and Reynolds together with the Clerk met with Chris Coldwell of Cornwall AONB Unit to discuss the Heritage at Risk project, which includes Black Head Fort. Mr Coldwell will attend the NDP drop in session on 26 March and also speak at the May parish council meeting
- 26 March – Councillors and the Clerk attended a drop in event organised by Charlestown Harbour

(18/208) Correspondence

A list of correspondence had previously been circulated and the following correspondence was received after publication of the agenda:

- Meet the Planners presentation
- Invitation to attend a Cornwall Council Road Safety and Community Speed event on 14 May
- Notification of vacancies on the Planning Partnership
- Letter received by Steve Double MP from Michael Ellis MP, Minister for Arts, Heritage and Tourism regarding the non-compliance of enforcement on Charlestown Chapel. Cllr Tombs is to draft one final letter to Steve Double MP

(18/209) Dates for the Diary

4 April – meeting with members of the Regatta Committee

(18/210) Dates of Future Meetings

18 April (preceded by the Annual Parish Meeting), 16 May (Annual Meeting of the Parish Council), 13 June, 18 July, 22 August, 19 September, 17 October, 21 November, 19 December 2019

The meeting closed at 7.42 pm

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Chairman

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Date