

WENDRON PARISH COUNCIL

www.wendronparishcouncil.org.uk

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Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Wendron Parish Council held on Monday March 14, 2011 at 7:30pm in the Community Hall, Burras.

Present:	Cllr Mrs Lay	Cllr Mrs D.Mitchell
	Cllr M.Clayton	Cllr Mrs S.Moyle
	Cllr P.Davidson	Cllr Mrs M.Warren
	Cllr G.Gibson	
	Cllr C.Mitchell	C.F.P.Chapman (Clerk)

Visitors: Mr Keeping, Mr Maddern, Mr Newham and Mr Osborne.

The Chairman welcomed members and visitors to the March meeting.

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr van den Berg, Cllr Boase and PC Vaughan sent their apologies for absence.

2 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Cllr Clayton proposed, Cllr Mrs Warren seconded, Cllr Mrs Lay who was absent from the last meeting abstained, all others in favour that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Monday, February 14, 2011 are a true record and the Chairman signed them as such.

3 MATTERS ARISING AND NOT COVERED ELSEWHERE IN THIS AGENDA

Cllr Gibson queried the VAT amount stated on the account from RTS (Garden Services) but accepted the Clerk's explanation that, because one invoice included VAT at the old rate and the other at the new, the stated sum was correct.

4 CORNWALL COUNCILLOR'S COMMENTS

CCllr Clayton reported that

- the owners of Gardenia are minded to seek retrospective planning permission for the recently erected residential caravan
- the owner of Rocklyn in Carnkie has acknowledged that he is running a car repair business from a residential property and intends regularising the position
- planning applications for 59 solar farms at sites all across the county have been received by the Cornwall Planning Department. The applications for these 'farms' (each of which covers nearly 40 acres of land, comprises nearly 6,000 panels and is surrounded by a mile of security fencing) are being decided by the Strategic Planning Committee, which, broadly speaking, appears to be in favour of development
- Coastline Housing has booked Wendron Cricket Club on March 30 to present local people with a proposal for a 1,000 home eco-village in Rame. This despite the fact that Cornwall Planners have advised that the proposal struggles to overcome various issues relating in particular to sustainable communities. Members noted that Coastline Housing, which is a partner organisation with Cornwall Council, has failed both to follow the pre-application procedures outlined to Councillors by Mrs Waters at the last meeting and to consult with the two public bodies immediately concerned: Wendron and Stithians Parish Councils

Finally, CCllr Clayton congratulated the members of the working group tasked with delivering a Local Needs Affordable Housing Survey and the Clerk for a job well done.

5 POLICE REPORT

Through the Clerk, PC Vaughan reported that, in February 2011, nine crimes (four burglaries, a theft, two assaults, a case of drink-driving and a case of failing to stop following a road traffic collision) had been reported to the Police: this compares with eight reported crimes in February 2010.

He reiterated his warning to members and residents concerning the increased risk of theft from unsecured buildings and again urged everyone to be vigilant and to take sensible precautions.

6 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr Osborne expressed concerns about sporadic development in and around the parish of Wendron, citing in particular the recent construction of a substantial block-built stable in field OS 6932 near Trenethick. He expressed further concerns about the continuing loss of productive farmland (to renewable energy, to equestrian use, to housing) when the country as a whole only produces 59% of the food it eats. He urged Councillors to look to the future when making observations on planning applications. In answer, CCllr Clayton stated that Cornwall Council does have concerns about sustainability, that he anticipates that in the parish about 1½ acres will be lost to Local Needs Affordable Housing but that the use of land is ultimately the decision of individual landowners.

Mr Newham stated that he had seen solar farms overseas and that the land underneath the panels is used for grazing purposes. He went on to say that he was a member of the Lowertown Community Group which has concerns about the future use of an area of land near Lowertown which has recently been clear felled. In answer, CCllr Clayton assured him that development of any kind on the so-called 'buffer zone' between Helston and Lowertown will be resisted.

7 PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS

The co-option of Parish Councillors

The Clerk reported that he had received a valid application for one of the vacant places on Wendron Parish Council from Mr R.L.Maddern of Halfway House Farm. He read a letter from Mr Maddern which gave details of his particular interests in the workings of the Parish Council.

The Chairman proposed and it was agreed that, because of the sensitive nature of this item, members of the public should be required to withdraw from the meeting.

Following discussion, Cllr Clayton proposed, Cllr Mrs Moyle seconded all others in agreement that Mr Richard Maddern should be co-opted as a Parish Councillor.

Members of the public were invited to return to the meeting.

The Chairman announced the result of the vote.

Cllr Maddern signed and read aloud his individual declaration of acceptance of office before Mr Chapman, Clerk to Wendron Parish Council, the Proper Officer. The Chairman welcomed Cllr Maddern as a member of Wendron Parish Council.

A Local Affordable Needs Survey

The Clerk reported that the working group with responsibility for taking this project forward had met and agreed the wording of the questions to be asked in the Local Needs Housing Survey. He further reported that the survey had been posted to the addresses on the Electoral List at the end of last week. Having spoken with Mr Will Morris from the Affordable Housing Team he suggested that it might be appropriate to wait until the end of April before making the results public.

Special Interest Groups

General discussion about this matter followed with individual Councillors expressing interest in taking on responsibility for specific items of work undertaken by the Parish Council. The principle having been established, the matter will be pursued at a later date.

8 PARISH MATTERS

Bases for Speed Visors in Rame and Carnkie

Members were concerned that apparently no progress has been made with the placement of this equipment. The Clerk reported that earlier in the day he had contacted Mr Andy James at Cornwall Highways with a request for the matter to be expedited. CCllr Clayton stated that he understood that the bases will be erected and the associated equipment installed before the summer and that he would ensure that a map showing the locations is forwarded to members.

Publication of a newsletter following the Annual Parish Meeting

Members considered the value of publishing a three-fold newsletter following the Annual Meeting and noted that such a newsletter is required for Quality Parish Council status. The Chairman said that she would rough out something for consideration at next month's meeting.

9 FINANCE

As a member of the Carnmenellis Churchyard Preservation Committee, Cllr Mrs Moyle declared an interest in the following application for financial help. She remained in the room, but took no part in either the discussion or the voting.

Members considered a request from the Carnmenellis Churchyard Preservation Committee for help with funding the cost of maintenance of the churchyard. It was proposed by Cllr Davidson, seconded by Cllr Mrs Warren, all others in favour that, under the terms of Section 214(6) of the Local Government Act 1972, the sum of £350 be forwarded to Carnmenellis Churchyard Preservation Committee for help towards the cost of the upkeep of the cemetery.

The following accounts were presented for consideration:

	GROSS	NET	VAT
HM Revenue and Customs	£ 510.61		
RTS (Garden Services) Ltd			
Churchyard (February)	£ 210.00		
Churchyard (March)	£ 210.00		
total	£ 420.00	£350.00	£ 70.00
Colin Chapman (Housing Survey)	£ 736.14		
Colin Chapman			
Salary (February)	£ 563.86		
telephone	£ 15.16		
office expenses	£ 20.59		
travelling	£ 91.00		
use of home	£ 25.00		
total	£ 715.61		

It was proposed by Cllr Mrs Lay, seconded by Cllr Mitchell, all others in favour that the above four accounts should be paid.

The following account was also presented for payment.

Cllr Mitchell declared a personal and prejudicial interest in that the following account was submitted by Gareth Mitchell, his son.

Cllr Mitchell left the room.

	GROSS	NET	VAT
Gareth Mitchell (open spaces)	£ 90.00		

Proposed by Cllr Mrs Lay, seconded by Cllr Mrs Moyle all others in favour that the above account be paid.

In the absence of Cllr Mitchell and bearing in mind the increase in attributable costs, members considered the sum paid to Mr Gareth Mitchell for cutting the open areas in the parish. Following discussion, Cllr Gibson proposed, Cllr Davidson seconded, all others in favour that with effect from April 1, 2011 Wendron Parish Council should increase the sum paid to Mr Gareth Mitchell by £10 per cut bringing the total per cut to £100.00

Cllr Mitchell returned to the room.

10 PLANNING

Applications

As a member of Cornwall Council's Planning Committee, Cllr Clayton declared an interest in each of the following applications. He remained in the room, but took no part in either the discussion or the voting.

PA11/00782 Mr & Mrs A Corbishley – Change of use and conversion of 2 barns to form dwellings, associated access works and stationing of temporary caravan accommodation – Retanna House, Butteriss Gate. Cllr Mrs Lay proposed, Cllr Mrs Warren seconded and it was agreed that this application should be returned with the following observation “Wendron Parish Council supports the principle of restoring these two barns to a useful function. However, the absence of a business plan from the application raises questions concerning whether or not it conforms to E7 (conversions of buildings in the countryside) and the sequential approach required by that policy for the proposed use.”

PA11/01281 Mr & Mrs Neville – Detached domestic garage – Tanglewood Cottage, Underlane. Cllr Mrs Moyle proposed, Cllr Mrs Lay seconded and it was agreed that this application should be returned with the following observation “Wendron Parish Council supports this application.”

PA11/01421 Mr D.Tully – Extensions and alterations to dwelling – Boskenna Cottage, Carnkie. Cllr Mrs Lay proposed, Cllr Mitchell seconded and it was agreed that this application should be returned with the following observation “Wendron Parish Council supports this application.”

As a friend of the applicant, Cllr Mrs Lay declared an interest in the following application. She relinquished the chair, remained in the room, but took no part in either the discussion or the voting. Cllr Clayton assumed the Chair.

PA11/01533 Mr & Mrs Eva – Listed building consent for conversion of barn into residential dwelling and installation of a septic tank –Tregarrick, Tresprison, Helston. Cllr Mrs Warren proposed, Cllr Mrs Moyle seconded and it was agreed that this application should be returned with the following observation “Wendron Parish Council supports this application.”

Cllr Clayton relinquished the Chair. Cllr Mrs Lay resumed the Chair.

PA11/01561 Mr M.Rowe (Rowe Farming Ltd) – Installation of solar photovoltaic array on agricultural building – Trenethick Farm, Redruth Road. Cllr Mrs Moyle proposed, Cllr Davidson seconded and it was agreed that this application should be returned with the following observation “Wendron Parish Council supports this application.”

Decisions

Approved Addition of a triangular window to the south west elevation (minor amendment to Erection of an agricultural workers dwelling Application number W2/PA09/00962/RM) – Higher Boquio Farm Farms Common – *noted*

PA10/06972 Approved (Stationing of an agricultural workers caravan and widening of access) Barn at Lower Burras Farm, Burras Row – *noted*

PA10/08113 Grant of Conditional Planning Permission (Erection of a general store) – Stithians Water Sport and Visitor Centre, Menherion – *noted*

11 REPORT OF CLERK AND CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence

Clerks and Councils Direct newsletter – *noted*

Audit Commission appointment of Jackie Ballard as Wendron Parish Council’s external auditor – *noted*

Mr Hales Lowertown Community Group request to the Parish Council

1. to fund the erection of wooden barriers (or placement of boulders) on the Trenethick Barton roundabout at the eastern end of Lowertown Lane (to prevent the parking of cars for sale) and
2. to be consulted formally on plans for affordable housing in or near to Lowertown –

it was agreed that Wendron Parish Council should write both to the Police and to County Highways asking that the cars should be removed from the Trenethick roundabout and to the Community Group to re-assure members that before any decisions concerning Affordable Housing are made there will be an opportunity for members of the public to make their views known

SW Ambulance Service Twentyfourseven newsletter – *noted*

12 CHAIRMAN’S COMMENTS

The Chairman made no comments at this stage of the meeting.

13 MATTERS FOR INCLUSION AT FUTURE MEETINGS

Occasional change of venue

Commemorative mugs for the schoolchildren of Halwin and Wendron Schools

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next Ordinary Parish Council Meeting will be held on Monday April 11, 2011 at 7:30pm in the Community Hall, Burras.

Signed.....Chairman

Date.....