

WENDRON PARISH COUNCIL

www.wendronparishcouncil.org.uk

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Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Wendron Parish Council held on Monday December 12, 2011 at 7:30pm in the Community Hall, Burras.

Present:

Cllr Mrs C.Lay	Cllr Mrs D.Mitchell
Cllr N.van den Berg	Cllr Mrs S.Moyle
Cllr P.Davidson	Cllr Mrs M.Warren
Cllr G.Gibson	
Cllr C.Mitchell	C.F.P.Chapman (Clerk)

Visitors: CCllr Dr Jenkin, PCSO Sadler, Mr Hobson, Mr Johns, Mr Sankey and Mrs Trounson.

The Chairman welcomed members and visitors to the December meeting. In particular she welcomed CCllr Dr Jenkin and congratulated her on her success in the recent by-election.

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Maddern sent his apologies for absence.

2 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Cllr Mrs Moyle proposed, Cllr van den Berg seconded, Cllr Davidson being absent from the last meeting abstained, all others in favour that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Monday November 14, 2011 are a true record and the Chairman signed them as such.

3 MATTERS ARISING AND NOT COVERED ELSEWHERE IN THIS AGENDA

There were no matters arising which were not covered on the agenda.

4 CORNWALL COUNCILLOR'S COMMENTS

Thanking those who supported her in the recent by-election and stating that she was looking forward to working with the Council, CCllr Dr Jenkin reported that

- she now has a Cornwall Council e-mail address letjenkin@cornwall.gov.uk
- at a recent meeting Cornwall had voted to be minded to accept a grant from Central Government equivalent to a 2.5% increase in Council tax in return for freezing Council tax at current levels
- at the same meeting, Cornwall had agreed to tell the Government that, if the May Day bank holiday is moved, the Council would wish to see it replaced in Cornwall by a public holiday on St Piran's Day
- many environmental organisations (including the National Trust and CPRE) are concerned about changes in planning as proposed by the Government, principally because landscapes and countryside that are not presently covered by specific environmental designations will have no protection and there will be a presumption in favour of development in those areas. It appears that the only way that control will be able to be exercised is through the higher level Core Strategy or through very locally applied neighbourhood plans and orders. These will have to be adopted through a costly planning process and local referendum
- she is particularly concerned with the need to develop a strategic approach to small scale wind generation across the division and is arranging a meeting with planning officers to discuss this.

5 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr Johns asked the Council if it would reconsider the observations it made on his application for the erection of a wind turbine at Carnkie. The turbine he has chosen is reliable and quiet and will therefore not impose on neighbours. It will additionally provide a steady source of income for his family.

Chairman's initials

Mr Hobson said he was present to support Mr Johns’ request. Nationally and internationally there is a growing demand for the production of non-pollutant ‘green’ energy which is reflected in Planning Policy Statements. The proposed turbine will rest on a lattice framework and will blend in with existing pylons: it will not be an eye-sore.

Mr Sankey said that he was present simply to hear what the Parish Council had to say about the proposed erection of three wind turbines at Nancrossa Farm in Rame

6 POLICE REPORT

PCSO Sadler reported that three crimes (a theft, a case of criminal damage and an offence under the Communications Act 2003) had been reported to the Police in November 2011: this compares favourably with the eight which were reported in the same period last year.

PCSO Sadler reminded members and residents alike that the annual Christmas period Drink Drive Campaign has started.

Finally and on behalf of Devon and Cornwall Police, she wished everyone present a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

7 PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS

The co-option of Parish Councillors

The Clerk reported that no applications for co-option onto the Parish Council have been received.

Dates of Parish Council meetings 2012/2013

Members agreed that, unless there are pressing reasons for change, the times, dates and places for the meetings in 2012 – 2013 will be as follows

January 9, 2012	Ordinary Meeting	Community Hall, Burras
February 13, 2012	Ordinary Meeting	Community Hall, Burras
March 12, 2012	Ordinary Meeting	Community Hall, Burras
April 9, 2012	Ordinary Meeting	Community Hall, Burras
May 14, 2012	Annual Parish Meeting	Community Hall, Burras
May 14, 2012	Annual Meeting	Community Hall, Burras
June 11, 2012	Ordinary Meeting	Community Hall, Burras
July 16, 2012	Ordinary Meeting	Community Hall, Burras
August 13, 2012	Ordinary Meeting	Community Hall, Burras
September 10, 2012	Ordinary Meeting	Community Hall, Burras
October 8, 2012	Ordinary Meeting	Community Hall, Burras
November 12, 2012	Ordinary Meeting	Community Hall, Burras
December 10, 2012	Ordinary Meeting	Community Hall, Burras
January 14, 2013	Ordinary Meeting	Community Hall, Burras
February 11, 2013	Ordinary Meeting	Community Hall, Burras

8 PROJECTS WITHIN THE PARISH

Provision of a bus shelter at Trevenan Bal

The Clerk reported that he is awaiting quotations for the construction of a shelter at this location. Two are needed before an application for grant funding may be submitted to Cornwall.

Local Needs Housing

Members noted that a meeting with the Director of Cornwall Rural Housing Association, Mr Peter Moore, and Mr Alan Fox has been arranged for Wednesday December 21 at the Clerk’s home.

The Diamond Jubilee of HM Queen Elizabeth II

The Clerk reported that he had taken delivery of three eight foot high Ghost Birch *Betula utilis Jacquemontii* ‘Grayswood Ghost’ trees, one each for both Halwin and Wendron Schools and one for the lay-by at Retanna to mark the occasion of HM Queen Elizabeth II’s Diamond Jubilee. Together with tree stakes, ties and delivery the net cost had been £137.46

Mining World Heritage Site

The Clerk reported that, he is still awaiting a template for the site strap-line for use by Frederick Wearne & Sons, otherwise the matter is in hand.

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9 FINANCE

The Clerk presented Councillors with a statement of Wendron Parish Council’s financial position as at December 2, 2011. A copy of that statement is attached to these minutes.

Following discussion, it was proposed by Cllr Mrs Warren, seconded by Cllr van den Berg all in favour that the Precept for the year 2012/2013 should be set at £24,750. Councillors noted that this will be the third year in succession that the Parish has made no increase in its demand on Council Tax payers.

The Clerk outlined problems he had recently experienced with the Parish Council’s Bankers, Santander. Following discussion,

- Cllr Mrs Lay proposed, Cllr Mrs Moyle seconded all in favour to close the two accounts held with Santander as soon as is practical.
- Cllr Mrs Lay proposed, Cllr Mrs Warren seconded all in favour to appoint Barclays Bank plc as Wendron Parish Council’s bankers as soon as is practical
- Cllr Mrs Lay proposed, Cllr Mrs Mitchell seconded all in favour that both a deposit account and a current account should be set up to allow the Council to carry out its business.
- Cllr Mrs Lay proposed, Cllr van den Berg seconded all in favour that there should be three authorised signatories to the current account run by Barclays Bank plc and that a minimum of two of those signatories should sign all cheques and mandates.
- Cllr Mrs Lay proposed, Cllr Davidson seconded all in favour that a single authorised signatory may give instructions to move money both from the deposit account to the current account and from the current account to the deposit account.
- Cllr Mrs Lay proposed, Cllr Mrs Moyle seconded all in favour that for the time being the three authorised signatories should be Cllr Mrs Lay, Cllr Mrs Warren and the Clerk, Mr Chapman.

Members considered a request from Victim Support for financial help with funding its work. Following discussion, it was proposed by Cllr Davidson, seconded by Cllr Mrs Lay, all others in favour that the sum of £75.00 be forwarded to Victim Support under the terms of Section 142(2A) of the Local Government Act 1972.

The following accounts were presented for consideration:

	GROSS	NET	VAT
HM Revenue and Customs	£ 470.68		
Eric and Jeff Bray (07/10 and 14/11)	£ 162.00	£ 135.00	£ 27.00
L.A.Phillips and Son Ltd	£ 28.61	£ 23.84	£ 4.77
The Duchy Nursery (trees)	£ 164.95	£ 137.46	£ 27.49
RTS (Garden Services) Ltd			
Church and cemetery (15/11)	£ 180.00		
Garden at Penmarth (3.5 hours @ £16)	£ 56.00		
	total	£ 236.00	£ 47.20
Colin Chapman			
Salary (November)	£ 563.86		
telephone	£ 26.44		
office expenses	£ 42.11		
travelling	£ 57.20		
use of home	£ 25.00		
	total		£ 714.61

It was proposed by Cllr Mrs Warren, seconded by Cllr van den Berg, all others in favour that the above six 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. He left the room.

Gareth Mitchell	£ 100.00
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Proposed by Cllr Mrs Lay, seconded by Cllr Mrs Mitchell all others in favour that the above account be paid.

Cllr Mitchell returned to the room.

The following receipt was noted:

CC Community Chest grant	£ 350.00
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10 PLANNING

Applications

As a neighbour of the applicant, Cllr Davidson declared a personal interest in the following application. As a friend of the applicant, Cllr Mrs Moyle declared a personal interest in the following application. They both remained in the room but took no part in either the discussion or the voting.

PA11/07442 Mr S.Toft – Replacement of the approved Proven P35 wind turbine with a smaller, quieter 15m P11 wind turbine in a revised location – Little White Alice, Calvadnack. Cllr Mrs Lay proposed, Cllr Mrs Warren seconded, all others in favour that this application should be returned with the following observation “Wendron Parish Council supports this application, subject to a favourable report from the Environmental Health Officer.”

PA11/09157 Rev A Hill – Listed Building Consent for the removal of organ from closed chapel (amended plans) – Carnkie Methodist Church, Carnkie.. Cllr Mrs Lay proposed, Cllr Mrs Warren seconded, all in favour that this application should be returned with the following observation “Wendron Parish Council supports this application and, as long as the instrument is removed without damage to the structure, fabric or finishes of the Chapel, would request that, should approval be granted, exceptionally, the Planning Authority dispenses with any requirement for a full planning application.”

PA11/09161 Mr Jim Ravey – Installation of 3 No x 50kW wind turbines (24.6m to hub, 34.2m to tip), access track and associated ancillary development – Lower Nancrossa Farm, Halfway House, Rame Cross. Cllr Mrs Lay proposed, Cllr Mrs Warren seconded, all in favour that this application should be returned with the following observation “Wendron Parish Council understands that a number of residents living in close proximity to the site have not been informed of this application and urges the Planning Authority to make every effort to contact them.

In respect of the Planning and Design Statement submitted with this application, Wendron Parish Council notes with bemusement the reference to South Somerset Council on page 30 and the reference to the A303 on page 34.

“However...

“There has been no pre-application consultation with the community, contrary to EHS Guidelines 2007.

“It is noted that a request for an EIA Screening Opinion was submitted to Cornwall Council (page 8 Planning and Design Statement) but that no response has been received. Wendron Parish Council urges the Planning Authority to reply positively to this request.

“Wendron Parish Council believes the scale of the turbines will be grossly out of proportion with the surrounding landscape and will have an adverse affect on the residents of the many small communities surrounding the site.

“It is noted that there are existing dwellings well within 500 metres of the proposed turbines. Wendron Parish Council considers the proposed turbines will impose on residents’ quiet enjoyment of those properties.

“The applicant has used the recommendations outlined in ETSU-R-97 (Noise Assessment and Rating advice note for Wind Turbine Developments) to suggest that the noise generated by the proposed turbines would be unnoticed by residents of neighbouring properties. This document was written fourteen years ago and both wind farm technology and experience in environmental effects have advanced since its publication and the recommendations contained within the document are therefore open to question. Wendron Parish Council cannot accept the generalised assurances of a company employed by the applicant nor indeed those of the manufacturer that the proposed turbines will be “very quiet”. The average windspeed at a height of 10 metres above ground level at this location is 7.3 m/s (source DECC). According to the document submitted by the applicant, this wind-speed equates to just over 89 decibels (that of a motor-cycle at 20 feet or a propellor-driven plane at 1,000 feet). It is Wendron Parish Council’s view that this continuous level of noise is unacceptable.

“It is noted that the position of all three turbines is at odds with Natural England’s guidelines as outlined in its Technical Information Note TIN051.

“It is noted both that a section of Bridleway 99 represents the access route for construction and inspection vehicles and that the remaining section of this Bridleway passes within 50 metres of the site of the proposed turbines. No method of ensuring the safety of members of the public making use of this Right of Way either during construction or upon completion is detailed in the Design and Access Statement contrary to RenewableUK Guidelines.

“The size, siting and prominence of the turbines would appear as a dominant and visually intrusive feature in the surrounding rural landscape and would be imposing and overbearing on views of and from this ridge, which, at 630 feet, dominates the sky line for miles around.

“The plans indicate that the turbines will be visible from the far side of Truro, from Cadgwith, from Penzance, from

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St Ives and from St Agnes – an area in excess of 1,256 square kilometres or more than a third of the entire area of Cornwall. It is an area which attracts tourists from all over the world who come principally to enjoy the rural charm of the landscape. In 2009 Cornwall attracted 15.1 million visitors who spent approximately £1.8 billion pounds (which supported approximately 60,000 jobs across the county or 25% of the total employment): there is every reason to believe that these figures have increased more recently. The erection of turbines on this site may have an adverse effect on the local economy and, for this reason, Wendron Parish Council believes that a Tourism Impact Study of the area should have been carried out.

“For all the above reasons, Wendron Parish Council requests the Planning Authority to refuse permission for development. The visual impact and intrusion into the countryside of the proposed turbines is contrary to policies 1 and 2, of the Cornwall Structure Plan 2004 and ENV1, ENV4 and ENV17 of the Draft Kerrier District Local Plan 2004. Wendron Parish Council also believes the cumulative impact of turbines of differing sizes within the area (PPS22 paragraph 21 and Policy 7 of the Cornwall Structure Plan 2004) militates against permission for further turbines being granted.

“Finally, Wendron Parish Council would draw the attention of the Planning Authority to the decision to refuse permission for development for the erection of a single turbine and ancillary building at Polkanuggo Farm (PA11/01263).”

Decisions

PA11/06042 APPROVED (Continued use of garage as commercial garage for vehicle repairs) – Primrose Lodge, Carnkie – *noted*

PA11/07242 APPROVED (Erect a 4kW solar panel system) – Menherion House, Menherion – *noted*

PA11/07242 APPROVED (Erection of an extension) – Littke Boquio, Farms Common – *noted*

Correspondence

CC Planning Enforcement notification of a report of alleged unauthorised fly tipping on land adjoining Viscar Common – *noted*

11 REPORT OF CLERK AND CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence

CC notification that the appropriate number of requests for a vacancy on the Council to be filled by an election has not been received *noted* – *noted*

Wendron PCC letter of thanks for the manner in which the maintenance of both churchyards at Wendron has been carried out – *noted*

Mr Bambury concerning the Parish Council’s involvement in the application for a wind-turbine at Little White Alice – *noted*

Mrs Oliver letter of thanks to the Parish Council for its help and support with the Play Area at Carnkie – *noted*

12 CHAIRMAN’S COMMENTS

The Chairman thanked

- all those who had attended the informal planning meeting noting that their input had been invaluable.
- the Clerk for the extra work he has recently undertaken stating that it is much appreciated
- and Cllr Gibson for his repair work on the notice-board at Penmarth

She asked the Clerk to write to BT expressing the wish for the Parish of Wendron to be included in the roll-out of high-speed broad-band sooner rather than later.

Finally, she wished everyone present a very happy Christmas.

13 MATTERS FOR INCLUSION AT FUTURE MEETINGS

- Carnkie Play Area: work in progress
- HM Queen Elizabeth II’s Diamond Jubilee: beacons
- Carnkie Wendron Village Hall: state of the approach road.

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Monday January 9, 2012 at 7.30pm in the Community Hall, Burras.

Signed.....Chairman

Date.....

Chairman’s initials