

# WENDRON PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Wendron Parish Council held on Monday November 8, 2021 at 7:30pm in Penmarth Methodist Schoolroom.

**Present:** Cllr Mrs S.Moyle (Chairman) Cllr G.Looker  
Cllr Mrs B.Borman Cllr C.Mitchell  
Cllr R.Durkin Cllr Mrs K.Wedlake  
Cllr R.Ferris  
Cllr Mrs K.Hampton Mr C.Chapman (Clerk)

Visitors to the meeting: Cllr Dr Jenkin and twenty-four members of the public.

The Chairman welcomed members and visitors to the November meeting.

## 1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Law sent his apologies for absence.

## 2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

### in items on the agenda

There were no declarations of interest in items on the agenda.

### of gifts (received as a result of being a member of the Council) of a value greater than £50 either in the form of a single gift or as a cumulative total

There were no declarations of gifts of a value greater than £50.

## 3 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Cllr Durkin proposed, Cllr Mrs Borman seconded (Cllr Mrs Hampton, Cllr Ferris and Cllr Mrs Wedlake who were absent from the last meeting abstained) and it was agreed that the minutes of the Meeting held on October 11, 2021 are a true record and the Chairman signed them as such.

*The Chairman proposed and it was agreed to discuss Agenda item 10 at this stage*

## 10 PLANNING

### Applications

PA21/08318 Mr C.Knock – Proposed new dwelling – land South-East of Wheal Rock, Porkellis. Cllr Durkin proposed, Cllr Mrs Hampton seconded and it was agreed that this application should be returned with the following observation *Wendron Parish Council supports this application.*

PA21/08862 Mr R.Young – Demolition of an existing agricultural building and the erection of two dwellings affecting public right of way – Boquio Farm, Farms Common. Cllr Mrs Borman proposed, Cllr Looker seconded and it was agreed that this application should be returned with the following observation *Wendron Parish Council supports this application.*

PA21/09083 Mr and Mrs Turner – Listed building consent for installation of an electric stairlift to existing internal staircase – Lower Crahan Farm, Crahan Wendron. The Chairman proposed, Cllr Ferris seconded and it was agreed that this application should be returned with the following observation. *Wendron Parish Council supports this application*

PA21/09783 Mr P.Thorne – Replacement of existing all weather court with 3G youth pitch including barriers, lighting, wind tree and associated works. Provision of roof windows to clubhouse & changing rooms – Wendron Cricket Club, Underlane. The Chairman proposed, Cllr Ferris seconded and it was agreed that this application should

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be returned with the following observation *Wendron Parish Council supports this application.*

PA21/09827 Miss H.Farndale Geothermal Engineering Ltd – Development of a geothermal power plant including site preparation, drilling of two deep geothermal wells, resource testing, construction of a binary cycle power station and subsequent operation – land north-east of Lower Crahan Farm.

The Clerk read aloud the minutes for Agenda item 6 page 1,913 of the meeting held on September 13, 2021 following which members of the public were invited to speak, but to confine their comments to fresh concerns. The following points were voiced

- the applicant does not appear to have considered many of the serious issues associated with deep drilling, not least the naturally occurring radioactive materials (*NORM*) in solid waste or “drill cuttings”
- a straw poll of over 100 individuals living within the vicinity of the proposed site suggests that they are all concerned about the potential for damage to the environment
- the project is inappropriate and contrary to both the NPPF and the CLP
- the Environment Agency and the Historic Environment Planning Department both have strong reservations about the project
- there is no certainty of a successful drilling programme: the whole exercise may be a waste of time.

Following some discussion, Cllr Durkin proposed, Cllr Ferris seconded and it was agreed that this application should be returned with the following observation *Wendron Parish Council does not support this application, indeed having read it through it is surprised that in its present form the Planning Authority validated it. Be that as it may, Wendron Parish Council notes that, contrary to legislation, which in the case of the Energy Industry, requires an Environmental Impact Assessment on developments in excess of half a hectare, (The Town and Country Planning Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations 2017 – Schedule 2), in the case of this application and despite the probability that every Grade 3 agricultural field in the area will support a number of protected species, no such assessment has been researched or presented. That omission aside, Wendron Parish Council still does not support this application. In this very rural location with far-reaching views of the countryside and English Channel, which lies within the Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Landscape Area 10 Carnmenellis, the proposed power plant will have an immediate and unwelcome visual impact on the landscape. Moreover, the proposal flies in the face of the statement that renewable energy schemes should “be led by, or meet the needs of local communities” (CLP Policy 14). Geo-thermal energy plants create both electricity and heat: there are very few immediately local people who might benefit from the electricity produced and, despite the applicant’s suggestions, none who can benefit from the heat. (Furthermore, it is unlikely that planning permission for a residential or business estate in the immediate vicinity which might use the electricity and heat generated will ever be forthcoming.) It is also noted that there is no mention of the probability that potable ground water sources will be polluted, nor, apparently, has there been any research into the number of households locally who rely on such sources. The noise pollution occasioned by drilling during the construction phase (particularly at nights) will almost certainly break acceptable levels. Finally, as matters stand, the Parish Council believes there are serious road safety issues linked to the proposed access to the site.*

*In view of the above, Wendron Parish Council requests the Planning Authority to refuse permission for development. If, however, the recommendation is for approval, Wendron Parish Council requests that the application is sent to the Strategic Planning Committee for decision.*

*... and, as an aside (though this is not a valid reason to seek refusal), the bribe of £40,000 which is offered to the community over the predicted life-span of fifty years of this energy plant is insulting.*

PA21/10124 Mr and Mrs I.Broomhead – Erection of a garage, home office and playroom – Wheal Manor, Porkellis. Cllr Durkin proposed, Cllr Mrs Borman seconded and it was agreed that this application should be returned with the following observation. *Subject to a condition tying the use of this development to the incidental use of Wheal Manor, Wendron Parish Council supports this application*

#### **To note the receipt of planning application decisions**

PA21/08949 APPROVED – Construction of a single dwelling-house with parking and amenity areas – land to rear of West View, Trewennack – *noted*

PA21/09502 APPROVED – Extension of existing garage Spring Cottage, Underlane – *noted*

#### **4 MATTERS ARISING AND NOT COVERED ELSEWHERE IN THIS AGENDA**

There were no matters arising.

#### **5 CORNWALL COUNCILLOR’S COMMENTS**

CCllr Dr Jenkin reported that

- on the whole she is in favour of geo-thermal initiatives, but that, as matters stand, she has deep concerns about the site at Manhay
- she took part in an on-line meeting concerning the creation of a cycle path between Trewennack and Helston. A funding package is slowly coming together and she hopes for a productive site meeting later this week

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- Cornwall Council has significant budgeting issues. The Cabinet is looking to cut £18 million in the coming financial year. Already this year, the Health and Social Care Department has seriously over-spent its budget. All in all, she fears there will be a sizeable loss of services in the future
- there will be no money to spend on highways until 2023 at the earliest, but despite this the Council is still looking to the introduction of 20mph zones across the county
- Helston is again pushing for the extension of its boundary into the Parish of Wendron. It might be useful if the Clerk and she were to have a meeting with the officer concerned.

## 6 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

At this point in the proceedings there were no members of the public present.

## 7 PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS

### Co-option of members

The Clerk reported that interest in standing for co-option as a Parish Councillor has been expressed by Mr van den Berg.

Following discussion, the Chairman proposed, Cllr Ferris seconded and it was agreed that Mr van den Berg should be co-opted as a Parish Councillor.

Cllr van den Berg signed and read aloud his declaration of acceptance of office before Mr Chapman, Clerk to Wendron Parish Council.

The Chairman welcomed Cllr van den Berg to the Council.

## 8 PARISH MATTERS

### Publicity

Cllr Durkin reported that in the past month he has added very little to Wendron Parish Council's FaceBook page. It was suggested that the wide range of help (including food-banks) currently available from Inclusion Cornwall might be advertised on the page.

### The Queen's Platinum Jubilee

It was agreed that a working party of Councillors (including the Chairman, Cllr Ferris and, in his absence, Cllr Law) would take the matter forward.

### The Neighbourhood Development Plan

The working party will meet shortly to finalise the initial document and to agree dates and strategies.

### The garden in Porkellis

The Clerk reported that this project is no further forward.

## 9 FINANCE

Members were presented with a statement of Wendron Parish Council's financial position as at November 8, 2021. A copy of that statement is attached to these minutes.

Members noted that a wreath for the Remembrance Sunday Service has been ordered and considered the question of a donation towards the work of the Royal British Legion. The Chairman proposed, Cllr Ferris seconded all others in favour that, under the terms of S137 of the Local Government Act 1972, Wendron Parish Council should forward the sum of £100.00 to the Royal British Legion.

The following accounts were presented for consideration

		GROSS	NET	VAT
R.Sanders				
Church and cemetery	£ 450.00			
Trelill Well	£ 70.00			
Prowse's Patch	£ 235.00			
Grass cutting	£ 165.00			
Boundary stones	£ 65.00			
Rame Common footpath	£ 80.00			
Penmarth river	£ 40.00			
Carnkie play area	£ 120.00			
	total	£ 1,470.00	£ 1,225.00	£ 245.00
Southwest Playground Safety Inspections		£ 30.00	£ 25.00	£ 5.00
HMRC		£ 974.17		

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R.Sanders				
Gold paths second cut	£ 927.27			
Stiles second cut	£ 120.00			
		total	£ 1,257.56	£ 1,047.97
R.Sanders (refurbishment of notice-board)			£ 588.00	£ 490.00
£ 209.59				£ 98.00
Colin Chapman				
salary (October)	£ 1,126.30			
telephone	£ 30.04			
office expenses	£ 38.44			
travelling	£ 15.60			
use of home	£ 25.00			
		total	£ 1,235.38	

It was proposed by Cllr Durkin, seconded by the Chairman and agreed that the above six accounts should be paid.

Members noted the following receipts

Cornwall Council (CIL payment)	£ 270.35
David Mitchell (Mr Colwell)	£ 1,000.00

**11 REPORT OF CLERK AND CORRESPONDENCE**

The Clerk had nothing further to report.

**12 CHAIRMAN’S AND COUNCILLORS’ COMMENTS**

Cllr Mrs Borman reported that she will be managing a stall at the Christmas Bazaar in Carnkie Wendron Village Hall on December 4.

**13 MATTERS FOR INCLUSION AT FUTURE MEETINGS**

Cllr Looker asked that consideration be given to the provision of a Wi-Fi connection in Penmarth Methodist Schoolroom. It was agreed to add consideration of this initiative to the agenda for the meeting in December.

**DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETINGS**

Monday December 13, 2021 at 7:30pm in **Penmarth Methodist Schoolroom**

Signed ..... Chairman

Date .....

Chairman’s initials .....