

Gwennap Parish Council

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD AT CROFTHANDY VILLAGE HALL ON 25th May 2006

Those Present	Cllr. M.I.T. Herbert (Chairman) Cllr R. Snell Cllr. J. Wharton Cllr M Ivey
In attendance	District Cllr Whiteley County Cllr Hichens Alan Blamey - Clerk
Apologies	Cllr N Nicholls Cllr C Langley W P C Osborne

Also present : P. Millett, Mr & Mrs Curnoe, Mr & Mrs Allard, Mr & Mrs Massie, J. Layte, G Bellward, J. Ward, J. Wharton

PARISHIONERS' DISCUSSION

1. Most parishioners had come to speak about their perceived lack of action by the Parish Council in stopping the motorcycle nuisance at Wheal Maid. From his computer, Mr Layte showed a film with sound, taken in May of motorcycles using the valley.
The Chairman outlined the action the Council had taken by erecting locked barriers and outlined the ongoing actions of the County Council, plus the Environment Agency survey and pending first report.
All this was felt to be inadequate by those present, and their ideas for action included the ditching or fencing of the actual tailings dams to prevent further eroding. Both these would be examined by the Council, although ditching had been raised previously and the fear of prosecution by an injured trespasser was one problem, whilst the cost of completely fencing the areas was beyond our resources.
Mike Hawkey, the Environment & Heritage Officer from the County Council had told the parishioners he was willing to come and meet with them, and this would be followed up when the Environmental survey was available so as to update residents of our next phase of work.
The Clerk confirmed that the Parish Council still held the £4,000 for tree planting handed over when the Council purchased the land, but there was a reluctance to start planting until the Environment Agency had reported back. The slow time scale was frustrating for all, and the Clerk would press for the results of the first survey to be shared as soon as possible.
2. Most of these points were incorporated in a letter from Mr Massie. Also, he asked for the return of a report on the valley he loaned the Council whilst he was a Councillor some years ago. The Clerk would look through past records to trace this.
3. The speed of traffic through Crofthandy was also a worry for some parishioners. County Councillor Hichens explained that the flashing 30mph equipment sited in a few other villages was expensive, and could not be promised, although the potential increased usage of the United Tip could be a lever to press for some action.
4. Mr Curnoe asked what was happening to the promised surface work on the lane at Goongumpas. It was explained that the Council had arrangements in hand but a breakdown in communications had led to a delay. It was hoped to carry it out before our next meeting.
It was emphasised that the Parish Council had no responsibility or obligation to work on the surface of paths, it was the domain of the County Council, but their resources were stretched and the chances were slim that they would agree. We had made continued representations for action.
The parishioners were unimpressed by this, and asked for the promised work to be extended. This would be considered later in the meeting.
5. Japanese Knotweed was reported as growing at Higher Goongumpas and Wheal Maid. James MacFarlane of the County Council had been informed.

6. The verge-side grass at the St. Day / Crofthandy Crossroads needed cutting back as it was obscuring vision. County Highways would be informed.
7. There was no Police report this month as Louise was on holiday.

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

06/45

It was proposed and unanimously agreed that Cllr Herbert continues with the Chairmanship. He accepted and remained in the Chair.

ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN

06/46

There were two propositions for the vice-chairmanship, and on a vote it was RESOLVED that Cllr Wharton be invited to become the vice-chairman for the ensuing year. He accepted.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

06/47

There were no declarations of interest.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING TO APPROVE

06/48

The minutes of the previous meeting were signed as a true record.

MATTERS ARISING

06/49

1. There is a grant available for any work we carry out on the War Memorial at Gwennap, but the application deadline is 31st October, so we have a few months to prepare the photos and other details required. The Clerk has written to Mr Burge explaining this.
2. There had been no news from Carrick on the potential Trehaddle travellers site, although it was thought other vehicles were now on the land. Cllr Whiteley was on the case.
3. The problems experienced by the Council regarding alleged remarks by County Cllr Kaczmarek had led to an exchange of correspondence where he denied making such statements. As the matter was now being taken up by Mike Hawkey, it was decided to let the matter rest.
4. Cllr Hichens gave the Council a new direct e-mail address for the County Surveyors department. It was highwaysdivision2@cornwall.gov.uk
5. The Clerk had examined the Parish Council deeds for the Wheal Maid valley and following a site visit, was convinced that the footpath from the tunnel up towards the Cornish Way was definitely on our land. This meant that we could restrict the width to prevent 4wheeled drive vehicles. It was decided to discuss this further at the next meeting.

APPOINTMENT OF COUNCILLORS TO OTHER BODIES

06/50

1. It was agreed that representation on outside bodies remained the same as at present :-
Mineral Tramways Marketing Working Group - Cllrs Wharton & Lanyon
Mineral Tramways Partnership Steering Group - Cllrs Herbert & Snell
Cornish Mining Villages Historic Churchyards Group - Cllrs Herbert & Snell
Gwennap Parish Playingfield Association - Cllrs Wharton, Ivey & Lanyon

REVIEW OF CEMETERY FEES

06/51

It was RESOLVED That the fees would remain unchanged for the next year.

REVIEW OF CLERKS EMOLUMENTS

06/52

It was RESOLVED that the Clerks emoluments be increased by the inflationary rate of 2.5% with effect from 1st June 2006.

REVIEW OF CLEANING ARRANGEMENTS

06/53

Councillors expressed satisfaction with the current arrangements and decided to continue for the following year, rather than revert to the previous process.

SCHOOL GOVERNORS REPORT

06/54

In the absence of Cllr Lanyon, this was not available.

CORRESPONDENCE

06/55

1. CCC - Waste Information Leaflets were handed out to Councillors.
2. Carharrack Parish Council - April 2006 minutes had been received.
3. CCC - Local Maintenance Partnership training session. The Clerk had put his name forward for the training.
4. CDC - amendments to planning approvals - noted.
5. CCC - Cornwall Environmental & Heritage events programme 2006 - noted.
6. CCC - Public Path Creation Order 2006 Footpath 61 - noted.
7. CES Group - Pulla Bridge area - a reply had been received and some works had been carried out. A reply was still awaited regarding the queuing problems at the amenity bay.
8. CCC - Statement of Community Involvement, Waste Development Framework. The Clerk to reply that we did not feel our position had been prejudiced by the order of events.
9. CCC - permission to dump at civic amenity site had been granted, and used.
10. CDC - Open Spaces Audit visits would take place by a firm of Consultants in the near future.
11. Lexis Nexis - Local Council Administration order - it was RESOLVED that the Clerk orders the seventh version of "Local Council Administration".
12. Tony Mogford - quarterly inspection of Playing Field equipment had highlighted one problem with the assault wall rope.
13. CCC - temporary road closure, Sunny Corner had taken place since the last meeting.
14. Allianz Cornhill had settled the outstanding claim for playing field equipment damage.
15. The letter from Mr Massie was read, although the contents had been discussed at length earlier.

FOOTPATHS

06/56

Further discussion took place regarding the Goongumpas lane surface, and it was RESOLVED to extend the scope of the work to include the area from the Chapel Lane fork up to the Curnoe's property. The Little Beside lane works would also be carried out when the digger was hired.

Before hiring the digger, Cllrs Herbert, Wharton and Snell, along with Cllr Lanyon if he was available, would meet on site on Wednesday 31st May at 2.00 p.m. to finalise exactly was required. There would have to be notice given to residents to park their vehicles elsewhere for the day, plus other logistical matters to sort out.

PLANNING MATTERS

06/57

1. Notice of appeal by Mr & Mrs Grubb, Penventon Nursery re. Retention of railings & fence - the Parish Council would not be changing any of its previous comments.
2. Withdrawal of application by C H Williams, Burncoose - roof repairs - noted.

NEW APPLICATIONS

Appn Ref PA12/0766/06/R
Applicant Mr S Gay
Location 1, Chellean Vean, Frogpool
Development single storey extension to dwelling
Grid Ref 176080/40160
SUPPORTED.

Appn Ref LB12/0799/06/R
 Applicant Mr & Mrs Bourne
 Location Caskair Cottage, Crowsmeneggus
 Development conversion of store to kitchen and extension to form dining area and hall
 Grid Ref 175400/39110
 SUPPORTED.

Appn Ref PA12/0701/06/B
 Applicant A Bates & G Rice
 Location Treetops, Little Beside
 Development development of barn into three bedroom holiday let and workshop craft studio
 Grid Ref 173480/43020
 SUPPORTED

Appn Ref PA12/0951/06/B
 Applicant Mr & Mrs Grubb
 Location Penventon Nursery, Treviskey
 Development retention of small concrete block building containing water pump & electrics, 2no. water tanks
 Grid Ref 173180/39700
 SUPPORTED

FINANCE

06/58

IT WAS RESOLVED (a) to pay the following accounts: -

CHEQUE NO.	TO WHOM	DETAIL	AMOUNT (£)
100629	L Moody	cleaning	147.00
100631	Fire Island	picnic table	292.57
100632	Cornwall & Devon Media	adverts	56.40
100633	F J Kemp & Sons	electric work at Playing Field	528.55
100634	M P Chegwidden	grass cutting	1251.37

REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE

06/59

It was RESOLVED to replace the damaged lock at the Crofthandy Hill entrance barrier to Wheal Maid. Cllr Wharton would arrange this and recharge the Council.

The broken lock at the County gate entrance had also been broken, but the Council would wait for Dave Clarke from CCC to make contact as he would arrange for the cutting off of the existing lock. Possibly, we could re-use the damaged lock from the barrier as a replacement.

WHEAL MAID

06/60

A discussion took place on matters raised by parishioners in the Public Clinic.

The Clerk was asked to press for the outstanding report from the E.A. to be made available as soon as possible.

It was also RESOLVED that as an interim measure the hired digger could also be deployed to move large stones to strategic positions around the tailings dams to prevent the continual use of set routes which were wearing the ground material down to the rubberised protective cover.

It was difficult to expect residents to understand the pace at which agencies worked to ensure all aspects of this complex reinstatement programme were covered, but trenching and/or fencing would be considerations after the first report were published.

CHAIRMAN'S URGENT BUSINESS

Nil.

Signed.....
 Chairman

29th June 2006