

Gwennap Parish Council

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD AT FROGPOOL CHAPEL ROOMS ON 27th SEPTEMBER 2007

Present.	Cllr I Herbert (Chairman) , Cllr R Snell, Cllr R Humble, Cllr J Ward, Cllr J Wharton (Vice Chairman)
In attendance	Alan Blamey - Clerk
Apologies	Cllrs Squibb & Furnish, County Cllr Hichens, District Cllr Whiteley
Also present :	Mr & Mrs Whitney, Mr & Mrs Allard, PC Filkins, Paul Millett

PARISHIONERS' DISCUSSION

1. Mr & Mrs Allard were read Mike Hawkey's reply to our question of fence completion and also given confirmation that the Parish Council had undertaken trenching in the valley in an attempt to curb 4x4 access. In relation to the orange dust problem that had occurred at households since the last meeting, the Clerk confirmed that it was the belief of Carrick Environmental Health that it was a grass fungus, and not emanating from the Wheal Maid Valley. He would press Carrick to reply directly to those residents who had made the initial contact.
2. It was thought that motorbike sites had now been made available at Fraddon, Baldhu and in the St Austell area but this needed to be confirmed.
3. PC Filkins was informed that there had been a noticeable increase in biker activity on the Poldice side of the valley. He acknowledged and shared residents frustration at the continued nuisance, but really needed the County to continue with their fencing to minimise access points.
4. PC Filkins gave his monthly report, and also informed those present that the next PACT meeting would be held at Penryn on 10th October. Because Gwennap had a low comparative crime level, PACT clinics were not automatically held in the Parish.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

07/228 The Clerk handed Councillors a flow chart of questions 'to ask yourself' in establishing whether an interest should be declared. He had also taken professional advice on the subject and handed out relevant notes to guide Councillors in their decision. In relation to the agenda discussions on Wheal Maid, there were potentially four Councillors that needed to consider their position and they were encouraged to contact the Monitoring Officer at Carrick to clarify where they stood.
Code of Conduct training was being held at Carrick on 18th October and Councillors were going to attend. No interests were declared.

MINUTES.

07/229 It was RESOLVED that the minutes of the August meeting be signed as a true record..

ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES.

07/230

1. The Chairman handed over details to help the Crofthandy Village Hall Committee when applying for their lottery funding.
2. The County Surveyor had replied that there was insufficient funding to introduce a 20mph limit at Cusgarne School, even though the County's Speed Management Strategy expected it to be a policy across all schools. Possibly, the local member might be able to fund it from his budget, but Cllr Hitchens had little funding after paying for the footway from the Cornish Arms to Pencantol.
3. Cllr Wharton took exception to Cllr Snell's comments at the last meeting regarding a meeting at Wheal Jane and also earlier comments regarding the surfacing of the lane leading to his, and other residents property. Cllr Snell stood by his comments which he had not made to belittle Cllr Wharton nor infer any wrong-doing. The Chairman curtailed the discussion, feeling it had received a reasonable airing.

PARISH COMMUNICATIONS

07/231

1. The Clerk passed on Cllr Furnish's request for some current community news from their individual areas as he was going to update the website.
The Clerk would forward the approved August minutes for inclusion.

2. Feedback from the first issue of the magazine had been positive.
3. Printing problems arose in the completion of the first newsletter and Cllr Furnish had to arrange for them to be finished commercially. His invoice for the work had not reached the Clerk but it was RESOLVED that the Council should pay for this.
4. The next agenda needed a fuller discussion on the distribution/delivery of the December edition. The Council intended to deliver as many as possible by hand, using Councillors and volunteers, but would still need to post to outlying areas. (Mrs Whitney volunteered to take some for her Point Mills area, and the Clerk had already received an offer from Mrs Minns to arrange delivery in parts of Frogpool).
5. Advertising was also needed to defray some of the costs the Council incurred in production and posting. The Clerk gave each Councillor a revised rate for adverts and a copy of the first newsletter and asked that they each approach potential advertisers in their respective area.

WHEAL MAID

07/232

1. The Council were disappointed at Mike Hawkey's response when asked why the fencing could not continue. His linking it to the awaited EA report was difficult to understand, and the Council were dismayed that he had given a promise to the bikers that the fencing would not continue until the County had found alternative sites.
2. The Clerk is to reply to County Council Legal Section to say that as the EA report was expected in October it would pay to wait before progressing the Permissive Path agreement.
3. As it now seemed probable that the orange dust on residents property did not come from the Wheal Maid Valley, it was decided to leave it in the hands of Carrick Environmental Department, as they were the correct authority to disseminate any health information.
4. A letter from Cllr Furnish was handed to Councillors and discussed. He did not favour terminating the flow of the St Day stream as it would have environmental effects downstream from Hale Mills to Twelveheads. He also questioned the need to enter in to large scale tipping on the site if the EA report found no danger to human health from the levels of contamination.
5. The Clerk had asked Joe Ryan at the Environment Agency for his comments on the possibility of diverting the St Day stream into the mine adit system. His reply stated that there was a general presumption against diverting any additional flows directly to a mine adit system as the system was not maintained or monitored and any additional flow could contribute to failure and subsequent severe pollution.
6. A reply had been received from Wheal Jane to the Council's request for their offer (made at a recent meeting at their offices) to be put in writing as the Council could not afford any large financial risks that might arise through misinterpretation.
The reply was felt to be very ambiguous and woolly, and did not mention that the costs would be covered by tipping fees. The Parish Council understood that they would have to seek grant funding for their landscaping following the major re-profiling, but the letter did not give the assurances Councillors sought.
The Clerk was instructed to arrange a further meeting with WJL to get further clarity of exactly what was on offer, and to press for a document/business plan that the Council could base their decisions on.
7. Depending on the outcome of the meeting, it was thought a small working group could be formed to take forward Wheal Maid issues between Parish Council meetings, allowing the Council more time to discuss other Parish matters and keeping the valley issues moving faster.
8. The Clerk confirmed that there was a clause in the deeds of sale of the valley that gave WJL tipping rights.
9. The Clerk would make enquiries regarding future landscaping grants.

CORRESPONDENCE

07/233

1. The County Council had sent their minutes of the Mineral Tramways Partnership Steering Group meeting of 13th July.
2. The Mining Villages Regeneration meeting minutes from 20th September were noted.
3. Carharrack Parish Council minutes from meeting of 23rd July were noted.
4. Cornwall County Council had sent details of their bid for the refurbishment of Wheal Jewel Residential Caravan Park.
5. CCC Surveyor had replied on various highway issues the Parish Council had raised.. All matters were being looked in to, although the small surfacing problem at Crofthandy was referred back for local member funding. As this was unlikely, it was decided to put it on the next agenda.
6. The Society of Local Council Clerks had issued the Clerk with a toolkit CD. Noted.
7. CCC Chief Executive had sent details of a meeting on "One Cornwall" timetable and processes. The Clerk would attend on 10th October.
8. Carrick Housing has written to confirm that no one had attended the 3 clinics held recently in the Parish. This left them with 7-10 potential requests on their register that would be checked for currency. If they were still 'live' then Carrick would investigate the availability of land in the Frogpool/Gwennap area, as this was where the requests came from.

PLANNING

07/234

NEW APPLICATIONS

Appn Ref PA12/1784/07/R
 Applicant Mr & Mrs Frost
 Location Pendene, Frogpool
 Development demolish rear sunroom & kitchen dining room & formation of new side extension, raise ridge level to form first floor accommodation
 Grid Ref 176020/39980
 SUPPORTED.

Appn Ref LB12/1674/07/R
 Applicant Mr C H Williams
 Location Office Cottage, Burncoose, Gwennap
 Development reslating of leaking roof and repair/replacement of rainwater goods
 Grid Ref 174260/39460
 SUPPORTED.

OTHER PLANNING

Decision notices had been received from Carrick in respect of ;

Mr N Webb, Sycamores, Trehaddle - replace bungalow with 2 storey dwelling GRANTED
 Holman Wilfley Ltd, United Downs Ind Park - erection of 6 units GRANTED
 Clear Flow Ltd, United Downs Ind Park - office, workshop, lorry parking areas GRANTED

Appeal decision ;

2, Chellean Vean, Frogpool. Timber fence more than 1 metre high. APPEAL REFUSED.

Enforcement Notice.

Mr & Mrs Grubb, Penventon Nursery - reduce height of fence and metal railings to no more that 1 metre. This has been queried with Carrick as the fence is the subject of a removal condition following an inspectors hearing.

FINANCE

07/235

IT WAS RESOLVED to pay the following accounts: -

CHEQUE NO.	TO WHOM	DETAIL	AMOUNT (£)
100733	Cornwall & Devon Media	adverts	35.26
100734	Audit Commission	annual audit fee	334.88
100735	HM Revenue & Customs	income tax	232.46
100736	A Blamey	salary/expenses – 3 months	1248.38
100737	Brewers Business Solutions	envelopes	22.09
100738	VCGW Church Hall	hire of hall	15.00
100739	A Bettison	digger hire	60.00
100740	Cantab Consulting	valley inspection report	1410.00
100741	M P Chegwiddden	grass & footpath trimming	1151.50
100742	Harts Haulage	plannings supply	846.00

It was RESOLVED to reinvest the High Interest Deposit Bond with HSBC for a further 6 months and Councillors signed to mandate accordingly.

The Clerk produced a summary of the tenders for the repairs to the Amenity Shelter at Frogpool. It was RESOLVED to accept the lowest tender from Mr P Hedges.

REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE.

07/236

1. The Clerk was instructed to write letters of thanks to Mr & Mrs Curnow and Mr Drew for their assistance in the lane improvements to paths 44 & 47 at Crofthandy in April/May.
2. The Clerk spoke of recent problems with the toilets at the Playing Field . They had now been resolved thanks to local resident John Cox who would not accept anything for his time and efforts.
3. It was RESOLVED to keep the Disabled toilet open during the winter (the main toilet block would remain closed).

FOOTPATHS

07/237

It was RESOLVED to obtain individual Councillor copies of the CCC Footpath map at a cost of £10 per copy, with Councillors paying 50% of the cost.

Signed.....
Chairman

25th October 2007