



GWENNAP PARISH COUNCIL

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MINUTES OF THE VIRTUAL MEETING OF GWENNAP PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 18th February 2021

In attendance:

Cllr Richard Williams (Chair) (From Agenda Item 27/21)
Cllr Greg Foxwell (Vice Chair) (From Agenda Item 27/21)
Cllr Jan Hallett
Cllr Dave Lanyon
Cllr Andi Freeman

In the absence of a Chair, the Clerk presided at the start of the meeting.

24/21 APOLOGIES

There were no apologies as all Councillors were present.

25/21 DECLARATION OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS (DPI) AND OTHER SIGNIFICANT INTERESTS (OSI)

Cllr Freeman declared an interest in planning application PA21/00423 on the Agenda, as she was one of the applicants. She would remove herself from the meeting in respect of that application.

26/21 Resignation of Chair and Election of new Chair

- Election of Vice Chair (if required)

The Clerk confirmed that Cllr Sue Patton had resigned as Chair for personal reasons. It was **MOVED** by Cllr Williams, **SECONDED** by Cllr Hallett and **AGREED** that Cllr Patton be thanked for her hard work and commitment on behalf of the Parish and the Parish Council.

The Clerk asked for nominations for the role of Chair of the Parish Council. Cllr Foxwell nominated Cllr Williams and this was seconded by Cllr Freeman. There were no other nominations. It was, therefore, **MOVED** by Cllr Foxwell, **SECONDED** by Cllr Freeman and **AGREED** that Cllr Williams be elected as Chair of Gwennap Parish Council.

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As Chair, Cllr Williams presided over the remainder of the meeting. He thanked the Councillors for their support and that he considered it to be a privilege to be elected to this role. He saw the strength of the Parish Council as working together as a team and he hoped that this would continue. Cllr Williams also paid tribute to Cllr Patton for her dedication to the role and that she would be a hard act to follow.

Cllr Williams asked for nominations for the role of Vice Chair. He said that he would be happy to nominate Cllr Foxwell and this was supported by Cllr Hallett. There were no other nominations. It was, therefore, **MOVED** by Cllr Williams, **SECONDED** by Cllr Hallett and **AGREED** that Cllr Foxwell be elected as Vice- Chair of Gwennap Parish Council.

27/21 OPEN FORUM: for residents of the Parish/other members of the public to make representations to the Council:

Dr Ryan Law – Geothermal Engineering Ltd

- Dr Ryan Law thanked the Parish Council for allowing him the opportunity to speak to the meeting. He gave an update on the progress of the pumping station at United Downs. They had wrapped up testing with a big injection test into the main well. The good news is that it looks like the system will work. They injected water into the system and no seismic activity has been shown from that well. As the testing proves that the system is operational, no more testing is required. One more piece of the jigsaw is required, which is when the whole system is run. This work needs to be tendered so it will be carried out at around mid-April. This means that, by the end of April, GEL will be able to set up and run the system for one month and when that's finished, they can construct the power plant. The whole project has taken longer than GEL would have liked, but today was a good day. The system has worked really well and it is good that all the testing could be completed. There has been no further seismic activity from site.

The Chair thanked Dr Law for his presentation. In response to a question, Dr Law confirmed that they had been able to resolve an issue on site which they had thought they would need someone from Germany to deal with. A valve head had been connected and no

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pressure loss occurred. They do not foresee any other issues.

- Cornish Metals was represented by Steve Tarrant, Owen Mihalop and Lauren Beveridge. Owen made a power point presentation which is now available to members of the public. (Please email clerk@gwennap-parish.net.)

Cornish Metals was previously known as 'Stongbow'. They are an Anglo/Canadian Company and are listed on the London Stock Exchange. They purchased South Crofty Mine in 2016, and are looking, in the long-term, to bring it back into operation. They also own 15,000 hectares of mineral rights across Cornwall. They will be test-drilling in United Downs from this summer. The drilling unit will have little impact on the area; the site will have a drilling rig generator and a welfare unit. They will be building a wall of straw bales to absorb the noise from the generator and limiting any disruption. They have 5 proposed drilling sites and are in the process of applying for a Permitted Development Order, which has a 28 day Determination Period. They are looking to start drilling in April and to continue through the summer months.

The Chair opened the meeting to questions.

Cllr Foxwell asked about the viability of extracting the ore.

Owen indicated that this was quite difficult to answer, at the moment, as there is only one vein, however, that is known to be a high grade narrow vein structure and it is hoped to extract ore through underground mining. Mining will be carried out as it has always been done but with more modern equipment and processes. They are looking at entries into the underground mine. There is one in Wheal Maid which was lined in the 1980s. It looks like it goes very close to the new structure so they might want to explore that option but that would be subject to planning permission and agreement from the Parish Council for such activity on the land.

Cllr Lanyon reflected that residents in Crofthandy may be concerned about such activity but realised that this was some time away. He assumed that the area would be cordoned off and that what has been mined would be taken away to South Crofty. He requested that, when the

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environmental impact report is prepared, consideration be given to moving and replanting heather and restoring the area after use.

Owen confirmed that, on environmental issues, they always try and return the area back to its original state or leave it so that material can grow back. With regard to any future operations, the biggest issue will be lorries going to South Crofty and there is not much they can do about that. They will try their best to reduce any disruption to residents and will look at communication closer to the time.

The Chair asked whether they own the mineral rights to Wheal Maid and Owen confirmed that they did.

The Chair expressed the hope that they would work with local schools and colleges as it would be positive engagement and their work links in with Cornwall's historical past.

Owen said that they have done similar engagement with schools near South Crofty, but at present, none in the United Downs area. They will do that as the schools re-open and as the work progresses.

Cllr Freeman pointed out that, although the drilling will cause little disruption, if it is viable and mining takes place, the Parish Council will have to deal with resident complaints.

Owen confirmed that he organises numerous resident meetings at South Crofty to explain what's going on and when. There will be noise with blasting and lorry movements but if mining is to take place, then this can't be helped. They would look to do blasting during the afternoon when it would be least noticeable. They want to be good neighbours.

The Chair thanked Cornish Metals for their detailed explanation about future activity and looked forward to regular updates so that residents could be kept informed.

28/21 CORNWALL COUNCILLOR: to receive Cornwall Councillor Kaczmarek's report

Cllr Kaczmarek's report had been circulated, prior to the meeting, to all Councillors. The Clerk advised that if anyone

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wanted a copy of that report, they should please email clerk@gwennap-parish.net.

Cllr Kaczmarek said that he had had a busy month and that it was good to hear that Cornish Metals are engaging with the public. He had sent round correspondence regarding safety works to be carried on the A393 Lanner Road from Lanner Nursery to the Fox and Hounds, (which is within Gwennap Parish). He had been campaigning for a long time to reduce speed in this area and would have liked the same measures to apply on that road, through to Ponsanooth. This had been a 20-year battle and he would carry on working on to get speeds reduced.

He had also received several items of correspondence regarding parking problems and lorry traffic around United Downs. This is hard to do anything about as lorries can't be banned on that road, but hopefully officers at Cornwall Council can find a solution.

He has kept the Parish Council updated about the issue concerning the clearance of land at the end of Poldory Lane. He has been able to contact the owner of the land who is going to take legal action next week which should resolve any issues.

He was pleased to say that the building of the new St Day Surgery looks like it will go ahead this summer.

The Chair thanked Cllr Kaczmarek for his comprehensive report.

29/21 MINUTES OF A VIRTUAL COUNCIL MEETING (Thursday 21st January 2021)– to confirm accuracy and approve

It was MOVED by Cllr Hallett, SECONDED by Cllr Freeman and AGREED that the draft minutes of the meeting of 21st January be approved as a correct record.

30/21 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES (not on the agenda, for report only)

None noted

31/21 CORRESPONDENCE (not on the agenda and for report only, if any)

- Sparry Lane

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- There had been numerous emails concerning the ownership dispute on land between Sparry Lane and Poldory Lane. The police had been involved due to a vehicle blocking the entrance. As referred to above, the owner of land has been located and it is being dealt with as civil matter.
- NSPCC –
 - An email has been circulated about the Cornwall branch of NSPCC. No further action is required.
- Mount Wellington Mine-
 - Following on from correspondence and complaints about activity at the Mine, from last month, the Clerk confirmed that a Cornwall Council enforcement team had been to site and had served a notice which should eliminate the complaint issues.
- Youth Group-
 - Following on from last month's questions about costing, the organisers of the youth group have forwarded a copy of the terms which were agreed in March 2020. An email has been sent to all Councillors.
- Thanks -
 - As reported, Cllr Hitchens and Cllr Patton (Chair) had resigned from their roles as Parish Councillors. Flowers had been sent as thanks for their hard work. The Parish Council had received correspondence back from both, saying how lovely they were and thanking the Councillors.
- Cusgarne School
 - A breach of COVID-19 rules, when parents dropped children off at the school, was notified to police by a local resident. The complainant had been told that this would be formally reported to the Council.

Rum Geothermal Plant

- The Chair reported that there had been a lot of social media activity around the planning decision taken at December's meeting, on the Rum Geothermal Plant. He had also corresponded on Facebook with a concerned resident. A complaint had been made to the Monitoring Officer at Cornwall Council and his determination was awaited.

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- Resignation of Kevin Furnish
 - Kevin had been the lead on two groups, on behalf of the Parish Council, namely the NDP and the Housing Working Group. He has now stepped down from both and the Council thanked him for the work he has done.

32/21 Speed Camera

A new volunteer has come forward to look after the speed camera. The Parish Council thanked Donna Hansen for volunteering. For the time being, the camera will remain where it is but as Lockdown comes to an end, this will be looked at again. If anyone would like the camera relocated to another site in the Parish, please email clerk@gwennap-parish.net

33/21 Planning/ Rural Exception sites

It was agreed that it would be helpful for all Councillors to attend planning training and the Clerk agreed to explore options. Given the common issues that are applicable, it was suggested that it might be helpful to have training alongside councillors from the other Mining Villages.

34/21 Wheal Maid Meeting

It was agreed that there would be a special meeting held in May to discuss the various options around the future of Wheal Maid.

35/21 PLANNING – to consider the following planning application:

Application PA21/00468

Proposal Change of use from a residential shepherds hut building into a glamping unit for renting to the general public.

Location Treguth Road From Junction North Of Woodview To Junction At Little Beside Bungalow Little Beside St Day

Applicant Mr & Mrs Kaana & Chris Pring N/A

Grid Ref 173645 / 42836

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There were concerns expressed about this application and whether there was sufficient information provided about its registration as a campsite and/or toilet and sanitation provision.

It was MOVED by Cllr Foxwell, SECONDED by Cllr Freeman and AGREED that consideration of this application be deferred pending receipt of further information.

Application PA21/00235

Proposal 2 Storey extension to Sycamore Cottage

Location Sycamore Cottage Treviskey Lanner TR16 6AT

Applicant Mr and Mrs Joyce

Grid Ref 172872 / 39632

There were concerns expressed about the size of the extension and the lack of design information.

It was MOVED by Cllr Lanyon, SECONDED by Cllr Williams and AGREED that consideration of this application be deferred pending receipt of further information.

Application PA21/00423

Proposal Construction of 2 new holiday lets

Location Gilly Vean Farm Gwennap Redruth Cornwall

Applicant Andrea Freeman

Grid Ref 173530 / 38547

Following the declaration of an interest, Councillor Freeman vacated the meeting for this Agenda item.

The Councillors noted that this was a comprehensive application and the effort that had been made by the applicants to create a sympathetic design which fitted well with the other recent development on the site and the provisions of the NDP.

It was MOVED by Cllr Hallett, SECONDED by Cllr Foxwell and AGREED that there be no objection to this application.

Application PA21/00555

Proposal Construction of a 1.5 storey 3 bedroom family home to replace existing building which has previously been used as a pigsty, sign makers and studio with variation of condition 2 in relation to planning application PA19/07538

Location Purple Haze Lower Goongumpas Lane Goongumpas

St Day

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Applicant Mrs Serena Pettigrew-Jolly

Grid Ref 174240 / 42420

Councillors noted the WHS comments about the design of the windows and, although supportive of the application, expressed the hope that the developers would take on board and address those concerns.

It was MOVED by Cllr Lanyon, SECONDED by Cllr Hallett and AGREED that there be no objection to this application.

Application PA20/10966

Proposal Erection of domer bungalow and formation of access

Location Bissoe Cottage Bissoe Hill Bissoe Truro

Applicant Mr J Hall

Grid Ref 177315 / 40884

Councillors noted that the Parish Council had approved a different outline planning application for the same site a year ago.

The Chair had made enquiries about the situation with the Cornwall Council Planning Service and there was some confusion about whether this was a new outline application or whether it was for reserved matters.

Councillors considered that the previous design was smaller and more in keeping with the plot. There was also a lack of design information, in general.

It was also formally noted that a resident had written to the Parish Council objecting to this application.

It was MOVED by Cllr Hallett, SECONDED by Cllr Freeman and AGREED that this application be objected to, on the grounds that the new design was not sympathetic to the site and no reasons had been provided for the change in design and/or it had not been justified in accordance with the NDP.

Decision list for planning

08.02.2021 PA20/06249 REFUSED

Applicant: Mr Daniel Crewes

Location: Land North Of Oak Tree Farm Coombe Hill
Bissoe Cornwall TR4 8RQ

Proposal: Demolition of existing dilapidated barn and proposed erection of new

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dwelling and detached garage

Parish : Gwennap

Refusal

It was formally noted that the above application had been refused by Cornwall Council.

36/21 HIGHWAYS AND PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY – to report issues, note updates and discuss highways' priorities and liaison with Cornwall Council

- Flooding
 - It was noted that there was unlikely to be help provided by Cornwall Council unless flooding was liable to cause harm to people or damage to the highway. Other locally-based solutions would be discussed in a future meeting of the reconvened Environmental Action Group.

37/21 PARISH ROOMS – to discuss and agree:

- Reopening of the Parish Rooms Safely
 - The meeting room has been booked as a Polling station for local elections. This will be on 6th May 2021 from 0600 – 2200.

The elections will be for Parish (if required) and Cornwall Councillors.

38/21 Councillor feedback on meetings attended and any Correspondence received.

This section will be always on the Agenda going forward. It will be an opportunity for Councillors to report back on correspondence or meetings they have been involved with on behalf of the Parish Council.

39/21 CCLT/HWG further meeting

This will be discussed at a closed meeting scheduled for 11 March.

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40/21 FINANCE – to include finance report and note income received and payments for approval

Payments for approval:

	<u>£</u>
Wheal Jane services Ltd	2832.00
Clark Jenner Angove	10.00
HMRC PAYE	17.95
Greens repair play equipment	144.00
Staffing Payments	1471.23

Total Payments £4475.18

41/21 Frogpool Burial Ground –

- Replacement of header stones
 - The missing stones that need replacing are on the wall to the left side of gate. On the right side, there is a beautiful bush covering most of the stones. If stones are replaced on both sides, the bush may be damaged beyond repair. The cost for the stones on the left side to be replaced is £348.00. It was **MOVED** by Cllr Hallett, **SECONDED** by Cllr Lanyon and **AGREED** that the work to the left side of the wall be carried out for the amount quoted.
 -
- Charging for burial-
 - The Clerk requested guidance on the burial charges for a deceased person who had already purchased a plot but died whilst resident outside of the Parish. It was **MOVED** by Cllr Williams, **SECONDED** by Cllr Lanyon and **AGREED** that the lower fee would be charged as the deceased had only moved out of the Parish to live closer to relatives in a nursing home.

42/21 Facebook Page / Website

- This matter was deferred to the closed meeting on 11 March.

43/21 ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS – at the Chair’s discretion to discuss any other urgent business not available to include on the Agenda at the time of its publication.

The Chair advised that there was no urgent business.

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44/21 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS/MATTERS TO CARRY FORWARD – matters to be included as an Agenda item at a future meeting

- Flooding
- Wheal Maid
- Facebook/ Website

45/21 CLOSED SESSION - EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC – to discuss any matters of a confidential nature. The press and public will be excluded from this part of the meeting.

There was no need to move into closed session as there were no confidential items to discuss.

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