GERMOE PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Germoe Parish Council held on Thursday December 6, 2012 at 7:00pm in Balwest Methodist Schoolroom.

Present: Cllr S.Geake Cllr R.Royds

Cllr Mrs K.Doeser Cllr J.Taylor

Cllr D.Blencowe

Cllr G.Ross Mr C.Chapman (Clerk)

Visitors: CCllr Keeling, Mr Barker, Mr and Mrs Coulthard, Mr Glover, Mr Pender, Mrs Seargeant and Mrs Stevens.

The Chairman welcomed members and visitors to the December meeting.

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Mrs E.Clarke and PCSO Sadler sent their apologies for absence.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

in items on the agenda

Cllr Ross, whose property adjoins the *Field at Balwest* declared a non-pecuniary interest in Agenda Item 10 PA12/10416.

of gifts (received as a result of being a member of the Council) of a value greater than £25

There were no declarations of gifts of a value greater than £25.

3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Cllr Mrs Doeser proposed, Cllr Blencowe, Cllr Ross and Cllr Royds being absent from the last meeting abstained, all others in favour that the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday November 1, 2012 are a true record and the Chairman signed them as such.

4 MATTERS ARISING AND NOT COVERED IN THIS AGENDA

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

5 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr Glover stated that he was present to seek support for his application PA12/09536 which seeks planning permission for a new two-storey dwelling in Boscrege. He stated that

- the application is for a single house only
- it is to be built on an under-used area of the garden
- the final design will be in keeping with nearby dwellings
- it is important to recognise that there is a shortage of available housing.
- new housing will sustain local tradesmen

Speaking of the same application, Mr Coulthard asked the Council to seek refusal. He stated that since the construction of the first holiday let

- there has been a noticeable increase in both the volume and the speed of traffic along the lane
- there is no room for turning, which means delivery vans have to reverse out along the lane
- consequently walking and riding along the lane has become dangerous
- Cornwall Highways expressed concerns about access when presented with an earlier application
- the completion of the second holiday let will exacerbate the situation
- there has been no consultation with near neighbours about the applicant's plans
- problems with mains water pressure have become apparent following completion of the first holiday let.

Adding her voice to Mr Coulthard's, Mrs Stevens stated that

- although the plans show an existing access, this access has only recently been created
- there are two uncapped mine shafts directly behind the proposed dwelling
- infill building, such as that proposed, will urbanise the area.

Mrs Seargeant stated that Boscrege is a special area: the development of holiday lets and the consequent dangerous increase in traffic is already having an adverse effect on it.

Mr Pender stated that he was again present on behalf of Mr Barker to seek the Parish Council's support for planning application PA12/08091. He added that, in the light of concerns expressed by the Parish Council at the last meeting, Mr Barker had agreed to make the proposed building significantly smaller. A copy of the Land Agent's original supporting letter had been forwarded to the Parish Council and those views expressed in that letter had not changed. He noted that no objections to the proposal had been received from members of the public.

6 CORNWALL COUNCILLOR'S COMMENTS

Through the Clerk, CCllr Keeling reported that since the last meeting

- Cornwall Highways had dealt with a number of issues including the positioning of chevrons on the Boscrege bend
- the Youth Bus outreach service (*which Cllr Keeling has championed*) will be aimed at young people in Breage, Ashton, Leedstown and Nancegollan
- the 'privatisation' of back office services is still a cause of widespread concern at County Hall. A Single Issue Panel is looking at the contract offered by BT and the matter goes before the full Council for debate next Tuesday. The Cabinet has agreed to accept any decision made at that meeting
- a decision on the manner of the future governance of the County (whether to revert to a semi-committee system or to continue with a Cabinet) will also be made on Tuesday
- the 10% discount on the Council Tax paid on second homes will be removed with effect from April 1
- the discretionary rate relief offered to charities and other organisations by Cornwall is in the course of being rationalised. At present this relief costs the County some £6 million
- the question of long-term empty properties and their use will be debated in the not too distant future.

The Chairman proposed and it was agreed to consider the following agenda item out of order.

10 PLANNING

Applications

PA12/08091 Mr E.Barker – Construction of agricultural storage barn (amended plans) – Tresheba, Main Road. Cllr Blencowe proposed, Cllr Royds seconded all others in favour that Germoe Parish Council should return this application marked "Other than to request that it would like to see additional natural screening and that an agricultural condition is imposed on the proposed storage barn, Germoe Parish Council has no further comment."

PA12/09536 Mr M and Mrs S Glover – Proposed new two-storey dwelling – Boscrege Villa, Boscrege. Cllr Blencowe proposed, Cllr Ross seconded all others in favour that Germoe Parish Council should return this application marked "Having noted the absence of adequate parking, the scale of the proposed dwelling and the adverse impact it will have both on the area and on adjoining properties, Germoe Parish Council requests the Planning Authority to refuse permission for development."

Noting Cllr Ross' declaration of a non-pecuniary interest in the following application, the Chairman stated that it was his view that Cllr Ross should be permitted to remain in the room. Cllr Ross remained in the room but took no part in the discussion or the voting.

PA12/10416 Mr J.Benzing – retention of an agricultural building – Field at Balwest. Cllr Taylor proposed, Cllr Blencowe seconded, Cllr Ross abstained, all others in favour that Germoe Parish Council should return this application marked "Germoe Parish Council has strong reservations about this application. It believes the existing building is inappropriate within the Conservation Area and the presence of a non-agricultural kitchen within it raises particular concerns. The application contains no supporting evidence justifying its future agricultural use. For example, there is no business plan nor supporting document from Cornwall's Land Agent. Germoe Parish Council therefore requests the Planning Authority to refuse permission for development."

Decisions

PA12/08861 APPROVED (Erection of domestic extension) – Tolvan, Tresowes Hill – noted

PA12/08907 APPROVED (Change of use of two single storey holiday cottages to ancillary accommodation with full disabled access arrangements) – Chycarne Farm, Balwest – *noted*

7 POLICE REPORT

Through the Clerk, PCSO Sadler reported that in November two crimes had been reported to the police (a burglary and tampering with a motor vehicle): for comparison, a single crime was reported in the same period last year. She asked everyone to be vigilant and, where possible, to keep a record of serial numbers of all garden machinery. She wished everyone a merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

8 PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS

Dates of Parish Council meetings 2013/2014

Members agreed that, unless there are pressing reasons for change, the times, dates and places for the meetings in 2013 - 2014 will be as follows

January 3, 2013	Ordinary Meeting	Balwest Methodist Schoolroom
February 7, 2013	Ordinary Meeting	Balwest Methodist Schoolroom
March 7, 2013	Ordinary Meeting	Balwest Methodist Schoolroom
April 4, 2013	Ordinary Meeting	Balwest Methodist Schoolroom
May 9, 2013	Annual Parish Meeting	Balwest Methodist Schoolroom
May 9, 2013	Annual Meeting	Balwest Methodist Schoolroom
June 6, 2013	Ordinary Meeting	Balwest Methodist Schoolroom
July 11, 2013	Ordinary Meeting	Balwest Methodist Schoolroom
September 5, 2013	Ordinary Meeting	Balwest Methodist Schoolroom
October 3, 2013	Ordinary Meeting	Balwest Methodist Schoolroom
November 7, 2013	Ordinary Meeting	Balwest Methodist Schoolroom
December 5, 2013	Ordinary Meeting	Balwest Methodist Schoolroom
January 2, 2014	Ordinary Meeting	Balwest Methodist Schoolroom
February 6, 2014	Ordinary Meeting	Balwest Methodist Schoolroom

All meetings are due to begin at 7:00pm

Christmas Celebrations 2012

It was proposed by Cllr Mrs Doeser, seconded by Cllr Blencowe and agreed that the informal advisory group set up to oversee the Christmas Lights Switch-On Ceremony and Celebrations on Germoe Green on Saturday December 13, 2012 should act as an advisory committee of Germoe Parish Council and that therefore Germoe Parish Council would be responsible for the proper running of that event.

Following discussion of a request from the advisory committee for financial help towards the village Christmas celebrations, Cllr Geake proposed, Cllr Mrs Doeser seconded all others in favour, that, under the terms of S137 of the Local Government Act 1972, the sum of £100 should be made available for underwriting activities in Germoe over Christmas 2012.

9 PARISH MATTERS

The Definitive Map

In the absence of Cllr Mrs Clarke it was agreed to defer this matter to the meeting in February.

Speed limits through Germoe Churchtown and along the A394

Members welcomed the recently published Consultation Document concerning speed limits through Germoe Churchtown and along the A394 and the Clerk was asked to write to the Authority supporting the proposals.

11 FINANCE

Following discussion, it was proposed by Cllr Royds, seconded by Cllr Ross all in favour that the Precept for the year 2013/2014 should be set at £8,000.

The following account was presented for consideration:

		GROSS	VAT
Colin Chapman			
Salary (November)	£ 202.50		
travelling	£ 8.60		
telephone	£ 11.56		
office expenses	£ 24.18		
use of home	£ 20.00		
	total	£ 266.84	

Cllr Mrs Doeser proposed, Cllr Ross seconded, all others in favour that the above account should be paid.

12 REPORT OF CLERK AND CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence

Cornish Mining World Heritage Cornwall and West Devon Mining Landscape World Heritage Site Management Plan 2013-2018 – *noted*

13 MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

Cllr Mrs Doeser reported that the Parish Council's Tree Warden, John Marshall, had spoken to her about Ash dieback (Chalara fraxinea) and had offered to speak about it to the Parish Council in the Spring.

Cllr Royds reported that the help offered by Councillors with reading at the school has proved so successful that the School has asked for more volunteers. Members of the Council are also invited to join the school for Christmas lunch on Thursday December 13.

Cllr Blencowe drew members' attention to the Planning Peer Challenge document which is available on line and which suggests that the Planning Authority is both under-resourced and under-trained.

14 CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

Other than to wish everyone present a happy Christmas and a merry New Year, the Chairman said that he had no further comments.

15 MATTERS FOR INCLUSION AT FUTURE MEETINGS

Replacement of the notice-board at Balwest.

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next Ordinary Parish Council Meeting will be held on Thursday January 3, 2013 at 7.00pm in Balwest Methodist Schoolroom.

Signed	Dated