

# GERMOE PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Germoe Parish Council held on Thursday October 4, 2012 at 7:00pm in Balwest Methodist Schoolroom.

**Present:** Cllr Mrs K.Doeser Cllr R.Royds  
Cllr D.Blencowe  
Cllr Mrs E.Clarke Mr C.Chapman (Clerk)

**Visitors:** CCllr Keeling.

In the absence of the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman Cllr Mrs Doeser assumed the Chair and welcomed members and visitors to the October meeting.

## 1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Geake, Cllr Ross and PCSO Sadler sent their 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 £25

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

## 3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Cllr Blencowe proposed, Cllr Royds seconded all others in favour that, with the addition of the hand-written amendment, the minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday September 6, 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

There were no members of the public present.

## 6 CORNWALL COUNCILLOR'S COMMENTS

CCllr Keeling reported that since the last meeting

- political infighting at County Hall has made working there difficult: in particular there have been well-publicised rows about
- the political management of the Council (the Cabinet as opposed to the Committee system)
- plans to move middle-office support services into a new partnership which, as the result of a public petition, must now be debated again at a meeting of the full Council
- and the forthcoming vote of no confidence in the present leader of the Council, CCllr Alec Robertson
- moreover, in the pipeline, there is potential for further unrest concerning the harmonisation of Discretionary Rate Relief across the County (about which guidelines are already with Cabinet)
- further afield, Central Government and EU decisions are having an effect on Local Authorities: in particular in Cornwall the roll-out of high-speed broadband is hampered by the refusal of the EU to agree to the release of £560 million from Central Government funds to help cover the cost of the infra-structure
- the recent Central Government decision to allow the Planning Inspectorate to remove the Affordable Housing element from S106 agreements has far-reaching (and possibly unintended) consequences for those exception sites which have already received permission for development

*Chairman's initials.....*

- at their last meeting, Breage Parish Council supported a proposal for the construction of 24 affordable homes to be built within the parish
- although new guidance is being developed for signage on rural roads, Cornwall Highways will look again at the proposal for a sign pointing the way to Germoe School

In answer to a question concerning the potentially dangerous state of the road-side verge opposite Fox Cottage in Tresowes, CCllr Keeling undertook to speak to Highways about the matter.

The on-going question of the placement of chevrons at the Boscreege bend was again raised and, in line with the newly published guidance for signage on rural roads, CCllr Keeling suggested to muted approval that reflective posts might be more appropriate in this situation. He will make every effort to encourage Cornwall Highways to put these in position before the next meeting.

## **7 POLICE REPORT**

Through the Clerk, PCSO Sadler reported that in September a single crime (that of driving with excess alcohol in the blood) had been reported to the police: a single crime had also been reported in September last year. She urged everyone to remain on guard.

## **8 PARISH MATTERS**

### **The Definitive Map**

Members again considered the omission of short lengths of Public Rights of Way from the Definitive Map. It was noted that the necessary paperwork for

- footpath 17, which needs continuing down Chygwins lane to the adopted road, was received by CCC on September 2, 2002 and is registered with Cornwall under the reference WCA 472
- the addition of a footpath from Tresowes Hill (west of Hillside) to footpath 25 Tregonning Hill was received by CCC in April/May 2007 and is registered with Cornwall under the reference WCA 532.

It is understood that Cornwall Council has received the necessary consent forms from the respective owners of the land to

- continue Footpath 13 through to the corner of the road (near Wheal Dream)
- continue Footpath 14 up the lane and through Trethewey Farm

The following footpaths were identified as having anomalies

- footpath 9 which needs continuing through to Germoe (which would also legitimise footpath 5)
- footpath 11 which needs continuing though the yard to the adopted road in Germoe Churchtown
- footpath 19 which needs continuing through to the Boscreege Road (between the houses)
- footpath 22 which needs a way through Rejarden to join with footpaths 8 and 10

CCllr Keeling agreed to invite David Attwell, Cornwall Council's Principal Countryside Officer (and who has responsibility for the Definitive Map) to attend a future meeting.

### **Balwest Triangle**

Members noted that, despite the recent heavy rain, the grass triangle at Balwest has kept relatively dry and that the work done further up the lane has therefore been largely successful. It was agreed to do nothing more until after the winter, by which time members will have a better understanding of what is required. Nevertheless, CCllr Keeling offered to ask Dave Vincent from Cornwall Highways to take a look at the lane and rain-water spill-off in case he is able to suggest further improvements.

It was not felt necessary to devise a way of preventing vehicles from parking on the triangle of grass.

## **9 FINANCE**

Members considered a request from St Germoe PCC for help with funding the cost of the upkeep of the cemetery. Following discussion, Cllr Mrs Clarke proposed, Cllr Blencowe seconded all in favour that the sum of £300 be forwarded to St Germoe PCC to be used towards the cost of maintaining the Churchyard under the terms of S214(6) of the Local Government Act 1972.

Members considered a request from the Cornwall County Playing Fields Association for financial help towards its work. Following discussion, it was agreed that Germoe Parish Council is unable to accede to this request.

Members noted that a wreath for the Armistice Day Service has been ordered and considered the question of a donation towards the work of the Royal British Legion. Cllr Mrs Doerer proposed Cllr Blencowe seconded all others in favour that, under the terms of S137 of the Local Government Act 1972, Germoe Parish Councillors should forward the sum of £35 to the Royal British Legion.

*Chairman's initials.....*

The following accounts were presented for consideration:

|                        | <b>GROSS</b> | <b>VAT</b> |
|------------------------|--------------|------------|
| HM Revenue and Customs | £ 151.80     |            |
| Colin Chapman          |              |            |
| Salary (September)     | £ 202.50     |            |
| travelling             | £ 8.60       |            |
| telephone              | £ 12.28      |            |
| office expenses        | £ 26.40      |            |
| use of home            | £ 20.00      |            |
|                        | total        | £ 269.78   |

Cllr Mrs Clarke proposed, Cllr Royds seconded, all others in favour that the above two accounts should be paid.

Members noted the following receipt

|                            | <b>GROSS</b> | <b>NET</b> | <b>VAT</b> |
|----------------------------|--------------|------------|------------|
| CC Precept (final payment) | £ 3,950.00   |            |            |

## **10 REPORT OF CLERK AND CORRESPONDENCE**

### **Correspondence**

**Clerks and Councils Direct** newsletter – *noted*

**St Germoe's Churchwardens** Vicar Penny's retirement – *noted*

## **11 MEMBERS' QUESTIONS**

Cllr Mrs Clarke drew members' attention to the parlous state of the upper half of Moors Lane. She reported that the gullies down either side are overgrown and blocked which has resulted in a large puddle forming at the original (and now disused) gateway to the caravan park. Additionally, the tarmac at the entrance to the lane has deteriorated badly. CCllr Keeling agreed to speak both to Colin Bayes from Cornwall Countryside and Dave Vincent from Cornwall Highways about these two related issues.

Cllr Royds reported that the school is yet to take up the Parish Council's offer to help the children with their reading.

## **12 CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS**

The Chairman made no comments at this point.

## **13 MATTERS FOR INCLUSION AT FUTURE MEETINGS**

Projects for the future including the replacement of the notice-board at Balwest.

### **DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

The next Ordinary Parish Council Meeting will be held on Thursday November 1, 2011 at 7.00pm in Balwest Methodist Schoolroom.

Signed.....

Dated.....

*Chairman's initials.....*