

ST CLEER PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of a meeting of St Cleer Parish Council held on Wednesday 22nd November 2017 at 7.30pm in the Council Sports Pavilion, Hockings House, St Cleer.

PRESENT: - Councillors Mrs R S Dickson (Chairman), Mrs S D Harbord (Vice Chairman), K G Buckley, Mrs S E Horsfield, K Johnson MBE, D L Price, M Shead, C R Sargeant, R A Turton, Mrs D R Watson and A Webb plus the Clerk to the Council.

Also present: - Cornwall Councillor P M Eddy.

	ACTION
<p>103-17 Apologies for Absence</p> <p>Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillor P E Lockley.</p>	
<p>104-17 Declaration of interest relating to items on the agenda</p> <p>A registerable (pecuniary) interest was declared by: - Councillor R A Turton – _Agenda item 8 (as the applicant). A Non – _Registerable Interest (NRI) was declared by: - Councillor A Webb (Agenda item 6 (e) as related to an employee at the shop).</p>	
<p>105-17 Police Report</p> <p>In the absence of a police representative there was no report to present. Councillor Mrs D R Watson advised members that as PC Hatt will no longer be convening meetings of the Liskeard Have Your Say panel. It was resolved that the Council would request that a regular police presence is required at meetings of this Council to update members on matters relating to St Cleer.</p>	
<p>106-17 Cornwall Council</p> <p>Cornwall Councillor P M Eddy reported that at the recent meeting of Cornwall Council, members were advised that further cuts of £75 million are required over the next 4 years. Councillor Eddy further advised that the Cornwall Council increase in Council tax for the 2018-19 financial year would amount to 4.9% of which 3% would be for social care. Councillor Eddy announced that Cornwall Council would become a property developer by investing £70 million in land acquisition most of which would be borrowed from the Public Works Loan Board. Councillor Eddy also reminded members of the proposed principal authority boundary changes when the number of Cornwall Council members would be reduced to 87 members based on an electorate of around 5,300 in each division. The suggestion was that St Cleer parish is linked with either Liskeard North or Dobwalls. After due consideration. It was discussed and agreed to reply that the preferred option for St Cleer parish is to be linked with Dobwalls in the proposed new divisional boundary arrangement. Councillor Eddy also spoke on proposals for new electoral boundaries and the possibility of a proposed “Devonwall” constituency being created. Councillor Mrs S E Horsfield advised members that there has been an increase in rats in the village that appears to be traced back to the demolition of chicken rearing sheds at Penhale. Councillor Eddy confirmed that there is no provision at Cornwall Council to deal with this issue.</p>	
<p>107-17 Chairman’s Announcements</p> <p>The Chairman addressed members on the subject of council progression. The Chairman stated that the Council had relied heavily on the Clerk over the years and mindful that the Clerk had announced imminent retirement, the Chairman proposed the creation of sub groups to work on various key matters. The Chairmans address on the subject is contained in Annexe “A” of this minute. The suncommittees would be formalized at the December meeting and suitable terms of reference would then be confirmed. The Chairman drew attention to plans made by the Royal British Legion to commemorate 100 years since armistice day in November 2018. After a brief discussion on this subject it was resolved that this Council still</p>	

<p>wished to be involved in the project and it was agreed that Councillor Mrs D R Waton would act as the link between the Royal British Legion and the Council on this matter</p>	
<p>108-17 Minutes of the previous meeting It was resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 25th October 2017 are taken as read, confirmed and signed by the Chairman subject to the correction of minor typographical errors.</p>	
<p>109-17 Matters arising from the minutes a) Apologies for absence: - Pursuant to minute 88-17 the Clerk advised that Mr. J L Unsworth would not be taking his seat on the council principally as a result of ill health. On advice from Cornwall Council it was announced that the council would return to the co-option process to fill the vacancy. Given the proposals outlined by the Chairman, it was resolved to agree a suitable vacancy advert at the next meeting of this Council by the HR sub-committee following which a timetable for the official appointment to be made at the January 2018 meeting of the Council. b) HR Matters: - Pursuant to minute 93-17 (d) receipt was reported of timesheets from the caretaker. After due consideration it was resolved to refer the timesheets to the proposed Employment subcommittee for further consideration. The numbers attending, costs and work undertaken by the probation team would similarly be considered by the subcommittee appointed to deal with these issues. c) Preferred Policy Statement. Pursuant to minute 93-17 (c) in the absence of any reply from the solicitor it was resolved to implement a policy on similar lines as to the original notice of motion tabled by Councillor Johnson. d) Minutes of the Asset Management Committee: - Pursuant to minute 95-17 it was resolved to engage with an asbestos surveyor to undertake a survey of the premises. The Clerk would make available the previous asbestos survey undertaken in 2010. e) St Cleer Shop – Request to register the Shop as an Asset of Community Value: - Pursuant to minute 96-17 (b) and on the verbal response from the land owner it was resolved not to pursue the suggestion to register the shop as an Asset of Community Value. (Councillor A Webb declared a non-registerable interest as related to an employee of the shop and left the meeting whilst this item was discussed).</p>	
<p>110-17 Planning Applications None. Receipt was reported of an email from the planning officer with reference to PA17/09091 in which the officer confirmed that the case officers are minded to refuse this scheme as it is representative of an extension to the village where only affordable led schemes can be supported. As this is for two open market dwellings, there is no justification for the development in its current form. The email asked for a response within 5 working days. After considering the matter further it was resolved to agree with the Case Officers recommendation to refuse the scheme with 8 votes in favour (Councillors K G Buckley, Mrs S E Horsfield, K Johnson, D L Price, M Shead, R A Turton, Mrs D R Watson and A Webb) with 3 votes against (Council Chairman, Council Vice Chairman and Councillor C R Sargeant).</p>	Clerk
<p>111-17 Notice of Motion – Councillor K Johnson That the Parish council should publish a summary of the background and voting record of Parish councillors in regard to the original consideration of this planning application [PA17/07622] and similarly the voting record for the re-consultation in order to deliver integrity, honesty and openness to the parishioners. (Papers as circulated). The Chairman reminded members that the original vote on this document was a named vote and in the subsequent re-consideration of the responses received by the Clerk 2 councillors (Councillors P E Lockley and Mrs D R Watson) agreed with the planning officer and two agreed to disagree with the officer (Councillors K Johnson and A Webb). In view of the named votes it was resolved no further action is required.</p>	

(Councillor R A Turton declared registerable (pecuniary) interest as the applicant and left the meeting whilst this item was discussed).

112-17 Minutes of Finance and General Purposes Committee

It was resolved that the minutes meeting held on Wednesday 8th November 2017 and to consider the recommendation in minutes 31-17F (b) (Hire Charges for the 2018-19 financial year) and 36-17F (a) (Outstanding Debtors) are adopted and implemented. Pursuant to minute 32-17F (To consider the budget for the 2018-19 financial year) Councillor K Johnson suggested that despite the Committee Chairman reminding members to undertake mandatory submissions, suggested that he considered there were fundamental vulnerabilities associated with validating the budget. Councillor Johnson drew attention to Standing Order para 9 and the costs associated with delivering grounds maintenance that remained unresolved. Councillor Johnson also referred to Standing Orders para 51 (1 and 2) on estimates, financial risk management in financial regulations para 19 and the asset register in financial regulations para 17.6. Councillor Johnson suggested that without the risk register and fixed asset register it would not lead to an opportunity to plan the budget effectively and suggested that the council would fail to satisfy the requirements of Standing Orders and financial Regulations in line with the Governance and Accountability for smaller authorities. In response it was noted that the financial risk assessment and associated policies and procedures including internal controls are reviewed annually by the Finance and General Purposes Committee and aspects implemented throughout the year, the fixed asset register and insurance schedule with the financial accounts in May and the estimates are prepared at the Asset Management Committee meeting in October for confirmation by Council in the same month. Unfortunately estimates or development plans had not been produced at the October meeting of the Asset Management Committee, therefore the Finance and General Purposes Committee worked through the budget cost centres to produce estimated costs for 2018-19. The Chairman reminded members that proposals to undertake a strategy review were to be put in place and welcomed new members input. After further discussion it was resolved to implement the budget for 2018-19 as circulated and presented with the precept of £52,585

113-17 Correspondence

None. Councillor Johnson drew attention to circulated emails that some may consider responses. The Clerk drew attention a tacit agreement with previous Councillors that if any member considered a circulated email should form of correspondence then members would notify the Clerk for inclusion. The Chairman reminded members that the Clerk was only including written correspondence and concurred with the previous agreement that members should notify the Clerk if they considered an item circulated by email should be included.

114-17 Reports

a) Neighbourhood Development Plan: -
Councillor Mrs D R Watson Chairman of the Working Party updated members on progress. Minutes from the meeting will be circulated when available.

115-17 Financial Comparison

It was resolved that the October Financial Comparison (as circulated) is adopted and implemented. The Chairman confirmed that September cash book reconciled to the bank

116-17 Accounts for payment

Payee	Reason	Gross	VAT	Net
Salaries & NIC		2,084.77	0.00	2,084.77
Mole Valley Farmers	Strimmer Cord	31.14	5.19	25.95
DDC CRC Ltd	Probation Team (October)	448.00	74.67	373.33
Firewatch SW	Inspection, equipment servicing	127.20	21.20	106.00
Torpoint Town Council	Phone/Photocopying	8.09	0.00	8.09
Jewsons	Door Handle	17.77	2.96	14.81
Royal British Legion	Wreath	25.00	0.00	25.00

* J Reynolds not reimbursed for postage stamp as overpaid 50p on petrol	
---	--

117-17 Date of next meeting Wednesday 13 th December 2017	
--	--