

MINUTES OF THE ST SAMPSON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, 28TH APRIL 2015 AT 7:15PM IN GOLANT VILLAGE HALL, GOLANT

Present: Councillors C Hunter (Chairman), S Reardon (Vice Chairperson), J Luddington , S Ratchford, S Fitzgerald and M Whell.

Sue Blaxley (Parish Clerk)
6 members of the public

The Chairman opened the meeting at 7:15pm.

Public Participation

Maurie Parsons said that that the minutes of previous parish council meetings refer to replacing the railings in the car park. He urged the parish council not to spend money doing this as he said it would be a waste of money when the existing railings could be rubbed down and painted. Liz Anderson said she supported this view. The Chairman explained that the parish council has not made a decision yet regarding this matter. Various options had been discussed but nothing could be done until ownership of the railings had been ascertained (although it looks likely that they are owned by Cornwall Council – if that is right the parish council is likely to await the outcome of negotiations on the car park before making a final decision on this matter). Maurie Parsons also said it would be detrimental to remove the railings completely. The Chairman explained that the parish council has a quotation from Glenn Humphries Landscaping to clear the area behind the toilets and railings which will hopefully be done in the second week of May.

Graham Estlick asked for a breakdown of the payment for rental of the village hall. Councillor S Reardon explained that the charge is £10 per meeting so the figure of £120 relates to ten parish council meetings and two extra meetings to discuss planning applications. Graham Estlick also asked who regulates parking on the village green. The Chairman said that no one from the parish council does this on a daily basis but all councilors periodically monitor who parks there. Graham Estlick said that two members of the public park on the village green on occasions without a permit. The Chairman said that the parish council has no regulatory powers in this respect. He asked Graham Estlick if he wanted the parish council to do something about the alleged “unauthorized” parking. Graham Estlick said he did not. Paul Meredith said that one building project is currently taking place and if the other one commences too, there may be an issue with parking on the green. Christine Dodridge and Paul Meredith said the

builders currently using the village green to park their vehicles are very amenable. Graham Estlick asked if there had been any news from Mr and Mrs Wallace Jones regarding their building work. The Chairman said there was no news.

Maurie Parsons said that the new benches and tables are superb. The Chairman said the parish council wants to try to improve the assets over which they have direct control in Golant village, namely the village green and the car park. Paul Meredith commented that there is sufficient interest from parishioners for the toilets to be reopened and for them to help with this in any way they can.

1. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cornwall Councillor D Hughes.

2. To confirm the minutes of the last meeting, held on 24th February 2015

The minutes of the meeting held on the 31st March 2015, having previously been circulated, were agreed as an accurate record. It was noted that the public meeting for the neighborhood plan would take place at the end of May and not at the end of April as detailed in the minutes.

3. Declaration of interest in items on the agenda

None

4. Planning -

To consider applications received from the District Council :

To consider what further action to take in respect of the South Torfrey wind turbines

The Chairman reminded everyone that the parish council had decided to allow the enforcement process in respect of the South Torfrey wind turbines to follow its course. At the last meeting of the parish council, it was noted that Cornwall Councillor David Hughes had said that officers were on the cusp of issuing an enforcement notice in respect of the turbines. The Chairman said that the parish council has no statutory role to play in this matter. Councillors M Whell and S Ratchford said they thought it was preferable not to antagonize the situation.

Councillor S Fitzgerald said that she thought it was preferable to keep a watching brief on the matter for a finite amount of time, after which the parish council should chase up the matter. Councillor S Reardon said the matter is being progressed by Cornwall Council, albeit slowly. Councillor J Luddington asked if anyone receives updates on how the matter is progressing. The Chairman said there is no requirement for the Enforcement Officers to keep the parish council informed. It was proposed by Councillor J Luddington and seconded by Councillor S Reardon that the Clerk asks Cornwall Council about progress regarding this matter and reports to the next meeting. All Councillors voted in favour of this proposal. The proposal was therefore carried.

PA/15/03140 - Application by Ms P Barr for reconstruction of existing kitchen at Treetops Downs Hill, Golant. The Chairman explained that this application is a modest proposal to extend and reinforce an existing kitchen extension. He said the proposed new roof will be pitched and will replace the existing flat roof. In this respect, he said the proposal will represent a visual improvement. It was proposed by Councillor S Fitzgerald and seconded by Councillor S Reardon that this application be supported. All Councillors voted in favour of this proposal. The proposal was therefore carried.

4. Matters Arising from the previous meeting

To receive and consider reports on the action points from the previous meeting;

Keep users of village green parking area of progress re Riverbank Cottage (SR)

It was noted that this is an ongoing issue.

Progress assets review (CH/JL/SR)

It was noted that this is an ongoing issue.

Organise a village spring clean (SR)

Councillor S Reardon reported that she had not actioned this matter yet but will liaise with members of the public regarding a village spring clean. Councillor J Luddington said that it was probably best to wait until Glenn Humphries Landscaping had cleared the area to the rear of the toilets and car park.

Report rut in Water Lane to Cornwall Council (CH)_

The Chairman reported that this matter had been actioned.

Hard drive of computer tower to be stripped (CH)

The Chairman reported that this matter had not yet been actioned. It was noted that the information contained on the hard drive is public information.

6. To receive the Chairman's Communications

The Chairman said that he had received an email from Paul Meredith which had been sent to other Parishioners about how to challenge contractual parking notices. No action was needed. As an aside, he said that Paul Meredith had also contacted the council suggesting that the parking meter at Golant Halt Car park was defective but the meter had been tested by Councilor J Luddington and is working correctly. He also said that he had received an email from David Johns regarding the consideration by the Harbour Office of a request to make part of St Winnow Water an area for speedboats, water skiers and banana boats. Councillor S Reardon said that Fowey Harbour Office say that this suggestion has come from a particular group of river users who are now consulting with and listening to other river users regarding this suggestion. It was proposed by Councillor J Luddington and seconded by Councillor S Reardon that the Clerk writes a letter to Fowey Harbour Commissioner explaining that the parish council wants to be formally consulted on this matter. All Councillors voted in favour of this proposal. The proposal was therefore carried.

The Chairman said that he had now signed the agreement with AS Parking.

7. To answer any questions from Councillors, previously notified to the Clerk

None.

8. To receive a report from the Clerk

None

9. To receive reports from -

a) Police

PC Lloyd Paynter explained that there had been seventeen reported crimes in

the parish this year (some may have been duplications of recording). He said the last reported crime was in February which involved the theft of an iPhone from a car in the car park and the theft of a fuel tank from a boat adjacent to Jimmy Marine's premises. Both crimes occurred on the same evening. He said that Boatwatch do fantastic work and that he hoped his police surgeries would continue.

b) Cornwall County Councillor

None.

10. To authorise the signing of orders for payment, including -

Mrs S Blaxley (March 24th – April 21st 2015 salary/ expenses) - £254.58
Golant Village Hall (room rental) - £120.00
Glenn Humphries Landscaping (grass cutting) - £78.00
Duchy Timber (picnic tables and benches) - £636.00
Mrs J Luddington (locksmith to enable access to toilets) - £110.00

The Chairman explained that Cornwall Council did not have two of the four keys that were needed to access the toilets to enable the surveyor to prepare his report so a locksmith was used to gain access and to provide new padlocks. It was proposed by Councillor S Ratchford and seconded by Councillor M Whell that all of the above orders be authorized for payment. All Councillors voted in favour of this proposal. The proposal was therefore carried.

11. To receive correspondence from :

a) Cornwall County Council

None.

b) Others

The Chairman reported that the clerk had received an email from Angus Gill on 7th April 2015 regarding the use by local councils of contract law to enforce car parking charges. He summarised its contents. He said that an agreement has been signed with AS Parking for a trial period of 3 months.

12. Finance Report

To receive a current financial statement of the accounts

The Clerk reported that, this month, income of £619.20 had been received from the car park, £770.00 from car park permits, £1,879.15 from Cornwall Council as the first half of the precept and £41.65 from Cornwall Council as the CTS grant. She said the accounts balance at £26,795.72. It was noted that the Clerk and Councillor J Luddington had emptied the car parking machine and that when this is done, a ticket comes out of the machine stating exactly how much of each coin there is.

13. Golant Car Park

To receive and consider the surveyor's report for the toilets

The Chairman reported that the surveyor's report was, on the whole, a positive one. He said the building is sound although the surveyor had not seen the ladies toilet or the room to the rear of the toilets which houses the cisterns and electrics. The Chairman said that from a lay person's viewpoint, the toilets are remarkably clean and tidy internally. He said that the parish council needs to be aware that, if they move forward towards a CAT, some minor work will be required. He said the aim might be to open the disabled toilet for at least the summer months. He explained that three or four days' work would be needed to make it operational. He said that if a CAT is successful, the parish council will have to consider possible uses for the remainder of the building and undertake consultation with stakeholders in this respect. The Chairman said that, from Cornwall Council's own records previously provided to the parish council and checked by Richard Strode, he estimated that the cost of running the disabled toilet would be £8,000pa (approximately £4,000 for 26 weeks). The main expenses are likely to be cleaning/maintenance and business rates. It is feasible the costs could therefore run to £5,000 per 26 week period. He said that if business rates were not payable on the building, this cost would be almost halved. He explained that if this course of action is chosen, the parish council would be prioritizing spending money on the toilets as opposed to other items for community benefit, such as benches, the village hall and the village green as running the toilet would involve spending a lot of the revenue received from the car park. He said that, a CAT, however, would on the other hand save £2,000pa on the lease of the car park from Cornwall Council and enable the parish to have greater control over that asset.. Councillor J Luddington said it would be a good idea to open the toilet all year round as a lot of the costs involved are annual ones. She said that if people are paying to park, it is a good idea to provide a toilet. The Chairman urged all councilors to read the survey report thoroughly, certainly before the CAT is

approved (if in the end that is the route agreed) and signed. It should be noted that the report is presently partial in its coverage due to the lack of access to the whole building. The full report will be circulated once received. Councillor M Whell said that if the parish council signed a CAT, the parish council would have the option of sub letting the asset in the future. He said that car parking charges could be increased to help pay for the facility. Councillor S Fitzgerald said that she was concerned about the financing of this venture. The Chairman said the parish council would endeavor to do it in as an efficient financial way as possible. Councillor J Luddinton said that it would not do any harm to progress the CAT application as the parish council can always change its mind before the document is signed. It was proposed by Councillor J Luddington and seconded by Councillor S Ratchford that the CAT application should be progressed. All Councillors voted in favour of this proposal. The proposal was therefore carried.

To receive and consider the community asset transfer of Golant toilets and car park

It was agreed that this matter had already been discussed.

To receive and consider the procedure for issuing “free” permits for the car park

The Chairman reported that he had received some emails from David Jenkinson asking for the two free car parking permits that have apparently been previously issued to Boatwatch volunteers on an annual basis. He said that these had now been issued to avoid any problems/misunderstandings in light of the pending new parking enforcement arrangement with AS Parking. It was proposed by Councillor S Reardon and seconded by Councillor S Fitzgerald that this decision be ratified. All Councillors voted in favour of this proposal, except for Councillor J Luddington who abstained from voting as she is a member of Boatwatch. The proposal was therefore carried. It was noted that there are no other organisations that receive free car parking permits and that all car parking permits for the 2015/16 year have now been issued. The Chairman also said that the owners of the Sawmills have purchased two car parking permits for use by their guests but the guests often drive off with the permits and fail to return them. The Chairman said that he has told the owners of the Sawmills to photocopy their permits for use by guests and that he will instruct AS Parking to ignore these permits when patrolling the car park. It was proposed by Councillor S Fitzgerald and seconded by Councillor S Reardon that this decision be ratified. All Councillors voted in favour of this proposal. The proposal was therefore

carried.

To receive and consider any other matters arising relating to Golant car park and toilets

Councillor J Luddington presented a quotation from Glenn Humphries Landscaping for them to clear the area behind the toilets and to the rear of the car park in the sum of £240.00 plus VAT. It was proposed by Councillor S Reardon and seconded by Councillor S Fitzgerald that this quotation be accepted. All Councillors voted in favour of this proposal. The proposal was therefore carried.

14. Website for St Sampson Parish Council

To receive and consider matters arising relating to a website for St Sampson Parish Council

Councillor J Luddington explained that the website will be purely a portal for information for parish council business and it is not intended to compete with the Golant website. She said that the homepage is complete and contains some fantastic photographs of Golant. She said that Councillors S Fitzgerald and M Whell had not yet had their photographs taken for the website. She said the website will enable parishioners to access parish council information and that the aim is for the site to be launched at the AGM.

15. Neighbourhood Plan

To receive and consider matters arising relating to the neighbourhood plan

Councillor S Reardon explained the first questionnaire had been hand delivered to all households in the parish just before Easter and that she urged everyone to return the completed questionnaires. She said that a public meeting will be held in the village hall towards the end of May 2015 with a view to formulating a more detailed questionnaire which will be sent to all households in the parish. She said that St Sampson has been formally adopted as a neighbourhood plan area. She said that there appears to be muted interest in the neighbourhood plan now and that it is becoming a topic of conversation in the parish.

16. Highways

To receive and consider matters arising relating to highways in the parish

Councillor S Fitzgerald said that no action has been taken regarding the public highway through Lantayn Farm. She said that it is often blocked by farm vehicles and occasionally livestock are tethered to trees at the side of the road. She said the metal gates which are used to block the road to allow cattle to cross are often thrown into the hedge after use and have metal parts sticking out which is dangerous. She said the cattle are moved across the road on a dangerous bend and that the road has fallen away in one place. It was proposed by Councillor J Luddington and seconded by Councillor S Ratchford that Councillor M Whell speaks to the farmer regarding these issues and reports to the next meeting. All Councillors voted in favour of this proposal. The proposal was therefore carried.

17. Footpaths and Benches

To receive and consider quotations for benches for the village green

Councillor J Luddington reported that Duchy Timber had delivered 2 picnic tables with benches and a garden seat today which have been placed waterside on the village green. She said that, at some stage, the goal posts will need maintenance work undertaking on them which will necessitate removing them. She explained that the annual ROSPA report for the play equipment had been received and that all items were identified as low risk and there are no major areas of action needed. It was agreed that Councillor J Luddington would take such steps as necessary as identified in the ROSPA report.

18. Standing Orders

To consider revising the parish council's standing orders

The Chairman said that he had read the new draft standing orders and that, when adopted, they will alter the workings of the parish council. He said that he will track the proposed amendments to the draft version and send them to councilors within the next week asking for comments within 7 days so they can be adopted at the parish council meeting in May.

19. Village Notice Boards

To receive and consider a request from Golant Village Hall Committee for a financial contribution towards new village notice boards

It was noted that this matter did not require discussion as the village hall committee are considering other options and quotations.

20. Co-option of Member to Parish Council

To receive and consider an application for co-option onto the Parish Council

There were no candidates.

21. Date of Next Meeting

To confirm the date and venue of the next meeting on Tuesday 26th May 2015

The date of the next meeting, which will be the AGM, will be on Tuesday 26th May 2015, commencing after the annual Parish Meeting. The annual Parish Meeting will commence at 7pm in Golant Village Hall.

There was no further business and the meeting was closed at 9:12pm.

ST SAMPSON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

28TH APRIL 2015

ACTION POINTS

<u>Minute Number</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>By Whom</u>
4 (page 3)	Ask Cornwall Council about progress regarding enforcement action in respect of South Torfrey wind turbines	SB
5 (page 3)	Keep users of village green parking area of progress re Riverbank Cottage	SR
5 (page 3)	Progress assets review	CH/JL/SR
5 (page 3)	Organise a village spring clean	SR

	5 (page 3)	Hard drive of computer tower to be stripped	CH
	6 (page 4)	Write to Fowey Harbour Commissioner requesting formal consultation on proposed use of river for speedboats, water skiers and banana boats	SB
	16 (page 8)	Speak to farmer at <u>Lantayn</u> Farm about highway through his farm	MW