

**MINUTES OF THE ST SAMPSON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, 23RD FEBRUARY 2016 AT 7:15PM IN GOLANT VILLAGE HALL, GOLANT**

**Present:** Councillors C Hunter (Chair), S Reardon (Vice Chairperson) and R Anderson.

Sue Blaxley (Parish Clerk)

2 members of the public

**Public Participation**

Graham Estlick expressed his thanks to the person who cut the vegetation in Water Lane. He said that he considers that the issue of the gates across the alleyway next to Water's Edge should be allowed to take its course. He commented that the parish council has paid £350 for the maintenance of the defibrillator and that villagers should be trained to use it. The Chairman said that training did take place which some villagers attended and also, there are instructions on the use of the defibrillator with the machine. Councillors R Anderson and S Reardon said that in the event of an emergency, the first response should be to call 999 and act on the advice given during that call. They said that the defibrillator is the second choice for assistance and that in any event, the patient should not be left alone in order to get the defibrillator. Graham Estlick questioned why the grass was cut on the village green last week and commented that he thinks it is being cut too often. He said that in previous years, the grass has only been cut during the growing season. The Chairman explained that the parish council has a contract with Glenn Humphries Landscaping for a fixed number of cuts per year. It was agreed that the Clerk would check on the number of cuts they are contracted to undertake.

**1. Apologies**

Apologies were received from Councillors J Luddington, S Ratchford, M Whell and S Fitzgerald.

**2. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2016**

The minutes of the meeting held on 26th January 2016, having previously been circulated, were agreed as an accurate record.

**3. Declaration of interest in items on the agenda**

None.

#### **4. Matters Arising from the previous meeting**

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

Installation of salt bin (MW)

As Councillor M Whell was absent from the meeting, this matter was deferred until the March meeting of the parish council.

Ensure Nalders send letter regarding rights on the green to Mr and Mrs Wallace-Jones (SB)

The Chairman reported that he had signed the terms of business as required by Nalders and provided the information they had requested. The Clerk reported that Nalders are now waiting for a cheque in the sum of £50 before they proceed.

Contact Tasha Davis regarding drainage problem in car park (SB)

The Clerk reported that she had contacted Tasha Davis and that the highways department at Cornwall Council was investigating the issue. Councillor R Anderson said the puddle has now reduced significantly and that it is possible that the broken water pipe in the toilets may have been contributing to the puddle. Councillor S Reardon said that the large puddle comes and goes.

Inform CORMAC that Wallgate machine in toilet is not working (SB)

The Clerk reported that she had actioned this matter. Councillor R Anderson said that the machine was now working as it had been tripped off by the lightning.

Informal chat with Mr and Mrs Laughton regarding gates and sign in the alleyway to the village green (RA/CH)

The Chairman reported that he had not yet had the opportunity to speak to Mr and Mrs Laughton. However, Councillor R Anderson said that he had spoken to Mr Laughton about the matter and he was happy to have a chat.

Contact Old Cornwall Society regarding restoration of finger post sign (SB)

The Clerk reported that she had contacted the Old Cornwall Society but they were unable to offer any assistance. The Clerk then contacted the highways department at Cornwall Council asking if one of the volunteer groups from the Community Partnership Scheme could assist with the refurbishment works. However, there are no groups in the area that could carry out the works and they have effectively passed responsibility for its refurbishment onto the parish council. Councillor R Anderson said that, several years ago, he cleared the vegetation away from the sign, cleaned it and sprayed it to get rid of the mould.

He said the sign needs professionally renovating and painting. The Chairman commented that the parish council did not want to have the asset transferred to them. It was proposed by Councillor S Reardon and seconded by Councillor R Anderson that the Clerk makes some enquiries as to who could undertake the work and at what cost and report back to the next meeting. All councilors voted in favour of this proposal. The proposal was therefore carried.

Contact CORMAC regarding pothole in Water Lane and road to Church and poor state of road near Wringford Farm (SF)

As Councillor S Fitzgerald was absent from the meeting, this matter was deferred until the March meeting of the parish council.

Put photographs of works to Saints Way footpaths on website (SB)

The Clerk reported that she had not yet actioned this matter.

**To receive and consider reports on any other matters arising from the previous meeting**

None

**5. Planning**

**To receive and consider the following planning application:**

**PA16/01173 – Application by Mr and Mrs J Varco for conversion of barn to covered swimming pool complex at Penquite Farm, Church Hill, Golant**

Councillor R Anderson commented that the barn is out of public view and would add value for those who stay at Penquite Farm. Councillor S Reardon said that the proposal is to convert an existing building and that the proposed use will not generate additional traffic. She said that the parish council should support local businesses. It was proposed by Councillor R Anderson and seconded by Councillor S Reardon that this application be supported. All councilors voted in favour of this proposal. The proposal was therefore carried.

**6. To receive the Chairman's Communications**

The Chairman said that he had had an exchange of emails with Simon Funnell, Stuart Young and Matt Justice regarding the trees on Church Hill. They think the trees are posing a structural threat and are threatening accessibility along Church Hill. They are suggesting that the trees are cut back as Cornwall Council will not attend to them as they claim the trees are the landowners' responsibility. The Chairman said that the trees along this stretch are beech and sycamore although he was uncertain as to the precise location of all the trees they are referring to. He said that Simon, Stuart and Matt want to meet a representative

of the parish council on site as well as a representative from Cornwall Council to discuss the matter further. Councillor S Reardon said the trees are beautiful but they are close to a power line and are on the bank. She said she thinks they are the landowner's responsibility. Councillor R Anderson circulated some photographs of some of the trees. He said that the issue of it being a sunken lane is nonsense in terms of it being the responsibility of Cornwall Council. He said that Church Hill is an important circulatory road for the parish and therefore, he thinks the parish council should adopt the concerns of Simon, Matt and Stuart and take some action. He commented that Cornwall Council do have an interest as if Church Hill became blocked as a result of one of these trees falling down, Cornwall Council would have to act. Councillor R Anderson said that a bough of one of the trees is an imminent and significant risk to a power line so Western Power have supremacy over any lopping that may be needed. He said that an action should be raised with Western Power. Councillor S Reardon said that it was imperative that Mr Luck, the landowner, is involved. It was proposed by Councillor S Reardon and seconded by Councillor R Anderson that an attempt is made by the Chairman to broker all interested parties together – Stuart, Matt, Simon, Cornwall Council, Mr Luck, Western Power and a representative from the parish council - to agree a plan of action. All councillors voted in favour of this proposal. The proposal was therefore carried.

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

None

**9. To receive a report from the Clerk**

The Clerk reported that Roger Fry had expressed concern regarding the brevity of the parish council's consultation response on the Cornwall Council's planning portal regarding the planning application submitted by Mr and Mrs C Steed for the construction of a two bedroom detached dwelling, formation of new vehicle access and new connection to existing foul sewer at land north west of Sea View, Golant which was discussed at the January meeting of the parish council. His concerns related to the fact that the consultation response did not reflect the discussion which had taken place at the parish council meeting. The Clerk reminded councillors that the consultation responses she submits will only reiterate the details in the actual proposal and will not summarise any discussion which may have taken place prior to the proposal being made.

**10. To receive reports from -**

**a) Police**

PC Lloyd Paynter was not at the meeting but had emailed a report which read as follows: "There have been a couple of "possible" petty crimes that I have heard of in the past month. One was on a boat and was reported through our 101 email

service. This does not appear to have been recorded as my searches have not located it on our system. It concerned a possible break in on a boat and a knife being taken. The second was a bag of kindling taken from the quayside at Penquite Quay. The person reporting thinks someone may have thought it was rubbish?

Whilst I feel it is important, I think it is also vital that all factors are looked at. By this I mean that weather conditions, high tides etc are factored in as obviously they can have a major impact on things becoming dislodged on craft in the river. Likewise the bag of kindling may well have been swept away in a high tide?

So, obviously, whilst I am keen to know about all crime, I think people need to be aware that sometimes things may not be what they seem. I have spoken to Peter Sinclair the Boatwatch Co-ordinator on this subject and he supports my views on reporting.

So, in reality, I have not had any “reported” crime again for this period.

I will be starting a new Police Surgery in Fowey Town Hall from Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> March. The Surgery will run from 1430 until 1630hrs. Obviously it is open to anyone from the area so Golant people are more than welcome.

I am going to be on annual leave from 21<sup>st</sup> March so am unsure whether I will make next moths meeting. Please feel free to message me if there are any issues arriving from the meeting”.

## **b) Cornwall Councillor**

Cornwall Councillor David Hughes read out the following report: “At the February Council Meeting, members reluctantly agreed a 3.97% increase in Council Tax for 2016-2017 (1.97% on the general rate plus the 2% “allowed” by the Chancellor to go towards the additional costs of Adult Care). Most of this will be required to cover the government decision to increase minimum wages in the care sector, the remainder being used to offset some of the additional pressures of inflation and an aging population. Whilst nobody wants to see increased taxes, I am confident that Cornwall Council finances are being carefully and prudently managed and, as a result, we have suffered far less cuts to front-line services than most authorities: indeed the Leader has announced that Cornwall Council has been shortlisted for the “Council of the Year award” to be decided in March. Last week, I attended a Transport PAC meeting which supported a proposal for the Council to go ahead with a major “Business Case Development”, financed by the Dept. of Transport, to enable an application for funding of a new link road from Stenalees to the A 30 at Victoria under the government major road building programme. If the bid is successful, work could start within 3 years. We were also briefed on progress towards delivery of a “One Public Transport System for Cornwall”. This would enable the council to take over bus franchising for the county, enabling bus systems to be based on customer needs rather than commercial advantage, integrated bus and rail timetabling and single-ticketing. This would be coordinated with the new half-hourly rail service from Plymouth to

Penzance. If the timescales presented are adhered to, this should be in operation by the end of 2018. I am aware that the subject of the South Torfrey wind turbines has been very emotive. The turbines have been removed but the concrete bases currently remain in place. Under the terms of the enforcement order, these have to be removed. I understand that negotiations are in hand for the field in question to be transferred to Bridget Whell at Leyonne Farm and she has requested that the bases be retained as a hard standing for water troughs for their cattle. This seems to me an imminently sensible and practical solution which would bring closure to this long-drawn-out saga. Unfortunately, since the enforcement order has been delivered, failure to insist on its entire implementation could result in action against Cornwall Council.

Personally, as a neutral party, I see this as unnecessarily vindictive, even if it may be legally the correct procedure. I am told that the only solution would be for Simon Andrews to submit a new Planning Application to retain the bases. Whilst I consider this to be a waste of time and scarce resources, I would welcome the Parish Council's view as to whether, if such an application were submitted, they would support it.

At today's Planning Policy Advisory Committee we were discussing Pre-application consultations, and in particular the need for clear protocols to avoid misinterpretations. It was stressed that where PCs hold pre-consultation meetings with applicants it is important that they should send the Planning Officer a clear "minute" of their interpretation of the discussions in order that their comments are not mis-represented in the application. I understand that Looe Parish Council have recently approved a set of protocols and it might be useful to have a look at these and perhaps adapt them for use in Golant. It is always better to set the ground rules in advance rather than try and sort out problems later. In the context of Neighbourhood Plans, it was noted that, in areas with high property values, Councils had sought imaginative ways to provide affordable housing for those local people whose incomes were above the threshold for "affordable homes" but were effectively priced out of the open market. However, particularly on "exception sites", this could not be at the expense of "affordables" since such developments were expected to be "affordable" led, with an initial expectation of 100% "affordable and never less than 50% when viability precluded achieving the maximum".

#### **11. To authorise the signing of orders for payment, including -**

Mrs S Blaxley (20<sup>th</sup> January 2016 – 17<sup>th</sup> February 2016 salary/expenses) - £294.18

Cormac Solutions (Toilet cleaning – December and January) - £391.54

Cornwall Council (Rent for car park) - £166.67

Glenn Humphries Landscaping (grass cutting) - £78.00

Nalders (advance fee for letter to Mr and Mrs Wallace Jones) - £50.00

David Jenkinson (works on footpaths) - £150.00

Palace Printers (Golant booklets) - £150.00

Andrew van den Broek (repairs to toilet water pipe) - £95.00

It was proposed by Councillor S Reardon and seconded by Councillor R Anderson that all of the above orders be authorised for payment. All Councillors voted in favour of this proposal. The proposal was therefore carried.

## **12. To receive correspondence from :**

### **a) Cornwall Council**

Councillor R Anderson referred to the email from the Case Officer dealing with the planning application reference number PA15/11331 for the change of use of land to site a shepherds hut for tourist accommodation at Trebathevy Farm, Castledore. In that email, the Case Officer said that, having visited the site and assessed the application fully, the LPA were of the opinion that the siting of this shepherds hut is inappropriate within the open countryside and within the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. It was noted that all Councillors had an opportunity to respond to the Case Officer's comments. Councillor R Anderson said that he did not think the Case Officer's argument was balanced enough to justify refusal of the application. He said that the solution might be that the Applicant will resite the shepherd's hut.

### **b) Others**

There was no other correspondence reported in addition to the emails previously circulated by the Clerk.

## **13. Finance Report**

### **To receive a current financial statement of the accounts**

The Clerk reported that no income has been received and that the accounts balance at £23,300.88. She said that currently, Councillors J Luddington and S Ratchford empty the car parking machine but that new volunteers may be needed for 2016/17.

## **14. Golant Car Park and Toilets**

### **To receive and consider any matters arising relating to the car park and toilets**

Councillor R Anderson reported that Andrew Van den Broek had responded to the issue of the water leak in the toilet building very quickly. The Chairman asked that thanks be passed to him, on behalf of the parish council, for this prompt response. Councillor R Anderson said the repair should be a long term one. The Clerk reported that South West Water has agreed to grant a 100% leak allowance on this occasion and that she has agreed to monthly meter readings being taken by South West Water. Councillor R Anderson said there is still a

minor water leak on the stop cock belonging to South West Water which the Clerk said she would report to them.

The Clerk said that the parking permits for the 2016/17 season will be distributed next week.

#### **14. Village Green**

##### **To receive and consider quotations for works to the playground**

Councillor R Anderson said that he was still waiting for quotations from two contractors who had been given the specification for the works. However, he said that Andrew van den Broek had quoted £140 to undertake the works although he had not indicated when he could carry them out. It was proposed by Councillor R Anderson and seconded by Councillor S Reardon that, given the length of time the other two contractors had had to provide quotations without success, Andrew van den Broek be asked to undertake the works in the playground. All councillors voted in favour of this proposal. The proposal was therefore carried. Councillor R Anderson also reported that a parishioner has commented that the back has come off one of the new benches. He said that he has now repaired the bench. The Chair expressed thanks, on behalf of the parish council, to Judith Campbell-Taylor for reporting the matter and to Councillor R Anderson for undertaking the repair.

##### **To receive and consider any other matters arising relating to the village green**

None

#### **15. Neighbourhood Plan**

##### **To receive and consider matters arising relating to the neighbourhood plan**

Councillor R Anderson said that Maurie Parsons has asked the parish council to consider applying to list the pub as being an asset of community value. Councillor R Anderson also said that the parish council could consider applying for a grant to set up a community emergency plan. He said that it can be formulated to cover fire, flood and “freak” accidents. In addition, Councillor R Anderson questioned whether the parish council should be represented at the Community Network Panel meetings. It was agreed that all of these matters would be discussed at the parish council meeting in March 2016.

#### **16. Highways**

##### **To consider weedkilling along the highway edges adjacent to the river and Pil**



The Chair said that, in the past, the parish council has employed contractors to undertake weed spraying. He said that, last year, a contractor sprayed the car park and environs. It was proposed by Councillor S Reardon and seconded by Councillor R Anderson that the Clerk asks for a quotation from GHL and David Jenkinson for weed spraying along the highways edge from the slip by the level crossing to the property known Water's Edge. All Councillors voted in favour of this proposal. The proposal was therefore carried.

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

It was agreed that the Clerk would report the following matters to the Highways Department at Cornwall Council: the integrity of the road adjacent to Wringford Farm is being seriously compromised as it is falling away; the huge rut in the road in Water Lane just beyond the passing space and the a large pothole in the road outside the new houses on the road to the Church.

### **17. Footpaths and Benches**

#### **To receive and consider any matters arising relating to footpaths and benches in the parish**

None

### **18. Date of next meeting**

#### **To confirm the date and venue of the next meeting on Tuesday 22nd March 2016**

The date of the next meeting will be on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2016, commencing at 7:15pm in Golant Village Hall.

There was no further business and the meeting was closed at 9:02pm.

**ST SAMPSON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

**23rd February 2016**

**ACTION POINTS**

<b><u>Minute Number</u></b>	<b><u>Action</u></b>	<b><u>By Whom</u></b>
PP	Ascertain agreed number of grass cuts to be undertaken by GHL in a year	SB
4	Installation of salt bin	MW
4	Ensure Nalders send letter regarding rights on the green to Mr and Mrs Wallace-Jones	CH
4	Informal chat with Mr and Mrs Laughton regarding gates and sign in the alleyway to the village green	RA/CH
4	Investigate persons who may be able to Restore finger post sign and likely cost	SB
4	Contact CORMAC regarding potholes in Water Lane and road to Church and poor state of road near Wringford Farm	SF/SB
4	Put photographs of works to Saints Way footpaths on website	SB
7	Meet all interested parties regarding trees on Church Hill	CH
13	Report minor leak on stop cock to SWW	SB