

**MINUTES OF THE ST SAMPSON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, 26<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2016 AT 7:15PM IN GOLANT VILLAGE HALL, GOLANT**

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

Sue Blaxley (Parish Clerk)  
Cornwall Councillor David Hughes  
5 members of the public

**Public Participation**

Peter Edwards explained that the Golant Quay Users Association would like to put a commemorative bench on the village green for Bruce Fletcher and, as the parish council is the landowner, is seeking their permission. He said that they have chosen the village green as if a bench was placed on the quay, it is likely to get damaged. He explained that Bruce Fletcher was a former vice chairman of the parish council.

Milly said that she has recently played in the playground at St Breward where there is some fantastic play equipment. She said that she would like to see some new pieces of play equipment installed in the playground at Golant which would benefit the children and grandchildren living and visiting the village: a spinning bowl, a rotating bar, a junior swing and a netball hoop. She said that her preference would be for the former two items and that she thinks that both would fit into the existing free space in the playground. She said that SITA have grants available up to 15% for play equipment. The Chairman said that the matter would be put on the agenda for the meeting of the parish council in May when councillors would discuss the principle of this suggestion and the likely costs involved.

Graham Estlick asked if Councillor S Fitzgerald had actioned the highways matters detailed in the minutes of last month's meeting. The Chairman said that he did not know. Graham asked what period of time the electricity invoice for the toilets as detailed on the agenda related to. The Clerk said this related to a quarter.

**1. Apologies**

Apologies were received from Councillor S Fitzgerald but were received too late to be reported to the meeting.

**2. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 22nd March 2016**

The minutes of the meeting held on 22nd March 2016, having previously been circulated, were agreed as an accurate record.

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

Councillors R Anderson and J Luddington said that they were both members of Golant Quay Users Association.

### **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 for this item, the matter was deferred until the May meeting of the parish council.

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

The Clerk said that this matter had now been actioned.

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. The Chairman said he would action this matter.

Investigate persons who may be able to restore finger post sign and likely cost (SB)

The Clerk reported that she had made enquiries but had been unable to find someone who would restore the finger post sign in situ. It was agreed that its restoration is relatively straightforward. It was proposed by Councillor J Luddington and seconded by Councillor S Ratchford that the Chairman asks Andrew Van den Broek if he would undertake the restoration works up to the value of £300. All Councillors 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 for this item, the matter was deferred until the May meeting of the parish council.

Write letter to CC Doug Scrafton expressing parish council's support for community bid for Par running track (SB)

The Clerk reported that she had actioned this matter and that CC Doug Scrafton had thanked us for our support and said he would keep us informed of progress regarding this matter.

Speak to James Fuge regarding water tank on bank below Cormorant Hotel, inspect site and ascertain ownership of the bank (CH)

Councillor S Reardon reported that she had spoken to James Fuge and he had explained that the perforated pipe which runs just beneath surface level above the curb on the North and West side of the turning circle and serves to carry away water dripping off the rock and overflow from the tank, has been covered over, in places, by several feet of soil and leaves. Consequently, this impedes its function. It was proposed by Councillor J Luddington and seconded by Councillor S Ratchford that Councillor J Luddington asks Glenn Humphries Landscaping to clear the pipe and to bore the pipe from the river side as well as clearing the area behind the toilets and the environs of the car park up to the value of £200. All Councillors voted in favour of this proposal. The proposal was therefore carried.

Write letter to FHC confirming that the parish council will pay for electricity costs for Boatwatch hut and parking meter (SB)

The Clerk reported that she had actioned this matter and that FHC had thanked us for our support.

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

None.

### **5. To receive the Chairman's Communications**

The Chairman reported that he had received an email communication from Simon Funnell regarding the trees on Church Hill which essentially asks if the parish council wants to contribute to the felling of a beech tree on School Hill which would cost approximately £1,000. It was noted that the other two beech trees opposite St Cloud have been trimmed. Councillor S Reardon said the tree is very large and we must consider safety as a priority. Councillor R Anderson commented that he thinks the tree should be felled in the autumn. Councillor J Luddington asked whose land the tree is on. The Chairman said that both Mr Luck and Cornwall Council say they do not own the tree. Councillor S Ratchford said that Cornwall Council's interactive map is very detailed so they would know if they owned it. Councillors S Ratchford and J Luddington said that they objected to the parish council paying £1,000 to fell someone else's tree. The Chairman commented that there are several trees in Water Lane which would lead to significant damage if they came down and therefore, if the parish council agrees to pay to cut this one tree down, it will set an undesirable precedent. He

said that highway safety is not the parish council's responsibility. Furthermore, he said that it is a considerable amount of money to fell this tree and if the parish council pays, it would not encourage other parishioners to manage their trees. Councillor S Reardon suggested asking Western Power to look at the tree to assess the extent of the risk to the power line. Councillor R Anderson said that he thinks that an arborist should look at all the trees in Water Lane to assess their safety and that if they are deemed to be unsafe, the landowners should be informed. It was agreed that this was a more prudent use of public money than paying to fell one tree. It was proposed by Councillor S Reardon and seconded by Councillor R Anderson that the Clerk asks the Tree Officer at Cornwall Council to inspect the trees and offer some practical advice as to the way forward as Cornwall Council is the statutory body responsible for highway safety. All Councillors voted in favour of this proposal. The proposal was therefore carried.

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

None

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

None

**8. To receive reports from -**

**a) Police**

PC Lloyd Paynter was not at the meeting but had emailed a report which read as follows: "Please offer my apologies for tonight's meeting as I am unable to attend owing to my shift pattern. As I type we are still standing at four reported crimes for the year. As in the past I will produce a full report for the AGM. I spoke to a member of the public at my last Golant Surgery who was concerned about possible criminal damage to vehicle tyres in the village. This has not been crimed but suitable advice has been passed regarding future reporting. It is vital that we protect our communities by reporting crime when it occurs as it gives the Police the best opportunity to get a result. Golant is a wonderful community but we all know that crime does occur, especially within the marine environment. My message to victims of crime is, please don't suffer in silence, if you feel you have been a victim of crime then report it through 101. Myself or PC Barnicoat will look in to the crime.

You should have received a couple of emails from me highlighting links to a couple of funding opportunities. Please pass them around as they are good opportunities, for groups who fit the required criteria, to obtain some extra funding. I am more than willing to add my support to worthwhile local applications.

We have now been advised that St Blazey Police Station will remain albeit in a smaller capacity. The team of four PCSO's and PC Barnicoat will remain based at the Station although we will be working from two small rooms in the old building. We are all very pleased about this situation and hope to have a facility to at least a couple of computer terminals. As with everything these days, IT is absolutely vital to our role."

#### **b) Cornwall Councillor**

Cornwall Councillor David Hughes commented that if there are trees which are considered to be a threat to highway safety, these should be reported to Rachael Tatlow at CORMAC. He said that Cornwall Council will only fell the tree(s) if there is an immediate danger and will then invoice the landowner. Cornwall Councillor David Hughes said that there is a public launch of the community scheme for Par running track on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2016 commencing at 6:30pm. He said that a voluntary group has been established who have put together a bid for funding. He commented that at the CNP meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> April 2016, the devolution grant was discussed which is a fund which has been set up to facilitate localism as parish and town councils are complaining about the costs involved in the devolution process. He explained that Fowey, Tywardreath, Lostwithiel and St Blazey have all submitted bids and that the £2,000 remaining has been set aside for bids from smaller parishes who feel that devolution of assets is stretching their resources unreasonably. He explained that if this money is not bid for by the smaller parish councils, Cornwall Councillor Doug Scrafton will bid for it for Par running track.

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

Mrs S Blaxley (17<sup>th</sup> March 2016 – 19<sup>th</sup> April 2016 salary/expenses) - £274.83  
Cornwall Council (Rent for car park) - £166.67  
Western Web (Annual renewal of web space/content management licence - £80.40  
Golant Village Hall (Broadband for village hall) - £373.22  
South West Water (Water for toilets) - £23.27  
CALC (Annual subscription) - £142.02  
CALC (Good Councillor Guides x 10) - £22.80  
British Gas (Electricity for toilets) - £62.46

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

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

##### **a) Cornwall Council**

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

**b) Others**

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

**11. Finance Report**

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

The Clerk reported that this month the accounts balance at £22,601.65.

**12. Golant Car Park and Toilets**

**To receive and consider the quotation from AS Parking for the emptying of the car parking machine**

The Clerk reported that she had asked AS Parking for a quotation for emptying the car parking machine and for taking the money to the bank and they had said that this would cost £30 plus VAT each time they undertook the task. It was agreed that this seemed a reasonable sum to pay to reduce the risk to Councillors of having large sums of cash in their possession and for the time taken to undertake the task. It was proposed by Councillor S Ratchford and seconded by Councillor S Reardon that AS Parking be employed to undertake this task on a 3 weekly basis from the start of the season until May 31<sup>st</sup> and from September 1<sup>st</sup> until the end of the season and every 2 weeks for the months in between, that AS Parking provide the Clerk with copies of the receipts from the machine indicating the amount of the cash and the Clerk to reconcile the bank statements with these receipts. All Councillors voted in favour of this proposal. The proposal was therefore carried. The Clerk said she would amend the financial risk assessment accordingly.

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

The Clerk said that the toilet building needed to be added to the insurance policy to provide public liability cover for their use and also property damage. She said she needed to estimate the value of the building. It was proposed by Councillor J Luddington and seconded by Councillor S Reardon that the building be valued at £50,000. All Councillors voted in favour of this proposal. The proposal was therefore carried.

**13. Village Green**

## **To receive and consider correspondence regarding the goal posts on the village green**

The Clerk read out an email from Mr Campbell-Taylor regarding the above matter which read as follows: "I feel obliged to draw to your attention that the goal posts on the Village Green have become a health and safety hazard.

When I was asked, several years ago, to source new goalposts for the Village green, the criteria was: that they should be safe to use, and also that they could be quickly and easily removed should the Air Ambulance be required to land on the green.

The goalposts are/were rendered safe by them having sturdy anchors at each of the four corners. They are/were easily removed by the provision of quick release shackles on each of the anchors.

I notice that most of the anchors have either disappeared or have deteriorated, and that the QR shackles have also disappeared or deteriorated. Furthermore much of the steel on the post rails has rusted badly. The absence of anchors means that the structures could fall, either forwards or backwards onto someone, and the lack of QR facility would hinder the speedy removal of the structures. I also would point out that the Cornwall Air Ambulance now has the facility for night time landing and I think therefore, that for us to be able to make full use of that facility, the goalposts should either be removed or relocated, as the prospect of removing the goalposts in darkness is rather daunting"

Councillor J Luddington commented that users of the village green generally sit around the edges as the presence of the goal posts indicates that the central area of the village green is a football pitch. She said that she thinks that the goal posts should be removed completely as the children can improvise with items of clothing for use as goals if they want to play football. She also said that children have the play equipment to use. She said that it is a unique village green by the river and the presence of goal posts masks its real potential as a village green. Councillors S Ratchford and R Anderson said that a compromise would be to have one goal post and for it to be anchored properly and have QRS installed. Councillor S Reardon said the goal posts have come and gone over the years but it would be sad to see them both disappear. Councillor S Ratchford asked what the neighbourhood plan questionnaire had indicated about the village green. Councillor R Anderson said the results show that 95% think the village green is important or very important. It was proposed by Councillor S Ratchford and seconded by Councillor R Anderson that one of the goal posts be removed by Andrew van den Broek and that he anchors the other one to the ground and that quick release shackles be fixed to each anchor. All Councillors voted in favour of this proposal except for Councillor J Luddington who voted against. The proposal was therefore carried.

**To receive and consider a request to put a commemorative bench on the village green**

The Chairman reminded Councillors of the comments made by Peter Edwards during public participation time regarding this matter. Councillor S Reardon said that there is a piece of hardstanding next to the village map where a bench could be installed. It was proposed by Councillor S Ratchford and seconded by Councillor S Reardon that the principle of the installation of a commemorative bench for Bruce Fletcher be approved subject to the parish council's approval of the design of the bench. All Councillors voted in favour of this proposal. The proposal was therefore carried. It was agreed that if the parish council contributed financially to the bench, this may set a precedent for the future so it was proposed by Councillor R Anderson and seconded by Councillor J Luddington that the Golant Quay Users pay for the bench. All Councillors voted in favour of this proposal. The Chairman said that, no disrespect was meant to those parishioners who have passed but Councillors should consider whether they want the village green to become a memorial garden.

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

Councillor R Anderson said that Andrew van den Broek has completed the works to the play equipment. He said that he had noted that one of the swinging rubber tyres also needs repairing. It was proposed by Councillor R Anderson and seconded by Councillor S Reardon that Andrew van den Broek be asked to undertake this repair. All Councillors voted in favour of this proposal. The proposal was therefore carried. Councillor J Luddington said that ROSPA will be undertaking the annual inspection of the play equipment in May.

**14. Neighbourhood Plan**

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

Councillor R Anderson circulated an updated report detailing the analysis of the second questionnaire. He said that he will be attending some neighbourhood planning training to facilitate the process of producing a neighbourhood plan.

**15. Highways**

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

None

**16. Footpaths and Benches**

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

None

**17. To receive and consider the community response to the listing of the public house as being an asset of community value**

Councillor R Anderson reported that he had had a 100% positive response to the article in the Pill regarding the listing of the public house as a community asset. Councillor S Reardon said that all the people she has spoken to are in favour of this process. He said that 1400 pubs in the UK have been listed for protection. He read out an email from a person with previous experience of the value of listing their village pub as a community asset. Councillor R Anderson said that he had approached the licensee who has no objections to it being listed and that it requires the completion of a relatively straightforward form. He said that Punch Taverns are definitely not offering the pub for sale at the present time although they have been close to selling it in the last few years. It was proposed by Councillor S Reardon and seconded by Councillor R Anderson that the Clerk submits the necessary paperwork to Cornwall Council in order to make an application to list the Fisherman's Arms as an asset of community value. All Councillors voted in favour of this proposal. The proposal was therefore carried.

**18. Community Emergency Plan Grant Scheme 2015/16**

**To consider the formulation of a Community Emergency Plan**

Councillor R Anderson circulated a template for a community emergency plan which has been produced by Cornwall Council. He said the first step in the process is to form a community response team who will move forward with the preparation of the plan. It was proposed by Councillor R Anderson and seconded by Councillor S Ratchford that a community response team is set up comprising Gail and Maurie Parsons, John and Ruth Varcoe, Peter Edwards, Andrew and Estelle van den Broek and Councillors R Anderson and M Whell to move forward with the preparation of the plan. All Councillors voted in favour of this proposal. The proposal was therefore carried. Councillor R Anderson said that all of these people have a wealth and diversity of experience which will be invaluable in the preparation of such a plan. He outlined details of what the plan would involve and the equipment that would be needed to implement the process. He said that he would apply to Cornwall Council for the grant of £100 which is available to parish councils to assist with the preparation of such a plan. He emphasized that it is a community disaster plan which will be drafted by the community response team, approved by the parish council and checked for compliance by Cornwall Council. He said that it is for the parish council to decide how the plan is implemented.

**19. Community Network Panel**

## **To receive and consider a report from the Community Network Panel meeting**

Councillor R Anderson reported that he had attended the meeting on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2016 and its focus was on the local devolution fund. He explained that larger parish and town councils have applied for money from the fund. He questioned whether the parish council should be applying for some money from the fund to assist with the running of the car park and toilets. Councillor S Reardon said that she thought it was morally correct for any surplus money in the fund to be directed towards the community bid for Par running track given the parish council's funds in the bank. Councillor R Anderson said the burden of work on Clerks and Councillors in light of the devolution process was also discussed at the meeting. He said the next meeting will be in July and it was agreed that Councillors R Anderson and J Luddington would attend.

## **20. Church Organ**

### **To receive and consider a request from St Sampson Parochial Church council for a grant towards the refurbishment of the organ**

The Chairman read out an email from Simon Funnell which read as follows: "I write on behalf of the PCC to ask whether the Parish Council would consider making a grant to the church for the refurbishment of the organ. Obviously, you will have read in 'The Golant Pill' that the instrument is undergoing a major overhaul 21 years after its installation. We are incredibly fortunate not just to have a Grade I listed building as our parish church, but also to have such a fine traditional pipe organ. It is used not just every Sunday, but also for wedding and funerals, many of which are with large congregations who need a good instrument to support the singing and music. Even villagers who are not regular church-goers have occasion to be thankful for the organ, whether at Christmas or Easter, or when celebrating marriage or a life well lived.

The current instrument is an amalgam of two organs, both originally built for Newquay Parish Church. The first was an organ built by Heard of Truro in 1911; this was then rebuilt at Paul Church, near Mousehole, in 1962 when Newquay had a new organ built by Nicholson (a fine organ builder). Paul Church underwent major repairs, and so the organ was removed and was in Lance Foy's workshop for five years (Lance Foy is a local and greatly respected organ builder in his own right). Paul then decided to replace the organ with an electronic instrument. The very fine Nicholson at Newquay was then destroyed by fire in 1993, but the Bourdon rank and chest survived. In 1995 Lance Foy abridged the Paul instrument, and combined it with the surviving Nicholson Bourdon, added a new trumpet stop, and installed the organ where it stands now (and where the previous Grover organ had been sited), and gave the organ an electronic action (as opposed to a noisy tracker action). The organ is not, I stress, electronic - only the action is electronic, as nearly all organs are now. It remains a very fine pipe organ. Some years ago we enabled the trumpet stop to be played on the

pedals.

I hope the history is not too boring, but it is to emphasise that what the Parish of St Sampson has is a gem of an organ. Pipe organs are not cheap to maintain, which is why many churches move to electric organs, but they are far, far superior in every way.

The cost of the work will be in excess of £4,000, and given that the church is open to everyone every day of the year we would be most grateful if the Parish Council would consider making a grant towards the cost”.

Councillor R Anderson said that the second neighbourhood plan questionnaire had shown that 83% of parishioners think the Church is important. He said that all parishioners, at some time, use the church and the organ whether it is for a christening, marriage, funeral or scheduled service. Councillor S Reardon commented that the work is incredibly detailed requiring an enormous amount of expertise over a long period of time. She said the parish council should support this project. Councillor J Luddington said the facility is integral to the parish. The Chairman commented that the parish council should definitely support this community asset. It was proposed by Councillor S Reardon and seconded by Councillor J Luddington that a donation of £1,000 is made to St Sampson Parish Church Council towards this project. All Councillors voted in favour of this proposal. The proposal was therefore carried.

## **21. Date of next meeting**

**To agree the date and venue of the next meeting, which will be the AGM, on 31st May 2016**

The date of the next meeting will be on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2016, commencing after the Annual Parish meeting in Golant Village Hall. The Annual Parish meeting will commence at 7pm.

There was no further business and the meeting was closed at 9:45pm.

## **ST SAMPSON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

**26th April 2016**

### **ACTION POINTS**

<b><u>Minute Number</u></b>	<b><u>Action</u></b>	<b><u>By Whom</u></b>
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4	Installation of salt bin	MW
4	Informal chat with Mr and Mrs Laughton regarding gates and sign in the alleyway to the village green	RA/CH
4	Contact CORMAC regarding potholes in Water Lane and poor state of road near Wringford Farm	SF
4	Ask Glenn Humphries Landscaping to clear the pipe/bore the pipe on bank above turning circle and clear the area behind the toilets and the environs of the car park	JL
4	Asks Andrew Van den Broek to undertake the restoration works to the fingerpost sign	CH
5	Ask Tree Officer at Cornwall Council to inspect trees adjacent to village highways and advise of way forward	SB
13	Complete application form to list pub as asset of community value	SB