

**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of St Erth Parish Council held on Tuesday 6 November 2018 in The Vestry Rooms, Fore Street, St Erth, commencing at 7.00pm**

**Councillors present:** K. J. Buzza (Chairman), Mrs. W. M. Chappell, M. J. Hanley (Vice-Chairman), E. B. Jenkin, Ms. J. Kersey, Mrs. J. Lee, N. Player, P. Rodda, and A. Spencer-Smith

**Others present:** two members of the community, CC Lionel Pascoe and Peter Rylett (Clerk to the Council)

**Apologies for absence:** Councillor E.T. Taylor

**103/18-19 Declarations of Interest**

There were none.

**104/18-19 Community participation**

One matter was raised.

1. Bus service

A member of the community informed the Council that she had met with Derek Thomas MP to express her concerns about the current bus service for the parish.

**105/18-19 Action required on matters raised during community participation**

1. Bus service

The Clerk thanked her for that information and the Chairman referred to the report on the agenda about the bus service.

**106/18-19 Planning and Listed Building applications**

a) PA18/08867: Retention of dwelling, re-positioned within plot following planning approval PA17/00639: 20 Lanuthnoe Estate St Erth Hill.

**RESOLVED** - that this application be supported.

*(Action by: the Clerk)*

**107/18-19 Minutes**

**RESOLVED** - that the Chairman signs as a true and correct record, the minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 2 October 2018.

The Clerk then provided the following update on the current position of planning applications considered at the meeting of the Council held on 2 October 2018:

a) PA18/07281: Provision of a new conservatory, for residents use, joined to existing buildings: Bosence Farm, 69 Bosence Road, Townshend - *awaiting determination by the LPA following inaccuracies in the application identified by the Parish Council.*

b) PA18/08140: Change of use from restricted holiday let to unrestricted residential use: The Tractor Barn, Bosworgy Road, Townshend - *awaiting determination by the LPA following inaccuracies in the application identified by the Parish Council.*

c) PA18/07520: Conversion of existing former public house to form apartments, housing development in existing car park and associated works to form 17 dwellings: Lamb & Flag Inn, Canonstown.

The Clerk stated that this application had been withdrawn - *awaiting reconsultation by the LPA on a revised application to address inaccuracies identified by the Parish Council.*

### **108/18-19 Flood defence works**

The Council considered a report by Councillor Ms. Kersey about a meeting which had been held on 9 October at the car park opposite the Methodist Chapel. The meeting had been attended by Councillor Ms. Kersey, Dr. Paula Cox (in an advisory capacity as a retired ecologist who had worked on such projects) and Mr. Gregg Kerry, a Flood and Coastal Risk Management Advisor from the Environment Agency (EA) and his officer, Christina Dawber.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss concerns and complaints regarding potentially avoidable disturbance to the riverside environment caused by the recent EA Flood Defence Works on the eastern bank.

The main concern was that due to the EA over-running by several months, it had been unable to meet its stated intention to time all works before the nesting season and to give flora the best chance of recovery. Among other concerns were the destruction of the protected riverside orchids, previously specifically high-lighted by Councillor Kersey and assured as safely outside the works area; the earlier than expected commencement of the same type of extensive bank work to the western side, when the eastern bank had barely recovered and where the majority of the fauna roost, live and hunt from; no sign of the specifically-promised remedial work; and a lack of communication about detailed plans and changes to plans.

Mr. Kerry admitted that his main concern was with the construction but that the workmen had been sent elsewhere mid-work, without replacing them, leading to the long delay in completion. He also maintained that the disturbances were unavoidable and that they had limited time and money for extra work. The assertions were respectfully challenged with the aforementioned points and especially in view of the fact that the EA had found time and money to construct an unplanned substantial wooden bridge over the embankment serving a minor unofficial path.

It was agreed that there had been some lack of communication and so in future Ms. Dawber would contact Councillor Kersey directly with all updates (copied to the Clerk) and her latest email was circulated at the meeting.

The Council discussed and noted the report and thanked Councillor Ms. Kersey for her involvement with the EA and raising those concerns.

### **109/18-19 St Erth village bus provision**

The Council considered a report by Councillor Ms. Kersey which set out the history of the village service and its deterioration incrementally from 2000 from a well-used frequent main route service, to the current twice-a-day 515 minibus service.

Two residents were in attendance to support an improved bus service and at least one other had been supportive in correspondence. Councillor Ms. Kersey had also spoken to Derek Thomas MP to make him aware of the problems encountered by residents due to the inadequate service.

The report set out the reasons for the current and future growing need for a usable regular bus provision, in line with other similar-sized and smaller communities, to access basic but vital services, appointments and amenities outside the village. In view of this, the growing demand for housing stock, the strong awareness and support for this in the St Erth Neighbourhood Plan and the imminent opening of the Multi-Modal Hub in our own Parish, (one of its main aims being 'improving the frequency and quality of...buses in the area'), the report suggested various ideas for securing these improvements. These were then clarified by Councillor Ms. Kersey into recommended actions and following discussion, the Council

**RESOLVED** - that Cornwall Council be requested to:

1. ensure that the village is included once more on one of the single decker routes off the main road, as previously, utilising an existing service and thus incurring very little additional cost to First or Cornwall Council in subsidy, potentially running between the times of the AgeUK 515 minibus;
2. consider the possibility of passing the responsibility for all Hayle town 'legs' of the current 515 service to a Hayle-based service or to one of the very frequent buses through Hayle, in order to free up greater frequency for the minibus to serve all other areas;
3. consider providing an hourly shuttle service day and evening to and from the Hub at low cost, with the possibility of it being supported by grants, by the Parish Council or through other forms of relevant sponsorship;
4. consider the creation of an all-season, low-engineered, off-road riverside path, with access to a new bus stop and shelter on the Causeway, in order to keep all non-vehicle accessibility options open;
5. investigate the possibility of inclusion on a supermarket village shopping route with, for example, potential surgery access (Sainsbury's); and
6. correct the misleading information in the bus timetable that suggests the village is capably served by buses, when in fact it actually refers to only services at the station and to include the 515 service.

*(Action by: the Clerk)*

(Councillor Ms. Kersey then left the meeting at this point and Councillor Rodda arrived.)

### **110/18-19 Reports from Councillors/Clerk on meetings held since the previous meeting of the Council**

1. Stakeholder Workshop - Replacement footbridge with lifts at St Erth Station on 16 October.

The Council noted the agenda and discussed the presentation slides and report by Councillor Hanley, during which concerns were expressed about the mass of the two 'shortlisted' bridge designs and how both of them would impose themselves visually on the station and surrounding countryside.

The Council realised that the bridge would be a massive structure compared to the original bridge and station buildings and stated that very careful consideration would be needed to mitigate its visual bulk.

The Council felt that it would be very useful to all parties at this stage to see some perspectives of the bridge, as well as the plans and elevations of the proposals and these

should be from the station platforms and most importantly, a view from the south car park - a view from the southern corner northwards so that the relationship of the south lift tower and crossing could clearly be seen.

It would be very important to visually reduce the appearance of the bridge, particularly the towers, as the structure would appear much larger than people would imagine and it would dominate both the station and the south car park.

The Council also agreed that much care would have to be taken in the choice of surface finishes and colour(s), and the structure's details. While the 'vernacular' colour of the station buildings was primarily white, some Councillors thought that, tonally, a pale grey of some kind would provide less of a contrast with the surrounding vegetation and requested that the bridge perspectives be shown in both colours for comparison.

Councillors agreed that glazed lifts would be much more preferable to enclosed ones which could be claustrophobic; that looking out over the landscape would be a far better experience for users; and that people enjoyed seeing the workings of lift mechanisms.

Councillors were keen to have a positive input into how the bridge should look and stated that Stakeholders needed to take great care at this stage to make the best choice of the many materials and colours available as ultimately, the Council wanted to see a design that they could support at the planning application stage.

**RESOLVED** - that the Clerk conveys these concerns and suggestions to the Stakeholder Group.

*(Action by: the Clerk)*

## 2. Stakeholder meeting: SEMMH on 18 October

The Council considered and noted the minutes of the meeting and Councillor Hanley's report.

## 3. SWW Liaison Group on 18 October

The Council considered and noted the report by Councillor Taylor.

4. Outcome of Cornwall Council Planning Committee meeting on 22 October 2018 in respect of PA17/12089: Outline consent for the construction of up to 44 dwellings, provision of access, allotments and associated ancillary works: Land East of Treloweth Lane.

The Council considered and noted the report by its planning adviser and agreed that it's thanks to Cornwall Councillor Pascoe and to Mrs. Claire Casey for speaking against the application at the meeting of the Planning Committee, be recorded.

The Council then considered the ways in which it could share the outcome of this application with other local councils and facilitate dialogue with them on planning matters in the county and

**RESOLVED** - that in the New Year, the Chairman and the Clerk work with other interested Councillors, to set up a Facebook-based forum to share knowledge and experience of neighbourhood planning and other planning matters, inviting other local councils to join and participate.

*(Action by: the Chairman and the Clerk)*

## 5. Planning Conference on 4 October

In addition to the information contained in the planning newsletter, which had been emailed to Councillors earlier that day, the Chairman reported, and the Council noted, that the Conference had featured how Cornwall Council was changing the way in which the planning function was organised with the creation of area-based teams and the potential for a more localised approach.

## 6. Highway Improvements Working Group on 9 October 2018.

The Council considered the minutes of this meeting and

**RESOLVED** - that the Parish Councils highway improvement priorities be confirmed as:

1. Treloweth Lane - 1<sup>st</sup> priority; and HGV exclusion zone - 2<sup>nd</sup> priority; and that the Clerk informs Cornwall Council, requesting it to commence the legal etc. process; and
2. the next priorities of: a 20 mph limit village speed zone; No Waiting restrictions in Tredrea Lane; and pedestrian safety improvements in Water Lane, be deferred for further consideration by the Highway Improvements Working Group when more detailed information has been received from Cornwall Council.

During discussion, the Clerk was asked to contact the Environment Agency to point out that the highway signs around the entrance to Little Mill Lane were forcing pedestrians out into the road, which was especially dangerous at school-run times.

*(Action by: the Clerk)*

## 111/18-19 Correspondence from Cornwall Council for response

The Council considered the report of its planning adviser on the Housing Supplementary Planning Document and

**RESOLVED** - that Cornwall Council be informed that:

1. **Rural exception sites** - that despite Cornwall Council maintaining that the starting point is that all housing on rural exception sites should be affordable, in practice, it almost always just meets the 50% minimum target. The Parish Council requests that this minimum figure is raised so that rural exception sites actually achieve their intended purpose and deliver more affordable housing;
2. **Cluster parish approach** - whilst this may, exceptionally, be useful, bearing in mind the recent Crantock case, the Parish Council requests that much clearer and more rigorous criteria (including local opinion) is included in the SPD so that this approach is used only where it is truly appropriate and is acceptable to the community where the houses will be built; and
3. **Updating of the Cornwall Local Plan (CLP)** - any updates to the CLP must not undermine Neighbourhood Plan policies nor must Neighbourhood Plans be disadvantaged simply because a revised CLP becomes a more 'recent' plan.

*(Action by: the Clerk)*

## 112/18-19 Site for Storage Container

The Council considered the request of Mr. Alan Rixon, on behalf of the St Erth Twinning Association and St Erth Christmas Lights, to locate a (shipping) container, on Parish Council owned land.

Of the two sites identified it was agreed that land next to the car park opposite the Methodist Chapel would be most suitable and the Council

**RESOLVED** - that permission be granted to Mr. Alan Rixon to site a container on the Parish Council's land next to the car park, opposite the Methodist Chapel for the purpose of storing equipment, subject to the following conditions:

1. Mr. Rixon enters into a two-year lease with the Parish Council for this purpose and the arrangement be reviewed after one year; and

2. Mr. Rixon supplies and installs, at his expense, a fence to screen the container - the details of which to be agreed with the Clerk prior to installation.

*(Action by: the Clerk)*

### 113/18-19 Receipts and Payments for October 2018

**RESOLVED** - that the payments due be authorised.

The following had been received

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TOTAL	£0
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The following had been paid by Direct Debit or Standing Order

Utility Warehouse	£10.84	Electricity - Vestry Rooms
Cherry Trees	£856.80	Grass cutting - parks, churchyard and cemeteries
SeaDog IT	£25.00	Website hosting fee
Google	£39.60	Gmail account
South West Water	£367.00	Water - Public Conveniences
British Gas	£23.00	Electricity - Public Conveniences
NEST pension scheme	£112.43	Employer contribution of £62.46 and employee contribution of £49.97
TOTAL	£1,434.67	

The following payments were due as at 31 October 2018

P Rylett	£1,293.63	Clerk's salary (net pay - see <b>Note 1</b> below)
P Rylett	£44.55	Clerk's expenses (see <b>Note 2</b> below)

HMRC	£336.57	PAYE and NI
Cormac Solutions Ltd.	£450.20	Cleaning/re-stocking Toilets
Jon Pender	£336.90	Advice, attending meetings and travel etc. for the Treloweth Lane planning application
SeaDog IT	£25.00	Email account for Councillor Mrs. Lee
AED Locater (E.U.) Ltd.	£58.80	Defibrillator annual monitoring fee
Cornwall Council	£12.00	Planning training
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£2,557.65</b>	

**Note 1** The gross monthly pay was £1,561.55. The net pay of £1,293.63 was the amount payable following deductions of tax and national insurance and with a deduction from the net pay for the employee's contribution to the NEST pension scheme of £49.97 as shown above.

**Note 2** The sum of £44.55 was comprised of:

Home Office Payment	£18.00	
Reimbursement of		
Telephone calls	£0	
Postage/stamps	£0	
Consumables	£0	
Office equipment	£0	
Expenses	£0	
Mileage	£26.55	Truro on 16/10 with Vice-Chairman: stakeholder meeting - new pedestrian lift bridge

### **114/18-19 Business Plan**

The Council noted the current version of this plan.

### **115/18-19 Agenda items for a future meeting**

1. Councillor Spencer-Smith requested a report to a future meeting on the provision of an electric vehicle charging point and passed to the Clerk, details of the government's grant scheme for electric vehicle charging infrastructure.

*(Action by: the Clerk)*

### **116/18-19 Exclusion of the Press and Public**

**RESOLVED** - that in accordance with S.1 (2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act, 1960, the Press and Public be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following business owing to the confidential nature of that business.

### **117/18-19 Legal agreement**

The Council considered the draft lease for the letting of a car park space(s) on the forecourt of the Public Conveniences in Tredrea Lane and

**RESOLVED** - that

1. the draft lease be approved subject to the inclusion of a clause permitting the Parish Council the right of access onto the let space(s) should the need arise; and
2. the Clerk, in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, prepare suitable advertisements.

*(Action by: the Clerk)*

**118/18-19 Weed control**

The Council considered the report of the Clerk and

**RESOLVED** - that no further action be taken.

**119/18-19 Review of the first six months of 2018-19**

The Chairman invited Councillors to feedback either now or at a later date, on the way in which the Council had been operating since the Annual Meeting with a view to improvement wherever possible. He noted the views expressed and stated that he would follow-up on all suggestions etc. received.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.44pm

Signed by  
Chairman.....

Date.....  
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