

4<sup>th</sup> June 2021

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SENNEN PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN CHURCHTOWN VILLAGE HALL ON FRIDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2021 AT 7.00PM.**

**PRESENT**

Councillors Mr C McClary (Chairman), Mr D Angove, Mrs K Shannon, Mrs S Rowe, Mrs N Gorvin, Mrs A Burt, Mrs K Hann, Ms Sara Bevan, Professor M Brown and Mrs R Puddiphatt

**ALSO PRESENT**

Councillor Mr Brian Clemens, Mrs A Male (Clerk) and five members of the public.

**22-21 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

No apologies were required.

**22-22 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

- Councillors Mrs A Burt and Mrs K Shannon declared an interest in Planning Application No PA21/04559
- Councillor Mrs K Shannon declared an interest in Planning Application No PA21/00020.
- Councillor Mrs K Shannon declared an interest in any discussions about the public toilets.

**22-23 DISPENSATION APPLICATIONS**

No applications had been received.

**22-24 INFORMATION AND COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

- The applicant for Planning Application No PA21/00020 spoke explaining that the proposed building was tucked away to the rear of other properties. She said that it was not financially viable for a young couple to purchase a property in the Cove and that they already had a business there which employed local people. The applicant's children attended the local school. There was room for the construction equipment to access the site and there would be no extra pressure on parking. They would deal with the Japanese Knotweed if required. There had been an application to alter the existing property to two dwellings but it had also not been financially viable and they wanted to stay in the cove with people coming to their business and then other local businesses. When asked about the site would be accessed, she replied that the equipment could be craned over. Also, the foundations of neighbouring properties would not be affected.

**22-25 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the meetings held on 19<sup>th</sup> May 2021 having been circulated, corrections previously requested by Councillor Professor M Brown having already been made and corrections at Minutes 22-30 and 22-32 included, it was resolved that they should be signed as a true and correct record.

**22-26 PUBLIC TOILETS**

- Councillor Clemens told councillors that Iain Thompson (Cornwall Council) was now responsible for providing the Heads of Terms but he was presently on leave. James Hardy (Cornwall Council) would be involved with the G7 summit the following week but was hoping to arrange a site visit at the toilets with the Chairman, clerk and Councillor Clemens. When asked whether this would be within the next two weeks, Councillor Clemens replied that he hoped so.
- There were concerns over the toilets in the harbour car park still being closed and the rubbish overflowing from the bin. The Chairman pointed out that this was not the parish

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council's responsibility but councillors stated that there had been a lot of comments from the public. Councillor Mrs Hann commented that there had been Harbour Commission meeting but she had not been invited to attend. It was suggested that Councillor Mrs Hann call the chairman of the Harbour Commissioners on his home number. It was said that the harbour car park and toilets were still a part of the community so the parish council should be pro-active in helping to sort out the problem. Councillor Mrs Shannon offered to contact the manager who would deal with contracts or a couple of the members of the committee. She went on to give an explanation of the details of trade agreements with Biffa and the problems of holiday lets using the bins. There was a comment about camper vans staying overnight and using the bins. Councillor Clemens reported similar problems in St Just. Having established that the parish council was not responsible for emptying any bins, it was agreed to have a page on the website explaining the different bins, which are private and which are emptied on which days plus some signage to tell members of the public to take away their rubbish if the bin was full. There could also be a link on the website for Facebook users. Councillor Mrs R Puddiphatt was tasked with sourcing appropriate signage and prices while Councillor Kath Shannon would check whether planning permission would be required.

#### **22-27 PLAYGROUND**

Councillor Mrs Hann had tried to find out how the donated money had been spent and would report this at the next meeting. There was a question of whether S137 money could be used for the playground and, while the clerk was checking, it was decided to ask James Hardy. Councillor Mrs Hann, being a School Governor, would check the lease.

#### **22-28 STANDING ORDERS**

A draft copy had been sent to councillors but discrepancies with the template were brought to the attention of councillors so it was decided to postpone this matter until the next meeting. In the meantime, it was suggested that a committee be established for policies. It was decided that the members would be Councillors Mrs Gorvin, Mrs Shannon, Mrs Puddiphatt and Mrs Burt. Councillor Clemens pointed out that, as the Proper Officer of the Council, the clerk would have to be present at committee meetings and she was already short of time so the Chairman would ask the advice of Cornwall Association of Local Councils (CALC) re hours and rate of pay. It was made evident that there were five standard policies on the website, unfortunately headed 'St Buryan' for which the clerk apologised, and that there should be more. The clerk would check out the mandatory policies for the next meeting.

#### **22-29 ENFORCEMENT OFFICER**

The clerk informed members that St Levan, Sancreed and St Buryan Parish Councils had not held a meeting since being contacted and the clerk to St Just Town Council had been on holiday.

#### **22-30 PLANNING**

##### **• Planning Applications**

- PA21/04559 – Mr and Mrs Barker - Removal of conservatory and replacement with single storey extension, terrace and sunken patio area at Gwella, Mayon Green, Sennen. It was agreed not to offer any objections.
- PA21/00020 – Mr Sam Smart - Demolition of cabin and construction of annexe at Blue Lagoon, Road From Upton Lodge To Sennen Cove Lifeboat Station, Sennen Cove. It was

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agreed not to offer any objection but to comment that the flats at Old Success and a property at the further end of the cove have already set a precedent.

- **Decisions and Other**

- PA21/01365 - Mr J Robertson - Construction of Two Holiday units in Garden at Sennen Rise, Mayon Farm Sennen – Refused.
- PA21/02886 - Ben Weller - Replacement of doors, windows and rainwater goods at Carnacalla, A30 From Lands End To Sennen Post Office, Sennen -Approved with conditions.
- PA21/03677 - Mr And Mrs Pownall - First floor extension and ground floor sun room at North Rocks, Sunny Corner Lane, Sennen. Approved with conditions.
- PA21/03809 – Mr and Mrs Dominic and Martha Lay - Non material amendment in relation to Decision Notice PA20/04525 dated 10.08.2020 - Sunny Bank Cottage, A30 From Mayon Green To Junction B3306, Sennen. Approved with conditions.

- **Correspondence and other matters**

- Site visits were suggested, perhaps by a committee. The Chairman expressed the opinion that, as a council, this was not considered necessary because councillors knew the area and could visit the site themselves. Councillor Clemens suggested a simple internet search or contacting the divisional member. He considered that a committee could cause more problems than save and reminded all councillors not to pre-determine and that, if they were to visit the site, to do so as member of the public rather than a councillor.
- Local Council Planning Induction Training – Three training dates were being offered with places for two councillors available at each session. The event on 22<sup>nd</sup> June (National, Local and Neighbourhood Planning Policy) would be attended by Councillors Mrs Gorvin and Mrs Hann. The event on 23<sup>rd</sup> June (Development Management and Getting Involved) would be attended by Councillors Mrs Rowe and Mrs Burt with Councillor Mrs Hann as back-up. The event on 24<sup>th</sup> June (Enforcement and Compliance and Appeals) would be attended by Councillors Mrs Burt and Ms Bevan.

- **Neighbourhood Development Plan**

Councillor Professor Brown, Chairman of the Steering Committee, informed members that the first draft of the questionnaire had been sent out to the members of the Steering Group who had been divided in their opinion, some feeling that it was too long and others that it was too short. One member considered that a yes/no reply would be preferable but they were not going down that route. A copy of the fuller version was given to the councillors to take home, work through and return to Councillor Professor Brown in one to two weeks for her to collate, though it was agreed that they could be dropped into Costcutter. It had been checked with the Post Office about a post-drop to Sennen parish addresses but that could only be done to the post code so they had returned to the idea of a manual drop. The question of holiday lets had been raised and it was thought better to waste a few questionnaires and deliver to every address. Councillors were asked to put their views on distribution on the back of the form.

#### 22-31 **FOOTPATHS AND HIGHWAYS**

- Councillor Clemens reported that he had asked Rupert Spencer (Highways Manager) about improving the rumble strips at both ends of the village but he had been told that the budget was stretched. He was hoping that the new administration might prioritise matters differently.
- A suggestion of additional speed cushions on the western side of the mini roundabout was answered by the regulations not allowing them to be installed.

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- The national 'Twenty is Plenty' campaign was discussed and Councillor Clemens told members that a sign with that wording below the 30mph road sign had worked in some places. He also said that Speedwatch had started up again but they needed volunteers and it was felt that if it were publicised more people would take part. It was suggested that the signs could also be installed on the 40mph signs at Trevescan. Councillor Clemens offered to investigate the signs and how to obtain them.
- A question was asked about how the parish was consulted by Cornwall Council on highways priorities and Councillor Clemens told members that, if they had a safety issue, it should be done as a matter of priority but they could apply for funding through the Community Network Panel and perhaps put some Sennen money towards the project; James Hardy (CC) could be informed in advance. It was asked whether the parish council had a set of safety criteria which, being regulation driven it was not possible, so the matter should be passed onto Councillor Clemens. The 'Report It' page could also be used and the more people that reported an issue, the more attention it would attract.
- Councillor Angove reported that he was not happy with new bridge and neither was Phil Wearne (Cormac) so another visit was required to sort the matter.
- Councillor Angove also reported that Stonechair Lane had been inspected but had not been deemed to be dangerous. Councillors disagreed with this.
- There was a discussion about the Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS) having been informed by Sancreed Parish Council that they had installed their own. They had also said that the insurance policy required checking to ensure that any volunteer carrying out the work was covered. The clerk had already confirmed this. The Chairman was concerned that there were a fair number of risks but a member of the public, accustomed to working on the highway was suggested. It was felt that it was imperative to get the VAS installed so it was agreed that Councillor Mrs Puddiphatt would make the request. It was also agreed that, if there was a charge, the maximum that would be paid without further agreement would be £100.
- It was pointed out that there were only three or four years to make a report on footpaths so it should go on the next agenda.

#### **22-32 WEBSITE AND EMAIL ADDRESSES**

Due to the short period of time between meetings, the clerk had not had time to discuss this matter with Hugo Fox. It was reported that there was a local website designed who could handle the website at a lower cost. There was an opinion that Hugo Fox used the same template for all its sites and the choice was questioned. The Chairman explained that it managed the sites and represented so many councils throughout the country. Councillor Ms Bevan informed members that she had had experience with the company that presently hosted the parish council website and that it was easy to update and add pages. It was agreed to leave the website as it was at the moment and that Councillor Ms Bevan would head it with the clerk supplying information. It was suggested that the new email address would be sennenpc@gmail.com.

#### **22-33 REPORTS FROM EXTERNAL MEETINGS AND CORRESPONDENCE**

- West Penwith Community Network Panel, Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2021 – Councillor Mrs Shannon had attended and gave a report which had also been circulated to councillors. The meeting had been chaired by Councillor Brian Clemens with James Hardy in attendance. Councillor Clemens had explained the aims of the Community Network Panel. James Hardy had not had much to tell about the Highways Scheme but the yellow lines in Sennen Cove had been scheduled in. There was a report on the ongoing Covid

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Response from James Hardy. Sennen Beach toilets were still on the list of devolution projects. The Government had announced funding following the G7 Summit.

- An email had been received informing councillors that the Code of Conduct training was now available online and that any councillors taking the training this way should let the clerk know.
- No further update had been received about training with St Just Town Council.

#### **22-34 FINANCE**

- Signatories on the bank account – Following an abortive visit to the bank in Penzance and long waits on the telephone which went unanswered, this matter had not yet been sorted. Everybody awaiting payment had been informed. Councillors authorised the clerk to speak to the bank about account matters.
- Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021, Annual Governance Statement 2020/21 and Accounting Statements 2020/21 – As the accounts had not returned from the internal auditor these were not decided upon.
- Payments were agreed for payment from the Parish Council account
  - Ryan Jackson - £1032.00
  - Matt Lowe - £1032.00
  - TWM - £4002.20

The varying amounts that the footpath contractors were paid each month was questioned and it was explained that it depended upon how much work they had carried out. Invoices were generally available at meetings for perusal.

- Contribution for funding towards St Just Skate Park – The application form had not been returned.

#### **22-35 REPORT FROM DIVISIONAL MEMBER**

- Councillor Clemens reported that, as expected, he had been very busy since the last meeting.
- With regards the mini roundabout at the top of Cove Road, Highways had very little funds at present and, until the new budget has been allocated, the Local Highways Inspector would monitor the situation.
- Sancreed Parish Council had a very competent councillor who might be able to assist in getting the best use from the one in Sennen (the clerk pointed out that they were different makes with different capabilities).
- He thanked councillors who attended the Network Panel meeting that was held on Microsoft Teams and hoped they gained some insight into what could be achieved when a number of councils worked together.
- Following the new Council Leader's announcement that a review of Network Panels would take place, Councillor Clemens was glad to say that the new administration had said that their intention was to strengthen the panels.
- With regards to committee allocations, he had been selected to sit on the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee and would be a substitute member on Central Sub-Area Planning Committee, West Sub-Area Planning Committee, Strategic Planning Committee and Cornwall Inshore Fisheries Conservation Authority (CIFCA).
- He said that he was in no doubt that there would be many changes under the new administration but that he was confident that the opposition groups had a very strong group of councillors who seemed to have a good working relationship at present to form a strong opposition to the advantage of the electorate.

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**22-36 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**

No councillor had anything to report.

**22-37 ITEMS FOR INCLUSION ON THE NEXT MONTHS AGENDA**

- Clerk's hours.
- Vehicle Activated Sign Bid.

**22-38 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting would be held on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2021 in Sennen Churchtown Hall at 7pm.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.20pm

Chairman  
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DRAFT