

5th March 2021

MINUTES OF THE VIRTUAL MEETING OF SENNEN PARISH COUNCIL HELD VIA ZOOM ON FRIDAY 5TH MARCH 2021 AT 7.00PM.

PRESENT

Councillors Mr C Angove (Chairman), Mr A Tonkin, Mr C McClary, Mr A Semmens, and Mr A Rowe.

ALSO PRESENT

Councillor Mrs Helen Hawkins, Zoe Hall (Community & Civil Parking Enforcement Officer, Cornwall Council), Mrs A Male (Clerk) and nine members of the public.

21-140 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors Mr A Thomas who was working and Mr D Angove who had no internet access due to lockdown.

21-141 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Mr A Tonkin declared an interest in Planning Application No PA21/01053.

21-142 DISPENSATION APPLICATIONS

No applications had been received.

21-143 INFORMATION AND COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

- A member of the public spoke about Planning Application No PA21/00978 saying that it would be a discrete infill property and would be a positive addition to Sunny Corner Lane.
- Another member of the public spoke about Planning Application No PA21/00020 pointing out that the Cornwall AONB comments had been reviewed, the materials would help the building to blend in, the building was tucked away to the rear of the main property and light spill would be contained. He also disputed the comments of the neighbours: no additional parking would be required; there were no issues with knotweed. There was a genuine need for the annex and would provide a family home that was financially viable while they continued to work in the cove and their children attended the local school.

21-144 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 5th February 2021 having been circulated, it was resolved that they should be signed as a true and correct record.

21-145 ENFORCEMENT OFFICER – To receive information

Zoe Hall introduced herself as the Community & Civil Parking Enforcement Officer and gave a short presentation. She told councillors that she looked after all the Civil Enforcement Officers and that her department also carried out some environment protection work with the use of multi-skilled officers. Between thirty and forty thousand Penalty Charge Notices were issued each year which included PCNs for abandoned vehicles and parking enforcement. Zoe Hall's team worked under the Traffic Act 2004 and are responsible for enforcing all on street car parks and could give advice about parking. They also dealt with the ticket machines in the car parks. They could not direct traffic or issue a PCN when a vehicle was causing an obstruction because that remained an offence and was within the Police's remit. They also could not remove vehicles but could assist with the putting notices on and providing information on abandoned vehicles. They visited schools and carried out 'Junior Life Skills'. Zoe Hall explained that they were community led and wanted to receive

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information about local hotspots for parking and abandoned vehicles so would like feedback about these and areas of congestion. It was pointed out to Zoe Hall that councillors felt that the CEOs were not visiting enough in rural areas, particularly in Sennen Cove, and were not there enough to deter anti-social parking and parking on double yellow lines. Zoe Hall replied that the patrols did visit twice a week in the summer but not so much in the winter because some of the restrictions were seasonal but would like to know whether they were coming at the right times and going to the right areas. Also, would the council like to enter into a trial for a month to see whether an increase in patrols or a change of the times would make any difference and then talk about whether this would be liked on a more permanent basis through a service level agreement. It was thought that the main area to target was the cove, though the frequency was about right, the timing was difficult because weather conditions such as when there was a storm, affected the number of people visiting and even with seasonal parking restrictions, that road could become very busy. Zoe Hall said that it was difficult to patrol around the weather but perhaps somebody could let them know in the morning if that were likely and they could divert a patrol, if there was one in the area, but to please do that via the inbox. The scope of funding an enforcement officer along with St Just and St Levan was queried. The problem with the parking by Old Success was mentioned and Zoe Hall said that she understood the problem with the movement of vehicles in and out of the car parks but it was pointed out to her that it could be causing problems for the emergency services. Zoe Hall suggested forming a sub-committee or working party that a local officer could be invited to attend so that these issues could be fed back or they could just be sent via the email address and felt that things could be improved with a bit of intel. It was put to Zoe Hall that there could be somebody locally, under the parish guise, who could be trained to issue tickets for dog fouling etc. She said that any officer of the council could be trained to use a 'report it' card that would be sent to the Environmental Protection Team or the council could employ its own officer to do environmental crime such as dogs on beaches, littering and dog fouling but the council could not employ somebody to do the parking restrictions because legislation dictated that only somebody employed by Cornwall Council could do that but her team had people who could do both. Zoe Hall also suggested that a walk around with one of her officers could be informative and useful. A suggestion that anybody, such as a resident of the cove, could send her department information was well received. The question of people parking in laybys was raised and Zoe Hall said that nothing could be done for the sort of laybys that had no signage but if the parking were obstructing the highway it was a police matter and any highway parking infringements should be reported to her. In fact, if there was any doubt about parking issues, let her know and she would pass the matter on.

Zoe Hall was thanked and left the meeting

Two members of the public left the meeting.

21-146 UPCOMING ELECTIONS

It was reported that it was quite likely that there would be an election for the parish council and there was a query about how nomination packs could be obtained. The clerk pointed out that an email had been sent to all councillors with the relevant information and that she would be sent some to distribute. Councillor Mrs Hawkins informed councillors that it looked as though forms could be checked online and then handed in.

21-147 PUBLIC TOILETS

- The clerk reported that she had made no headway with getting information from James Hardy about Mike Beckitt's replacement or anything else. She had also heard nothing

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from Catriona Smith but was hoping that Councillor Mrs Hawkins had had better luck when she spoke to Catriona Smith.

- It was reported that the Chairman, Councillor Alan Thomas, had accepted an offer of painting the exterior of the toilet block, free of charge. Some councillors were able to report that this had already been done. It was agreed to thank the person involved.
- Councillors were updated on the water situation. Councillor Adrian Semmens had been contacted by South West Water Business, now known as Source, because it had come to light that no water usage had been reported since 2019 so he had explained the situation. No charges had been billed apart from the standing charge which, he believed, had been paid by Cornwall Council but they were now disputing that the bill was theirs so SWW were going to come and investigate where the water was coming from and whether the meter was in the appropriate place, Also, the water used had to be paid for by somebody or the supply would be cut off. This should be used as leverage to get Cornwall Council to deal with their responsibilities. Some councillors felt that this was putting the parish council in a dangerous position and a bill for several thousands of pounds might be expected. Councillor Semmens pointed out that if the council had not done what they had done and stopped the leak, a similar, if not larger, bill would have been sent and Cornwall Council would still not have repaired the leak; Cornwall Council had not taken responsibility. It was suggested that the water was turned off, the toilet block locked and the keys handed back to Cornwall Council. Then, when Cornwall Council had sorted out everything, the parish council could consider taking them on again but it was pointed out that it would not make any difference because Cornwall Council would be just as happy to see them shut. Councillor Mrs Hawkins said that she thought that the lease was being sent straight to James Hardy and was unaware that it had not done so. Councillor Mrs Hawkins was asked to find somebody in Cornwall Council who was responsible for making sure that staff were doing the jobs that we are paying them for because it has taken them over five years to sort the lease. Councillor Mrs Hawkins said that she would start at the top. There were mixed feelings about whether the toilets should be closed but it was decided to carry on with chasing Cornwall Council for a further short time. It was also pointed out that, while this was going on, the parish council's employee was having to deal with angry and abusive members of the public complaining about the state of the toilets. Councillor Mrs Hawkins was asked to get somebody to contact the Chairman or the clerk to get the matter resolved within the next week.

21-148 PLAYGROUND

It was brought to the attention of the councillors that two members of the public had raised in excess of £2000 for playground equipment and it was agreed that a letter of thanks be sent to each of them.

21-149 COUNCIL WEBSITE

- The clerk had started work on the trial with Hugo Fox but reported that it would take a while to set it all up.
- An example of a form for S137 applications had been sent to councillors who were happy with the idea and it was agreed that the packs would be available from the clerk until the form was accessible on the website.

21-150 NOTICEBOARD

Councillors were informed that the noticeboard was now in its new position.

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21-151 CLIMATE EMERGENCY DEVELOPMENT PLAN DOCUMENT (DPD) PRE-SUBMISSION DRAFT

It was agreed not to make any comments.

21-152 PLANNING

- **Planning Applications**

- 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. Following discussions around the remarks from Cornwall AONB and the restricted parking but the need for housing for people working locally, it was agreed to object to the application, commenting that the proposed property was too big and too aggressive for the cove and would set a precedent for properties that are unlike the vernacular. Although the parish council understood this family's need for the accommodation, houses should be being built for them to move into
- PA21/00978 - Mr / Mrs Matt / Nicola Vaudin / Du Pisanie - Single storey infill dwelling at Land Adj To Roseland, Sunny Corner Lane, Sennen. It was agreed to object to this application commenting that it did not enhance the AONB.
- PA21/01053 – Mr and Mrs Andrew Tonkin - Single storey side extension and replacement roof finish at 8 Mayon Farm, Sennen. It was agreed not to offer any objections.
- PA21/01085 – Mr M Bridges - Application for planning consent for the expansion of existing camping use. at Trevescan Farm, Trevescan, Sennen. It was agreed not to offer any objections but to make the comment that some form of screening along A30 would be appreciated so that tents and caravans are not the first view of the Lands End experienced.

- **Decisions and Other**

- A list of decisions was read out.

- **Correspondence and other matters**

- Parking at Old Success – Councillor Tonkin had reported this matter on the enforcement portal again and Councillor Mrs Hawkins said that she would check on its progress.

- **Neighbourhood Development Plan**

Councillor McClary reported that not a lot had happened in the last month and as soon as there was something more definite, he would report it. However, Michelle Brown, Chairman of the Steering Committee, was able to let councillors know that the next step would be a meeting with James Hardy but she had had no feedback from him. However, technically they did not need that meeting because he had attended an earlier public meeting so she was proposing that they move on to the next step, to agree terms of reference and then to draw up a draft questionnaire for the Parish Council's consideration. Another step would be to agree a budget, the maximum of which would be £5000 but, realistically, they would be looking for £2000 or £3000 and that they would need, empowering them to obtain any grant input which would enable them to commission the Parish Character Assessment, Landscape Assessment and Housing Need Assessment. It had also been agreed that there would be a website presence but, in the meantime, they had a Facebook page.

21-153 FOOTPATHS AND HIGHWAYS

- A report had been received from Councillor D Angove that the fencing on Cove Road had been finished, the fencing opposite the school was a separate issue so additional money was required to replace the three or four posts, the path across the green had gone out to tender (probably Cormac) so it was on the move, nothing more had been heard about

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Marias Lane but he was not sure about Stonechair Lane. He had spoken to Colin Bayes and Phil Maund about these matters.

- The tarmac on Atlantic Crescent had been done but the clerk would chase the sign.
- It was reported that there had been an accident at the top of Cove Road. Previous to the accident, a report had been submitted online about the potholes at this site. A cyclist had hit one of the potholes and this had led to the use of resources such as the land ambulance and the Cornwall Air Ambulance but if a repair had been carried out in the two weeks between the report and the accident, the accident probably would not have happened. Although the roundabout had been patched up since the accident, Councillor Mrs Hawkins had received a reply from Highways saying that only minor defects had been detected and repaired but they were aware that the surface was degrading and this would be added to the resurfacing schedule and the road would be inspected again during the monthly inspection. It was pointed out that the cyclist would probably now take action against the Highways Authority, the cost of which would be borne by the taxpayer whereas some action in the first place could have avoided all of this. It was reported that, as long as Cornwall Council had carried out the inspection and logged the defect, they had a period of time to remedy it. In this case, Cornwall Council did do the repairs within that timescale but not before the accident had happened.
- Another defect had been reported. The first speed cushion was subsiding and cracking away and the same response had been received.
- The faded white lines between Sennen and Penzance had also been reported, along with the defective cats' eyes.
- There was flooding again at Newshop.
- Councillor Helen Hawkins felt that the parish council needed to reply to Highways on these issues and would let the clerk know who to contact.

21-154 REPORTS FROM EXTERNAL MEETINGS AND CORRESPONDENCE

- Police Liaison Group Meeting, Thursday 18th February 2021 – No councillor had attended but Councillor Mrs Hawkins reported that most of the meeting was about the policing of the G7 Summit. Also, Cornwall Council were looking into the parking in laybys.

21-155 FINANCE

- Payments were agreed for payment from the Parish Council account
 - Cormac Solutions Ltd - £656.10
 - Ryan Jackson - £172.00
 - Matt Lowe - £301.00
 - Truro and Penwith Academy Trust - £400.00
 - Alexis Male re Microsoft - £20.00

21-156 REPORT FROM DIVISIONAL MEMBER

- Councillor Mrs Hawkins had nothing more to report.

21-157 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

- No councillor had anything to report.

21-158 ITEMS FOR INCLUSION ON THE NEXT MONTHS AGENDA

- Funding for Neighbourhood Development Plan.

21-159 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting would be held virtually on Friday 9th April 2021 and the Annual Meeting would be held on Friday 14th May 2021 but that meeting might not be held virtually.

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There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.38pm

Chairman
9th April 2021