

Mullion Parish Council Meeting held on **Tuesday 17 April 2012** at 7.00pm at The Schoolroom, Methodist Chapel, Mullion

Councillors Present

A V Gilbert
Mrs S Ireland
J T Lang (Chairman)

R Willey
C Williams

Five members of the public were also in attendance.

The Chairman advised everyone present of the fire procedures.

1. Public Session

A representative from Superfast Broadband attended the meeting and showed a short presentation on the availability in Mullion. Further information can be found at www.superfastcornwall.org. It may be possible for a skills course to be run in the village, and interested people were asked to contact the company directly.

2. Police Report

The Chairman advised the meeting of the Police Report as attached to these minutes. The Clerk also advised the meeting that rogue businessmen were operating in the area who were gaining trust in the elderly and vulnerable before undertaking work that they had not been given permission for. This then ended with a much larger invoice for the property owner than was originally agreed. If anyone encounters such issues, please contact the Police immediately.

3. Apologies

Councillors Mrs C Rule, C Rule, P Wilkins and D Williams had submitted their apologies to the meeting.

4. Minutes

It was proposed by Councillor C Williams, seconded by Councillor Mrs S Ireland and RESOLVED that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 20 March 2012 be approved as a true record and be duly signed by the Chairman.

5. Declarations of Interest

None received.

6. Planning

Following consideration by Councillors of Planning Applications received from Cornwall Council, the following recommendations were made:

As the first three planning applications were for the same property and formed part of the same development, it was decided to discuss the applications together and make a decision on them collectively.

PA11/10218 - Cornwall Council - Predannack Manor, Predannack - Construction of a general purpose building

PA11/10211 – Cornwall Council - Predannack Manor, Predannack – Erection of an agricultural building and new access track

PA11/10224 - Mr Andrew Lawrence - Predannack Manor, Predannack - Erection of general purpose farm building

Two letters of objection had been copied to the Parish Council for their information.

Concern was raised regarding the democratic decision making process in relation to these planning applications. Cornwall Council was not only the land owner and planning applicant, but also the planning application decision maker. The Clerk was requested to ask Cornwall Council if this was acceptable practice or whether an independent body ought to be consulted.

The applications were similar to three planning applications received in July 2011, albeit that the location of the barns had been moved to an adjoining field. It was again stated that the application site fell within an Area of Great Scientific Value, and within an AONB whilst being located close to the Heritage coast.

Since the planning applications submitted in July 2011 (two of which are shown as still 'pending consideration' on the Cornwall Council website) the tenant farmer had taken over the use of many existing buildings on site. If these buildings were to form part of his tenancy, there would be no need to erect further modern barns at the farm. It was thought that these barns could not be used permanently as Cornwall Council intended to convert the existing stone and cob built buildings into residential accommodation. The Parish Council was of the opinion that if this was indeed the intention of Cornwall Council, the above planning application should form part of a larger development plan for Predannack Manor Farm. The redevelopment of the site should be looked at as a whole so that the local community has an input into the future of the area.

It was proposed by Councillor C Williams, seconded by Councillor R Willey and unanimously RESOLVED to object to the above planning applications on the following grounds:-

- Close to the Heritage coast and within an Area of Great Scientific Value, and within an AONB which Cornwall Council have a duty to conserve and enhance
- The height of the proposed barns is not in keeping with the surrounding landscape
- Highly visible from the South West Coast path, inland footpaths and from much of the surrounding area to a significant distance
- Unsuitable location within the Farm, the exposed position would be open to the elements and would be damaging to machinery, buildings and stored items
- The proposed access lane to the barns was situated on an existing footpath and in an area that was subject to large amount of flooding during wet weather

- The proposed barns would be overbearing in the area and were deemed unnecessary to the existing working farm.

Cornwall Council were also asked to confirm that Planning Application numbers PA11/03961, PA11/04035 and PA11/03952 for agricultural buildings on the site could be withdrawn with immediate effect as currently there are applications valid for five barns at the Farm.

The Chairman advised the meeting of the following planning decisions received from Cornwall Council:

PA12/01016 – Openreach - Junction Of Trembel Lane and Tregellas Road, Land Adjacent To Oasis, Tregellas Road - Installation of green metal modular cabinet - Prior approval not required

PA12/00832 – Mr & Mrs G Cattran - Newton Farm Riding Stables, Polhorman Lane - Erection of an agricultural dwelling – Approved

The Clerk had noticed on the Cornwall Council website that pre-application advice was being sought for 20 proposed dwellings at a site located in the Meaver Road area. The Planning Officer concerned had confirmed that the agent had been sent a message of caution in relation to the pre-application advice and had suggested that he get in touch with the Parish Council in the first instance to discuss in more detail. The Senior Planning Officer (Affordable Housing) also suggested that he met with the Parish Council to undertake site visits in the village to identify potential sites for housing. A meeting would be set up and members would be advised of the details in due course.

7. Report from Cornwall Councillor Mrs C Rule

Cornwall Councillor Mrs C Rule had sent her apologies to the meeting and had not submitted a report.

It was noted that some of the recycling bins had been removed from the Forge Car Park. Councillor Mrs C Rule was liaising with Officers at Cornwall Council in an attempt to get the bins reinstated.

8. Chairman and Clerk Comments

Due to the March meeting of the Parish Council being moved to the Centenary Room in the Methodist Chapel, Councillors and members of the public were asked to give their opinion on their preferred choice of room. It was agreed that the Centenary Room provided much better acoustics for everyone. The Clerk was asked to speak to the Bookings Officer; to ascertain whether the Parish Council could use the Centenary Room for their monthly meetings starting with the meeting in June 2012, as the Annual Meeting in May was often well attended and the larger room would be necessary.

9. Public Rights of Way

Following the receipt of the depositions to the Planning Inspectorate regarding the Footpath Diversion Order on path 37, it was agreed that Mullion Parish Council should approve a statement that could be read out at the inquiry to be held in May. The Chairman had written a draft statement. It was proposed by Councillor R Willey, seconded by Councillor Mrs S Ireland

and unanimously RESOLVED to circulate the draft statement to all Councillors prior to the final statement being sent to the Planning Inspector at the beginning of next week. This statement would be the Parish Council's official statement in this case.

Further to the report of part of Garro Lane being 'land grabbed' and the investigation by Cornwall Council into the allegation, it had been discovered that the lane did not form part of the Public Rights of Way network. Cornwall Council was therefore unable to take any action over the land grabbing and it was suggested that a DMMO was applied for by Mullion Parish Council. They did however agree to send the Enforcement Officer to the property and to back up that visit with a letter to the land owner so that the issue was logged in their system. Councillors expressed disappointment at this response, and instructed the Clerk to contact the Public Rights of Way Team again.

Councillor R Willey had held several recent discussions with employees of Cory regarding the location of the dig bins in Mullion. It was hoped that they would now be emptied on a regular basis.

10. Public Open Spaces

The Clerk had received a request from Western Power Distribution to prune the tops of the trees in the Park to stop them touching the electric cables situated overhead. As the works were a statutory obligation on Western Power Distribution, the Clerk had signed the permission report form on behalf of the Parish Council. No costs or liability would be placed on the Parish Council and all cuttings would be chipped and removed from the site.

A letter had been received from Mullion Age Concern requesting permission to park the minibus in Tremenhee Carp Park overnight and between visits. It was proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Councillor Mrs S Ireland and RESOLVED to give permission to Mullion Age Concern to park the minibus in the car park, although no specific parking space would be allocated to the vehicle.

Following a complaint from a local resident and owner of a B&B business, the Chairman agreed to speak to the local riding stables regarding horse manure that was being deposited on Polurrian Beach.

The Clerk advised the meeting that the annual quote from Cornwall Council for cutting the grass in the Cemetery and Playing Field had been received. The Cemetery would cost £5,475.53 plus VAT and the playing field £1,481.61 plus VAT. Councillors agreed that the work had always been undertaken regularly and to a high standard in the past.

It was proposed by Councillor C Williams, seconded by Councillor Mrs S Ireland and RESOLVED to accept Cornwall Council's quote to cut the grass in the Cemetery and Playing Field for the forthcoming year.

Following the recent distribution of allotment tenancy agreements and covering letters regarding the amount of water being used at the allotments, the Clerk had been contacted by some of the tenancy holders. They were concerned that the tap was being used by unauthorised people and suggested that the tap be locked so that a more accurate amount of water usage could be established.

The Clerk had sourced a lockable outside garden tap lock online which could be purchased for £8.50. Seven additional keys would need to be cut and distributed to the allotment tenants prior to the lock being fitted. It was agreed that this course of action should be trialled in the first instance.

Further to the waste contract being taken over by Cory Environmental, collections were being missed. The direct email for reporting missed collections was twecpanda@cornwall.gov.uk

11. Highways Issues

It was noted that the white pecked lines outlining the parking bays in Churchtown had still not been painted. The Clerk was asked to contact Councillor Mrs C Rule in this regard.

It was reported that the drain located beside the 'Scissorhouse' in Churchtown was blocked again. The Clerk was asked to report this matter.

12. Annual Subscription to Cornwall Association of Local Councils

The annual subscription to the Cornwall Association of Local Councils was up for renewal. The annual fee, which included subscription to the National Association of Local Councils, was £482.91 including VAT. It was proposed by Councillor R Willey, seconded by the Chairman and RESOLVED to subscribe to the Cornwall Association of Local Councils.

13. Election to fill the Councillor Vacancy

The Clerk advised the meeting of the 5 candidates that were standing for election on Thursday 26 April 2012. She also advised that notices were being erected around the village and it was suggested that a press release was submitted to the local papers to ensure that electors knew of the election.

14. Public Conveniences

The Clerk had been contacted by the Network Manager, Peter Tatlow. Although some of the queries had been answered, many were still outstanding. More figures had been received and the Clerk was instructed to obtain answers to the outstanding questions before the requested business plan can be put together, if that was what the Council required. She was also asked to request the takeover of the Poldhu Car Park to help finance the provision of the toilets in the future.

15. LGA 1972, Section 137 Requests for Funding

A request for funding had been received from Mullion's Sunshine Cafe which was established for people who suffer from memory loss, dementia and Alzheimer's. It was proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Councillor C Williams and RESOLVED to grant the sum of £50.00 to the Sunshine Cafe.

A further request for funding had been received from Mullion's Jubilee Committee for assistance towards the total cost of hiring a marquee for the event to be held in St Mellan's Park. It was proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Councillor Mrs S Ireland and RESOLVED to grant the sum of £350.00 to the Jubilee Committee towards the cost of the marquee hire.

A coffee morning would be held on Saturday morning in the Chapel to raise further funds for the Jubilee Celebrations.

17. Finance and Accounts

It was proposed by Councillor R Willey, seconded by Councillor Mrs S Ireland and RESOLVED to confirm the accounts and to pay the invoices.

18. Other correspondence received

The Clerk advised the meeting of other correspondence received:-

- Following distribution of the Local Council Planning Training Programme, the Clerk asked for nominations to undertake the training. Some interest was shown, and the Clerk would submit the details to Planning.
- The Warm Me Up Project had been launched by Community Energy Plus to help alleviate fuel poverty. A poster would be displayed on the notice board.
- The Parish Council had received an invite to attend the Naming Ceremony and Service of Dedication of The Lizard's new Tamar class lifeboat on Saturday 5 May 2012. It was agreed that the Chairman and his Consort would represent the Parish Council at this event.
- Following the receipt of a questionnaire into current Polling arrangements in the district, it was agreed that the existing arrangements were best suited to the needs of the electors in Mullion.
- The Clerk advised the meeting of the contact details for commenting on the bus service in Mullion. Contact should firstly be made to the bus company, and a copy of that complaint should be sent to the Passenger Transport Unit at Cornwall Council (ptu@cornwall.gov.uk). The Bus Appeals Body can also be contacted at Bus Users UK, PO Box 119, Shepperton, Middlesex, TW17 8UX, 01932 232574 or enquiries@bususers.org or www.busappelasbody.co.uk

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.45pm.

Signed:

Chairman

Dated: