

**Mullion Parish Council Meeting** held on **Tuesday 21 January 2014** at **7.00pm** at The Centenary Room, Methodist Chapel, Churchtown, Mullion

## **Councillors Present**

D German  
I Harvey  
Mrs S Ireland  
J Lang (Chairman)

Mrs S Ormond (Vice Chairman)  
P Wilkins  
R Willey  
D Williams

Twenty four members of the public attended the meeting.

The Chairman opened the meeting, welcomed everyone and advised of the fire procedures.

Prior to the Agenda, the presentation of the “Ron Curnow Outstanding Contribution to Mullion Award” was made. The 2012 recipient of this Award was the late Mr Rex Bray and his wife, Mrs Rosemary Bray, graciously agreed to present the shield to the 2013 winner, Mrs Pauline Rowse. Passing the shield over, she remarked that she couldn’t think of anyone more worthy to receive the Award. Mrs Rowse also received a Cornish lapel pin and certificate from the Chairman, and flowers were presented to both ladies, while a Press photographer recorded the event.

Five members of the public then left the meeting.

### **1. Public Session**

No issues were raised

### **2. Police Report**

The Chairman advised the meeting of the Police Report for the month of December as attached to these minutes.

### **3. National Trust Report**

Justin Whitehouse, National Trust Ranger, attended the meeting to update the Parish Council on issues involving Mullion.

Mr Whitehouse advised the meeting that the recent storms which had battered much of the County, had caused damage to the Harbour in Mullion Cove. The National Trust had owned the Harbour since the 1940’s and had commissioned a study nearly 10 years ago to form a long term plan for the Harbour following earlier damage. Three options had been considered, the creation of an offshore breakwater, maintenance and repair of the Harbour as and when required and managed retreat.

It was decided that creation of an offshore breakwater would be too costly and it would be premature to exercise the managed retreat option, so it was decided that, in the short term, the Harbour would be maintained and repaired to a level. However should a “catastrophic event” occur, whether by storm, rising sea levels or a prohibitive increase in maintenance costs, the Trust may turn to managed retreat. Repairs were currently paid by Insurance claim, but the National Trust had to contribute a £10,000 excess. Each claim required the Trust to produce three quotations, which was a lengthy process every time. It was suggested that the upkeep of the Harbour had cost the National Trust approximately £1,000 per month over the past 10 years.

Mr Whitehouse stated that The National Trust was not abandoning the Harbour at Mullion Cove. Loss adjustors, engineers and building surveyors had been on site since the storms and had examined the visible parts of the harbour. Further assessment would take place during the low spring tide expected at the end of the month, when the outer walls of the Harbour would also be examined. 500 stones that had fallen from the walls into the harbour had already been retrieved by locals and volunteers, although it was thought that around 2,000 had been lost in total.

The western breakwater would be repaired in the very near future, using the same techniques as were used to repair the southern pier in the last two years. The southern breakwater was more vulnerable, and not so well built. Repairs would be undertaken with concrete on the non-visible parts of the wall, and with stone on the visible parts, as the entire structure was Listed. These works would be undertaken at Easter time, once Listed Building Consent had been obtained from Cornwall Council, and a contractor appointed.

A member of the public asked if an engineer had examined the well used cave at the Harbour. Concern was raised over the safety of the structure, and whether warning notices should be erected. Mr Whitehouse explained that the cave and cliffs would be examined before the peak season, and that the cliff path would need to be moved further in land due to a land slid on the cliff edge.

Concern was raised by a member of the public over the “delisting” of the Harbour following the occurrence of the catastrophic event. Mr Whitehouse explained that The Trust would have to apply to Cornwall Council for Listed Building Consent to not rebuild the structure. In relation to the other Listed Buildings in the Cove, it was noted that they were in situ prior to the Harbour being built and that the Harbour only provided a small amount of protection to the houses in the Cove.

In other matters, a new tenant had been acquired for Teneriffe Farm, who would manage the farm land and buildings on behalf of The National Trust. The campsite would be run separately, and it was thought that a planning application would be forthcoming in the near future to alter the license to allow occupation of the manager’s chalet year round; currently it could only be lived in for 11 months of the year. New paths around Teneriffe Farm had also been opened up for use by the public.

Councillor D Williams made enquiries in relation to the tender process for acquiring a new tenant at Teneriffe. Mr Whitehouse explained that the successful tenant had produced a high quality tender for another Trust farm at the Lizard which was unsuccessful, and it was felt that the tender was sufficient enough to be offered the tenancy for Teneriffe.

The Chairman thanked Mr Whitehouse for attending the meeting and providing a report. He also remarked that the Harbour was very precious and important not only to Mullion, but also the Lizard Peninsula, Cornwall and Internationally, both as a beauty spot, and as a tourist destination.

Ten members of the public left the meeting at this point.

#### **4. Absence**

Councillor Mrs C Rule had given her apologies to the meeting. Councillor A Gilbert was not in attendance.

#### **5. Minutes**

It was proposed by Councillor D Williams, seconded by Councillor P Wilkins and RESOLVED that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 17 December 2013 be approved as a true record and be duly signed by the Chairman.

#### **6. Declarations of Interest**

None received.

#### **7. Planning**

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

PA14/00044 – Mr & Mrs K Ellis – Lower Redenek, Trewoon Road – Proposed sunroom

This site was located within the development boundary and had received no comments from the public.

It was proposed by Councillor D Williams, seconded by Councillor I Harvey and RESOLVED to support his application.

PA14/00131 - Mr Richard Bray - Alma House, Churchtown - Proposed subdivision of property to form two dwelling houses

This site was located within the development boundary and had received no comments from the public.

It was proposed by Councillor D German, seconded by Councillor P Wilkins and RESOLVED to support his application.

The Chairman read out the following Decision Notices received from Cornwall Council:-

PA13/11010 -Mr M Case - 67 Laflouder Fields - Proposed extensions, alterations including roof lights and roof lowering – Approved

PA13/11011 - Dr J Case - 68 Laflouder Fields - Proposed extension, alterations and roof lowering - Approved

The Clerk advised the meeting that a meeting had been arranged by the Diocese of Plymouth to discuss the development of Land off Polurrian Road on Wednesday 29 January 2014 at 2pm at Helston Presbytery, Clodgey Lane. Councillors were invited to attend, and objectors to the development were also expected to be in attendance.

The Chairman stated that an appeal had been lodged following the refusal of PA13/07630 – Mr and Mrs J Larcombe - The Watch House, 1 Coastguard Cottages – Proposed detached garage with hobby room above. The Parish Council's original comments on the application would automatically be taken into account by the Inspector.

## **8. Report from Cornwall County Councillor Mrs C Rule**

Cornwall Councillor Mrs C Rule had submitted her apologies to the Parish Council and had not provided a report ahead of the meeting.

## **9. Chairman and Clerks Comments**

None.

## **10. Public Rights of Way**

It was noted that Bridleway 35 leading to Polurrian Beach had been closed off by Western Power Distribution due to maintenance being undertaken on the underground cables. The path was still closed off, and Councillors were asked to monitor the situation and to contact the Clerk if the issue hadn't been resolved within the next few weeks.

## **11. Public Open Spaces**

Councillor I Harvey confirmed that he would check that the Park was in a good condition.

Following the recent bad weather, the Clerk has asked a local Tree Surgeon to visit the park and provide a report to the Council on the condition of the trees. The Tree Surgeon visited the Park on Monday 13 January to inspect the trees. The following observations were made:

- The Park is bordered to the North boundary by x6 mature Monterey Cypress - these are in good health although some shearing has occurred during the recent storms. This is only superficial and visible in a small number of minor limbs. Work required: The damaged limbs should be removed, as in time they will die off and become a hazard.
- The West Boundary is bordered by x5 Lawson Cypress - Tree 3 (to the centre) has partly failed. One of the main stems has fallen into the park during a recent storm. The remainder of the tree has become less stable due to the wound from the sheared limb, and it was recommended to remove this tree for health and safety. Work Required: To clear limb and debris from the grassed area. To fell remaining tree, chip up material, log up tree and remove all from site.
- The South Boundary has various smaller deciduous trees along the border some of which have grown out over the grassed area - these main limbs could do with reducing by 50% to reduce lateral stress to the main stem.

These works are the current only urgent works required on this site, and it was thought that the cost involved would be somewhere in the region of £350.00. It was proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Councillor D German and RESOLVED to instruct the Tree Surgeon to undertake all of the suggested

work. Councillor D Williams offered to meet the Tree Surgeon on site to discuss the trees prior to the work being undertaken.

## **12. Highways**

It was noted that a significant pot hole had opened up at the junction of the A3083 and Mullion Holiday Park. The Clerk would report the issue.

## **13. Remembrance Day Parade**

The outgoing Chairman of the Mullion Branch of the RBL, Mr Tony Wiffin, attended the meeting and gave an update on the current situation. The Hall had been partially emptied, with historical memorabilia being passed to the Heritage Centre. Other items had been sold off and the Hall was awaiting a visit from the Property Manager in relation to the remaining items. Interested parties had been in contact with Mr Wiffin in relation to forming another branch of the Mullion RBL and discussions were ongoing. The Women's Section of the RBL may be willing to take on the organisation of the Remembrance parade, but would require assistance.

Mr Wiffin had prepared a folder of information in relation to the Parade that he wished to pass to the Parish Council for safekeeping. It was felt that at this stage, Mr Wiffin should keep hold of the folder until it was decided whether or not another Branch would be formed, or that the Women's Section were not in a position to organise the Parade. The Parish Council would await further information.

## **14. Mullion Cove and Harbour**

Following the Report given earlier by The National Trust, the Chairman asked the Council and members of the public to remain vigilant in relation to the maintenance and repair of the Harbour.

## **15. Emergency Plan**

Councillor R Willey had spent many hours researching the need for an Emergency Plan, and was of the opinion that the Plan was required in the event of life being in danger. Therefore a Plan could be drawn up that would be effected in certain circumstances, such as bad weather causing the village to be cut off from the surrounding areas. Councillors agreed with this, and discussion took place regarding co-ordinators and respite and control centre locations. Further discussion would take place at the next meeting, once Councillor Willey had undertaken more in depth research.

## **16. CPRE Membership**

It was proposed by Councillor R Willey, seconded by Councillor D Williams and RESOLVED to subscribe to the CPRE for the forthcoming year.

## **17. LGA 1972 requests for funding**

None received.

## **18. Finance and Accounts**

It was proposed by Councillor R Willey, seconded by Councillor I Harvey and RESOLVED to confirm the accounts and to pay the invoices.

**19. Other correspondence received**

None received.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.40pm.

Signed: .....  
**Chairman**

Dated: .....