

**Mullion Parish Council Meeting** held on **Tuesday 21 June 2016** at **7.00pm** in The Centenary Room, Methodist Chapel, Churchtown, Mullion

### **Councillors Present**

D German	Mrs C Rule
I Harvey (Vice Chairman)	Mrs L Skeites
J Lang (Chairman)	P Wilkins
Mrs S Ireland	R Willey
M Rowse	D Williams

Derek Thomas MP and five members of the public attended the meeting.

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

A presentation was made by the Chairman to Councillor Mrs C Rule to commemorate her 25 years of service to the Parish Council, and the village of Mullion.

### **1. Public Session**

Stewart Giles, a resident from Laflouder Lane, asked for residents of the lane to cut back overgrowth from their properties. He would supply the Clerk with a list of names and addresses for her to contact them.

Derek Thomas MP was welcomed to the meeting by the Chairman. Mr Thomas thanked the Parish Council for inviting him to attend, and apologised for not turning up at the previously arranged meeting. Mr Thomas stated that he had served on St Buryan Parish Council and Penwith District Council and was well aware of the issues surrounding this tier of Local Government.

Mr Thomas stated that there was no news on the Post Office situation, although he was keeping in touch with the Head of External Relations who had led the public meeting held in May. The Chairman advised the meeting that the Co-op had yet to submit a formal application to the Post Office as it was awaiting the outcome of the planning application before doing so. No other interested parties had put forward an expression of interest to take on the running of the Post Office.

Health and Social Care in Cornwall was a priority for Mr Thomas and it was hoped that several organisations could work together and pool funding and resources to provide a better service. Getting existing organisations to part with their money was proving difficult, but it was thought that progress was now being made. Cornwall Councillors Mrs C Rule thanked Mr Thomas for his input with the health and social care reform.

Mobile phone and internet access was being improved across Cornwall, and a substantial improvement should be seen within the next 12 months. The Isles of Scilly had the best internet access on any island in the world. Councillor R Willey stated that most of the Parish was unable to have mobile phone access and that internet speeds were very slow. Mr Thomas stated that by the next Election, Mullion

should see a vast improvement (and that was not a ploy for re-election!) Funding was available for Cornwall to upgrade their communication channels.

Councillor D German asked about the future of Helston Community Hospital. Mr Thomas was very confident that the future of the Community Helston was secure, and that it could possibly be expanding. It provided many services that alleviated the pressure on Treliske and West Cornwall Hospitals.

Concern was raised over the bus schedule and buses arriving late at Redruth Train Station which had led to users missing the connecting train. Old stock and buses too large for the roads were also mentioned. Cornwall Council and First, the network provider, were in the process of creating an Integrated Travel Policy for Cornwall.

The Chairman suggested the necessity for TB testing in Llamas. Although TB was relatively low key in Mullion at the current time, he had concerns over the need for llamas to be tested annually, as well as cattle. Mr Thomas said that he would speak to George Eustice MP, Minister of State for DEFRA.

Providing additional housing in Cornwall was high on the agenda for Central Government and Cornwall Council, although it was felt that the Parish Council understood the actual need for local need in Mullion. It was a concern that additional housing would be forced on villages in Cornwall that did not have the jobs or infrastructure to cope with the extra residents. The majority of Cornwall relied on tourist trade for their income, and the County was in danger of changing beyond recognition if the development continued to increase. Mr Thomas was happy to support the Parish Council on any development concerns that they had. There was concern over a change in government legislation which allowed housing developments of 10 and less to be immune from the provision of affordable dwellings. It was felt that in rural communities, the ratio should be 50% open market, and 50% affordable for all developments with more than one dwelling. Concern was also raised over legislation which enabled the Right to Buy Scheme, although Mr Thomas stated that no all landlords had to cooperate with that legislation, i.e. Community Land Trusts.

The Chairman thanked Mr Thomas for attending and invited him to stay for the remainder of the meeting.

## **2. Absence**

None.

## **3. Minutes**

It was proposed by Councillor D German, seconded by Councillor Mrs S Ireland and RESOLVED that the minutes of the Annual Parish Assembly and Annual Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 17 May 2016 be approved as a true record and be duly signed by the Chairman.

## **4. Declarations of Interest**

None.

## **5. Planning**

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

PA16/03994 - Mr R Froud - Land Adjacent to 14 Gwel An Garrek - Proposed new dwelling

This site had been left as a building plot following the completion of the housing development. Two objectors had commented online with concerns relating to overlooking.

It was proposed by Councillor D German, seconded by Councillor P Wilkins and RESOLVED to support this application. It was suggested that the Planning Officer looked at the orientation of the proposed windows to ensure that no overlooking would take place.

PA16/04284 - Mr Richard Bray - Alma House, Churchtown - Outline application for the construction of a dwelling on land to the rear of Alma House

Councillors felt that this application was an improvement on the previously approved planning permission for the site.

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

PA16/04222 – Mr R Gilbert – Halftides, Laflouder Lane – Replacement of the existing main house and the holiday cottage with a new main dwelling and holiday accommodation

Several written objections had been submitted to the Parish Council and to the Planning Department at Cornwall Council. The Clerk read the objections to the meeting, with concerns being raised about the access lane via Laflouder Lane, the possibility of Angrouse Lane being used, and the scale and appearance of the proposed dwellings.

A resident of Laflouder Lane, and close neighbour, raised his concerns over the condition of the lane and drainage issues, similar to those he raised over the Tresidder application. Large scale alterations were currently taking place to two properties on the lane and delivery vehicles had blocked the lane for over 45 minutes on one occasion recently, preventing vehicles and pedestrians from passing over the byway. Even with the creation of a Traffic Management Plan and the necessity for the lane to be returned to its existing condition, the resident had severe doubts that the applicant would fulfil his obligations.

A resident from Angrouse Lane had submitted an objection to the development following rumours circulating regarding the possibility of a new access lane being created across the field from Halftides to Angrouse Lane to allow the large delivery vehicles to access the site more easily. It was noted that Angrouse Lane was a designated footpath and that vehicular movement over the lane should be kept to an absolute minimum to prevent a conflict between pedestrians and drivers. Although nothing was mentioned in the planning application regarding a new access lane, the Planning Department had not given the resident a definitive answer.

The Parish Council continued to have serious concerns over the access along the byway known as Laflouder Lane. As previously mentioned, several large scale projects were already being undertaken on the lane which were creating difficulties for residents and users. Further down the lane, Tresidder had permission for a replacement dwelling which would create a huge amount of traffic. The demolition of Halftides would undoubtedly exacerbate the problem with the removal of so much material and the bringing of large scale plant and new materials on to the site. There was no other alternative option to access this site.

The proposed dwellings were not in keeping with the other properties along Laflouder Lane, many of which were built in the 1930's – 1950's. The drawings made the dwelling look like a dark, morbid institution which was massively larger than the existing property, with the proposed dwelling being created over four floors and in a horse shoe shape. A perfectly good house would be demolished to create something new simply because the applicant had the funds to do so, and for that reason the application would probably be approved due to Cornwall Council being scared of an appeal.

The valley in which the site sat is very precious to the parish, and the lane is privately owned. The reason that people wanted to live and visit the area was in danger of being destroyed due to these large scale developments taking place. The pre-application advice from Cornwall Council and the AONB Department was not positive toward the creation of this dwelling, as stated in the planning application documents. This proposal would completely change the character of the landscape in the valley which was located well within the AONB and close to the Heritage Coast and a SSSI.

It was suggested that the Planning Committee (should the application get that far) visits the site to see firsthand the difficulties of the access lane. Derek Thomas MP (who was present at the meeting) would contact the Planning Department to ensure a site visit took place. There would be no benefit to the rural economy in the creation of these dwellings and the removal of a perfectly good house did not support the health and well being policies.

The Chairman then asked for a proposal in support of the application. None was received.

It was then proposed by Councillor D German, seconded by Councillor D Williams and unanimously RESOLVED to object to this application for the reasons stated above.

PA16/04165 – Mr A Corden-Lloyd – Arcady, Laflouder Lane – Proposed first floor extension, alterations and external works

No comments had been received for this application.

It was proposed by Councillor P Wilkins, seconded by Councillor I Harvey and RESOLVED to support this application.

PA16/04887 – Mr P Skerrett – Tal An Vean, Polhorman Lane – Proposed extension and replacement of window to French doors

No comments had been received for this application.

It was proposed by Councillor D German, seconded by Councillor I Harvey and RESOLVED to support this application. There was one abstention.

PA16/01590 – Mr J De Sola Pinto – Gwelgwynyn, Gibbons Fields – Formation of two storey extension to form a four bedroom house. The extension is capable of use as an independent unit

The Applicant's son attended the meeting and advised that his father simply wished to create a bigger family home by adding two more bedrooms and a dining room. He stated that the extension would not be used as a separate unit of accommodation, but that he might take in B&B guests in the future.

The Clerk read a letter to the meeting which had been received from a neighbouring property, and there were two more objections online.

Concern was raised over the apparent creation of a semi detached house. An additional front door would be installed and the proposed layout had the capacity to be used entirely separately. The proposed extension would double the size of the existing dwelling in an area that had restricted access and very little outside amenity space, even before the proposed extension was built. The narrow access lane was a well used footway on a daily basis. There would be a considerable impact on the neighbours during and after the construction. It was considered to be a huge overdevelopment of the existing site.

The Chairman then asked for a proposed in support of the application. None were received.

It was then proposed by Councillor D German, seconded by Councillor Mrs S Ireland and unanimously RESOLVED to object to this application for the reasons stated above. The Clerk was required to return the Parish Council's comments following the meeting due to the tight time constraints. The Planning Officer also needed to know whether the Parish Council would require this application to go to Planning Committee if our comments differed to theirs. It was agreed by a vote of seven to three that the application would be forced to committee in those circumstances.

PA16/04928 - The Swallowcourt Group - Non-material amendment for amendments of the facings materials in respect of decision notice PA11/08107 construction of 4 close care bungalow - Swallowcourt Ltd Poldhu Nursing Home

It was proposed by Councillor R Willey, seconded by Councillor I Harvey and RESOLVED to support this minor alteration.

PA16/04465 - Mr M Bawden - Briar Cottage, Trewoon Road - To construct a new detached garage to the side of the existing property

The Parish Council supported the idea of off road parking in this area of the Village.

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

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

PA15/10148 - Ms A Lake - 30 Clifden Close - Proposed porch, drive way, lounge extension and self contained unit - Approved

PA16/02700 - Mr D Reid - Laflouder Thatch, Laflouder Lane - Listed building Consent for the retention and completion of alterations, reinstatement and repairs to dwelling house – Approved

PA16/02847 - Mrs S Bennetts - Land Adj To Chy An Coth, Laflouder Lane - Outline planning permission with some matters reserved: Proposed formation of detached dwelling – Approved

PA16/02982 – Mrs A Harry - Land Adj Angrouse Court, Angrouse Lane - Outline planning permission with some matters reserved: Formation of detached dwelling – Withdrawn

PA16/03696 - Mr & Mrs Mather - Laflouder Thatch, Laflouder Lane - Replacement taller chimneys for compliance with Building Regulations and raised roof with new scantle slate finish to lean to side

extension – Approved. Concern was raised that further works were allegedly taking place in this property.

PA16/04158 - Mr P McKeown - Valley View, Glenmoor Lane - Regularisation of already built patio and deck – Approved

The Clerk advised the meeting that the owner of the Former RBL Hall had submitted an appeal to the Planning Inspector following the refusal of the creation of an off road parking space by Cornwall Council. The Clerk had submitted the Parish Council's comments to the Planning Inspector in this regard. The Planning Enforcement Team had also been made aware of the recently installed front door which was not the same as the approved plans

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

Cornwall Councillor Mrs C Rule thanked the Parish Council for her Long Service Award, which was a lovely surprise.

Councillor Mrs C Rule had a new Community Fund available for the current year. Applications for funding were welcomed.

She thanked Derek Thomas MP for his help with a policing situation at Poldhu beach over bank holiday weekend. The public were asked to report any suspicious activities to 999. The Border Agency was also now involved and the Police had been briefed on how to respond to such reports. It was also hoped that a Police representative would be present at future Community Network Panel meetings so that any local issues could be raised.

A Code of Conduct training session had been arranged for 6.30pm on Monday 18 July 2016 at Lizard Reading Room. All Councillors were urged to attend as legislation was always changing.

Cornwall Wheels to Work had launched a new campaign to promote their services to people who were not able to get to work. Councillor Mrs C Rule would send the details to the Clerk for circulation.

A new policy for Blue Badge Holders free parking in Council owned car parks had been implemented. Councillor Mrs C Rule would send the details to the Clerk for circulation.

An Independent Advocacy Scheme had been launched by Cornwall Council. It states "Independent advocacy promotes the exploration of options and choices with vulnerable children, young people, adults and their carers by assisting them to understand the information that is available to them. It empowers those people to make sure that their views and wishes are heard and considered within the decision making process, so that they are treated fairly and equally. Independent advocacy helps in navigating public services and in accessing the right support to achieve greater independence and wellbeing. Many advocacy services are commissioned by public authorities but they are required to function independently." Further information would be circulated by the Clerk.

Councillor Mrs C Rule was asked to provide an update on the parking issue at the primary school. She felt that the situation had improved, although other reports told a different story. A police presence was being seen in the area, and some parents (the offenders) were listening to pleas from the school children.

## **7. Chairman and Clerks Comments**

No issues were raised. Derek Thomas MP left the meeting.

## **8. Public Rights of Way**

Councillor R Willey advised the meeting that Garro Lane had again been completely cut back by Cormac, after our contractor had completed his work on the bridleway. It was felt that his time and effort had been completely wasted.

It was confirmed that the footpath 16 leading across fields to Polhorman Lane was now clear and walkable, following reports that the field had been ploughed up and the line of the path was not clear.

The South West Cast Path areas that were managed by Cornwall Council had been cut back the day after the Clerk had reported the overgrowth.

## **9. Public Open Spaces**

Councillor I Harvey had advised the Clerk that the basketball hoop had had one bolt removed. The Clerk had asked the handyman to repair the hoop as soon as possible.

A new bench had been purchased and delivered to the park, and the older bench that had been stored at Councillor D Williams' farm had now been returned. Councillors were asked to monitor the usage of the benches and more could be purchased in the future if they were well used and not vandalised.

An update was provided on the grass cutting in the closed Churchyard. Cornwall Council had to cut the grass three times a year, and a programme of cutting had now been agreed between the Church Council and Cormac to ensure that work was not being duplicated between the Church volunteers and Cormac staff.

## **10. Highways**

It was noted that the access onto the main road from Angrouse Lane was overgrown and was making visibility difficult when exiting the Lane. The Clerk would contact Cornwall Council.

The dog waste bin located on Footpath 49, Churchy Fields, had been broken off and only the lid remained. The Clerk would ask Cornwall Council to replace the bin.

## **11. To receive any LGA 1972 Section 137 Requests for funding**

A funding request had been received from Shelter Cornwall. It was proposed by Councillor R Willey seconded by Councillor D German and RESOLVED to grant £50 to the organisation.

## **12. Finance and Accounts**

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs C Rule, seconded by Councillor D German and RESOLVED to confirm the accounts and to pay the invoices.

**14. Other correspondence received**

None.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.57pm.

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

Dated: .....

DRAFT