

Week St. Mary Parish Council

Minutes – Thursday, March 30, 2023

1. **Public question time** (15 minutes allowed for this)
One member of the public spoke about planning application PA23/01661, following a letter which was circulated to councillors. Issues highlighted included the water run off and parking. She had looked at the North Cornwall Local Plan of 1999 and on the front edge of the field (by the road), it is shown as part of the historic settlement. The field is within the Conservation Area and outside the development boundary. She said it was on a spring line, and it would cause concern to many properties. **23/85**
- 1a. **To receive County Councillor Nicky Chopak's report on matters arising**
No report. **23/86**
2. **To note councillors present**
Cllrs S May (chair), C Slade (vice chair), M Johns, L Stephens, S Gubbin, T Hamlyn; R Bolt, I Richardson and R Shipton. Also in attendance, S Cleave, clerk, and two members of the public **23/87**
3. **To receive apologies for absence with reasons**
Cllr S Peters – unwell. **23/88**
4. **To receive Declarations of Interest and approve Dispensations**
Cllr Slade – PA23/01661 Construction of a new field entrance, Causey; Cllr Bolt – PA23/01661 Construction of a new field entrance, Causey; Cllr Stephens – PA23/01678 – Construction of building to cover over existing agricultural feed yard, Higher Whiteleigh Farm **23/89**
5. **To approve the minutes:**
Cllr May proposed the removal of the words 'not fit for purpose' in the minutes of the meeting of March 2, as he felt he did not say that.
Proposed: S May Seconded: S Gubbin Votes: Unanimous 23/90
Councillors approved the minutes of the meeting held on March 2 with the above amendment.
Proposed: S May Seconded: R Bolt Votes: Unanimous 23/91
6. **To receive clerk's report on matters arising:**
Report noted including seeking extensions to planning applications; arranging appointment with EDF for meter change; circulating money box photos and arranging those; council tax queries to Cornwall Council; reports for annual meeting. **23/92**
7. **Planning**
Any late applications received will be discussed under this section
- 7a. **To discuss and make a consultee comment on application:**
PA23/01661 – Construction of a new field entrance. Land at Causey, Week St Mary. The council proposed to object to the application. The objection is based on the following points:
The council has serious reservations that not enough work has been carried out to look at the water run-off. It could cut off people's natural supplies. There are natural springs that supply several properties under the field that could be cut off. It has been noted in Box 17 (Residential Units) that it has been ticked for 4+ houses, which will seriously increase the natural run-off. There is already a problem. The application may cause disturbance to underground watercourses resulting in the contamination

of an adjacent well and possible flooding. It may also cause the revival of dormant Japanese Knotweed which is known to have been present in the field in the past. The application is not in keeping with the objectives of Week St Mary's Conservation Area status since it will result in the destruction of several metres of ancient hedgerow and walling and disturbance to historically significant burbage plots. The application will remove the ability for villagers to park along a length of verge in an area of the village where there are already insufficient parking spaces. A box has also been ticked to say there is no flood risk - this is incorrect. It also says that a soakaway will be used, but that will not suffice. The parish council feels that there is not enough research at this point. Should the applicant come forward with more information, and show that all these concerns have been looked at, the parish council would review its response.
Proposed: S Gubbin Seconded: I Richardson Votes: Unanimous 23/93

PA23/01680 – Change of use from restricted dwelling to unrestricted dwelling.
 Bowdah Bungalow, Week St Mary.

The council proposed to object to the application. As a council, it wants to preserve the status of properties in the parish that have agricultural ties, to ensure these properties remain available for those people who work in the agricultural community. If agricultural ties are lifted, it makes a mockery of the whole system. That is the reason it is applied in the first place.

Proposed: S Gubbin Seconded: R Shipton Votes: Unanimous 23/94

PA23/01678 – Construction of building to cover over an existing agricultural feed yard. Higher Whiteleigh Farm, Whitstone.

The council proposed no objection to the application. It was noted that several buildings (including this one) have been erected prior to the planning application being brought to the council, and before planning approval by Cornwall Council.

Proposed: T Hamlyn Seconded: R Bolt Votes: Unanimous 23/95

7b. Decisions

None. 23/96

7c. Planning - to note

None. 23/97

8. Portfolio Reports:

- **Public Transport**
 No report. 23/98

- **Community Policing**
 No report. 23/99

- **Playground**
 It was noted that some time over the weekend, the play equipment became splattered with mud. The equipment is there for everyone to use. In future, please could people have more respect for other users. 23/100

- **Highways, Footpaths & Greens**
 Cllr Hamlyn said he had reported three potholes, these were waiting to be rectified. He had carried out some work to the skate ramp (following the inspection report). He also checked the cross beam and this looked OK. He has sown some grass seeds on the bank. Cllr Hamlyn said he has completed 57 jobs (following the report) and there were 11 outstanding. These were all fairly minor. He was waiting for a dry day to repair the tarmac inside the first gate. Someone had contacted him about a water leak. This was reported. Cllr

Hamlyn was thanked for all the work has been carrying out in the playing fields. 23/101

- **Adult Social Care**
No report. 23/102
- **BAN**
No report. 23/103

9. Correspondence including (all relevant emails forwarded):

The following correspondence was noted - missing person alert; local bus network review; Cornwall Council Town and Parish Council newsletter; slides from the CALC AGM presentation; mobile coverage. 23/104

10. Agenda items

1. Coronation (including bench)

The clerk gave prices for a bench. Councillors felt if they were successful to get funding from Cllr Chopak's Community Chest fund, then they would purchase a bench.

Proposed: C Slade Seconded: S Gubbin Votes: Unanimous 23/104

The council also agreed to provide music, costing £50. There will be a picnic, BBQ, games for children, Bright Sparks, Coronation cake and the beacon will be lit.

Proposed: R Shipton Seconded: R Bolt Votes: Unanimous 23/105

The money boxes will be presented by Margaret Johns between 6pm and 7pm on May 4 before the council meeting. The clerk to email those who showed an interest in the items to let them know where and when to collect them.

2. Football Club

It was proposed that Cllr Bolt be the liaison between the council and the football club.

Proposed: I Richardson Seconded: S Gubbin Votes: Unanimous 23/106

3. Toilets

Cllr Shipton gave councillors details of solar panel lights that could be used outside the toilets. It was noted that the current lights switch on all the time, even when a vehicle passes. It was proposed to purchase two (£40.99).

Proposed: S Gubbin Seconded: R Shipton Votes: Unanimous 23/107

4. Budget update

This item will be deferred until the May meeting. 23/108

5. Mobile coverage (letter received)

Councillors received a letter from a company regarding mobile phone coverage in the parish. It was decided to reply and say no thank you at this time. 23/109

6. Footpath and greens

The clerk gave an update from Jamie Sachs, who emailed to say he did not want to do the cutting in the playing fields or the footpaths any longer. This was noted by councillors. Thanks were extended to Jamie for all he has done in the past on these areas. 23/110

7. Playground inspection 2023

The council's playing field inspection is due for renewal this year. The local company that provided the benches also carry out inspections, including the paths etc, for a cost of £140 plus VAT. It was proposed to go with the local company if they are able to carry out an inspection on all areas inside the fence line.

Proposed: R Bolt Seconded: R Shipton Votes: Unanimous 23/111
Cllr Shipton said she saw a notice at Marhamchurch play park that said users play at their own risk. She will email to the clerk to circulate.

11. Any other business

Any business to be discussed since the publishing of the agenda.

There was a discussion about possible defibrillator training. Enquiring to be made with a possible booking to be made for the end of May.

Cllr May said he helped Cllr Bolt lift the shed into place. He said Cllr Bolt had done a brilliant job, which was much appreciated. 23/112

An application was received from Bright Sparks for a new sound system. Councillors proposed to grant the £800 requested.

Proposed: S May Seconded: S Gubbin Votes: Unanimous 23/113

12. Accounts

Balances March 24

- Current account £ 1,398.39
- Reserve account £28,931.79

12a. To approve accounts for payment including:

Suzanne Cochrane – Salary March	£364.00
HMRC (PAYE)	£ 91.00
Cornwall Pension Fund (March)	£ 85.08
Suzanne Cochrane (mileage)	£ 32.40
Source for Business – water at playing fields	£ 16.29
Source for Business – water at toilets	£ 41.35
EDF Energy (electric toilets)	£ 1.00
Week St Mary Chapel (April 2022 to March 2023 mtgs)	£208.00
Jamie Sachs (grass cutting and greens March)	£ 75.00
Jamie Sachs – toilets (March)	£120.00
Trevor Hamlyn (tennis court repairs)	£ 96.12
Trevor Hamlyn (gateway tarmac)	£59.98
Cornwall Council – half yearly loan repayment	£975.00
Week St Mary Football Club – grass cutting	£375.00
Cornwall Drone Media Co – Coronation money boxes	£147.00

12b To note income

Reserve account interest £19.66

Councillors approved the accounts as a true record.

Proposed: S May Seconded: C Slade Votes: Unanimous 23/114

13. Items for May 4 meeting

Budget; solar money application process.

23/115

The meeting closed at 9.30pm.