

WEEK ST MARY PARISH COUNCIL

A Parish Council meeting took place on Monday 18th March 2013 at 7.30pm under the chairmanship of Mr L Davies with 6 Councillors, the Clerk, Cornwall Councillor P Tucker and 8 members of the public present.

The following matters were discussed:

OPEN FORUM – The general feeling expressed by members of the public present are that a parish renewable energy survey should not be undertaken. Some of the public present felt that the parish councillors are able to represent the views of the parishioners without a survey and praise was expressed for the decisions and recommendation made by the councillors previously. Questions were asked of C Cllr P Tucker about decisions made by CC and criticism was made that too many wind turbines and photovoltaic applications are passed. Cllr Tucker responded that CC have to follow Government legislation and that they have refused many applications and approximately 50% have later been approved by the Planning Inspectorate. The Chairman advised that there have been problems with dog mess in the Back Lane and Mr G Tomlinson has very kindly cleared the mess and it was agreed to send him a letter of thanks. The Chairman thanked the public and confirmed their views would be taken into account.

GREEN ENERGY PARISH SURVEY - Following a short discussion, the councillors agreed not to proceed with the survey.

WEEK ST MARY HOUSING SURVEY. Despite the Clerk contacting CC many times, the final draft has still not been received. There was a discussion about the method used by CC for determining numbers for the Cornwall Homechoice Register. They currently use applicants from all bands including band E, but it is the understanding of the parish council that, in normal circumstances, band E applicants would not be considered for social housing. The Clerk will write to CC expressing concern that, as the Cornwall Homechoice Register is used for strategic planning decisions and when making the case for affordable housing in a particular parish, their calculation method challenges the validity of the number of applicants on the Homechoice Register as an indicator of housing need in Cornwall.

CARAVAN AT WEEK GREEN. Following the parish council's letter to CC, a CC officer visited but has not been able to gain access to the site.

GRIT SPREADER. The grit spreader was not suitable for spreading salt/grit and has been returned. There was a short discussion about responsibility for clearing snow and ice in the parish and it was agreed that, although parish councillors may be willing to help, it is not their responsibility and it should not be left to them solely and it was suggested that there should be a rota of volunteers.

FOOTBALL FIELD LEASE & TIPPING LICENSE PLANNING APPLICATION. It had not been possible to arrange a meeting with the solicitor and there was nothing to report.

SKATEBOARD PARK The equipment has arrived and work to prepare the site will be undertaken as soon as possible.

STANDING ORDERS Copies of the NALC recommended Standing Orders have been prepared and it was agreed to defer to the April meeting.

TOWN & PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS Town and Parish elections -02.05.13. Nominations must be received at Cornwall Council offices by noon on 05.04.13.

PLAYING FIELD 2 new swing seats are in bad repair and it was agreed to get replacements.

PARISH HALL – The Chairman advised that the energy costs have increased and the income does not cover the costs – the fees to use the hall will increase but this alone will not be enough. Additionally the boiler has had its

annual safety check and although it has been proved safe for 12 months, it is obsolete and needs replacing – the cost is estimated at £2,000.

CORRESPONDENCE was dealt with and in addition to the list on the agenda, items dealt with at the meeting included: a letter from Peters Langsford Davies solicitors relating to work undertaken in connection with the Playing Field in 2008, information by email from CC Localism Team with posters for events and it was agreed that it is not appropriate for the Clerk to print and advertise the events; information about a workshop sponsored by CC, Cornwall AONB & CRCC for Community Planning in Cornwall which is due between 29th April and 9th May and it was agreed it is not possible to commit to anything until after the elections.

FINANCE Cheques were raised for the following: toilet cleaner; toilet consumables; IT, Broadband & printing; balance for the parish office chairs; Clerk's salary; Parish Hall quarterly donation; footpath (gorse clearing); solicitor fees; room hire in the Parish Hall and Methodist room and direct debits were approved for electricity in the playing field and water for the public toilets and playing field. There was no income. It was agreed to defer the Financial Regulations to the April meeting. The Parish Council Asset Register record was discussed.

PARISH OFFICE – The Official Opening took place on Saturday 16th March and more people signed up for IT training sessions. The Chairman thanked Mrs M Smith and Mr I Barriball for all their work involved with the parish office and the Clerk will write a letter of thanks to Mr Coulsdon. The final claim and paperwork has been sent to ECLAG for processing.

FOOTPATHS LMP Following liaison between the Clerk, the Parish Footpath Co-ordinator and CC Footpaths department the gorse has been cleared and CC will reimburse the costs.

DOG BINS. The Clerk will request a replacement dog litter bin for outside the Parish Office/Parish Toilets

COMMUNITY POLICING – PCSO Sarah Ross has confirmed that she can attend the annual parish open meeting and probably she will be accompanied by the new Sgt Julian Morris. .

PROVISION FOR THE CLERK'S WORKLOAD EXCEEDING 7 HRS PER WEEK The Clerk's hours have been increase by 1 hour per week.

PLANNING DECISION NOTICES a) PA12/11667 Construction of extension to form annexe to dwelling. Higher Whiteleigh Farm Whitstone. Mr & Mrs L Hepper WITHDRAWN. b) PA13/00182 Conversion of, and extension to, old school building to create a dwelling (amended scheme to planning permission nos. PA11/07079 & PA12/04371 Land East Of Glebe Court Week St Mary Mr D Short. APPROVED

PLANNING APPLICATIONS a) PA12/08658 Amendment to approved application for the conversion of barn to dwelling, namely proposed two storey extension to barn. Week Orchard Marhamchurch. Mr & Mrs C Congdon. No comments made. b) PA13/01079 Construction of an agricultural dwelling. Land West Of Whiteleigh Farm Whitstone. Messrs JJ, JG, CR Uglow. Concern was expressed as there are some anomalies with the plans: a) the details state there is mains water supply and it thought that this is not the case; b) the map indicates that land shown as part of the site within the planning application is incorrect as it is owned by neighbours and comments were made that previously, agricultural dwellings have been sold and therefore it seems inappropriate to apply for a new agriculture propriety. The Clerk will respond to the planning authority accordingly.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Annual Open Parish Meeting Monday 15th April 2013 at 7.30pm and Parish Council Meeting Monday 22nd April 2013 at 7.30pm - both meetings will be in the Parish Hall.

B Heathcote Parish Clerk