

## WEEK ST MARY PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council meeting took place on Thursday 11th July 2013 at 7.30pm under the chairmanship of Mr J Ward with 9 Councillors and the Clerk. Also present were C Cllr N Chopak and Mr I Saltern. There were no members of the public present.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and extended a special welcome to Mrs C Slade and Mrs N Johns as new councillors attending their first meeting.

**REQUESTS FOR COUNCILLOR DISPENSATIONS** were discussed and Messrs I Barriball, R Harris, P Sachs & P Coulson were each granted a dispensation for a four year period enabling them to remain and discuss Parish Hall matters.

**GUEST** Mr I Saltern spoke about the background to the Cleaner Seas project which has been funded for 18 months and aims to reduce contaminated water from the Rivers Neet and Strat which flow into the sea at Summerleaze. Two public meetings will take place in the area where the rivers flow in the sea which extends to Kilkhampton and Jacobstow and areas in between, advice will be available for farmers and landowners with information about grants that are available.

**CODE OF CONDUCT TRAINING** Three councillors and the clerk had attended a training evening.

**COUNTY CLLR N CHOPAK** gave an update on her CC work; she suggested that parish councils in her ward should share experiences in parish matters and she offered to hold joint meetings with parishes in her ward. Cllr Chopak will meet with CC Highways Officer in the middle of August to investigate areas that need attention and she advised that although the ward budget for highways is no longer available she has £3000 per annum Community Chest fund which can be granted to groups in her ward for eligible projects.

**PLANNING – 3 x Decision Notices** were approved by CC - PA13/02079 Removal of condition 2 (limiting occupation of the dwelling to a qualified local person) of planning application no. 2009/00210 dated 06.04.2009 The Barn Week St Mary. Miss Tracey Ward. PA13/03479 Erection of a 2 no. storey extension Stapleton Whitstone Mr & Mrs Steve Rowland. PA13/04569 Construction of extension and new garage Greenleigh Week St Mary Mr Steve Clark.

**PLANNING - Applications** - PA13/05587 Construction of first floor extension and alteration to existing ground floor balcony (resubmission of withdrawn application PA13/02828). Chestnut Lodge Week St Mary. Mr Phil Deeks. The councillors agreed to make no comment.

The planning officer dealing with a previous application, PA12/10065 - Installation of a single 55 kW wind turbine on a 24 m monopole tubular tower (up to 35 m tip height) with three blades and a rotor diameter of 19.2 m and associated equipment Exemoor Week St. Mary. Mr Andrew Mills, for which the parish council had recommended refusal, has advised that he is mindful to recommend approval. The parish council requested that the application should go to the planning committee.

**PLANNING queries, infringement & enforcement matters** – The councillors agreed to send a letter relating to the development at Grigham House for a ménage establishment with lighting which is believed to have taken place without planning permission.

**FOOTBALL FIELD LEASE & TIPPING LICENSE PLANNING APPLICATION** no news

**SOCIETY OF LOCAL COUNCIL CLERKS' MEMBERSHIP ANNUAL** - The council agreed to pay the pro rata subscription on behalf of the clerk.

**CORRESPONDENCE** was dealt with and in addition to the list on the agenda, items circulated included: Clerk & Councils Direct; copy of CC Planning Decision Notice – PA13/01079, Land West of Whiteleigh Farm. Messrs JJ, JG, CR Uglow; CAB Cornwall Accounts & grant application form; League of Friends of Stratton Hospital grant application form; Victim Support – grant application form and a Local Works leaflet. Correspondence discussed included a grant request from Cornwall Blind & Partially Sighted Association which will be placed on file for 2014/15 and a poster from Cornwall Fire & Rescue Service for Business Administration/Customer Services 4 x apprenticeships.

**FINANCE** - Cheques were raised for the following: village green grass cutting; skateboard park ground materials; Campaign to Protect Rural England membership subscription; grants to CAB Cornwall, Cornwall Air Ambulance Trust, Stratton Hospital League of Friends, Farm Community Network (previously Farm Crisis Network) & Victim Support; CC Fees for (uncontested) by-election; toilet cleaning materials and SLCC membership subscription. Utility DD payments for the playing field, toilet and parish office were approved. Income from Week St Mary Football Club from 50% of advertising revenue was received. Current bank and building society balances were reported. One tender was received for cleaning the village public conveniences and the terms were agreed. The Bank Reconciliation and Balance Sheet for the first quarter were approved.

**SKATEBOARD PARK** – plans to install the ramp were discussed.

**PUBLIC TOILETS** – the faulty toilet door handle has been repaired. Water had been wasted as a result of a water tap had been left on.

**FOOTPATHS** –There is a major issue with dog mess in Backlane. The dog warden will notified and 4 councillors volunteered to clear away the mess. Enquiries will be made about having another dog litter bin installed. Local Maintenance Partnership – CC have stipulated that the contractor must have a current training certificate to use power tools and a minimum £2million public insurance cover. An advert will be placed for tenders.

**HIGHWAYS** - CC will be advised that that the hedge between Waxshill and Week Ford is very overgrown.

**COMMUNITY POLICING** – PC N Jessop will attend the August meeting. A notice 'Secure your Home' was circulated.

**WEEK ST MARY EMERGENCY PLANNING, INCLUDING FIRST RESPONDERS AND THE NEW LOCALISATION OF HEALTH IN CORNWALL** - The amount of volunteer first responders has reduced and therefore the workload for the few remaining is great. It was suggested that there should be an emergency plan to be used in the event of the village being cut off and for emergencies in general with details, for example, who has a 4x4 vehicle, who can be contacted to assist those in need or vulnerable people, details of the location of the defibrillator and who is trained to use it. Mr P Coulson offered to follow this up.

**TRELISKE HOSPITAL REPORTED WAITING TIMES TO ADMISSION TO A&E** - It was noted that ambulances from throughout Cornwall often have to wait at Treliske Hospital A&E for as long as 8 hours. The impact on lack of ambulances available for emergencies is worrying and Mrs M Smith offered to write expressing the council's concern.

**DISPENSATION FOR COUNCILLORS REGARDING RENEWABLE ENERGY PROPOSALS** - The Code of Conduct trainer from CC Legal Department had advised that often councillors feel they have to declare an interest when renewal energy planning applications are discussed. Her advice is that a councillor can have a personal general view but this does not disqualify them from discussing and voting on particular applications. The trainer suggested that councillors should request a dispensation to enable them to discuss and vote on renewable energy applications. Each councillor separately requested a 4 year dispensation to participate in the discussion and to vote and each request was unanimously approved.

**ANNUAL RISK ASSESSMENT REVIEW** - Deferred to August.

**ANNUAL INTERNAL AUDIT REVIEW** - The councillors unanimously agreed that the work undertaken by the internal auditor meets the council's and internal audit requirements.

**NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA** Annual Risk Assessment Review, LMP Footpath Tenders

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING** - Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> August at 7.30pm in the Parish Hall

**CLERK'S ANNUAL REVIEW** - A confidential session was held.

*Bobbie Heathcote*