

WEEK ST MARY PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council meeting took place on Thursday 14th August 2014 at 7.30pm under the chairmanship of Mrs M Smith with eight Councillors and the Clerk. C Cllr N Chopak was in attendance. Mr J Ward sent apologies for a late arrival; no other members of the public were present.

The following matters were discussed:

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST were noted and no requests for dispensations were received.

MATTERS ARISING – there has been no response from Pearce Construction relating to Ashbury Grove holding tanks. The response from ND NHS Healthcare Trust advised that beds are currently unused due to staffing shortages, that Holsworthy Hospital is not usually full and that beds will be increased to former levels as soon as there is sufficient staff. There was a short discussion about Stratton Hospital which is being underused by consultants due to costs, the Clerk will make enquiries. Letter from Home Office relating to cuts in policing had been circulated. Two councillors attended the Code of Conduct Training and gave a short report on the changes. Cornwall Council (CC) have ordered the Church Mews Sign which will be placed on the wall of 3 Church Mews

PLANNING 3 x Decision Notices were received from CC: PA14/03215 - Outline planning permission with all matters reserved: Temporary essential workers dwelling. Week Orchard Farm Marhamchurch. Miss Lisa Congdon. Refused. PA14/04539 - Proposed new access drive and vehicle hardstanding. 3 Week Green Week St Mary. Mr & Mrs K Lewis. Withdrawn. PA14/04848 - 28.07.2014 Works to extend balcony by approximately 0.65m, replace external stairs on the south elevation and make alterations with new finishes to the balustrade and balcony floor. : 5 Market Place Week St. Mary. Mr Ivor Barriball. Approved. There were 2 x Applications: PA14/06456- Agricultural machinery storage building. Stonyfold Farm Whitstone Mr Stuart May. PA14/06076 - Lawful development certificate for the installation of dormer windows, re-sitting of window and installation of door previously undertaken without consent. As approved under application 94/2202/ Hillcrest Week St. Mary. Mr P Bromell. Councillors with an interest in either or both applications respectively left the room during the discussion and vote. There were no objections to either application. Other planning matters: C Cllr N Chopak advised that Little Exe Cottage application PA14/12113 has not been withdrawn but that, if the Big Field Wind Farm planning application is successful, Good Energy will purchase Little Exe. Date of CC Strategic Planning Committee in Truro re PA14/02107 - The Big Field Wind Farm is yet to be confirmed (October at the earliest) as there is a 6 week period during which new evidence will be examined. The wind turbine at Week Orchard has had a new generator fitted to reduce noise levels.

COUNTY COUNCILLOR Mrs N CHOPAK updated the council on some County matters: Following the Mobile Library consultation it has been decided to maintain 1 mobile library van to cover the whole of the county. The remaining two vans, which will soon become non-roadworthy, will not be replaced. The visits will be less frequent and they will deliver books to village library hubs. Cllr Chopak is having discussions with CC about responsibility for the road between the Square and Church Gate and involved with meetings and discussions as a result of serious problems resulting from the large number of lorries travelling to the solar farm at N Petherwin. Cllr Chopak will attend site meetings organised by solar farm applicants for new proposals in Boyton and Whitstone.

CORRESPONDENCE – 16 items had been circulated. Other correspondence dealt with at the meeting: CC Polling District Review stage 2. Police Commissioner Tony Hogg's public surgery at Bodmin on 21.08.14 was noted.

PARKING ISSUES - The Clerk read the email from CC Highway Manager confirming that a complete road obstruction by a motor vehicle is a police matter whereas CC deal with "an actual nuisance" criteria. CC can issue penalties where a Traffic Regulation Order (parking restriction) is breached. CC advised that they do not currently have sufficient enforcement officers to daily patrol all roads with yellow lines – however they added that one positive of yellow lines and parked cars is, if the lines are carefully considered and placed, their effect can be to reduce traffic speeds. PCSO S Ross has visited the village and will be asked to re-visit to inspect the site lines at junctions.

PLAYING FIELD It was agreed that it is no longer necessary to have a separate committee for the playing field. Councillors will check the play equipment and discuss replacing any items at the next meeting. Following a discussion re the removal of the tennis court fence, it was agreed to tender for someone to do the work.

BT – SUPERFAST BROADBAND The Clerk will write to Cornwall Superfast expressing disappointment that service in Week St Mary has been delayed.

CONSIDER LETTER FROM HELSTON TOWN COUNCIL RE BANK HOLIDAY ON-STREET PARKING REGULATIONS- as there are not any charges for on street parking in Launceston and Bude it was agreed to make no comment .

CONSIDER LETTER FROM CHACEWATER PARISH COUNCIL RE CC PRACTICES - Cornwall Council have been made aware of the Chacewater Parish Council letter and sent a copy letter of their response to Chacewater PC. **FEEDBACK FROM CALC ATTENDED BY THE CLERK** The Clerk outlined topics covered by Mrs S Mason at the meeting which included changes to Audit; permission for the public to record and broadcast meetings; records of delegation; Chairman's allowance and councillors' travel expenses.

FINANCE Payments were approved; there was no income; bank balances were noted. Following careful consideration and a discussion it was agreed to make grants (under Section 137) to RNLI, Cornwall Air Ambulance, Bude CAB and Farming community Network. Donations to the following parish organisations were agreed: Week St Mary Churchyard fund, Week St Mary Methodist Cemetery and Week St Mary Parish Website. Building Society interest rates were compared and it was agreed the one already used continues to offer the best rates. It was agreed not to transfer more funds from the bank to the building society account at this time.

Financial Regulations – Following two amendments, the new Financial Regulations were unanimously approved and the biennial review of variable direct debits was approved.

Parish Office PIR light – not working

Public Toilets – Acceptance of the current arrangements for a further 2 year period have been received by the cleaner and approved by the council.

COUNCIL RESPONSIBILITIES: Footpaths LMP – Following an enquiry from CC Countryside Officer that Japanese Knotweed growing in Back Lane has been cut, it was confirmed that the weed in Back Lane has not been cut but has been properly treated by the footpath maintenance contractor. Highways – the Clerk will notify CC that the black bollards at Delabole Head need repairing. Dog bins –The grass area by the electricity substation by Glebe House is a possible site for a dog/normal waste bin. It was agreed that councillors will check the site and discuss at the next meeting.

Community Policing –there are 3 crime reports in the parish: assault, theft from a vehicle and possession of controlled substances.

Poor Man's Piece –a very old Constitution for the Poor Man's Piece Charity has been located but it does not give details about how many trustees there should be or if one of the trustees should be a parish councillor. It was noted that the income from the land is only sufficient to cover costs of cutting hedges and repairing boundaries.

CLERK'S CONTRACT & ANNUAL SALARY REVIEW A draft contract using the 2011 model will be sent to all councillors.

NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA Damage to base of War Memorial, Clerk's Contract, Clerk's Annual Review, Playpark, Tennis Court, Chairman's Allowance and Councillors Travel Expenses

DATE OF NEXT MEETING September 11th 2014