

WEEK ST MARY PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council meeting took place on Thursday 13th November 2014 at 7.30pm under the chairmanship of Mr J Ward with seven Councillors and the Clerk. Cllr N Chopak was in attendance. Two members of the public were present.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and spoke of sadness following the sudden death of Mr I Barriball. A moment's silence was held out of respect and it was agreed to send a letter to Mrs P Barriball from the parish council.

The Chairman thanked County Cllr N Chopak for all her work in relation to the Good Energy Planning applications; for representing the view of the community and for her excellent report at the committee meeting. Thanks were also extended to Mrs M Smith for her work in relation to the Good Energy applications and for speaking on behalf of the Parish Council at the Strategic Planning meeting in Truro.

The following matters were discussed:

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST were noted and there were no requests for **DISPENSATIONS**

MATTERS ARISING – As there has still been no response from Cllr E Stuart from Holsworthy Hamlets relating to Holsworthy Hospital, it was agreed to write directly to ND Healthcare Trust. In response to the letter re Policing cutbacks, Superintendent J Green has offered to attend a Parish Council meeting accompanied by Inspector P Norlund and it was agreed to invite them for 11th December at 7.00pm. The defibrillator that had been in the village has been taken by the Ambulance Service for a safety check but not returned. Following a discussion, it was agreed to pursue enquiries for one to be placed on the wall of the Parish Office. Some councillors and parishioners are willing to attend training and offers of donations towards costs have already been received. There was a discussion about having a list of contact numbers, keyholders and drivers of off-road vehicles should there be an emergency in the parish.

OPEN FORUM AT THE DISCRETION OF COUNCILLORS

Two residents from Week Green spoke of problems experienced by them in accessing and exiting their drive due to parked vehicles. They explained that this is partly due to the increased parking around the Old School House and that although some cars have off-road parking spaces these are not used. There are generally more cars/vehicles than parking spaces, visibility is impaired and there are safety issues on many occasions but especially when there are events in the village. The Parish Council have already frequently been in contact with CC and the Police to try to alleviate these issues but so far to no avail. Implementation of yellow lines has been discussed and Cllr N Chopak confirmed that she had visited the area with CC Highways officer, who has advised there are currently no funds for yellow lines and that all areas will be dealt with on a priority basis after March 2015. The Police only get involved if a dangerous incident occurs. Excessive traffic speed was also discussed and the Clerk will contact PCSO S Ross who has already spoken of getting speed guns.

A request was made for a bus shelter at the top end of the village for school children.

COUNTY COUNCILLOR Mrs N CHOPAK is following up on her meeting with CC Highways Manager and will report to the Parish Council in due course. The poor state of the road and white lining at Flodden Tor was mentioned and a request for remedial work as soon as possible was made. Cllr N Chopak advised that there are planning applications for 3 x solar farms for the construction of photovoltaic park and attendant infrastructure in North Tamerton, Boyton and Whitstone Parish Councils respectively. The total acreage of all three is 240 acres. Unfortunately neighbouring parish councils are not being automatically consulted by the CC and it was agreed to place them on the December agenda.

The Deputy Leader of CC, Alex Foulkes has resigned as Deputy Leader and Finance Portfolio holder.

REPORT FROM MEETINGS RE SOLAR FARM AND COMMUNITY BENEFITS - Meetings have taken place with Week St Mary, N Petherwin, Jacobstow and Warbstow Parish Council representatives to discuss community benefits from Primrose Solar (PS) Renewables, a further meeting was held with representative from PS Renewables when the preferred options were tabled but no decision was reached. Cllr N Chopak is liaising with PS Renewables and an update is awaited.

PRECEPT 2015/16 - CC has advised that the Council Tax Support (CTS) grant for 2015/16 will continue but will be reduced. Last year, despite warnings to the contrary, the Government did not set a 2% cap for parish and town councils precepts and at the current time it has given no indication that it is looking to set a limit for parish and town councils for 2015/16. The Clerk has prepared draft figures and the Chairman suggested it would be prudent, to avoid a deficit budget, to increase the precept by more than 2%. The deadline for sending the paperwork to CC is 31.12.14

PLANNING – 2 x Approved Decision Notices - PA14/07264 – Proposed extension and new garage. Greenleigh Week St Mary. Mr Jak Gubbin. PA14/08910 - Proposed new access drive with parking (resubmission of previous application PA14/04539 withdrawn 29.07.2014). 3 Week Green Week St Mary. Mr and Mrs K Lewis.

2 x Refused Decision Notices - PA14/02107 - Wind farm development of up to 11 turbines (up to 125m to blade tip) along with attendant equipment and infrastructure including 132kV substation, underground cabling, access tracks, crane pads, temporary construction compound, meteorological mast and off site highways work. Land at and Adjoining Creddacott, Week St Mary. The Big Field Wind Farm. Mr John Colombi. PA14/12113 - Change of use of Little Exe Cottage from C3(a) (residential dwelling) to C2 (residential institution) to become a management centre for a

proposed outdoor learning centre and change of use of grounds to outdoor learning centre for residential educational visits with associated amenity block and waste storage area. Little Exe Cottage Week St Mary. Good Energy Generation Ltd.

During the discussion and voting on the planning applications, councillors' with interests left the room as appropriate. 5 x Applications. There were no objections to the following 3 applications - PA14/09128 - Construction of a detached double garage with integral log store and office space adjacent to the house. Living Stone Barn Reeve House Week St Mary. Mrs Jill Livingstone; PA14/09934 - Works to mature beech tree (T1) covered by a Tree Preservation Order, namely to remove branches overhanging road to give approximately 5 metres clearance. The Rectory, The Glebe Week St Mary. Mrs Donna Hazell and PA14/09935 - Construction of extension and alterations. Honey Crest Week St Mary. Mr & Mrs J Sachs. CC has decided not to make a Tree Preservation Order re PA14/10210 - Works to trees in a Conservation Area, namely removal to ground level of T1, T2, T3, T4 and T5 (Leylandii), T9 (Fir Tree) and T10 (Fir Tree). The Tudor House Week St Mary. Mr Stephen Smith. CC Planning Officer has advised she feels that it is appropriate to recommend refusal of the application: PA14/08307 - Proposed alterations to existing shop front to form new bay window to match the existing bay window. Regent House Week St Mary. Mr and Mrs Nicholson. Following the discussion it was agreed to request that the application is dealt with by the planning committee.

CORRESPONDENCE 20 items had been circulated and items dealt with at the meeting included problems caused by surface water run-off around the Glebe, Meadow View and Rectory area.

MEETING ORGANISED BY CHACEWATER PARISH COUNCIL - The Clerk read the letter, expressing dissatisfaction with some aspects of CC governance, sent by Paul Dyer, Vice Chairman of Chacewater Parish Council on behalf of 53 parish/town councils to CC Leader Mr J Pollard. Mr Dyer has organised a meeting in Camelford but no one from Week St Mary was able to attend. Apologies will be sent with a request a report from the meeting.

WAR MEMORIAL CLEANING - Clerk will write a letter of thanks to Mr J Parkin for cleaning the War Memorial and to Mr P & Mrs H Dorren for use of electricity and water.

PLAYING FIELD - Tennis Court Fence. – Tenders for old fence removal. During the discourse it was noted that the overall cost of removal and replacement of the fence is higher than anticipated, however, it was unanimously agreed to proceed with the work. It was agreed to accept the tender to taken down and remove the old fence. It was agreed to get more quotes for the cost of supplying and erecting a new fence around the Tennis Court.

BT TELEPHONE KIOSK - BT is planning to remove 131 low usage telephone kiosks in Cornwall including the one at West Week Close. D Rogerson MP is concerned that, in rural communities especially where there is a poor mobile 'phone signal, their loss may make it difficult for people to make emergency calls. The Clerk will write to D Rogerson confirming that it is the council's wish for the box to remain.

FINANCE - payments were approved; income received and bank balances were noted.

COUNCIL RESPONSIBILITIES - Parish Office - the PIR light has been repaired. Dog bins –A suggestion was made for the waste bin to be adjacent to the salt bin. Public Toilets – Paper hand towels have been ordered. It was noted that there have been discussion previously about having a urinal installed in the unisex toilet. Parish Greens – It was agreed to authorise one more cut this year if necessary. Highways – The Church Mews sign has been affixed.

STANDING ORDERS - The Clerk has provided copies of the new draft standing orders. Agreement and adoption deferred.

REPORTS FROM VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS: Parish Hall – The Clerk confirmed that Mrs S Mason from Cornwall Association of Local Councils (CALC) has advised that in some circumstances a council may purchase goods or services and donate them to a voluntary body. If the donation is a non-business activity, the parish council are not being reimbursed for the cost, they are eligible for a VAT refund. CALC advises exercising caution as VAT is a very complex issue with penalties and fines for getting it wrong and if the council is considering paying for goods or services on a regular basis to get confirmation in writing from HMRC. More volunteers are needed as Village Hall Trustees. Football Club – Councillors are invited to attend after the juniors' training on Saturday 22nd November to discuss the football club's ideas for a path.

ADVERTISING PARISH COUNCIL VACANCY – Cornwall Council has been advised and they will send a Notice of Vacancy in due course.

CHRISTMAS TREE IN THE SQUARE - The solar lights will be used in the lower square and the Chairman will ask if Mr & Mrs Dorren will supply electricity for the lights on the tree that is growing on the green.

NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA - Set dates for meeting in 2015

DATE OF NEXT MEETING December 11th 2014