

Zennor Parish Council

Chairperson: Cllr J F Brookes, Tredour, Zennor, St Ives, TR26 3DA, 01736 799492

Clerk: Jeanette Ratcliffe, Cave Cottage, St Buryan, Penzance, TR19 6HA, 01736 810639

Minutes of Meeting Tuesday 12th November 2013

Present: Cllrs Jon Brookes (JB), Chunky Penhaul (CP), Jennifer Gourley (JG), Nick Lambert (NL); Sam Nankervis (SN); Lottie Millard (LM);

Also Attending: Jeanette Ratcliffe (JR), Clerk; Jenni Pozzi (JP), Parish Transport Liaison Officer; Roy Mann (RM), Cornwall Councillor (from 7.45); Andy England (AE) Assistant Head of Planning & Regeneration, Cornwall Council

Apologies: Nicky Monies (NM); Terry Webb (TW), Neighbourhood Beat Officer

1. Welcome and Apologies

As above

2. Minutes 8th October 2013

Minutes signed as read and correct.

3. Matters Arising

- *Alternatives to Superfast Broadband.* Andrew George has replied to JG & a letter has been received from Julian Cowans of Superfast Cornwall (SC) stating that most alternative technologies are still under development and not yet commercially available. He has, however, been highlighting the Zennor area as being ideal for trialling those technologies, including one being actively looked into by BT, which should extend out the fibre footprint beyond 2km. SC will also shortly be launching a subsidised satellite service, initially targeted at farmers in areas beyond the fibre footprint. **Action:** pass onto JG the name of lead person within SC for alternatives technologies (**NL**).

4. Declarations of Interest

- JB declared an interest in reference to agenda item 5a; SN (Vice Chairperson) took over the chair for that item.

5. Planning

- a. *Application 2826 to re-register 65 hectares of coast as common land in Zennor (update).* SN reported on the meeting held in Zennor last week attended by 35 farmers and other local people concerned about the impact of this and similar applications on the sustainability of farming businesses the management of the land under government approved agri-environmental schemes and. A query was raised as to why it was felt necessary to further protect what is one of the most protected areas in the country. **Resolved:** To write to local MPs and the relevant Planning Inspectors highlighting the parish council's concerns, including that farmers feel powerless and that the term 'common land' is being redefined without any discussion **Action:** **SN** to write this letter.
- b. *Parish Council development control role.* Andy England explained that the vast majority of planning applications get permission (or not) in accordance with the parish council decisions, making it important the parish council carefully considers the weight they give to any issues they raise.

6. Parish Plan

- a. *Neighbourhood Plans (Presentation by Andy England, CC)*. NPs will guide CC's planning decisions in a broader way than parish council involvement in development control. CC have to consider the NP; it has real weight, unlike existing Parish Plan. The local community has to approve the whole NP via a referendum, making community consultation vital. A year is the earliest timetable for completion in a parish the size of Zennor. The NP mustn't conflict with the Cornwall Plan (to be adopted by the end of next year) or European designations. If a parish doesn't have a NP, all the existing protections are still in place, but the opportunity to create local development is missed. The NP has to be about development – either it happening or protecting land against development. The period of the plan has to be specified (5 years is sensible, but can say 10 with a review in 10 years). Zennor has a good starting point with its existing parish plan. The cost of developing a NP for the parish is likely to be under £5000. There is a government grant available of up to £7000, plus expert help (including from CC). Lynton Lynmouth, in North Devon, has a NP going through which includes a policy stating that no new builds can be second homes. A parish in Cumbria is deciding to have a NP which includes barns for conversion to be permanent residences rather than holiday let.
- *Neighbourhood Development Order*. These allow the parish council to provide permission for specific things (eg workshops, housing, village hall) without planning permission having to be sought. Such single-issue orders can be created as part of a review of the existing parish plan, but they also have to have a local referendum in order to be approved.
- **Resolved:** Invite Zennor parishioners' initial views on the opportunity to create a Neighbour Plan and/or neighbourhood Development Orders being considered by the parish council.
- **Action:** Prepare a summary for inclusion in the Mermaid's Echo **(JB/CP)**

7. Finance

- a. *Bank balance & budget*. Balance £3066.62. A tabulated budget report summarising income and expenditure since the beginning of the financial year was provided by the Clerk.
- b. *On-line access to bank statements*. JR reported that Barclays had said this was not possible owing to the account having joint signatories.
- c. *2014/15 Precept Notification to Cornwall Council*. Request form to be completed & returned by 31st December. **Action:** put on agenda for consideration at next meeting **(JR)**

8. Parish Paths

- **Action:** Invite Parish Paths Co-ordinator (Ali Clough) to next parish council meeting to give a progress report and estimate of expenditure **(JB)**

9. Transport

- a. *Zennor bus service (update)*. JP reported that the First 16a service had commenced. Everyone was grateful to have a service, but it is a lesser service than the Western Greyhound 508 service, which was designed to be a constant service, running 5 times a day, 6 days a week, throughout the year. The 16a is also currently running late because of having to negotiate the streets of Penzance (including being held up by parked cars blocking the route). These may be teething problems. First Buses are very difficult to get hold of; JP is trying to establish a direct contact. A campaign to protect local bus services is being spearheaded by Cornwall Councillors Jim McKenna and Bill Maddern. JP and JR had been in touch with Jim McKenna, and RM confirmed that the issue would be raised at a CC Cabinet meeting on Thursday evening (14th Nov), prior to next year's budget being agreed at the end of the month. ZPC thanked JP for her campaigning on Zennor's behalf. Bert Biscoe had requested (via the Clerk) that ZPC be thanked for its efforts.

- **Resolved:** Zennor bus service to be re-instated to its original level, as provided by the Western Greyhound 508 service.
- **Action:** Send letter notifying CC of ZPC's resolution to Bert Biscoe (Transportation portfolio holder), Peter Marsh (relevant CC director), John Pollard (CC Leader); copy for information to Margaret Taylor, Clerk, Towednack Parish Council **(JR)**

10. Correspondence

- Police Report (October).* No report received before meeting.
- Andrew George Bus letter 25th October* – confirming temporary bus service arrangements until April 2014.
- Cornwall Community Land Trust (CCLT) letter* – request to advertise two affordable bungalows being built in Nancledra for which Zennor parishioners may be eligible. **Action:** email CCLT confirmation that they can advertise properties via ZPC website & noticeboards, by contacting NL and JB **(JR)**
- Society of Local Council Clerks membership letter* – invitation for Clerk to become a member of the Society (fee of £63 per year to be paid by ZPC as employer); decision deferred for the moment.
- CC Planning Consultations* – letter, poster & CD ref: Renewable Energy Landscape Supplementary Planning, Mineral safeguarding Development Plan and Allocations Development Plan; deadline for responses 20th December. **Action:** JB to view the CD and pass it on to JG and then on to other councillors, for discussion at next meeting.
- Commons Registration sample objection letter* – received from Farm Cornwall.

11. Forthcoming Meetings

- ZPC meeting 7.30 Tuesday 10th December*
- West Penwith Community Town & Parish Forum 19:00-21:00 21st November, St John's Hall*
Action: wait for the agenda and circulate to see if anyone wants to go **(JR)**.

12. Other Business

- Zennor public toilets (CC proposal)* - The proposal is that the CC lease the land on which the current toilets stand to Zennor Backpackers for 5 years for a peppercorn rent. Under the lease the Backpackers will be allowed to knock down the toilet block in return for providing public access to their toilets for the duration of the five years, which they must do whatever use is made of the building. At the end of the lease CC will transfer the freehold of the land to the Backpackers, free of charge, in lieu of the fact that they have provided public access to their toilets for the 5 years. The arrangement then comes to an end.
 - Dylan from the Backpackers spoke to the meeting about the proposal; he confirmed that their toilets would be open from February half term to October half term.
 - RM confirmed that there is a high possibility that there will be no public toilets funded by CC from next year.
 - Concern was raised about the possibility that no public toilets will exist after the 5 year deal; given that the toilet block would to be demolished, a commitment that the Backpackers' service will go on for 10 year would be more preferable.
 - **Resolved:** the parish council in general supports the idea of the proposed arrangement under a longer (10 year) lease term and the implementation of a wider toilet share scheme involving other businesses within the parish.
 - **Action:** Email Steve Wood to find out about the toilet share scheme and approach the Tinnars Arms, Gurnard's Head and Wayside Museum for their view **(JR/JB)**
- Sign from village to bus stop (public request).* **Action:** follow up with member of public and report back **(JB)**.
- ZPC Code of Conduct.* Adopted by meeting and signed by chairperson.

- d. *ZPC Standing Orders*. JR presented a list of likely contents. RM said he would send an example of SOs from another parish. **Actions:** Email list of contents to councillors; circulate draft SO document for discussion at next meeting (**JR**).
- e. *ZPC website (update on progress)*. NL reported that just waiting for final text before site goes live at end of this month (if necessary blank pages will be left for later completion).
- f. *Christmas tree festival (for Cornwall Hospice)*. **Action:** Decorating ZPC's tree on Saturday 30th November (**NL & LM**).

Meeting closed 9.50

Minutes signed as correct by Chairperson

Signature.....

Date.....