



BLISLAND PARISH COUNCIL

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Council Meeting – 11th February 2021 - 7pm.

Minutes of the Virtual Meeting of the Council held on Zoom.

023/21	<p>Persons Present/Apologies NOTED persons present: Cllrs S Meads (Chair), K Dickin (Vice-Chair), A Green, K Lowden, G Montague, M Stirling, B Runnalls, L Spencer and S Weekes.</p> <p>Cllr D Holman intended to join later in the meeting but did not.</p> <p>T White – Clerk</p> <p>Cornwall Councillor Chris Batters and three other members of the public.</p> <p>Cllr Meads reminded Councillors that voting is by show of hands and for attendees to raise hands if they wish to speak with all microphones to be kept on mute unless talking.</p>
024/21	<p>Declarations of Interest from Members / Dispensations Cllr Weekes declared an interest in relation to planning application PA21/00006 – Clerk advised he will go into the virtual waiting room when the application is discussed.</p>
025/21	<p>Council Meeting: Minutes: 14th January 2021 RESOLVED that the above Minutes of the Meeting of Blisland Parish Council having been previously circulated, be taken as read, approved and signed.</p> <p>Proposed Cllr Runnalls, seconded Cllr Spencer. Unanimous - carried. Cllr Meads updated members that she had enquired about the final number of Christmas boxes distributed but had yet to receive a response. Cllr Weekes advised that 39 boxes were delivered.</p> <p>Proposed Cllr Spencer, seconded Cllr Lowden. Unanimous - Carried.</p>
026/21	<p>COVID-19 - National Lockdown January 2021 The Chair highlighted previously circulated information provided on the above including updated guidance from Cornwall Association of Local Councils. Clerk advised the public toilet remains closed.</p> <p><i>*Cllr Weekes was moved to the virtual waiting room*</i></p>
027/21	<p>Public Participation A member of the public made representations in relation to planning application PA21/00006, summarised: Objection to noise and disruption for the neighbours. Would not have any public benefit and would increase traffic problems. The member of the public also raised an issue with the planning portal with regards to the publicity of the planning applications and would like to make a network of local people to let those affected know when planning applications are submitted.</p> <p><i>*Cllr Weekes returned from the virtual waiting room*</i></p>

	<p>Member of the public attended to speak in relation to a campervan parked up at Temple. The concerns are about continual living in that location, especially given the ongoing issues at Colliford Lake. Cllr Dickin clarified that the site is within the St Neot parish albeit on the boundary.</p> <p>CC Batters agreed to provide support if possible and it was agreed that the Clerk will forward the information to him. General discussion with Cllr Montague.</p> <p>Cornwall Councillor Report Cornwall Councillor Chris Batters was present. A written report was received from CC Batters prior to the meeting and circulated to members:</p> <p><u>Blisland Church Grave Yard extension</u> <i>Received an email from Charles Whithead (today 10/2/21) asking about differing advice regarding the extension of the graveyard into an adjoining field. This was a matter which you suggested to Charles that he might approach me. Spoke with him and spoke with senior planning officer was able to give him an email reply within the hour on what will be required. Have offered help if the Church required it.</i></p> <p><u>Pendrift Pot Holes</u> <i>Potholes reported to me last week by a resident of Pendrift. Informed Cormac and they attended but sadly did not carry out repairs to all the potholes leaving some untouched. On Monday of this week contacted Cormac and they confirmed by email and map that they will return and complete the repairs.</i></p> <p><u>Pothole on Whitecross to Praze road.</u> <i>Very deep pothole reported to me by a resident of Higher Pengelly. Contacted Cormac and pothole repaired the next morning. Email confirming from resident.</i></p> <p><u>Pothole on Old Temple Road</u> <i>reported to me by a resident. Cormac informed and Pothole scheduled for repair. Other Temple potholes also highlighted.</i></p> <p><u>Building in Woods at Shell Woods</u> <i>Reported by a resident that a wooden building had appeared in Shell Woods. It was thought this was a building previously reported to the Parish Council, but this appears not to be the case and a further report has been sent to Enforcement at their request.</i></p> <p><u>Community Chest Donation</u> <i>I recently made a donation of £195 towards security and safety lighting for the Blisland Post Office/Shop covering the entrance into the shop.</i></p> <p><u>Cornwall Housing</u> <i>Worked on two cases involving Cornwall Housing working for the residents. Have sent the Clerk and Chair a copy of the Planning Enforcement Investigation Process for the information of committee members. This details all nine stages of the enforcement process listing all requirements associated with each stage.</i></p>
029/21	<p>Highways and Footpaths Members were updated on an email from Mark Jewell from CORMAC regarding the gold footpath from the Church down to the clapper bridge – he is working with a local resident and landowner and works are planned to go ahead. It was reported that the road out to Delphi below Kerrow now has serious potholes. CC Batters agreed to report and will copy in Clerk.</p> <p>The Chair updated that the 'Discover Blisland' panel is now up and advised how Mr P Keen was very helpful during the design process. The Chair suggested that a letter of thanks is sent from the Parish Council. All councillors agreed with a show of hands. Clerk to write letter of thanks to P Keen.</p>

Cllr Weekes was moved to the waiting room

030/21

Planning and Pre-Applications

RECEIVED the following applications and **RESPONDED** to the Local Planning Authority:

031/21

Application: PA21/00006

Proposal: [Change of use of agricultural land to allow the siting of 3 shepherd's hut for holiday letting purposes with parking area](#)

Location: Land At Pendrift Blisland Bodmin

Applicant: Mr & Mrs Weekes

The Parish Council discussed the application and raised the following points (summarised):
Attention to Cornwall Local Plan Policy 5 and development in the open countryside;
Landscape designations being AGLV, area of dark skies, next to the AONB;
Insufficient information (location of bins, storage, bicycles, recycling, visuals of the solar panels on the huts), mention of landscaping and trees but no detail;
Could lead to a proliferation of additional outbuildings;
Septic tank/soakaway for houses at Pendrift;
Need to consider the strength of local feeling and be careful re setting a precedent for converting agricultural land for commercial use in the open countryside;
Access, especially to the crossroads and increased danger for cyclists;
Small scale development with temporary structures that can be moved;
Cllr Runnalls said that this type of holiday is becoming increasingly popular and that he did not consider the proposed development to be an issue.

The Parish Council **RESOLVED** to object to the application with the response wording to be agreed following the meeting.

Proposed, seconded seven members voted in favour, one member voted against – Carried.

The following response was submitted following input from members and agreement from the Chair:

The Parish Council objects to this application. The site is currently agricultural land located within the open countryside and closely to the designated AONB and within the AGLV and Dark Skies area so is very sensitive to change. The Council has strong concerns regarding the access (safety and risk management), drainage, landscaping and potential for the future intensification of the site which would adversely impact on the residential properties nearby and the character of the area. Specifically, there would be new impacts including but not limited to an increase in noise and light which would be difficult to control. There is insufficient information in the site plans of position and screening of waste bin storage areas, the removal of visitor rubbish. The access statement identifies the provision of cycles although storage provision and screening is not shown on site plan. The siting of solar panels which are the light source for the huts and site is also not shown on the site plan and there are concerns over light pollution. Also, the implications for the existing septic tank/soakaway serving Pendrift Council Houses has not been addressed within the application.

The proposal mentions under 'Ecology', the additional planting of native trees although their number and positioning is not identified on the site plan, nor is the location for the wildlife corner. Under 'Impact on the Character of the Area' it mentions soft landscaping which will provide additional screening and again is not shown on a site plan.

The access statement articulates that hot tubs and will not be provided and amplified music will be prohibited. However, music is not prohibited only amplified music which has implication for neighbours. There is also concern over the potential for signage in this area of countryside and there is no indication in the site plans of the allocated outside space for each hut, e.g. sitting out area, barbecue space, fire pit area etc.

Additionally, the proposed development does not appear to be inline with Policy 5 of the Cornwall Local Plan and therefore allowing development of this nature would set a precedence for future proposals of this kind.

In light of the above, the Parish Council does not support this application. Should the case officer be minded to recommend the application for approval (and in addition to the 5 day protocol), the Parish Council would like an input on the planning conditions for the site.

	<i>*Cllr Weekes returned from the virtual waiting room*</i>
032/21	<p>Clerks Report Clerk provided some information on the response from the Society of Local Council Clerks in relation to the Handforth Parish Council meeting that has recently been in the media, and their work to reduce workplace bullying and harassment within the sector.</p>
033/21	<p>Finance RECEIVED and APPROVED the bank reconciliation as at the 31st January 2021. RECEIVED and APPROVED the February 2021 pay schedule.</p> <p>Proposed Cllr Spencer, seconded Cllr Runnalls. Unanimous – Carried.</p>
034/21	<p>Parish Council Insurance Renewal RECEIVED information and RESOLVED to accept the renewal as set out for three years. Proposed Cllr Lowden, seconded Cllr Runnalls, Unanimous.</p> <p>Cllr Spencer queried whether cover was adequate and suggested a 12 month commitment instead of three years to investigate whether the stated values are sufficient.</p> <p>Cllr Runnalls amended the proposal to renew the insurance for 12 months and to obtain updated valuations as appropriate, which was seconded by Cllr Montague and RESOLVED unanimously. Carried.</p>
035/21	<p>Q3 Budget Report The Council RECEIVED and NOTED the Q3 budget report.</p>
036/21	<p>Scheme of Delegation Clerk updated the Council with one delegated decision since January – the payment of £55.43 for web hosting fee for the new community website.</p> <p>The Council thanked Cllr Spencer for his donation in support of the Parish Council community website.</p>
037/21	<p>Local Maintenance Partnership – Advert for Tenders It was RESOLVED to advertise for tenders for the footpath cutting contract. Proposed Cllr Dickin, seconded Cllr Spencer, unanimous.</p>
038/21	<p>Code of Conduct Consultation The Parish Council agreed to look at and make any representations to be returned for the consultation. The Chair requested that any comments to be fed back to the Clerk.</p>
039/21	<p>Cornwall AONB - the Monumental Improvement project The Council RECEIVED information on the above and the survey link. Cllr Dickin highlighted that one of the key projects is King Arthurs Hall.</p>
040/21	<p>Village Green – Trees and Play Equipment (Swings) Members received the play safety equipment report and discussed the potential replacement of the swings or the possibility of them being repaired, along with the maintenance of the metal benches currently being stored by Cllr Runnalls. Clerk to contact Kernow Metals to explore options in relation to swings and benches and bring back to Council for further consideration. Clerk updated the Council that the two trees have now been felled but some topsoil and grass seeds may be required to cover the exposed areas where the trunks have been ground out. Cllr Runnalls offered to provide some topsoil and agreed to lift the granite boulders back to prevent parking on the edge of the green.</p>
041/21	<p>Community Website Cllr Spencer provided an update that the www.blisland.co.uk site is now live. Positive feedback has been received so far and almost a dozen people have registered their email addresses but need more via the website. Cllr Spencer suggested a thank you letter for</p>

	<p>Maddie for taking the content from the old site, formatting it and transferring it to the new site and to Mr Croft for his work on the community website previously. Cllr Spencer advised he has also submitted a thank you message for the next parish magazine issue.</p> <p>The Chair thanked Cllr Spencer on behalf of the Council for his hard work and for motivating other people.</p>
042/21	<p>Brown Tourist Directional Signs Deferred as Cllr Holman not in attendance.</p>
043/21	<p>Update: Neighbourhood Development Plan Cllr Dickin provided an update. Progress is ongoing and the Steering Group is still working on the Landscape Character Assessment (a detailed description of the landscape to provide evidence for the landscape policies within the NDP) and how we protect the landscape. This is expected to be completed within the next month or two. Cllr Dickin explained that there is a need for input into the plan as it is developing – public event last year not able to take place due to Coronavirus and now restrictions are reimposed so still unsure about future public consultation. The next NDP Steering Group meeting will consider what options are available for alternative communication. Cllr Dickin advised that a couple of presentations have already been produced and if there is enough time at the next meeting, the NDP Steering Group may deliver the heritage presentation to the Parish Council. Clerk highlighted annual parish meeting and possibility to use it for NDP communication/presentation.</p>
044/21	<p>Update: Institute Cllr Spencer advised that he is still chasing the quote for the windows and that the filing cabinet still in situ, so will wait until it is safe to move it. There are no bookings in the near term. Cllr Runnalls advised he can look at the door.</p>
045/21	<p>Upcoming events/training None.</p>
046/21	<p>Notification of meeting/items for agenda: March 2021 (ZOOM meeting) Councillors to inform the Clerk of any items for the March agenda. <i>*All members of the public had left the meeting by this point*</i></p>
047/21	<p>Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960. RESOLVED that in view of the confidential or special nature of the business about to be transacted it is advisable that the press and public be excluded and instructed to withdraw during the discussion for the following items: Proposed Cllr Stirling, seconded Cllr Dickin Unanimous.</p>
048/21	<p>Staffing Matters Clerk provided an update – due to current lockdown restrictions and for the safety council staff, the employee is not currently working, and the toilets are closed.</p>
049/21	<p>New Clerk/RFO Recruitment RECEIVED applications for the Clerk/RFO vacancy, DISCUSSED and RESOLVED to appoint interview panel and interview two candidates. Time to be arranged. Proposed Cllr Lowden, seconded Cllr Spencer seconded. Unanimous - carried.</p>
050/21	<p>Member Actions Cllr Meads provided an overview and members discussed at length. It was RESOLVED to take no further action. Proposed Cllr Meads, seconded Cllr Runnalls. Unanimous – carried.</p> <p>Meeting closed at 21:15</p>