WITHIEL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN

THE WITHIEL VILLAGE HALL ON WEDNESDAY, 6TH SEPTEMBER 2023 AT 7.00PM

Present	Cllr. M. Davies (Chairman) Cllr. R. Wilson Cllr. Ms. A. Lake 2 Members of Pul
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Mrs. J. (Parish Cllr. E. Cllr. S. Iblic

Mrs. J. Burdon (Parish Clerk) Cllr. E. Piper Cllr. S. Coy

Cllr. Ms. J. Shearer (Vice-Chair) Cllr. Mrs. W. Symons Cwll. Cllr. Mrs. J. Cruse

Minute	AGENDA ITEMS	Action
150/23	Apologies:- None.	
151/23	Public Forum (Members of the public are permitted to make representations, answer questions, and give evidence in respect of any item of business included in the agenda. The designated time will be 15 minutes and no longer than 5 minutes per person, the time may be extended at the discretion of the Chair):- Two members of public in attendance, with nothing to raise.	
152/23	 Monthly Cornwall Councillor Report:- Cornwall Councillor Mrs. J. Cruse reported as follows:- Fortunately, Withiel has not been impacted by the Green Valley Road closure which has caused havoc in the villages close to Bodmin. Happy to give an update on that situation which I am monitoring daily. There is a site meeting at Withiel on 11th September to discuss the Withiel HGV Scheme. I have also supported the Withiel Village Hall CAP application via the Lets Talk Portal. I have also supported the Chief and Area Planning Officers to express my concern regarding Q class being used as 'fall back' to enable planning permission for new builds in the open countryside which would not be approved under Policy 7 of the Local Plan and the Withiel Neighbourhood Plan. I will also write to Michael Gove on this matter as well as it would appear some Q class applications are pushing the specifications to the limit and over what is allowed. The Bodmin Neighbourhood Draft Plan has been published and there was a public meeting last Tuesday, good to see Councillors. I have already made my comments on the draft and any member of the public can do so through the consultation link. PA22/07440 - Higher Bosneives, Withiel - she had emailed the Chief Planning Officer and expressed concerns with the conflict of Q class with LP Policy 7. Having said that there is a good example in Mount (Cardinham) where a local resident has made a nice home with stables included in the overall exterior for younger members of his family. Waste Roll out map circulated to Councillors. It will be interesting to see how the first roll out goes as it is in the limited parts of Withiel parish which are included on the map. No schools in Cornwall Councillor Mrs. J. Cruse for her report this evening. 	

 for Dispensation:- None. 154/23 Confirmation of Minutes from the Monthly Meeting held on the 5th July 2023:- Resolved to approve the Minutes of the Monthly Parish Meeting held on the 5th July 2023 as circulated were confirmed as a true and accurate record and duly signed by the Chairman (Proposed: Councillor R. Wilson; Seconded: Councillor E. Piper) 155/23 Matters Arising from the Monthly Parish Minutes of the Meeting held on the 5th July 2023:- None. 156/23 Highway Issues in the Parish (Including Visibility at Withiel Crossroads):- Clerk reported on email received advising that many years ago the Parish Council, along with the landowner and Cornwall Highways (now Cormac) carried out work to reduce the height of a hedge at Withiel Crossroads. A bank was created with a post and rail fence to allow drivers, horse riders etc to have visibility at the junctions. Over the years this has not been maintained and now 	153/23
155/23the 5th July 2023:- None.156/23Highway Issues in the Parish (Including Visibility at Withiel Crossroads):- Clerk reported on email received advising that many years ago the Parish Council, along with the landowner and Cornwall Highways (now Cormac) carried out work to reduce the height of a hedge at Withiel Crossroads. A bank was created with a post and rail fence to allow drivers, horse riders etc to have visibility at the junctions. Over the years this has not been maintained and now	154/23
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 the vegetation is overgrown and blocking the site lines. Could the Parish Council please arrange for the fence to be cleared to allow visibility once again, the reason for the work being done in the first place. Councillor M. Davies has already reported today, and Cornwall Council has now come back saying there was no problem, he has gone back to them again as he as not satisfied with the response Action: Chairman and Councillor Mrs. J. Cruse to raise at the meeting next week on the 11th September 2023. Chairman to send information to Cornwall Councillor Mrs. J. Cruse and Clerk to send original email received and respond advising what has happened. Cornwall Councillor Mrs. J. Cruse on reports of unclear dirty signage. She advised if they are concealed or dirty this can be reported using the online system. Footpath Issues in the Parish: Councillor Ms. J. Shearer reported as follows:- Here are details of issues currently needing attention. The Clerk has written to Chris Monk to alert him, and I have supplied details and photos. Chris Monk be able to help with costs or he may say the landowner is responsible in which case, I am sure he will be helpful. I have more details of the concerns raised by our Contractor and photographs as circulated. Both ends of the footpath, between Brooklands and at the bottom of Withiel Hill need attention. The access to the path at Brooklands is very badly positioned being from the road, without signpost and slippery at the top of a bank to a stream. It needs better access. Going over stone steps, I found the stile in pieces and with a strand of what looks like electric fence wire at eye level as shown. At the other end of the path, the fence posts are rotten and need replacing as the fence does not have a stile at all, but you have to climb over the fence to get on to the footpath where it enters the wood. Someone has marked the broken plank with a traffic cone. I am sure our Contractor can easily do the work, but the Parish	156/23

	 I have contacted Councillor E. Pip Japanese Knotweed I will be phot Councillor Ms. J. Shearer. Councillor E. Piper reported the brid from his property, it is quite impressiv Email received from Cornwall Counci Confirmed Cornwall Council Definitive Restricted Byways at Retire in the Parish 	ographing th ge had now ⁄e. I in respect Map Modifi	been finally repaired down of WCA481 – Notice of	Cllr. Ms. J. Shearer
158/23	Planning Applications received at the Planning Pre-Applications; Planning Any letters received for or against any	e meeting a Results; Pl	anning Correspondence;	
	PA23/06145 – Mrs. Wendy Allen – Pr development for new access, Rose C Support (Proposed: Councillor Ms. J. Lake)	ottage, Retire	e Lane, Retire, Bodmin –	Clerk
	Planning Results Received:-			
	PA22/07440 – Mr. & Mrs. Paul & S PA21/00296 to demolish existing ba dwellinghouse and garage, Land North Withiel – Approved	arn and blo	ck shed and erect new	
	PA23/04241 – Mr. & Mrs. Paul & Sara Regulation 77 of the Conservation of Ha PA21/00296, Higher Bosneives, Bosneiv PA23/0614 – Mrs. Wendy Allen – Prior for new access, Rose Cottage, Retin	bitats and Sp es Hill, Withie notification o	becies Regulations 2017 for el – Approved of agricultural development	
	Permission Required			
159/23	Monthly Accounts for August and bank reconciliation and budget m Matters:- It was proposed that the Cour August and September 2023 as circula with the bank reconciliation and budg Councillor S. Coy; Seconded: Councillor	onitoring a ncil approve a ated on sche get monitorin	nd any other Financial and accept the accounts for edule, including agreement g as reported (Proposed:	
	Accounts for August 2023:-	£0 00	June 2023	
	HSBC – Bank Charges Cornwall ALC Limited	£8.00 £36.00	Chairman Training	
	Salaries and Expenses	£248.50	August 2023	Clerk
	HMRC – Income Tax	£57.00	August 2023	
	Accounts for September 2023:-	201100		
	HSBC – Bank Charges	£8.00	July 2023	
	News and Views	£300.00		Clerk
	Salaries and Expenses	£251.76	September 2023	
	HMRC – Income Tax	£57.20	September 2023	
	Councillor S. Coy suggested opening a			
	separating it out would make our acco			
	coy; Seconded: Councillor Mrs. A. Lake	•		Clerk
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	Clerk reported a response had been received from External Auditor Report	
	noting the submission of the Agar 2 for Withiel Parish Council and Exemption Certificate for 2022-2023. Noting no further information is required. Providing no correspondence is received from local electors during the period for the exercise of public rights we will next hear from then towards the end of March 2024. Resolved Clerk updates website and noticeboard with Notice of Conclusion of Audit (Proposed: Councillor S. Coy; Seconded: Councillor Ms. J. Shearer) Action: Clerk.	Clerk
160/23	Voltaise Solar Funding and how to deal with applications and advertising:- Resolved to hold in a separate account. Councillor S. Coy suggested the wind farm deals with applications and look at their rules and regulations and draw up something we approve Action: Councillors and Clerk to look at other solar funding bodies and their regulations for the next meeting. Councillor R. Wilson suggested inviting members of the public along to a future meeting to discuss funding for the community and come up with some ideas. Councillor felt this was a good suggestion. Cornwall Councillor Mrs. J. Cruse left the meeting at 7.44pm.	Clirs/ Clerk
161/23	Withiel Village Hall and Withiel Parish Council's role:- Clerk reported correspondence had been received from Councillor S. Coy setting out the role of the Parish Council, with a copy of the Trust Deed. Schedule one Paragraph 1 appoints Withiel Parish Council (the Council) as the Trustee. The rest of the Deed sets out in some detail how the Hall is to be managed. Stephen Horrocks (Secretary Withiel Playing Fields Association) sets out how this works in practice in his letter to Cornwall Council. Withiel Parish Council's role is to ensure the terms of the deed are carried out by Withiel Playing Fields Association. In practice it means that they cannot sell the hall. He suggests the Withiel Parish Clerk writes to Stephen Horrocks (Secretary Withiel Playing Fields Association), and James Thomas (Cornwall Council) and Cornwall Councillor Mrs. Jenny Cruse, confirming the interpretation is correct. Resolved to confirm as set out (Proposed: Councillor Ms. A. Lake; Seconded: Councillor E. Piper) Action: Clerk	Clerk
162/23	Annual Documentation to be reviewed – (a) Statement of Internal Control; (b) Standing Orders; (c) Segregation of Duties Matrix; (d) Risk Management Policy; (e) Risk Assessment; (f) Financial Regulations; (g) Delegated Powers – List of Regular Payments for the Year; (h) Final Fixed Asset Register 2023/2024 (Note List of Reserves will be actioned when dealing with the Precept around November/December):- Resolved to adopt these policies as set out and include on our website. Clerk to include final items on the agenda around November/December (Proposed: Councillor R. Wilson; Seconded: Councillor S. Coy) Action: Clerk.	Clerk
163/23	 Camel Valley Community Area Partnership:- Councillor Ms. J. Shearer reported as follows:- Next meeting is on the 18th September so nothing to report yet but I did attend a meeting of Chairs and Vice-Chairs of all the CAP areas, which was an opportunity to meet each other. The positives seemed to be that there was a good mix of Town and Parish Councillors across the whole of Cornwall. It is hoped that rural parishes can be encouraged to engage with the CAP areas - thus involving members of the public as much as possible. It was agreed that everyone needs to be realistic about what can be achieved and actually delivered. Meetings will be hybrid so that travel is not an issue. 	

	 There is considerable analysis of stats underway - age groups, health problems, poverty areas, vulnerabilities etc. We were shown an analysis of the Liskeard and Looe CAP covering a population of 67,000. Obesity is the most prevalent health problem in this area over all age groups - much greater than cancer, for example. 	
	• There was a presentation about the Community Capacity Fund. There have been lots of claims since it was launched at the end of February (including Withiel Village Hall for refurbishing the kitchen and toilet block). Members of CAP will be asked to vote on whether to support these claims.	
	Here is a link to the page online:	
	https://letstalk.cornwall.gov.uk/cap4-camel-valley	
	 I can also update on a meeting of the 'Quietways' Operation (held today) which seeks to find funding for making routes locally which are free of heavy traffic and suitable for cyclists, horse riders and walkers. Dominic Fairman is proposing a new route for consultation. Here is a link to it: 	
	https://www.google.com/maps/d/edit?mid=1aib0UuVYJ4tVH5kolBjRbwFzDt-	
	 <u>nHqs&usp=sharing</u> This initiative is in partnership with Sustrans, which is a charity which seeks to help communities 'come to life' by walking, wheeling, and cycling along safe routes to create healthier places and happier lives and who will help discuss costs. Here is a link to Sustrans: <u>https://www.sustrans.org.uk/</u> 	
	 The idea is to link safe routes which will be marked on maps in the future as 	
	they are in many places worldwide. Cornwall is very short of such routes and	
	Cornwall Council may agree to support a feasibility study to look at	
	suggested routes. Sustrans are looking at suitability etc and costings. Chairman thanked Councillor Ms. J. Shearer for her report.	
164/23	Climate Change and the Environment:- Councillor R. Wilson reported he was happy to report that over the Summer one of Withiel's most prominent dairy farmers have embraced the challenge of climate change by installing a significant solar panel array on the large cow shed/barn roof. This not only utilises a large area of otherwise wasted roof space, but with the inclusion of battery storage, this operation will have a much-reduced demand on grid sourced electricity without losing valuable grazing land.	
	On the opposite end of the scale, he said he was saddened to hear that Cornwall Council have rejected an application for a 3-hectare solar farm. (location not supplied) For a Council committed to a Carbon neutral Cornwall by 2030 this is a disappointing approach from the conservative majority. He recognises the need to protect pasture, but we must promote renewables, including onshore wind wherever possible. As we have seen in Withiel, not only do we have a great source of renewable energy in the Parish, but we also benefit from considerable payments to help improve our community.	
	Chairman advised this is a complex subject and the rejection of a planning application for ground mounted solar may well be a good thing if it is on productive agricultural land. Of course, we need 'clean energy' but personally placing this on good quality agricultural land is not the best option. Councillor Ms. J. Shearer reported that apparently in France it is now a legal requirement to have solar panels arranged in all car parks offering both renewable energy and shade for parked cars. Seems a lot better than using productive farm land to me. Strange that we do not do this here.	

165/23	Neighbourhood Watch Scheme:- No update Action: Clerk to send details of Councillor Miss P Bolton from Lanivet Parish Council. Councillor Mrs. W. Symons reported on a police report circulated today in respect of rural crime.	Clerk
166/23	Withiel Community Emergency Plan:- Councillor M. Davies reported on training for first responder and to advertise to see if anyone is interested. He would circulate a document Action: Chairman.	Chair
167/23	 Parish Councillor Training Requirements:- Councillor R. Wilson expressed an interest in attending the Local Area Energy Plan meeting at Chy Trevail, Bodmin on the 25th September. Resolved Councillor R. Wilson to attend this meeting (Proposed: Councillor Ms. A. Lake; Seconded: Councillor E. Piper) Action: Clerk to register. Chairman expressed an interest in attending two courses put on by CALC – An Introduction to Planning on Wednesday the 6th December 2023 and Planning Enforcement and Appeals on Tuesday the 12th December 2023, both at a cost of £30.00 each. Resolved Chairman to attend both training courses (Proposed: Councillor Ms. J. Shearer; Seconded: Councillor Ms. A. Lake) Action: Clerk to book. 	Clerk Clerk
	Future agendas to include items for a report from Councillors R. Wilson and M. Davies Action: Clerk.	Clerk
168/23	 Correspondence - Clerk listed correspondence and actions required:- NALC - Chief Executive's Bulletin Paul Holden - Cornwall Buildings at Risk 2023 Cornwall Community Land Trust - June News Bodmin Police Station - July 2023 Neighbourhood Police Team Newsletter NALC - Newsletter Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner - Councillor Advocate Seminar on Road Safety - 17th July 2023 Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner - Police & Crime Panel Meeting - Friday 28th July 2023 Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner - Office Updates NALC - Events Cornwall Council - CAP Training Session - Monday 17th July 2023 Cornwall Council - CAP Training Induction Refresher - 11th July 2023 NALC - Star Council Awards 2023 Cornwall Council - Town & Parish Council Newsletter - 14th July 2023 NALC - Star Council Awards 2023 Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner - Seminar on Road Safety Clean Cornwall Team - Newsletter Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner - Statement from Police & Crime Commissioner regarding Chief Constable. CALC - Steve Parkinson Autumn Training Schedule Great Western Railway - Extension to Ticket Office Consultation CALC - Executive Board Vacancies Cornwall Council - Planning News for Local Councils and Agendas - July 2023 Cornwall Council - Planning News for Local Councils and Agendas - July 2023 Cornwall Council - Divility & Respect Training Cornwall Council - Planning News for Local Councils and Agendas - July 2023 	

 28. Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner – Motorcycle behaviour change campaign 29. Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner – Police & Crime Panel Meeting – Friday 28th July 2023 30. Cornwall Council – Nutrient Neutrality and multi-stage consents – applications affected in River Camel SAC 31. CALC – New Training Course 32. Cornwall Council – Town & Parish Council Newsletter – 11th August 2023 33. Great Western Railway – Conference – Tuesday 13th September 2023 34. Cornwall Council – Town & Parish Council Bulletin: 15th August 2023 35. Cornwall Council – Standards Committee are recruiting 36. Cornwall Council – Updating the Clean Air for Cornwall Strategy: Engagement Workshops with CAP representatives 37. Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner – Invitation to Violence Seminar
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37 Ottice at the Police & Crime Commissioner — Invitation to Violence Seminar I
on Tuesday 19 th September 2023
38.CALC – Addressing Conflict between Employees and Members Training – Tuesday 14 th November 2023 from 6.00pm to 8.00pm via Zoom
39.CALC – Planning Training Courses for Autumn 40.CALC – Let's Talk Water Stakeholder Webinar by South West Water –
Thursday 14 th September 2023 at 2.00pm 41.Cornwall Council – Local Area Energy Plan Engagement Event – 5 th September 2023 at Theatre Room, Princess Pavilion, Falmouth
42. Cornwall Council – Withiel HGV Scheme Site Meeting 43. Cornwall Council – Shared Prosperity Fund Events
 44. Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner – Survey aims to help shape how police care for crime victims
45. Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner – Invitation to the Violence Seminar on Tuesday, 19 th September 2023
46. Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner – A chance for rural communities to have their say
47. Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner – 200th CSW Group
48. CALC – Extended Autumn Training Programme 49. Cornwall Suez Visitor Centre Information
50.Bodmin Police Station – September 2023 Bodmin/Wadebridge Neighbourhood Police Team Newsletter
169/23 Any Urgent Matters the Chair considers relevant for this meeting:- None.
170/23 Date of next Meting and Meetings for 2023:- Next meeting would be held on Wednesday 4 th October 2023 at 7.00pm in the Withiel Village Hall Committee Meeting Room.
All other Meetings to be confirmed as the Wednesday 1 st November and 6 th December 2023.
There being no further business to discuss the meeting closed at 8.10pm.

Signature:

Chair

Date: 4th October 2023