

## Boyton Parish Council

### Minutes of Meeting held on Monday 30 November 2015 at 7.30pm in the Parish Church Hall

**Present:** Councillors: Jon Bennett, Trisha Melzer, Jenny Smith, Martin Stanbury (Chairman), Bernard Strout, Ray Willis and Clerk David Scott. Seven members of the public attended.

**1. Apologies:** Cornwall Councillor Adam Paynter, Councillors Graham Clarke (on holiday) and Mervyn Law (visitors).

#### **2. Chairman's Comments:**

- \* Mobile phones to be switched off.
- \* Councillors advised that if they wish to raise an item for the agenda 7 clear days notice must be given-(Standing Orders 1.8 relevant).
- \* Members advised that if they received complaints or comments about a matter it was not for them to resolve or investigate it but to pass the action to the clerk who would take up the issue with the appropriate authority on behalf of the council.
- \* In response to the advertisement in the C&D Post for a new clerk, 4 individuals had applied.
- \* With the agreement of all members an additional Planning Application (PA15/11142) would be considered under Item 7: it was closely related to PA15/10105 (already on the Agenda)-not a controversial proposal and defined as a Non Material Alteration (NMA)-under which 'consultee' comments are not normally asked for but in this case specifically requested by the Case Officer.
- \* Again with the full consent of the Council, the Chairman moved that an additional item namely 'consideration of salaries' that Pursuant to Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies Act 1960 (Admission to meetings), it was **Resolved** that because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the public and press leave the meeting during the consideration for the inclusion of staff costs (salaries)in Budget costings F/Y 2016-2017.

#### **3. Defibrillators** (Standing Orders in abeyance):

- \* A talk and demonstration using a defibrillator and dummy was given by Carl Tinkler who took questions from councillors and public. Subsequently an open meeting to canvass opinion and discuss an appropriate site for the unit would be called. Liaison with a 'qualifying' organisation within the parish that could apply to the Community Wind and Solar Farm Fund was required if parishioners were generally supportive of purchasing a defibrillator.

\*

#### **4. Questions from the public on matters to be considered within the Agenda** (Standing Orders in abeyance):

- \* In view of the stated surplus in the council's current account at the end of this F/Y (31 March 2016), the council should consider reducing the precept.

**5. Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests by Councillors in accordance with the Relevant Authorities** (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012 (Standing Orders in force). No declarations were made.

**6. Disclosures of Interest on matters to be considered at the meeting:** No disclosures were made.

#### **7. Planning Applications:**

1. **PA15/09757** Change of use of part of the recreational domestic curtilage to The Barn to use for the stationing of a residential lodge to provide annex accommodation for parents of the occupiers of The Barn at Darracott Park for Mrs C Brown. As proposed by Councillor Bennett and seconded by Councillor Smith and on a vote of 4 for and none against it was, **Resolved** that the following comments be forwarded to Case Officer Davina Pritchard:

- i) The proposed development is outside the Development Boundary.
- ii) Effect on surroundings-it would be highly noticeable from the road(B3254)an imposing visual impact.
- iii) Design and Scale-Not acceptable: the proposed building does not fit in with the existing buildings on the site moreover it does not meet the criteria of an annex and it does not have a functional link with the main dwelling. There is insufficient detail on the plans provided in that the specific site of the proposed building is not shown.
- iv) There were no perceived problems with site access or parking.
- v) The highway is adequate.
- vi) Local services are adequate.
- vii) Original features-not applicable
- viii) There were no perceived problems of noise, smell or fumes or any other adverse affect on the amenity of local residents.
- ix) Suggestions to improve the proposed development-only that a building that is more in keeping with the existing building should be considered.
- x) There are no matters which incorporate ' local knowledge' which may genuinely in the Council's view contribute to the decision on this application.

Secondly as proposed by Councillor Melzer, seconded by Councillor Willis and on a vote of 4 for and none against it was **Resolved that** this Council *objects* to the application.

2. PA15/10105 and PA15/11142 respectively-Variation of Condition 6 (precluding any lights on site) of Decision PA12/10520 to allow positioning of 2 in no safety lights mounted above the entrance doors of the DNO and Customer sub station at North Beer Photovoltaic Installation on Land West of Higher North Beer Farm for Mr Giovanni Terranova (North Beer Solar Ltd) and Non Material Amendment (NMA) to allow the operation of 2 in number security lights above each door of the DNO and Customer Sub-Stations in respect of decision PA12/10520(Development of a 13ha solar photovoltaic farm on land 7km north of Launceston along with attendant equipment and infrastructure). As proposed by Councillor Bennett, seconded by Councillor Strout and on a vote of 4 for and none against it was, **Resolved that** the following comments be forwarded to Case Officer Ellis Crompton-Brown:

- i) Noted a retrospective planning application as a variation of Condition 6.
- ii) Western Power's letter (PA15/10520) justifying the change also noted.

3. PA15/10191 Non-material amendment to Condition 4 (boundary hedge)-allow the northern boundary hedge to be planted *inside* the fence *instead of outside* the development of a 13ha solar photovoltaic farm on Land 7km north of Launceston along with attendant equipment and infrastructure (PA12/10520) at North Beer Photovoltaic Installation, North Beer for Mr Giovanni Terranova (North Beer Solar Ltd). As proposed by Councillor Strout, seconded by Councillor Melzer and on a vote of 4 for and none against it was, **Resolved that** the following comments be forwarded to Case Officer Ellis Crompton-Brown:

- i) The original proposal provided for screening the solar farm and fence. The Parish Council believes the hedge should remain outside the fence on the northern boundary of the solar farm.
- ii) The hedge should include screening similar to that proposed for the 'Gateway' planting.

Secondly as proposed by Councillor Bennett, seconded by Councillor Smith and on a vote of 4 for and none against it was, **Resolved that** this Council *objects* to the application.

(NB: As an MNA consulted comments are not invited however the Case Officer specifically requested BPCs views in this case).

**8. Minutes:** As proposed by Councillor Councillor Strout , seconded by Councillor Bennett and on a vote of 4 in favour and none against it was **Resolved that** those Minutes relating to the Meeting of 19 October 2015 with one minor amendment as noted be accepted as a true and accurate record.

**9. Matters Arising/Clerk's Report:** There were no matters arising. Highways had been reminded regarding the missing signpost: Cornwall Council had confirmed that the Footpath Sign outside Temperance Farm would be replaced: Website-photographs were to be added next and all were encouraged to view the website and send their comments to the Clerk: New clerk advertising: would appear in the C&D Post early in December 2015 and finally on 6 January 2016: Cornwall Council had confirmed that no individual targets for the county regarding green energy were applicable.

#### **10. Finance:**

- \* As proposed by Councillor Strout, seconded by Councillor Smith and on a vote of 4 in favour and none against it was, **Resolved that** the following payments be made-David Scott (Chq 650)-£71.52 Advertising C&D Post: SLCC-(Chq 651) Annual Membership Fee £88.00: C&D Post Ltd (Chq 652) £107.28 Advertising and Get Mapping Plc (Chq 653) £33.60. **Noted that** 'Get Mapping' pass word and user name to be forwarded to all members who would comment on whether the membership should continue beyond April 2016.
- \* *Internal Controls:* The current account balance credit was £9416.28 (BS 172) which included a Cornwall Council Grant of £700.00 to be 'set aside' to fund equipment required for the 'Paperless World'.
- \* *Precept and Budget 2016-2017:* As proposed by Councillor Bennett,seconded by Councillor Melzer and on a vote of 4 for and none against it was, **Resolved that** the Precept was to remain same as that for the previous year (i.e. no increase in Parish Element Support Tax) and therefore the lower CTS level and increased amount arising from the overlap when the new clerk took up his/her post would be absorbed by existing funds. Individual amounts agreed were: Election Expenses £0.00; General Insurance £200.00; Hall Hire £150.00; Staff Costs £3638.00; Audit £120.00; Road Salt £100.00; Cemetery Grants £150.00; Administration £600.00; Councillors Expenses £100.00; Notice Boards £50.00; CALC and SLCC Annual Memberships £300.00; Contingency £300.00; Boyton-in-Bloom; Bus Shelter (to be painted) £250.00 and Training New Clerk £500.00 giving a Total Budget Expenditure of £6658.00.
- \* **Noted that** this income total 2015-2016 was net of VAT recovery and Website Income arising from Business Advertising ( together circa £200.00).
- \* **Noted also** that a venue nearer the village for the Dumpy Salt bag would be ideal (Chairman to contact Mr Ellacott, Town Farm).
- \* **Post Meeting Note:** A discussion with the Business Analyst at Cornwall Council whilst observing the Resolution under 10 bullet point 3 confirmed that with the Precept at £6181.52 (as 2015-2016) and CTS of £445.85 (2016-2017) total income F/Y 2016-2017 would be **£6627.37**. This total would *reduce* the Parish Tax Element per household (Band B and D properties) by £1.49 over the Tax Year.

#### **11. New Correspondence:**

- \* Transparency Funding: Application Form and supporting information to be forwarded to all councillors.
- \* Noted Kingfisher Nursery letter and Methodist Chapel Letter Re-Community Carol Service (17 December at 7pm in the Methodist Church).

**12. Correspondence on Circulation:** There were no matters arising from the previous pack and minor documents were placed on circulation.

**13. Rationalisation of the Parish Councils' Historical Database:** Noted Cornwall Councils Archivers were unable to accept any documents for at least 2 years. Consequently an inventory of the holding was to be drawn up. The approximate volume the entire holding occupied to be deduced and a decision on the way ahead in view of the impending changeover of clerk to be taken next meeting.

**14. Members' Questions:**

- \* Concern was expressed by residents regarding Hornacott to Westcott Cross Road- Council was to take the matter up with Ward Member, Highways and the Planning Department. An onsite meeting with Highways would be arranged.
- \* The Queen's 90 Birthday-celebrations in the Parish. An Agenda Item would be raised as requested by Councillor Law.

**15. Public Participation:**

- \* Details of a free printer/scanner with the proviso that the supplying company's ink was used would be forwarded to the Clerk.

**16. Date of next Meetings:** 11 January 2016 and 8 February 2016. The public then left the meeting.

I.a.w. Item 2 bullet point 6 and Members went on to agree that the clerks' salary element of the budget should remain the same (see Item 10 bullet point 3) over 2016-2017.

Interviewing of the applicants for the new clerk would take place before the whole Council in 'working hours' and in the interest of consistency a list of questions were to be drawn up in advance. The present clerk would advise.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 10.30pm

Signed .....Chairman.....Date

### Highways

Following numerous complaints regarding the management of work on the road between Hornacott Lodge and Westcott Cross, the clerk met with Senior Surveyor Oliver Jones of Highways on Monday 7 December.

Mr Jones saw nothing he regarded in Highways Terms as 'dangerous' but he emphasised that no meaningful work would be undertaken until all existing work concerning the panels, installation of the bio mass plant at Bradridge had been done and drier weather conditions prevailed-March/April 2016 was given (i.e. this F/Y).The aim would be to:

Survey the road and ditches

Make good the verge damage

Re-establish the ditches to improve drainage

Deduce where the most used passing places were-establish them fully and harden them up

Patch and improve the road from Hornacott Lodge to Hornacott Chapel