

MINUTES OF AN ORDINARY MEETING OF LEWANNICK PARISH COUNCIL. HELD ON WEDNESDAY 16 MAY 2007 FOLLOWING OUR ANNUAL PARISH MEETING. THE MEETING WAS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC AND THE PRESS.

ATTENDANCE

CHAIR	Iris Curley
VICE CHAIR	Dave Parnell
CLERK	Elaine Cook
COUNCILLORS	Ken White, David Eno, John Newbery, Jenny Potter, John Panter
COUNTY COUNCILLOR	Neil Burden

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

KW proposed 2nd by JN, all were in full agreement that Iris Curley continues as our Chairman.

ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN

KW proposed 2nd JN, all were in full agreement that Dave Parnell continues as our Vice Chairman.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

LEWANNICK PLAY AREA – Proposed by KW 2nd JPa all were in favour that John Newbery continues to monitor our Play Area.

POLYPHANT PLAY AREA – Proposed by IC 2nd JN all were in agreement that JPotter takes up this role.

TRANSPORT OFFICER – Proposed by IC 2nd KW all in agreement that JPa continues in this role.

The Minutes of our Meeting dated 18 April 2007 which had previously been circulated were proposed by KW and seconded by JPa, all were in agreement, that they were signed as a true and fair record of that said meeting.

Resolved to advertise vacancies on Parish Council within our next newsletter.

1. REPORTS

- a. **Lewannick Play Area** – JN queried the progress of removing the tree stump. This has been referred to our Contractor and is in hand.
- b. **Polyphant Play Area** – no report.

2. MATTERS ARISING

- a. **Darkes Farm.** The Chair thanked District Cllr G Facks-Martin for his prompt action following our last meeting. He went to planning and did some research and found out that in 1985 and 1986 permission was given to convert buildings on the site for holiday accommodation, but no condition specifying holiday use only as part of the approval. He was not our ward member at that time and had no involvement in the application. Graham then wrote to as many people as he could in Polyphant to apologise for misleading them at our last meeting. We thank him for his diligence. Copies of letters from NCDC had been circulated to Cllrs prior to this meeting. A draft copy of our proposed reply was also circulated. The approval to send the letter was proposed by JPa 2nd JN all were in full agreement.

b. Kelly's House/Cottage We have written to C Cllr Neil Burden and S Ewing CCC. We have also kept Mr Dickson informed of progress.

c. **Blackhill Quarry** Mr Emms, Quarry Manager, has said he will be happy to speak to a resident regarding the effects of blasting on listed buildings and the resident has been informed.

d. **Sunnybank** Copies of a letter from Claire Hawke NCDC were distributed. The Enforcement Notice has been withdrawn by NCDC and we have a letter of explanation from Claire Hawke explaining the situation and that "...it is not expedient to pursue the enforcement notice at this time"... It was proposed by JPo 2nd JN all were in agreement that the report and letter of explanation could be copies to Mr Haithwaite.

e. **Lorry obstructing footpath at Polyphant.** The Chair read out a letter from Countryside Officer explaining that it had been logged. Lewannick is not currently scheduled to be looked at until the summer of 2008 but the Countryside Officer is aware of situation if he is in the area prior to this.

f. **Local Maintenance Partnership** The Maps and Schedules have been sent to our Contractor. We have also requested a copy of his insurance for the year April 2007 – 2008.

3. DOCUMENTS

Unitary Authority – Consultation document

The proposal from CCC for a unitary authority has progressed to the second consultation stage. The Cornwall Association of Local Councils is acting as the consultee for parish and town councils and have sent out a draft response document and need our feedback from tonight's meeting. There is a very tight schedule and the only response to the final document will be on 4th June at 7.30pm at Truro and CALC are asking us to send a representative to the meeting to cast our vote.

Main points from draft document:

1. There is little appetite for a radical change in structure.
2. Instead of the current structure of 331 ward and county elected members covering 209 parishes, it is proposed that there should only be 82 members based on CCC ward boundaries, putting unsustainable pressure on the 82 members. There would be one member per 6000 electors. A boundary review is needed to achieve the nationally recommended ratio of one member per 3000 electors.
3. Parish and town councils are very concerned that the new authority will be target driven, giving greater emphasis to the urban agenda.
4. Centralisation of all service delivery in Truro will create a real barrier to engagement by parish and town councils.
5. There is real concern about unpaid parish councillors, being in a position to take on a wider role in policy making, planning, etc and the added financial burden on the precept. Most parish clerks are part time but there will be substantially more work involved in the unitary structure.

6. The status quo is not an option. There will be changes either through the success of the unitary bid or through enhanced two tier working but much more information.

There was no-one present who could cast out vote at the Truro meeting. It was proposed by KW 2nd JN all in agreement that we do not support the reforms.

b. New Code of Conduct The New Code is clearer and more easily understood. The main alteration is the paragraph 12 (2) which a parish council would actually have to adopt as it is not mandatory. It gives members with a prejudicial interest the same rights as members of the public to speak to a meeting on the issue and then leave before the main discussion and vote. A letter from the Standards Board says we need to adopt the new Code prior to 1 October 2007 but a letter from Sally Lloyd-Jones says that the District Council is intending to adopt the Code after training in July but before 1st October. It was agreed that we would do likewise and wait until we have attended the training session. Pro JPa 2nd JN all in agreement.

4. PLANNING

2007/00370 Polyphant House, Polyphant, Tree Preservation Order to carry out works to trees covered by a T P O, namely remedial tree work – approved.

5. FINANCE

Please also see our A G M above.

a. Cheques for payment

Cheque No 533	Perfect Pastures (grass maintenance)	£760.81
Cheque No 534	Clerk's Expenses	£29.85
Cheque No 535	Newsletter	£600.00
Cheque No 536	Bowl	£25.00

Proposed by KW 2nd JPa all in agreement that the above payments are met.

b. Approval of the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2007. It was proposed by KW 2nd JN all were in agreement that the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2007 are signed as a true record.

c. Grants – it was agreed that we will hold back the payment of grant funding.

d. Quotations for computer

Cost	£844 Plus VAT
Broadband	£270 (for 18 months) £1,114 plus installation @ £48 per hour.

We are also requesting a quotation from APB Computer Services Ltd at Trevadlock. The Grants Officer of NCDC have informed us that there is no funding available for computer equipment.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

a. **Parish Bus Shelter Grants** – at the moment £1,500 – approval sought increasing funding to £3,000 a year. This has been left on the table.

b. **NCDC – Ward and District Profiles 2007** the form has been filled in and sent back to keep their records updated.

- c. **NCDC – Parish Council Elections** We are two members short and must copt before 22 June 2007. Un-contested Election Result and District Council Election result placed in our post office.
- d. CCC – subsidised composters.
- e. **SERCO – provider of out of hours GP service.** Increased phone lines, call handling and triage facilities, increased number of cars available for home visits and extended opening hours at some clinics. They also aim to increase the use of local GPs.
- f. **CCC Human Flu Pandemic** – burial grounds in Cornwall. Cllrs J Pa and KW will carry out the research and report back to Clerk.
- g. **Building Control Newsletter** – for circulation..

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- a. **A30 Noise from** Query from resident could we point the problem out and request that when the stretch of carriageway nearest to the village is resurfaced it is with a sound deadening material. Pro IC 2nd JPo all in favour.
- b. **Road at end of Medrow** – in a worse state since the heavy rainfall. Request that we write to Highways. Also Lewannick – outside of Village Hall and Lewannick to Landers this road is crumbling. Pro JPa 2nd JN all in agreement that we write to Highways.
- c. **Letter from resident regarding the noise from A30 and a request when resurfacing to lay noise deadening tarmac.** Pro JN 2nd J Po all in agreement to write to Highways.
- d. **DP** Had seen an article on Westcountry TV with £8million grant funding available for village projects. Would also like to pursue an Emergency Committee Policy see 6F above.
- e. **Footpath No 5** access is difficult.
- f. **Display of Agendas/Minutes** Following discussion it was proposed that Agendas will be displayed in Polyphant on the P C Noticeboard together with Lewannick at the Post Office.

There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed. Our next meeting will take place at Lewannick Village Hall on Wednesday 20 June commencing 20.00hrs.