

MINUTES OF STOKE CLIMSLAND PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY 20TH SEPTEMBER 2010 COMMENCING AT 7.30 PM IN STOKE
CLIMSLAND PARISH HALL

PRESENT: P Barriball (Chairman), D Parsons (Vice Chairman), M Cox, S Cazaly, M Joll,
S Tudor, C Vulliamy, S West

IN ATTENDANCE: L Power – Clerk to the Council
3 members of public
Mrs Le Marchant (Kit Hill Warden)
Mr Collins (Environment Sec., Cornwall County Council)
Mr Thompson (Milestone soc.)

SC 10/08/1 Apologies: C Davey, J Willmut

SC 10/08/2 Declaration of Interest: None

SC 10/08/3 Public Session:

Mr Collins and Mrs Le Marchant gave information on the possible designation of Kit Hill as a Nature Reserve. This will not affect how Kit Hill Country Park is run as the new management plan already fulfils the criteria of a Nature Reserve. Designation as a Nature Reserve will provide extra protection if there was no warden. Natural England has been consulted and is supporting the proposal. Cornwall County Council would like the Parish Council's views on this plan. More information on the criteria can be found on www.naturalengland.org.uk. It will be discussed at the next meeting.

SC10/08/4 Minutes of meeting held on Monday 21st June 2010, 3rd August 2010, 16th August 2010, and 7th September 2010.

These were agreed subject to changes which were made in the meeting.

SC 10/08/5 Matters Arising

a) Painting of Milestones: Mr Thompson is a member of the Milestone Society, which is a national charity formed in 2001. Cornwall has about 600 milestones, almost all granite, one of the best collections in the country. Many are obscured by vegetation and some have been damaged by verge trimming machinery. Until 2000, milestones were maintained by the Highways department of the county and some were painted to ensure visibility. After 2001 the maintenance devolved to the Historic environment Department and painting stopped, due to lack of funds. Mr Thompson stated that it was the policy of Cornwall County Council to paint milestones and the evidence is that painting prevents further damage to milestones. Mr Thompson has an agreement with the county to paint the milestones. He is not aware of any statutory duty to inform Parish Council of the intention to paint as the milestones are the property of the county, but in the past he has tried and had no reply. He has evidence that many of the milestones in this part of the county have been painted in the past to enhance visibility. He accepted that neither this Parish Council nor the Biological Records Office been

informed, but stated that Sarah Cawres was aware of his work. He agreed that the lichens would be damaged but he uses good quality stone paint, which is breathable so the milestones themselves would not be damaged.

Mr Burden arrived.

It was suggested to Mr Thompson that some of the lichens may be significant and the Biological Records Office would like to look at them prior to painting. There followed a discussion of the age of the milestones, the council apologised for getting the dates of the earliest milestones wrong. Some councillors had received favourable comments about the painted milestones but concern was expressed about repainting as chipped and flaking paint would look unsightly. Mr Thompson stated that he had a ten year cycle for painting milestones but was unable to say if there were any plans to continue after that as he was the only volunteer doing this work. He was also looking at refurbishing the cast iron fingerposts but there was an issue of funding. The council thanked Mr Thompson for coming to talk to us about his project.

b) Affordable Housing: Mr Parsons suggested that in the 23 months since this topic had been raised the council had collected and discussed much information. How the council should proceed was then discussed. Mr Parsons put forward a proposal, seconded by Mrs West that the council should actively consult with relevant people and organisations, to work out potential solutions. The council should then report and consult with the parish on which is the best solution. Mr Barriball stated that the figures for people in housing need represent 1% of the population and agreed that we need to take some action on this. He felt that the council had become more informed about the issues but we need to be 100% correct. He pointed out that 60% of the population had not responded to the survey and we should take our ideas to the parish for a final decision. After further discussions the proposal was voted on and agreed by all councillors present. Mr Burden was asked to comment and he suggested that it would be best to go through a local trust as that would give the most control over who eventually rented or purchased the properties. Mr J Brown suggested that the best way forward was to go down the self build route, as had happened at St Miniver. Concern was expressed that this would cause problems for some people. It was suggested that we speak again to Mr Lunn about the possible options.

c) Fencing the Playground: Concern has been raised with the council about the lack of fencing on the road side of the playground. This had not previously been erected as the council had been advised that it was not a safety issue. There was discussion about the need and cost of this. Mr Parson proposed, seconded

by Mrs Tudor, that we should fence that part of the playground. A vote was taken, 4 in favour, 1 against. It was agreed that the clerk should seek tenders for the work. Mr Parsons and Mr Barriball will measure the area and inform the clerk what is required.

d) Parking on the Village Green: Some concern has been expressed about parking on the Village Green when parents are picking children up from school. There is also a problem with congestion at the Venterdon junction near the sports field. Mr Barriball has spoken to the Headteacher about this and a suggestion has been put forward that parking could be arranged on the sports field. It was suggested that the council should approach the Duchy and Sports Club to see if this was possible. Action will be taken to stop parking on the grass. if cars damage the grass on the Village Green.

e) Repair of the play equipment: Mr Cox has spoken to Schoolscape about the problem with the balancing board and they have agreed to come and look at it. If the problem is structural they will replace the board. There is also a problem with the safety mat under the swings. It appears to have been damaged by grass cutting. The clerk was asked to look at the contract and if another cut is necessary, contact the contractor to ask him to raise the blade so as not to damage the mat. This should be inserted into the contract for next year.

SC 10/08/6 Planning

Cornwall Council list of Applications

PA10/05091 Spring Cottage, Tutwell, Callington. Application for listed building consent for internal alterations was supported

PA10/04898 Briefels, Trehill, Downgate, Callington. Construction of new agricultural store/workshop was supported. .

Refusals, Approvals and Appeals

None

SC 10/08/7 Items for Report and Discussion

Mr Burden was asked to speak. He stated that the building at St Miniver had not been done through the affordable housing scheme. Some of the participants were related to a builder who did much of the work.

He pointed out that a Local Network meeting had been held at the Parish Hall but no-one from Stoke Climsland attended. If there is poor attendance then this type of meeting will not go ahead.

Due to the financial crisis many services provided by the County Council are in line for cuts of up to 30%. The County intends to consult the public about this. There will be 2 budgets, one in November and a second in the spring.

There will be considerable reduction in staff and currently many vacant posts are not being filled. Bus services are heavily subsidised and these may be affected. The only area being protected is education.

Finally, he said that there is a car parked with no lights on the main road at Bray Shop.

SC 10/08/8 Highways and Maintenance

There had been a complaint about builder's waste being dumped on a footpath in Venterdon. The clerk has spoken to the builder about this and was told that this was to repair ruts made by trucks. The Builder agreed not to do this again.

There is also a problem of a footpath blocked by a field of maize at Venterdon. The clerk was asked to contact the Duchy to ask them to clear the path.

Pot hole patching is taking place at Old Mill.

It is bulb planting time and Mrs Cox will buy some bulbs and arrange a date to plant bulbs on the Hill.

SC 10/08/9 Correspondence:

None

SC 10/08/10 Finance

Payments: Clerk wages £ 357.23, Duchy Allotment Rent £23.50

Receipts: £10.00 Allotments

SC 10/08/11 Items for Agenda

- a) Letter of thanks is to go to Mrs Evely for cleaning the bus shelter.
- b) Bringing forward of December Meeting.

SC 10/08/12 Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on 18th October at 7.30pm

The meeting was closed at 9.45pm

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