

# Linkinhorne Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council  
Monday 13 June 2011 at Linkinhorne Parish Hall, 7.30pm  
MINUTES

- 1) Absent: Cllr Gilbert. Apologies received from Cllr Masson
- 2) Present: Cllr Daniel, Cllr Dilworth, Cllr Hearn, Cllr Hopes (Chairman), Cllr Hordley, Cllr Horrell, Cllr Lobban, Cllr Martin (apologies for early departure), Cllr Moyse, Cllr Terrett, Cllr Wooster (Vice-Chairman)  
Julia Todd (clerk)  
Two members of the public  
Sarah Mason, County Executive Officer of Cornwall Association of Local Councils (CALC)  
Cllr Sue Swift, Chairman of CALC
- 3) Declarations under Code of Conduct:  
The following members declared personal and prejudicial interest in Item 8(a)(i) for the respective reasons:  
Cllr Horrell – relative of site owner  
Cllr Martin – possible beneficiary in capacity as member of Linkinhorne Parish Hall committee  
Cllr Hordley - possible beneficiary in capacity as member of Rilla Mill Village Hall committee  
Cllr Lobban – agent to applicant and possible beneficiary in capacity as member of Rilla Mill Village Hall committee  
Cllrs Daniel and Wooster declared a personal interest in Item 8(a)(i)  
Cllr Dilworth declared a personal interest in Item 7(b)(iii)
- 4) Minutes  
The Clerk informed members that some notes in Item 9(b) had been included erroneously in the draft minutes received by councillors prior to the meeting. These had been removed for the minutes prior to the minutes being approved, and the correct entry was read out to the meeting. It was resolved to approve the minutes of the previous meeting of the Parish Council of Monday 9 May 2011 and these were signed as an accurate record of the meeting.
- 5) Adjournment of up to 15 minutes for members of the public to raise matters  
Mrs Beryl Martin spoke as a member of the public and chairman of the parish hall committee regarding community benefit and a possible contribution made by developers; that any planning gain should have relevance to the application.
- 6) Reports from and matters of concern to:
  - a) CALC chief executive officer Sarah Masson spoke to the meeting on the benefits of CALC membership the costs of which the parish council felt to be excessive. She explained that 75% of town and parish councils across the county form the membership of CALC at the cost this year of 14p per elector. Under the umbrella of the National Association (NALC) it supports local councils across a range of activities such as training provision for councillors and council clerks, and legal representation. It also keeps local councils up to date with the forever changing legislation from central government, and represents the views and interests of local councils at county level, adding voice to help shape future policy, and to other public bodies. The Association is non-profit making and

therefore depends on membership subscriptions and a £12,000 grant, being reduced annually, from Cornwall Council to perform its various roles. Sarah defined the role and function of CALC in relation to those of the Society of Local Council Clerks (SLCC); the former being the body that supports the council, and the latter being that which supports the clerk to the council. This is particularly pertinent in cases of employment disputes.

Following the move to Penstraze Sarah reported that CALC had a major problem to surmount as the internet connection had failed, and had wiped out data that was now slowly being restored. She expressed her regret at this setback, and her optimism at a swift return to normal (i.e. standard response time of 3 days). On the question of CALC's local meetings in the east of the county which had ceased to take place in recent times, Sarah informed the council that so few councillors had previously been present, it had become unviable to continue. However, Sarah was hoping that small council meetings would be taking place within the next 12 months, if there was sufficient participation from councillors. In response to a question from the meeting Sarah also commented upon the outcry among councils regarding the Strategic Planning Forum comprising of only 'quality' councils and those with planning experience. She explained how the planning authority's decision to structure the forum came about, the reasons behind the responses of those councils not included, eventually leading to CALC's withdrawal from its facilitating role.

The Chairman thanked Sarah and Sue for coming to talk to the parish council. It was agreed that the decision to continue membership would be reached at the July meeting of the parish council.

*Cornwall Cllr Turner arrived at the meeting*

- b) PC Garth Hatt/PCSO Anslow/PACT cllr: this item was heard before Item 6(a). It was reported that, in the light of the current passage of the Localism Bill, Steve Beresford-Foster, Cornwall Council's Localism Manager, had addressed the PACT meeting regarding the reorganisation of the police force. The subject of speed limits on the moor where there are unfenced roads was also discussed, and a poster competition was being organised to highlight the danger from animals straying on to the roads.

There were two reported crimes in Linkinhorne parish in May this year, one more than in May 2010; theft of Delabole paving slabs from a property in Linkinhorne, and theft of a BBQ gas bottle from the driveway of a property in Darley.

- c) Cornwall Councillor Turner reported on several animal deaths at Foredown over recent months. He informed the meeting of a PACT proposal of a 40mph limit on the moorland roads. It was alleged that fencing had existed along the stretch of road at Foredown, but to reinstate it would entail a long process via the Secretary of State's office. All Cornwall councillors will meet on 21 June to consider how to drive economic benefits in SE Cornwall and will be addressing a comment from the meeting regarding the half empty car parks seen in Liskeard since the new charges were in place. It was noted that the Community Network has advised that ticket numbers are recorded and are available. Cllr Turner reported that Lloyds Pharmacy is to set up its own outlet at Derriford Hospital. Debate was continuing at Cornwall Council regarding the council structure as a result of the Localism Bill.

*Cllr Martin departed the meeting.*

## 7) Finance

- a) Cash flow of accounts It was resolved to approve the cash flow statement and this was signed by the Chairman.
- b) Payments  
It was resolved to approve the following: i) FD Hall & Son Ltd £68.40 inc VAT ii) Clerk expenses £28.83 iii) Upton Cross School £95 (hire of minibus/driver) iv) Linkinhorne Parish Hall £10.50 (April hire) v) Clerk additional hours (4hrs@ £8.75/hr) £35 vi) CC £78.10 inc VAT vii) crcc £600 (previous payment 'lost in post') and £12.50 being the cost to stop previous cheque.
- c) Receipts none received
- d) Laptop/printer: it was agreed to defer this proposal to offer the equipment for sale to history group until the next meeting.

## 8) Planning

### a) Planning Applications

Upon being put to the vote the following recommendations were made:

#### i) PA11/01438 Ground mounted solar (PV) with agriculture at Yonder Netherton

Invited by the Chairman to speak Mr Horrell commented that this represented a huge investment, would add greatly to green credentials of the parish, and crucially does not exclude agriculture. He also informed the meeting that Duchy College had undertaken to research grass growth, as an as yet unaddressed area of study, at the site.

Cllr Lobban speaking as the agent to the applicant informed members that visibility concerns had been worked upon and resolved as far as possible; he commented upon the irony that, to be able to see the panels, it was necessary to walk upon despoiled land of previous generations. The installation will take less area than previously proposed and will show as dark stripes across fields, and are less reflective than the impact of plastic strips on maize fields. He demonstrated the height of the panels and explained that they are fitted by 'corkscrews'; concrete would only be used on small pads for the units converting power from DC to AC. He commented that Natural England had endorsed the proposal, and the AoNB representative believes that the current proposal is a significant improvement if still concerned of the visibility.

In response to a number of questions the following information was given: Cornwall Council has a strict policy on getting the most benefit possible from developers for the host communities; this installation could provide £5,000 per MW (approximately £160,000), and other benefits i.e. opening up the green lane from the permissive footpath to the Upton Cross/Rilla Mill road, and stouter hedges and new planting would represent an ecological benefit. There could also be PV panels available for some community buildings.

The government's feed-in tariff is to be reduced by 75% so it may uneconomic and therefore the development may not proceed. There was no certainty that the community benefit would be available if consent were given.

Some members had concerns regarding visibility and reflection. The latter would only be obvious at very low sun; views from long distance such as from Dartmoor were deemed outside of the zone of sensitivity. The installation was not situated in the AoNB but considered from it.

*All councillors who had declared prejudicial interest then departed the meeting.*

The remaining councillors then considered the proposal, keeping community benefits to one side. The Chairman had noted from the ongoing analysis of the Parish Plan questionnaire that two-thirds of responses were in favour of the provision of renewable energy and half of those were in favour of PV panels. Visual concerns were noted but it was also noted that this area is littered with industrial remains. The panels would be less conspicuous than wind turbines for example, and it was stated that all have to consider new forms of energy. Councillors felt that the principal authority's committee deciding this proposal should meet both at the site and in the area around the site.

It was stated that there would be a legal obligation to remove the panels if they ceased to be used for the purpose for which they are intended, and in any case the proposal would have to be renewed after 25 years.

Proposed, seconded and upon being put to the vote there were 5 in favour, 2 abstentions and no objections.

*All other councillors returned to the meeting except for Cllr Horrell who departed.*

ii) PA11/04381 Change of use at Lanhargy Chapel, Bray Shop – approval

iii) PA11/03470 construction of 1<sup>st</sup> floor extension at Sunnyside, Henwood - approval

iv) PA11/03482 Construction of 1<sup>st</sup> floor extension at Lower Pengelly – approval with one abstention

*Cllr Lobban departed the meeting*

b) Decisions received from Cornwall Council Planning and Regeneration – none received

#### 9) Play Equipment Risk Assessments

a) Jubilee Field

It was noted that the clerk had received the reports of the Play Inspection company for both play areas, and these will be considered at the next meeting of the Parish Council.

b) Rilla Mill Play Area

#### 10) Correspondence

a) Items requiring a decision

*23/05/11	CALC/NALC	Abolishing of Standards' Board - noted
18/05/11	PC laptop/printer	Cllr Masson's findings regarding re-sale value of equipment – please see Item 7(d) on agenda
03/06/11	Minions Heritage Centre	Invitation – it was agreed that the Vice-Chairman would attend.
06/06/11	WesternWeb	Clearing hard drive – it was agreed to defer this discussion until the next meeting.
06/06/11	Terry Leech	Cllrs Dilworth and Horrell would contact her.
09/06/11	Sustain Comm Act	noted
13/06/11	Cruse	Invitation to AGM - noted

b) Items for information only

*31/05/11	CC leader message	Explanation of claims made by media re credit cards/expenditure
*31/05/11	Building Control services	Newsletter May 2011 ed 5
*31/05/11	Bodmin Moor PN	Wind farm development at Davidstow
*31/05/11	CALC	The Week issue 31 (27/05/11)
31/05/11	Crc	Flyers re Sustainable Village competition
31/05/11	e.on	Info re billing
31/05/11	Workplace Products	catalogue
23/05/11	SLCC	Publications available from the SLCC bookshop
23/05/11	JustTextGiving	Publicity re fundraising
*20/05/11	CC legal & democratic	Amended public speaking procedure (x2)
20/05/11	Mark Harrod	Products catalogue
16/05/11	Good Cllrs Guide	3 <sup>rd</sup> edition (request made for more copies)
16/05/11	The Clerk Magazine	Localism – special feature
13/05/11	CALC	The Week issue 30 (13/05/11)
12/05/11	CC legal & democratic	Contact details – changes
12/05/11	Viridor	brochure
*09/05/11	CC Transportation	Off Street parking places order 2011 response
04/06/11	CHAHP	Events and volunteers
06/06/11	CALC	Community Right to Build and The Week issue 32
08/06/11	J Turner	Info re works at County Hall
08/06/11	J Chubb	Thanks and info re drop-in centre
08/06/11	Playground Main.	Publicity
09/06/11	Action for Children	publicity
10/06/11	CCN	Meeting notes and update on Localism Bill
	SLCC	Branch newsletter
10/06/11	James Hughes	Publicity re websites
13/06/11	Tanya's Courage	Charity request
09/06/11	C Matthews – Duchy	Copy of correspondence to O Jones, Highways

\* sent by email

Date of next meeting: Monday 11 July 2011

Close of Business: The meeting closed at 22h00