

# Whitstone Parish Council

Minutes for the Ordinary Meeting  
Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2014

**All meetings are open to the press and public unless the Council decides otherwise**

## 1. The Opening, Councillors present

The Meeting was opened by Chairman Cllr Furse, with 5 Councillors present; Cllrs Medland, Horn, Adamson, Sutton, Hopper. Esther Grieg – Clerk

## 2. Apologies for absence with reasons

none

## 3. Declarations of Interest & Dispensations

Cllr Medland 7a Planning PA14/08271. Northmoor Pecuniary to leave room

\*\* Cllr Collins arrived\*\*

## 4. To put for confirmation the:

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2014

It was resolved the Minutes be confirmed as a correct record

**Proposed: Cllr Sutton                      Seconded: Cllr Furse                      unan (2 abstentions)                      14/060**

## 5. Public Question Time

10 members of the public and Cllr Chopak attended. Cllr Medland noted that the buses are not running to the timetable published on the internet. Clerk to write to CC to advise.

Meadowside/Balsdon Road parking – Mr Fowler noted that although Dan owns the shop; he cannot control the parking outside. Cllr Furse noted that he could influence the suppliers; such as the bread van, and that he would prefer to see double yellow lines rather than red blotches. It was also noted that the suppliers could use the yard at the rear of the shop for unloading. Cllr Chopak is having a meeting with the new CC Highways Manager this week and invited Cllr Furse and Dan to join them.

\*\*Cllr Furse postponed the rest of PQT to the end of the meeting in order to use bigger room\*\*

## 6. Matters Arising for report only:

**War Memorial** noted on fixed asset register and insurance

**Traffic survey** – following the survey CC noted speed in excess of 30mph and will be installing a temporary flashing '30' sign for 3 months; to measure its impact and gather further data about speeding through the village. Clerk to write to Pat Nasmyth thanking her for the petition (Cllr Sutton to forward her details to Clerk), Cllr Chopak will ensure that the petition is logged on the CC systems.

**Meadowside** – Environmental Health issues. Cllr Chopak stated that EH don't feel there is cause for concern; however, they have passed on details to licensing who are liaising with Cllr Chopak. She will keep the PC updated.

**Freedom of Information Act.** Policy is now on the website, along with other documents and links, with more to follow in the next few months.

## 7. Planning

In order to treat all applications equitably, Cllr Horn proposes amending the current Wind Turbine Policy to a **Planning Policy for Renewable Energy Applications** to cover solar PV:

“As Whitstone Parish now has over 1 MegaWatt of installed renewable energy approved by the planning process, the parish is now an exporter of electricity therefore the Parish Council is seeking to create some guidelines to apply to any future renewable energy applications.

## Solar installations of less than 60kW installed solar power generation

In line with the parish plan, in principle - No Objection  
These installations are generally considered to be for self-sufficiency purposes to support a property or micro business with their energy needs.

**Wind Turbines under 60m to tip and installed power of <100kW**

In line with the parish plan, in principle - No Objection  
These turbines are generally considered to be for self-sufficiency purposes to support a property or micro business with their energy needs.

**Solar installations of greater than 60kW installed solar power generation**

WPC will consider these as large scale installations for exporting power and as such will seek a community benefit from the owner based on a minimum of £1000pa per MegaWatt of installed power.

**Turbines with a tip height of > 60m or installed wind power of >100kW**

WPC will consider these as large scale turbines being installed for exporting power and as such will seek a community benefit from the owner based on a minimum of £8000pa per MegaWatt of installed power.

**Public Opinion**

With any renewable energy application public comments will be closely monitored.  
If on the day of WPC meeting, CC website shows support or objection from at least 15 separate households within the parish then WPC will reflect that in its comments and decision making process.

This policy will be reviewed on a regular basis by WPC and will reflect residents views.”

Cllr Medland noted that tariffs will be dropping over time, and although we are asking for Community Benefit – they are voluntary. Cllr Furse stated that the general feeling in the village is that we have ‘done our bit’; so there needs to be some benefit for the Parish. The amount of CB is correct considering PV are 10-12% efficient and WT about 50%. The policy will be reviewed regularly. Cllr Sutton asked if the policy adequately covers ‘cumulative effect and visual impact’? Cllr Horn replied that the policy states the Parish is an exporter and takes into account public opinion on each application. It is therefore very important that Parishioners take every opportunity to comment on the applications through CC.

It was resolved to accept this policy

**Proposed: Cllr Horn                      Seconded: Cllr Medland                      unan                      14/061**

**7a. Applications – moved to the end of the meeting in order to use the bigger room**

**7b. Approvals  
PA14/04693 & 04695 – Milton Farm. Covered Yard Building**

**For Information**

**Land South of Dilland Farm.** EIA Screening opinion for a single 50kW wind turbine tip height 46m.  
**Northern Agricultural Building, Northmoor.** Application for Prior Approval of proposed change of use from Agricultural Building to dwelling house. Planning permission required.

**PA14/08769 Northmoor, Whitstone. Electro Greenpower Ltd – screening opinion for PV park – EIA not required**

**8. Portfolio Reports:**

**Footpaths –** Hilton Woods has been resolved through enforcement action. The gates, pillars and walls have been removed. Cllr Sutton reported that one of the residents thought that the removal of the walls was ‘heavy handed’ – the walls did obstruct the footpath but unfortunately the park owners did not engage with the process. Progress is being made with the Settlement as well. PC thanks Cllr Sutton for his hard work on these issues.

**Localism/Parish Plan –** Parish Plan postponed. Cllr Sutton will forward for discussion and amendment before the next meeting. The Leader project has formed a group and produced a draft local development strategy which identifies the budget of approx. £3m over the next 5 years.

**Parish Hall - none**

## 9.a Correspondence for Action

1. Whitstone Stores – advertising and Parish notice board. Postponed to next meeting
2. Letters of apology regarding vandalism to a Parish bench. noted
3. Darren Humber – tender for 2015 footpaths and verge cutting. Clerk to write accepting tender and ask that another cut be undertaken at the end of the month
4. Vodaphone – Rural Open Sure Signal programme. Noted, but short application time.
5. Whitstone Stores – parking around Meadowside, Balsdon road, and the store. Already discussed in PQ

## 9.b Correspondence for Information

1. HMRC – can't claim VAT for the period 1/4/10-31/3/11 due to the 3 year rule. noted
2. Renplan Consulting. Notification of a public exhibition regarding erection of a wind turbine. Noted.

## 10. Policy and other items

**Clerk's review.** It was resolved that the Council appoint Cllr Furse and Hopper jointly carry out an Annual Appraisal/Development Review with the Parish Council Clerk in accordance with employment contract and CALC best practice procedures.

**Proposed: Cllr Sutton                      Seconded: Cllr Horn                      unan                      14/062**

**Parish Notice board.** It was resolved to increase the budget to £550 + VAT for a hardwood notice board made by a local craftsman

**Proposed: Cllr Horn                      Seconded: Cllr Adamson                      unan                      14/063**

**Budget** – other items to be included in the 2015-16 budget. none

**Cornwall Council** – Budget. BAN meeting on the 13<sup>th</sup> October. noted

**Paradise Park** – Architect's ideas/drawings for the land – Kivells are continuing to liaise between their clients and the architects, report postponed until next meeting

## 11. Accounts

### Balances 29<sup>th</sup> August 2014

Current Account	£ 4,732.02
NS&I	£ 766.71
Complete DD mandate for data protection	

### 11.a Accounts for Payment

Esther Greig	Clerk Wages	000454	£144.20
Information Commissioners Office - Data Protection registration		DD	£35
St.Anne Parish Hall	Hall Hire	000456	£34
Darren Humber	Whitstone verges and footpaths	000457	£1028

### Income

Cornwall Council	Community Chest Grant		£238.04
Cornwall Council	Precept		£2143.50
Cornwall Council	CTS grant		£349.45
<b>Proposed: Cllr Horn                      Seconded: Cllr Adamson                      unan                      14/064</b>			

The following items would exceed the PC allowed spending on s137 items:

Cllr N Furse	War memorial expenses	£371.34
	(Tamar Trading Company Ltd £157.98	
	Cholwill Plant Hire £213.36)	

Cllr Furse is happy to wait until the new financial year for reimbursement

## 12. Items for November Agenda.

Cllr Sutton proposes to approve the Parish Plan update

Paradise Park

Highways

Shop Advertising

Budget/precept 15-16

Cllr Furse – apologies

\*\*Meeting moved into the main Hall and Cllr Medland left the room\*\*

## 5. Public Question Time

13 members of the public and Cllr Chopak. Cllr Furse invited comments from the room.

David Fowler wanted to know how local the workforce would be and then stay? He noted that in the planning application the traffic report state that all works traffic will be time related – not between 8-9am? how will that be enforced? This could have a big impact on the local area.

Jim Lee from Laurence Associates. A 30 acre proposal for 5 megawatts – smaller than originally planned. The site is a significant distance from the highway and well screened – no significant visual and landscape impact. There are buffer zones and the hedges will be allowed to increase in height to 3m. He will convey the concerns about traffic to his client – this can be enforced by planning. This is grade 4 agricultural land. His client is offering £5,079pa over 20 years or a one off payment of £30,475. Cllr Furse stated that following a PC site visit; the north side hedge should be allowed to grow. It was confirmed that this hedge is also owned by the landowner of the site.

Mr Medland asked if the PC and CC objected to the application – would the CB still be payable. Cllr Chopak stated yes. CB are not part of the planning considerations. For example, Dilland WT - although all objected initially, it is being erected and payment is expected.

Mr Dan Cock agreed with previous comments that large scale development use local labour. Will the PC have a CB policy? Cllr Furse states that yes, this is very important. It may be that the CB does not come to the PC but to a separate entity. Mrs Emily Medland stated that there are 21 letters of support and only 1 objection. Cllr Horn asked if the 3 parks are linked and if the CB would follow the same formula for the other Parishes? Jim Lee confirmed yes to both. He will amend the traffic Management Plan to reflect the parish concerns.

### 7a. Applications

**PA14/08271. Northmoor, Whitstone. Electro Greenpower Ltd.** Construction of solar photovoltaic park and attendant infrastructure.

Following an amendment to include traffic management enforcement – Clerk to have Foreman's mobile phone number.

**Proposed: Cllr Furse                      Seconded: Cllr Adamson                      unan                      14/065**  
It was resolved to reply with **No Objection:**

Whitstone Parish already hosts 1.2MW of renewable energy; therefore it is an exporter of power. Our Parish also hosts the substation that many of the renewable schemes hope to be linked into.

We note that there is one negative comment from Parishioners on this application on the Cornwall Council Planning Portal on the 8<sup>th</sup> October. The site is somewhat screened from the village itself; therefore drawing minimal comment. However, may we request that if planning permission is passed on this site, that a condition be placed to allow the northern hedges of the fields be allowed to grow to an increased height to ultimately provide total screening of the site from the village. (Please see enclosed map). We also request that the Traffic Management Plan be enforced to minimise impact on the village during the construction phase – it was suggested that the Parish Clerk have a contact number for the site foreman.

**Proposed: Cllr Horn                      Seconded: Cllr Adamson                      unan                      14/066**

**The Meeting Closed at 2045**