



**MINUTES OF THE 804th MEETING OF BUDOOCK PARISH COUNCIL,
HELD AT BUDOOCK VILLAGE HALL, ON MONDAY 17th December 2007**

PRESENT : Cllrs Bastin (Chairman), Fairbank, Fryer, Gibson, Miss Pengelly, Tim McCabe and Trevor McCabe.

There were no comments from the public on matters on the agenda.

C2667 TO ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received and accepted from C Cllr Hatton, PC Cormack & PCSO Huddleston.

C2668 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

a) In Items on the Agenda

There were no declarations of interest in items on the agenda..

b) Of gifts of a value of more than £25

There were no declarations of gifts of a value of more than £25.

C2669 TO CONFIRM MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

a) Meeting of Budoock Parish Council, 26th November 2007

It was proposed by Cllr Gibson, seconded by Cllr Trevor McCabe and

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 26th November 2007 be approved as a true record and duly signed.

b) Planning Committee Meeting, 1st December 2007

It was proposed by Cllr Trevor McCabe, seconded by Cllr Fairbank and

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on 1st December 2007 be approved as a true record and duly signed.

C2670 TO REPORT MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES NOT ON THE AGENDA

a) External Audit of the Council's accounts for 2006/07

The Clerk stated that he had received the notice that this had been completed.

b) List of Local Organisations

The Clerk stated that this had been updated, although it was still short of two telephone numbers. It had been loaded onto the website, and letters inviting organisations to apply for Section 137 grant funding had been sent out, with a response date of mid January 2008.

c) Meeting with Village Hall and Playing Field Committees

The Clerk stated that meeting invitations had been sent out, with a suggested meeting date early in January 2008.

d) Parish Plan Consultation Meeting

The Clerk suggested that this be held at a date after mid-January 2008, as a follow-up to the Section 137 dialogue and the Village Halls / Playing Field Committee Meeting.

e) Training for Councillors

As no further response had been received from CALC, the Clerk had requested a copy of the Training Notes from "Working With Your Council", with a view to giving the training courses himself. He reported that he had requested the date for the proposed Planning training from Kerrier DC.

f) Repairs to Pump Garden Wall

The Clerk reported that he had finally received the two written quotations, which had been sent to Flogas, for forwarding to their insurers.

g) Replacement of broken or missing street signs

The Clerk stated that Kerrier DC had agreed to attend to these before the end of March 2008. He still had to contact Cornwall CC regarding the 30mph sign by the end of School Lane.

C2671 AGENDA ITEMS

a) To consider recommendations of Policy & Finance Working Group in respect of Budget & Precept 2008/09

The Clerk reported that the Parish Precept form had been received from Kerrier DC, and that it needed to be returned by 9th Jan 2008. Papers from the Policy & Finance Working Group had been circulated in advance of the meeting, so that members would have the opportunity to consider the recommendations.

As Chairman of the Working Group, Cllr Fairbank directed members to the summary on the third page. The Working Group was aware of the previous month's discussion regarding carried forward balances, and trying to associate Precept increases with the level of inflation. A general increase of 1.8%, which was well below the level of inflation, had been included.

However, Cllr Fairbank stated that the council had already agreed to undertake a number of significant projects in 2008/09, including :-

- Footpath repairs / Additional work (Trevoney / Dark Lane / others)
- S137 Donations to Local Organisations
- Development of a Parish Plan

Even taking into account that there should be 50% grant funding over 2 years, for the development of a Parish Plan, these projects were estimated to amount to £5,750 of expenditure in 2008/09.

To avoid peaks and troughs in the Parish Precept, a 3-year projection of Income & Expenditure had been undertaken. This had also been included in the papers which were circulated. Taking these projects into account, it was recommended that the Precept for 2008/09 should be £19,500, which represented a significant increase of 44.4% in total.

The Chairman asked the Clerk for figures per household and per elector, based upon the proposal, which it was reported would be (approximately) :-

- £30.15 per "Band D" household [2007/08 - £20.60]
(out of an estimated Council Tax bill of £1,300)
- £16.11 per Elector [2007/08 - £11.68]
(an additional £4.43 per year or 8.5 pence per week, per Elector)

There was concern that the proposed increase in the Precept was too high, and members asked why this was. The Clerk explained that the Precept had remained virtually static for quite a number of years, during which time no significant projects had been undertaken. This had resulted in a situation where any significant project activity could only be undertaken by increasing the Precept.

Members asked if more of the £12,000 of Carried Forward Balances forecast for the end of 2007/08 could be used to reduce the 2008/09 Precept. The Clerk explained that the proposal was to use £6,000 for this purpose in 2008/09, with the remaining £6,000 being available for a similar exercise for 2009/10. It was forecast that there would be no Carried Forward Balances at the end of 2009/10, after which annual expenditure would need to be covered out of income.

The possible deferment of some of the proposed projects was considered. This, plus the use of £6,000 of Carried Forward Balances, would remove much of the need to increase the Precept.

Following further lengthy discussions it was proposed by Cllr Tim McCabe, seconded by Cllr Gibson and

RESOLVED that the cost of the Parish Plan (£3,500 less £1,750 grant) and the Footpaths improvements (additional £1,500) be removed from the Budget, and that £1,250 be budgeted for S137 Donations (a reduction from £2,500), and that the **Precept be set at £15,000 for 2008/09**, an increase of 11.1% over 2007/08, which would leave a projected £6,000 of Carried Forward Balances at the 2008/09 Year End.

The Clerk agreed to rework the Income and Expenditure projection, based upon this resolution, and circulate the revised document to all members.

b) To consider the content of the Tender for Footpaths Maintenance, effective 1st April 2008

As Footpaths portfolio holder, Cllr Fairbank explained that the current contract ends on 31st March 2008, and proposed that the new contract should be for a single year, as the county-wide PPIP (Public Paths Improvement Program) was scheduled to be in Budock around April. This would result in changes to the funding arrangements for footpaths maintenance post-PPIP.

He stated that the existing contract between the council and its contractor did not match the Local Maintenance Partnership Agreement (LMP), between Cornwall CC and the Parish Council, so its scope would need to be increased, and it was considered likely that this would result in increased contractor costs. He also stated that the council's decision to remove the additional £1,500 of footpaths expenditure in 2008/09 would have an impact on future footpaths maintenance.

For completeness, the Clerk stated that LMP membership was not mandatory. Should the council decide not to remain in LMP, then footpaths maintenance would instead revert to Cornwall CC.

To be in place for 1st April 2008, the council's tender advertisement would need to be published in early January 2008, with the content of the tender agreed at the January council meeting, and returned tenders evaluated at the February meeting.

The Clerk was asked to place the tender advertisement in early January, and establish, for the January meeting, the impact of dropping out of LMP. He was also asked to circulate Cllr Fairbank's suggested changes to the existing footpaths maintenance contract in advance of the January meeting.

c) To consider the council's response to Cornwall CC's consultation document on the Fire Brigade's Integrated Risk Management Plan

The Clerk summarised the document, and asked if the council wished to respond. Members did not consider that they were knowledgeable enough to submit a considered view, especially as they did not know who else was being consulted, and to what use the responses would be put.

Following discussion, it was proposed by Cllr Gibson, seconded by Cllr Tim McCabe and

RESOLVED that the council should not submit a response, and that the Clerk should write to Cornwall CC explaining why.

d) To consider the council's response to Cornwall CC's consultation document on Street Lighting

The Clerk summarised the document, and asked if the council wished to respond. Members did not consider that there was sufficient information to give a considered view. The Clerk was asked to obtain more details, and defer consideration of the council's response until its January meeting.

e) To consider the council's response to a request from Helston Town Council for Tree Planting Sites

The Clerk explained that Helston TC had some funding for tree planting, but insufficient suitable sites. It had therefore contacted local Parish Councils to ask if they had any suitable sites. Following discussion, the Clerk was asked to respond to say that there were no such sites within Budock.

C2672 CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk reported on correspondence received, a schedule of which is attached to the minutes as a record.

C2673 REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

a) County Council

In the absence of C Cllr Hatton, D Cllr Mrs Fryer reported that County Council elections will be in May 2009, and that an Interim Joint Committee had been set up to progress the reorganisation.

b) District Council

D Cllr Mrs Fryer reported on a number of Kerrier DC matters :-

- Kerrier DC's Council Tax for 2008/09 would be increased by just 1.5%.
- The planning application at Higher Argal (West Country Fruit Sales) was unlikely to be dealt with by planning officers under delegated powers, but instead by the Planning Committee.
- The issue of parking at Treliever was under discussion with County Highways and the university.

C2674 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

a) To Note Planning Decisions received from the Planning Authority

The Clerk reported on decisions received, a schedule of which is attached to the minutes as a record.

b) To Note Planning Enforcement Complaints received by the Planning Authority

The Clerk reported on enforcement complaints received, a schedule of which is attached to the minutes as a record.

c) To Consider Planning Applications Received From the District Authority

- (i) PA07/01908/F – Mr M Hough, Lower Crill Farm Barn, Roscarrack Road, Budock Water – Retention and completion of development without compliance with Condition 5 of Decision Notice Number PA02/00796/F dated 25th September 2002, relating to vehicular access and formation of a new access (amended design)**

The Clerk explained that the amendment was to move the proposed access directly onto Roscarrack Road, in line with the council's observations in respect of the original design.

OBSERVATIONS : NO OBJECTIONS.

C2675 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND REPRESENTATIVES

a) Police Report

In the absence of PC Cormack and PCSO Huddleston, the Clerk reported that there had been no crimes reported during the month to 13th December 2007, in comparison with 10 crimes reported in the same period in 2006.

b) Traffic & Highways

The Clerk was requested to ask County Highways for grit boxes to be placed on Parc Stepney and Watersmead Parc, and also to remind them that the one at the top of Vicarage Hill had not been repaired.

C2676 RIGHTS OF WAY MATTERS

Cllr Fairbank reported that :-

- Mr A Muirhead was investigating the Trelil bridleway issue, on behalf of the Annear Estate.
- There was an ownership issue in respect of the two overhanging trees at Pendra Loweth, and it was suspected that they might belong to the Cattery. The Clerk was asked to check with Land Registry.

The Chairman reported problems on Dark Lane, following the closure for work by Western Power. Trees had been dislodged, and there was lots of debris and mess. The Clerk was asked to contact Western Power, and advised that the contact name could be obtained from the notice on School Lane.

C2677 FINANCE AND PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

It was proposed by Cllr Trevor McCabe, seconded by Cllr Miss Pengelly and

RESOLVED that accounts totalling **£3,362.64** be approved for payment and duly signed. A schedule of these is attached to the minutes as a record.

C2678 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of Budock Parish Council will be held on Monday, 28th January 2008, commencing at 7.30pm, in Budock Village Hall.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no comments from members of the public.

Signed : 28th January 2008
Chairman