

MINUTES of AN EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF PENTEWAN VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL held on THURSDAY 7 MARCH 2019 in PENTEWAN VILLAGE HALL at 7.00pm

Present: Cllrs Derek Yeo, George Muskett, Mike Ward, Miranda Smith, Ian Watkins, John Sundercombe and Wendy Coop

In attendance: Dave Watkins, Flood and Coastal Strategic Resilience Lead – Cornwall Council; Julie Larter (Clerk). 35 members of the public.

(18/236) Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Vicky Cartwright and Cllr James Mustoe CC.

(18/237) Minutes of a Meeting of a Parish Council held on 20 February 2019

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held on 20 February 2019 be signed as an accurate record of the meeting subject to the following amendment:

18/235 Draft Lease with Pentewan Sands Ltd:

Members considered the draft prepared by the parish council's lawyer; the Clerk was asked to clarify a point on the removal of abandoned vehicles with Cornwall Council. In addition Clause 7 should be amended to read *7. The Licencee must not deposit or allow any rubbish or litter in the car park save in any receptacle designed to collect or contain rubbish or litter. The license can then be forwarded to Pentewan Sands Ltd.*

It was **RESOLVED to purchase a parking payment machine from Metric.** The machine will accept payment by contactless and chip and pin only, thus saving the time and cost of cash handling. The machine will be blue and the parish council agreed to enter into a service contract with Metric. The contract will be through ESPO which is a procurement consortium so will comply with the terms of the parish council's Financial Regulations

(18/238) Declarations of Interest on Items on the Agenda

There were no declarations of interest.

(18/239) Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman outlined the purpose of the meeting and introduced Dave Watkins from Cornwall Council

(18/240) Proposals to Improve Pentewan's Sea Defences

Mr Watkins explained that Cornwall Council as the Coastal Protection Authority is responsible for coastal erosion and the Environment Agency is responsible for sea protection. The EA and CC have been meeting with the parish council and Steve Double MP since 2016 to try to find ways of protecting Pentewan. In September 2017 the EA drew up an Outline Economic Appraisal which set out a number of options ranging from doing nothing to comprehensive measures. The favoured option is to carry out work to reprofile and stabilise dunes. Dunes would be created with either a rock armour or geothermal core, filled with sand and covered with appropriate planting. This would cost in the region of £275,000 - £300,000. Other measures were ruled out on cost grounds - it is predicted that it would cost £1.5m to rebuild the breakwater, £1.7m to replace the lockgates and £3.2m to rebuild the breakwater and replace the lockgates.

The next stage is for the EA to submit an outline business case to Defra. Defra funding works on a 6-year cycle and the intention is to submit a bid for the next funding stream in 2021.

AECOM has been appointed by Cormac to undertake a delivery review which will take 8 weeks and cost £30,000. Cornwall Council has agreed to funding of £15,000, Cormac £5,000 which leaves the community to find £10,000. Cornwall Council needs a commitment for the funding by the end of this financial year otherwise the £15,000 pot of money will be lost.

(18/241) Questions from Councillors

Q When will funding be due from donors?

A CC needs to be sure of match funding by 31 March, but a letter will suffice.

Q Is 2021 the earliest a bid could be submitted?

A It may be possible to bring this forward if a previously agreed project drops out

Mr Watkins stressed that if this project doesn't go ahead then it is unlikely anything will be done to protect Pentewan.

It was noted that Pentewan Sands Ltd will donate rock armour to protect the area by the Sailing Club slipway.

(18/242) Public Participation

Q Can we have a breakdown of money being contributed by the community?

A Pentewan Sands Ltd £3,500, St Austell Brewery £1,000, Pentewan Sailing Club £1,000. The Parish Council will discuss their contribution later.

Q Has this gone out to competitive tendering?

A Cornwall Council has a procurement procedure and Cormac is their contractor. If the work went out to tender it would take longer than the end of the financial year. Questions were asked about how competitive the quote is.

Q Why are we rushing?

A There is no guarantee there will be any money available next year. We currently have a window of opportunity.

Q Is there a risk in doing a feasibility study? Is there any guarantee of getting the money?

A It doesn't matter that it is a privately owned beach. 20 properties would be affected if the current sea defences were to fail and more people would suffer if the roads were made inaccessible. Currently priority is given to schemes that improve the outcome for the maximum number of residential properties which is weighted unfairly for small communities in Cornwall – Cornwall Council is making representations about this.

I feel it is money well spent even if it is just for a feasibility study.

Q Who is responsible for the river where it meanders and changes direction?

A I am unsure

Why has Pentewan Sands Ltd allowed erosion to get so bad when they have had the stone for 10 years?

The breakwater is Grade 2 listed – surely the owners have an obligation to keep it in good repair.

Q Isn't spending money on flooding more important than on the car park?

Q Will AECOM's study take into account local knowledge and eco systems?

A Local knowledge is extremely valuable – let councillors know and we will feed to the consultants.

Q The feasibility study is based on the breakwater and sand dunes. There are weak links in the river bank.

A The report will take into account the weak spots. The member of the public who raised this will send details to Cllr Ward.

The Chairman asked that if anyone has any further questions or concerns they should send them to the parish council.

(18/243) Financial Contribution from the Parish Council

The parish council will determine the level of their contribution when it meets on 20 March, but it was **RESOLVED to provisionally match fund Pentewan Sands Ltd offer of £3,500.**

(18/244) Dates of Forthcoming Meetings

Dates of forthcoming meetings (At 7.00pm in the Committee Room, St Austell One Stop Shop, Penwinnick Road unless stated): 20 March, 17 April – also the Annual Parish Meeting (Pentewan Village Hall), 15 May, 19 June, 17 July, 21 August (if needed), 18 September, 16 October (Pentewan Village Hall), 20 November, 18 December.

The meeting closed at 2015 hours

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Chairman

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Date