

Minutes of Warleggan Parish Meeting of 4th September 2012 at the Jubilee Hall, Mount

Important note:** the following is a transcription of the minutes for the above meeting, as approved at the meeting following, held on 27th November 2012. Note that this version may yet contain errors or omissions, and that the names of those present are not given in this transcriptions of minutes (these can be seen in the Parish Clerk's copy). **In the event of any discrepancies, it is the hand-written version held by the Parish Clerk that shall be deemed the approved minutes.

A list of those present was collated via a clipboard passed around the meeting with request to sign in and state the parish they are from. The List is filed with Windmill application. (see *Parish Clerk's copy of the minutes for list of those attending, and apologies received*)

The **minutes of 7th August** were read and agreed as a true record.

Matters arising

1. A request was made and recorded for the Clerk to send Ocean Housing, with a copy to Mrs D Watson (County Councillor) a list of our objections to Ocean Housing's current proposals as listed in the minutes, as it was felt this clearly summarised our objections.
2. The Clerk read selected parts from an article in the Cornish Guardian of Friday 17th August 2012 entitled "[More than 100 Object to Turbine](#)". This article by Jade Farrington contained several inaccuracies relating to our previous meeting and issues raised (see next page for article).
3. Mrs Watson (County Councillor) informed us that she had called for the Bofindle wind turbine application to go to full planning committee.
4. We received a letter from Jo Tully of Ocean Housing indicating that Cornwall Council's affordable housing officer would like to discuss issues with us. We contacted Mr Nick Marston, however he declined to meet us.
5. Mr Smeeth gave reassurances that the war memorial's renovation would be completed by Remembrance Sunday.
6. The clerk explained that the draft minutes for 7th August 2012 meeting had been put on the Warleggan.net website prior to this meeting. Several of those present had read these and said that they had found this useful and requested that this continues.

Other business

Planning application by Mr Lane for the “Installation of a 5W (should be 5kW) small wind turbine (E Vance R9000) on a 15 m tower, 2.3 m blade length; 17.2 m overall height at Castle Dewey, Warleggan”.

Mr Lane was given the opportunity to explain his application which he described as “like a lamp post with a propeller on top”. He described it as emitting a “low hum” which could be heard up to 100 m away. He had not asked his neighbours their views on this application, however he knew one has “strong reservations”, even others following this application. He spoke positively about wind turbines and their environmental benefits.

Those at the meeting were then able to express their views which often raised inadmissible aspects such as increased costs and tariffs. No environmental survey had been done, however Mr Keast explained that this is not required and it complies with all planning and environmental regulations. Several complained that it was well within an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Mr Flynn said that we should look at all applications on an individual basis, and their size and location should be taken into consideration, and the effect of this application would be minimal.

It was also said that the number of locations of wind turbines is limited by the ability of power cables in the area to take excess capacity, and the planners will limit development to stop excessive developments in specific areas, even if by different people.

After those present were able to express their views, the planning sub-committee met. Mrs Gross and Mr Short both criticised the report in the Cornish Guardian as inaccurate and wished it noted that the vote was not affected, but wished to stress the need for the freedom of speech among the committee and how they disliked being accosted. Further discussion then followed with further issues raised such as it is a small structure in a large environment; it is by agreeing to such applications that quieter ones will be developed, we need to support agriculture and reduce food costs, that this will change the landscape, and that a significant proportion of the parish disagree with the application.

The vote was five in favour with three against (*see Parish Clerk's copy of the minutes for list of names*). It was decided to comment that “we supported this application on a majority decision”.

annex

More than 100 object to turbine

Friday, August 17, 2012

[Cornish Guardian](#)

A CONTROVERSIAL wind turbine application has attracted more than 100 objections from locals and holidaymakers.

Matthew and Jo Rowe have applied to install a Vestas V29 225kW wind turbine at Great Tredinnick Farm in St Neot, between Bodmin and Liskeard, to cut their electricity bills.

Tristan Farnworth wrote to Cornwall Council to strongly object.

"To construct this huge and hideous monstrosity that hundreds will have to witness on a daily basis so that one person can have the convenience of slashing their electricity seems an extraordinary act of ecological vandalism," he said.

Another turbine application for Bofindle Farm, Mount has also proved controversial, with 36 comments to date.

Annie Ovenden said a survey indicated more than 90 per cent of residents were opposed.

"This strength of feeling was demonstrated on Tuesday, August 7, at the parish meeting where, unusually, the village hall was filled to capacity with some having to stand in the foyer," she wrote.

Councillor Derris Watson, whose Cornwall Council division covers both, said objections to Great Tredinnick came from all over the country.

"They've got people who come down on holiday because some of the nearby properties are holiday lets," she said.

"The protestors from St Neot hijacked the Warleggan parish meeting where they were discussing their turbine and two abstained because they said they felt intimidated by the hostile presence from people outside the parish."

Mrs Watson said St Neot Parish Council voted three to five in favour but recommended it went to a full planning committee.

"How can you support something then ask for it to be called in? It's a really odd situation so I'm talking to planning about it," she said.

"I've called in the Warleggan one because on the parish council one was vehemently opposed, two were in favour, two wanted to see if some policy came out and two abstained due to intimidation. To me it didn't give a clear indication either way."

Mrs Watson said there was a balance and farms needed to be viable.

"Great Tredinnick has got two families – father and son – and four farm hands," she said.

"They're a dairy farm with quite a large herd. They would like to expand but energy costs are a huge burden and, with milk being sold below the cost of production, anything which helps them remain viable is, to my mind, good."

Mrs Watson said she could see both sides on both applications and would wait for the officers' recommendations.