

**ST ALLEN PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE VIRTUAL EXTRAORDINARY MEETING
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 13th JANUARY 2021
USING THE ZOOM FACILITY**

Present: Cllr. McCulloch (Chairman)
Cllr. Hare
Cllr. Mewton
Cllr. Orrell (from point mentioned)
Cllr. Wilson

Apologies: Cllr. Hicks, Sue Lake

In Attendance: Miss J Ritchie (Clerk)
Cllr Sue Patton (Chairman, Gwennap Parish Council)
Seven members of the public (one from point mentioned)

1. Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman welcomed members of the public to the meeting and introduced Councillor Sue Patton, Chairman of Gwennap Parish Council, who had been invited by this Council to give a presentation on Gwennap PC's environmental programme and its ongoing work towards an environmentally friendly, pesticide free parish.

Councillor Orrell and one member of the public connected to the meeting at 7.38pm.

2. Presentation from Councillor Sue Patton

Councillor Patten's presentation addressed key points of interest:

- i) environmental growth;
- ii) non-development of green spaces;
- iii) water and energy efficiency;
- iv) use of renewable energy.

Gwennap Parish Council's own environmental programme included wildflower and tree planting, creation of a wildlife pond, recycling and the use of pesticide alternatives. The Parish Council was currently running a one-year trial of pesticide-free weed control, and was using locally sourced sustainable materials in its upgrade of the playground equipment. Consideration was given to the appropriateness and design of all new developments within the parish.

Having declared a climate emergency, the Parish Council had formed a Working Group consisting of Councillors and parishioners, and headed by a Climate Change Champion (one of the Councillors). The group was working on an Action Plan to ensure the Parish was carbon neutral by 2030. By involving everyone, including youth groups, it could ensure a total community commitment.

3. Questions from Councillors

Members questions included:

- Acquisition of land for the environmental programme and the availability of funding;
- Advice on native tree planting;
- Ways to fundraise;
- How much did Gwennap PC commit to the project from its own funds;
- Use and effectiveness of Enviro pesticide-free weed spray;
- Gwennap Parish Council's Green Policy.

4. Questions from members of the public

These included:

- What is the most effective way to use the pesticide-free weedkiller;
- How does the Working Party operate within the Parish Council;
- How the Parish Council could work with the environment and use it as an educational means to gain public interest;
- Use of media / advertising to connect with parishioners.

5. Further questions from Councillors

- How to apply climate emergency credentials to planning applications by having a design guide;
- Whether the Parish Council should consider having a Neighbourhood Plan;
- What renewable energies Gwennap Parish Council uses – AS/Heat pumps and solar panels for domestic dwellings, use of wind turbines if managed carefully and potentially the geo-thermal project;
- How Gwennap Parish achieved Heritage status.

6. Date of Next Meeting

Monday 18th January 2020, 7.30pm, using the Zoom facility.

The Chairman thanked Councillor Patten for her presentation.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.25pm.

Signed
CHAIRMAN

Date

