

ST GERMAN'S PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ST GERMAN'S PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, 30 SEPTEMBER 2024 AT THE ELIOT HALL, ST GERMAN'S AT 6.30PM

Present:

Tideford Ward: Cllr A Hodge
St Germans Ward: Cllrs N Witton, R Elliott, J True.
Polbathic Ward:
Bethany Ward: Cllrs P Pipe, P Chilton

Also attending: Mrs J Hoskin (Parish Clerk)
Cllr K Ewert (Cornwall Council)
Three members of the public

1.. Chairmans to open the meeting. The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and invited the members of the public to address the council, if they so wished.

- A gentleman had attended the meeting with reference to agenda item 6b) planning application PA24/06802.
- A lady interested in the parish council vacancies introduced herself and gave her reasons for wanting to join.

At this point of the meeting the Council agreed to bring forward agenda Item 12 Parish Council Vacancies.

12. Parish Council Vacancies – response to the advertised vacancies for the following parish wards - Tideford (2), Polbathic (1) and co-option. It was proposed by Cllr Hodge, seconded by Cllr True and unanimously agreed Tara Hooper be co-opted to fill a vacancy on the Polbathic Ward. Tara was welcomed by the Chairman and joined the meeting having signed her “declaration of acceptance of office.

2. Apologies for absence were received from Cllr B Skelton. Cllr True apologised for missing the last meeting.

3. Declarations of Interest relating to matters on the agenda. Cllr Elliott declared an interest in agenda item 6b) planning application PA24/06802.

4. To approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday, 2 September 2024. The minutes of the meeting held on the 2 September 2024 were approved and signed by the Chairman following an amendment to item 7.

Proposed by Cllr Hodge, seconded by Cllr Chilton and agreed by those who attended. Cllr True abstained having not been at the meeting.

5. Report from Cornwall Councillor Kate Ewert. Cllr Ewert presented her report detailing the results of the Tideford Air Quality report which she had discussed today with officers at Cornwall Council. Some sections of the report lacked details such as windows not being recorded as opened or closed when recordings were being taken. Nine homes had not responded. The results would now be analysed by students at Bath University and a report expected in approximately two months. Cllrs Hodge and Witton offered to meet with Cllr Ewert to further discuss the results.

The cemetery in St Germans managed by Cornwall Council was very overgrown but had now been cut. Cllr Ewert offered to pass information on to the CC Environment Department that overhanging

trees from the cemetery were now covering the signs; and trees not related to this site but further along in Quay Road were now so low that they were touching the roofs of high vehicles.

The review of school bus transport to Looe had been carried out and those not within this designated school area were no longer entitled to free bus passes. It was felt this affected about 21 children living in St Germans.

A discussion was held about the new government devolution that suggested bigger areas with combined authorities. It was felt the geographical area of Cornwall with its' 650,000 residents may not wish to join with the Plymouth area.

Two items were raised with Cllr Ewert being the updating of the Cornwall Council mapping system (no air quality data); and the information on the music events licence for Port Eliot.

(Cllr Ewert left the meeting at 6.52pm)

6. Planning applications – to discuss and vote whether or not to approve:-

a) PA24/06721 1A Lower Fairfield, St Germans – replacement windows and external doors, rendered external wall insulation system, whole house ventilation system (MVHR).

Support, proposed by Cllr Elliott, seconded by Cllr Chilton and agreed by the majority subject to the colour of the render not to be blue, and request it must be in-keeping with neighbouring properties. Cllr Hooper abstained not having seen the application.

b) PA24/06802 Treskelly Farm, St Germans – Extensions and alterations to existing house including solar PV panels to adjacent outbuilding. Cllr Elliott declared an interest and left the meeting for this item. Support, proposed by Cllr Witton, seconded by Cllr True and unanimously agreed by those who had seen the application.

c) PA24/07122 Causeway Cottage, Fore Street, St Germans – Non material amendment to decision PA21/03218 dated 10.06.2021 to change the proposed traditional solid garage door on the extension to an aluminium framed 3 pane glass bifold door in anthracite grey to match all other windows. Support, proposed by Cllr True, seconded by Cllr Elliott and supported by Cllr Pipe. Cllrs. Hodge, Witton, Chilton and Hooper abstained.

7. Cornwall Council Planning decisions and reports were noted.

a) PA24/05016 11 Fairfield, St Germans – Proposed garage. Refused. The Clerk detailed the reasons on the decision notice.

b) PA24/02733 Horsemans Hill Farm, Trerulefoot – Change of use of site from agricultural to Regenerative Low Impact Development including erection of off-grid low-impact dwelling (retrospective), erection of polytunnel, erection of workshop and erection of compost toilet. Demolition of a shed. Awaiting a decision.

c) PA24/05652 Old East Iron Works, Polbathic – Reserved matters application for construction of 19 dwellings and landscaping following outline approval PA17/12198, without compliance of condition x of decision PA21/10521 dated 21.01.2022. Awaiting a decision.

d) PA24/06426 Tyhanner, Old Road, Polbathic – Construction of incidental use building consisting of gym/lounge/home office and shower room and associated works. Approved.

8. Planning Enforcement matters, if available. The Council agreed to look at the planning conditions applied to Polmarkin Farm, Tideford in relation to the operator’s licence and parking of lorries.

9. Finance:

- i. **to note and approve current financial positions on all accounts.** The bank reconciliation was circulated by the Clerk and bank account balances checked by the Chairman.
- ii. **to approve and authorise the payment of accounts as circulated.** It was proposed by Cllr Hodge, seconded by Cllr Elliott and unanimously agreed the accounts be approved and paid.

| Method | Payee | Details | Nett | Vat | Total |
|--------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|---------|------|---------|
| BACS | J Hoskin & HMRC | Salary & PAYE | 945.33 | | 945.33 |
| BACS | Tamar Accounting | Monthly fee | 20.00 | 4.00 | 24.00 |
| Cheque | Parish Magazine Printing | Nut Tree July & October | 405.93 | | 405.93 |
| Cheque | AJ Gallagher Insurance | Policy renewal Oct 24 | 2125.15 | | 2125.15 |
| Cheque | St Germans Eliot Hall | Room Hire June / Sept x2 | 61.00 | | 61.00 |
| Direct Debit | SSE | Street lighting Tideford | 70.68 | 3.53 | 74.21 |
| Cheque | Cornwall Tree Consultancy | Tree surveys and reports | 859.80 | | 859.80 |

- iii. **Report from the F & GP Meeting held on Wednesday 25 September 2024 (minutes circulated) and approve the precept for 2025/2026 and any further actions that need to be taken or authorised.** The council noted the contents of the actions from the F & GP meeting and unanimously agreed to request a precept of £ 58,000 for the 2025/2026 financial year. Proposed by Cllr Witton, seconded by Cllr Hodge and unanimously agreed. The precept would remain the same as 2023/2024 and 2024/2025.
The Council agreed the financial amount to be transferred to the new bank account. Proposed by Cllr Hodge, seconded by Cllr Elliott and unanimously agreed.
The Council also approved the increase in clerk’s salary as published by NALC. Proposed by Cllr Hodge, seconded by Cllr Elliott and unanimously agreed.
- iv. **Conclusion of 2023/2024 audit notice.** A copy of the notice was passed to Councillors for the notice boards.

10. Burial Ground - to receive an update on the burial ground and approve any work required. To discuss the tree survey and action any work required. Work needed to trim the cremated remains areas was discussed along with the tree trimming required.
Cllr Chilton will speak to Staceys about coming back in the better weather to raise the remaining memorial tablets, where needed.

11. Nut Tree – report for the next parish magazine. Cllr True will submit the report for the November edition.

12. Parish Council Vacancies – response to the advertised vacancies for the following parish wards - Tideford (2), Polbathic (1) and co-option. Discussed after agenda item 1 at the start of this meeting.

13. Church Road, Tideford – update from Cllr Witton on the request for signage. Having discussed the report, it was suggested the council endeavours to provide a speed limit sign at the cost of

approximately £11,00 to address the speeding issues. This was proposed by Cllr Witton, seconded by Cllr Hodge and supported by Cllrs Chilton, and True. Cllr Pipe was against and Cllrs Elliott and Hooper abstained. Cllr Witton will contact Cormac.

14. Consultation on the 20mph limit for St Germans – response on the consultation. Cormac had fitted the signs as part of the 20mph roll out throughout Cornwall. Cllr Witton had been contacted by two residents asking for the signs in Bag Lane to be repositioned. Cllr Witton will speak to Cormac.

15. Parish Council Policies – to authorise the Clerk, Cllr Witton and any other Councillor to review and update the council’s policies and report back. Agreed. Nothing to report.

16. Playparks :- to identify and approve any matters requiring attention. Having looked at the tree survey reports from Cornwall Tree Consultancy it was noted there was no immediate work required.

i).. St Germans. To include the survey of the trees on the boundary hedge. To discuss the tree survey and action any work required. No issues to report. Cllr Elliott offered to carry out the forthcoming inspections.

ii) Tideford – Cllr Hodge. To accept the quotation for the repairs to the log beam and associated works and the quotation to repair the rope walk. It was agreed that Cllrs Hodge, Skelton and the local contractor look at the work required to the log beam. The cost of £100 for maintenance materials was approved, proposed by Cllr Witton, seconded by Cllr Hodge and unanimously agreed. Cllr Hodge will continue doing the inspections.

iii) Treland – To discuss the tree survey and action any work required. Cllr Witton will liaise with Cllr Skelton about the management of the trees at Treland.

17. Matters arising from previous decisions, and any urgent matters (which cannot be voted on) at the discretion of the chair. Items for the next agenda.

- **Phone box, St Germans.** It was proposed by Cllr Pipe, seconded by Cllr Chilton and unanimously agreed to accept the cost of £280 plus Vat to purchase a replacement door. The hardwood surround will also be replaced as part of the fitting.
- **Wildanet** – It was agreed to invite a representative from Wildanet to a parish council meeting to explain the works planned to upgrade the broadband in the parish.
- **PCSO** – Cllr Witton will invite the local PCSO to a coffee morning in St Germans.
- **Cornwall Council CAP meeting.** Cllrs. Hodge and Witton had attended the recent meeting which focused on the forthcoming Saltash tunnel works and the impact on drivers during his time.

18. Parish Councillor reports - Safe 38: - Cllr Hodge reported on the 18th September 2024 meeting outlining plans for additional speed cameras and improvements to the A38 junctions at Stoketon Cross. The next meeting was the 16th October 2024.

19. Footpaths – review of the footpaths and maintenance. To consider and approve the cost to trim back the beech hedge adjacent to the footpath at Lower Fairfield. Work on trimming the path had been carried out by a local resident. Items also discussed with Cllr Ewert under Item 5 of this meeting. It was suggested a meeting be held with the Port Eliot and Savills.

21. Correspondence – Noted.

22. Date of next Parish Council meeting – the next meeting will be held on Monday, 28 October 2024 at the RBL, Tideford.

23. To close the meeting. There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.00pm

Dated

Signed