

## ST GERMANS PARISH COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ST GERMANS PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY, 25 NOVEMBER 2024 AT POLBATHIC HALL AT 6.30PM.

**Present:**

<b>Tideford Ward:</b>	Cllr A Hodge (Vice Chairman)
<b>St Germans Ward:</b>	Cllrs. N Witton, J True, R Elliott, B Skelton.
<b>Polbathic Ward:</b>	Cllrs. S Barnes, T Hooper.
<b>Bethany Ward:</b>	Cllrs P Pipe (Chairman), P Chilton.

**Also attending:** Mrs J Hoskin (Parish Clerk), Cllr K Ewert (Cornwall Council). Twelve public

**1. Chairman to open the meeting followed by the public session.** The Chairman opened the meeting and invited the members of the public to address the council, if they so wished. A resident spoke about the idea of providing a footpath from Polbathic to St Germans. The response from the majority of those in attendance along with members of the parish council spoke about the history of this being considered in the past and the reason why it did not progress, including the mains sewer route, compulsory purchasing of land, and the stability of the land embankments. The council were aware of the complexities of this. The Chairman asked the gentleman if he was intending to hold a public meeting, whereby he could invite Cllr Ewert and someone from highways to attend.

Jane Bersey, representing the St Germans Recreation Ground Charitable Trust quoted minutes from a parish council meeting in 2020 whereby the parish council had agreed to financially support the trust.

**2. Apologies for absence.** None.

**3. Declarations of interest relating to matters on the agenda.** Cllrs. Witton and Skelton declared an interest on agenda item 6a) planning application PA24/02733.

**4. To approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday, 28 October 2024.** The minutes of the meeting held on the 29 October 2024 were approved by the majority and signed by the Chairman following an amendment to item 1, the date being 2027 not 2017. Proposed by Cllr Hodge, seconded by Cllr Hooper. Cllr Elliott abstained.

**5. Report from Cornwall Councillor Kate Ewert.** Cllr Ewert tabled her report stating a recent vote of no confidence in Cllr Linda Taylor (Leader of Cornwall Council) had failed.

A public consultation on the budget was available on "Lets Talk Cornwall"

The agenda for the full council meeting on the 26 November 2024 had a motion to support farmers fighting against the proposed governments new inheritance tax rules.

The Cornwall Council Community Chest grant was being cut to £1,500 in the next financial year.

Cllr Hodge asked Cllr Ewert to pursue information following the CAP meeting that discussed the Tideford Air Pollution survey.

Cllr Hodge questioned the money being spent by Cornwall Council to subsidise Newquay airport.

Cllr Ewert wished everyone a Happy Christmas and left at 6.55pm to attend another parish council meeting.

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

- a ) **PA24/07205 Quay Sailing Club, The Quay, Quay Road, St Germans – Listed Building Consent to install two low profile CCTV cameras on the Quay Sailing Club club house external walls, and one CCTV on Lime Kiln.** Cllrs Witton and Skelton declared an interest and left the meeting for this item. It was reported the site notice was now up.  
The council support the installation of CCTV cameras / lighting on the sailing club building but not on the Lime Kiln, this being a grade 2 listed building. Proposed by Cllr Hodge, seconded by Cllr True and unanimously agreed.

**7. Cornwall Council Planning decisions and reports to be noted:**

- a) **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.
- b) **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
- c) **PA24/06721 1A Lower Fairfield, St Germans – replacement windows and external doors, rendered external wall insulation system, whole house ventilation system (MVHR).** Approved.
- d) **PA24/06802 Treskelly Farm, St Germans – Extensions and alterations to existing house including solar PV panels to adjacent outbuilding.** Approved.
- e) **PA24/07305 North Cottage, St Germans – Demolition of 1 sqm rear porch on existing double storey residential dwelling; and replacement with double storey rear extension. Single storey side extension and single storey front porch extension to be added respectively.** Awaiting a decision.

**8. To note any Planning Enforcement matters that need to be reported.** The council received a report that a garage was under construction at No 11 Fairfield, St Germans although the planning application had been refused. The Clerk to report to CC planning enforcement on receipt of further information.

**9. Finance**

**i) to note and approve current financial position on all accounts.** The bank reconciliation was circulated by the Clerk and bank account balances confirmed by the Chairman.

**ii) to approve and authorise the payment of accounts, as circulated.** It was proposed by Cllr Chilton, seconded by Cllr Skelton and unanimously agreed the accounts be approved and paid.

Method	Payee	Details	Nett	Vat	Total
BACS	J Hoskin & HMRC	Salary & PAYE	1122.06		1122.06
BACS	Tamar Accounting	Monthly fee	20.00	4.00	24.00
Cheque	The Play Inspection Com	Play area inspections	180.50	36.10	216.60
Cheque	St Germans Eliot Hall	Room Hire Art Hub x 5 November	200.00		200.00

Cheque	Duchy Defibrillators	Annual maintenance fee	1360.00	272.00	1632.00
Cheque	Western Web - website	Renewal email a	72.00	14.40	86.40
Cheque	St Germans Eliot Hall	PC room hire December	23.00		23.00
Cheque	J Hoskin	Top up mobile phone	40.00		40.00

**iii) to appoint authorised signatories for the new Skipton bank account.** Cllrs. Witton, Pipe and Elliott were nominated as signatories on the new bank account.

**10. St Germans Public Toilet Service Level Agreement 2021-2025 to look at the agreement in place.** Cllr Witton declared an interest. It was agreed to pay the £2,000 for the 2024/2025 year and request a breakdown of any payments outstanding / required. Proposed by Cllr Hodge, seconded by Cllr Pipe and unanimously agreed.

**11. Burial Ground – to receive an update on the burial ground and approve any work required. To consider replacing the water butt with a larger container. Review of burial ground fees.** Cllr Chilton reported on the lack of water on site and the sourcing of a much larger water tank, that someone was willing to donate. It was agreed to accept the offer and as a gesture of good will purchase flowers to the value of £25.00 for the person donating the tank. Cllr Chilton to organise this. The contractor was happy to source the materials required to build a base and fit the new down pipe and tap.

**12. Nut Tree – report for the next parish magazine.** Cllr Pipe will write the report for the January 2025 edition.

**13. Parish Council Vacancies – response to the advertised vacancies for the following parish ward - Tideford (2) and co-option.** Nothing to report.

**14. Church Road, Tideford – update from Cllr Witton on the request for signage.** Cllr Witton awaited information from Cormac.

**15. Consultation on the 20mph limit for St Germans – response on the consultation.** The 20mph signs had been installed.

**16. Parish Council Policies – to review and approve the policies updated by the Clerk and Cllr Witton.** Nothing to report.

**17. Playparks and public areas:- to identify and approve any work requiring attention.**

**i) St Germans / Treland.** Cllr Skelton offered to liaise with the contractor about the work required to the trees. Cllr Elliott reported the wet pour to be repaired once the weather improves. The gate near Fairfield had become wedged in the fence but he had pulled it back out. Cllr Witton to carry out the next inspections.

**ii) Tideford.** Cllr Skelton reported on recent inspections. Cllr Hodge and Witton will look at work required to the walkway. The boundary hedge needed to be trimmed. Cllr Skelton to carry out the December inspections.

**iii) St Germans Millenium Gardens – ownership and maintenance.** Cllr True notified the council he had removed the seat. The ownership to be established. It was proposed by Cllr Pipe, seconded by Cllr True and unanimously agreed Savills (as agents for Port Eliot estate) be advised the parish council are no longer maintaining the Millennium Gardens since the expiry of the lease.

**18. 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.**

**Sunnyside, Polbathic** - Cllr Barnes spoke about the 30mph speed limit at Sunnyside, Polbathic and how this should be reduced to 20mph. It was anticipated that the 20mph will be installed as part of the roll out in local villages.

**St Germans old BT phone box** – Cllr Witton had obtained the materials to replace the door which the local handyman was struggling to get off. Options to be considered.

**19. Parish Councillor reports - Safe 38:** - Cllr Hodge reported on the meeting held on the 20 November 2024 and the low finances in the treasurers account. A meeting was being held on the 11 January 2025 for the committee to meet the new MP to discuss issues and progress so far. The committee Chairman had met with an officer from National Highways who was reluctant to take small works out of the package.

Works were being carried out to alleviate the flooding at Notter Bridge.  
The next meeting was scheduled for the 14 December 2024.

**20. Footpaths – review of the footpaths and identify any maintenance work required. Path from St Germans to Polbathic.** Discussed under Item 1 of this meeting.

**21. Correspondence – to be noted.**

**22. Staffing Committee – to confirm the date of the staffing committee meeting.** To be arranged. Committee members being Cllr Pipe, Barnes, Witton and Hodge.

**23. Date of next Parish Council meeting** – the next meeting will be held on Monday, 30 December 2024 at the Eliot Hall, St Germans.

**24. To close the meeting.** There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.05pm.