

ST EWE PARISH COUNCIL

Chair of the Parish Council
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Clerk to the Parish Council
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DRAFT MINUTES

Annual Parish Meeting (Meeting of the Electors)

St Ewe Village Hall, 7.00 PM

Monday 15 May 2017

PRESENT:

Will Richards (Chairman of the Parish Council), John Dickinson, Diane Clemes, Trevor Johns, Janet Lockyer and 7 other electors of the parish.

ALSO PRESENT:

Mrs Christine Wilson, Clerk to the Parish; Helen Nicholson, Community Link Officer; and Ward Member Cllr Cherilyn Williams

The meeting began at 7.00 pm.

Cllr W Richards, Chairman of the Parish Council, chaired the Parish Meeting.

- 1) The minutes from last year's Parish Meeting on 9th May 2016 were approved as a true and correct record (proposed John Dickinson, 2nd Janet Lockyer) and signed by the Chairman.
- 2) Year End Reports
 - a) Police Report – St Ewe Parish. PCSO Yasmin Dingle 30740 apologised for not being able to attend and sent the following report which covers the period 1st April 2016 to 31st March 2017. The report was read out by the chair:
 - 1 x Burglary
 - 1 x Criminal damage to property

PCSO Dingle's email address is: yasmin.dingle@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk and her number is PCSO 30740. *This email may not be used to report a crime or an emergency. Emergencies, Tel: 999. To report a crime, Tel: 101.*

PCSO Dingle is part of a team for the Grampound and Mevagissey area that includes: Insp Edward Gard, Sgt Innes Dowlen, PC Kevin Morcom, and PC Jon Hamley is the Neighbourhood Team Leader. They work out of the Devon & Cornwall Police - St Austell Police Enquiry Office, 1 Palace Rd, Saint Austell PL25 4AL.
 - b) Cornwall Councillor Report. The chair welcomed the new Ward Member, Cllr Cherilyn Williams on behalf of everyone in the parish. No report was received from outgoing Cllr Malcolm Harris.

Cllr Williams is new to Cornwall Council and is receiving quite a bit of induction and training regarding her new position.

At the moment she is focussing on two issues that have been brought to her attention. 1) the lack of broadband in the Heligan area. 2) tidying up after the works at Polmassick.

Some of you will notice that the format for ward members' email addresses has changed. If you would like to contact Cllr Williams, her contact details are on the parish website and her email is: **cherilyn.williams@cornwallcouncillors.org.uk**

- c) Community Link Officer. Helen Nicholson is an officer of Cornwall Council, the Community Link Officer for St Ewe's Network Area, St Austell and Mevagissey Community Network, and was introduced by Cllr Williams. She is known to a number of members who have attended the Community Network meetings and her office is in the old Restormel District Council offices.

She explained that Cornwall is divided into 19 Community Network areas that bring neighbouring parish councils together in a common forum to work together on joint issues.

Wed, 14th June, 7.00 pm, is the Community Network AGM. Parish Councillor Janet Lockyer will attend. Helen would like each parish council to give a short report on the highs and lows of the last 4 years. All councillors and parishioners are invited to attend.

Helen also wanted to highlight the REPORT IT online facility on the Cornwall Council website which allows any member of the public to report directly to Cornwall Council about potholes, fly-tipping, broken street lamps, etc. The clerk will try to place a link in an easily available place or places on the website. Helen also requested that a notice about REPORT IT be placed on the notice boards. The response to a REPORT IT online submission is usually faster than a telephone or written report.

Ref: reported potholes. J Dickinson pointed out that many times potholes are filled just by pouring tarmac in the hole, rather than going through the full procedure, and that the tarmac will come out almost immediately again after a large lorry or a few cars pass over it. This is a terrible waste of public funds and resources.

- d) Chairman's Report. Chairman of the Parish Council, Will Richards presented his report:

As usual in order to prepare myself for this report I looked through all the parish council minutes from the previous year and the most common item we discuss appears to be potholes! I think the second most common item discussed is planning and probably the item we spend most time discussing. We are of course right to take our consultee responsibilities seriously as planning is one issue that can mean a lot to people for positive and negative reasons.

I'd like to think that the electors appreciate the effort that the parish council make to keep the parish precept at its low level and still provide a valuable service to the community. After all, I guess we are the most basic level of the democratic process. Despite keeping the precept at its low level, in fact around 3% lower than it was in 2013/14, we have still managed to support local organisations including St Ewe Village Hall, St Ewe Church, Gorran Pre-school and Tower and Spire.

Over the next year and beyond there are a number of projects that have been started and can be taken forward, namely, the refurbishment and development of the telephone kiosks, the distribution of the Pittsdown Farm wind turbine grant money, the repair and maintenance of the finger posts and the completion of the Polmassick flood relief scheme.

I would like to give my thanks to Malcolm Harris for his work in supporting us as our ward councillor and I would also like to welcome Cherilyn Williams and we look forward to working with you.

Next I would like to thank Christine for her work as our parish clerk, for keeping everything running smoothly and supporting me as chairman.

My thanks also go to all of my fellow councillors who give up their time for free to carry out their duties as parish councillors, I think we are a diverse group who can all bring our own strengths and opinion to the table and the fact that we don't always agree is a reflection that we must be representing a range of different voices.

Finally I'd like to thank any members of the public who have taken the trouble to attend or take an interest in our meeting.

e) Parish Council Financial Report. Christine Wilson, Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer.

The 2016-17 Financial Year for the Parish Council began with £7,355.61 in the bank of which £6917 was in earmarked funds. In the financial year the PC received £7,198 of which £5,104 was requested as precept from the taxpayers of the parish. Payments for the financial year were £6,799 (including the projector which was budgeted last year, £423), leaving a balance of £1,428 (or £1,851 if you don't include the projector because it was budgeted last year). The Pitts Down wind turbine has granted the parish a one-off payment of £1,667 which will be earmarked for certain community projects. Subtracting these earmarked funds, one can see that the parish council budgeted reasonably accurately and underspent by £184 (or 2.5% of the budget). The total amount needed for an Election Reserve was reached last year and, pleasingly for the Parish finances, there was an uncontested election meaning that the funds remain available for the 2021 election. At Year-end, cash in the bank is £8,718.44 which includes a small sum of £799 in un-earmarked reserves.

As a parish council with an annual turnover under £25,000, St Ewe must comply with the Transparency Code. This is done mainly via the website on the *Council Accounts* page. Parishioners can find there: a Budget v Payments comparison every 6 months, a list of payments for the previous financial year, and the annual return, amongst other financial information. Any questions concerning the accounts may be directed to the Clerk who is the Responsible Financial Officer.

f) Any other reports. No other reports were received from organisations in the parish.

3) Issues from electors of the parish.

a) St Ewe Affordable Housing Ltd (SEAHL). Paul Sibley, a member of the SEAHL committee, spoke. There are funds available to carry out a parish survey, which would determine the level of affordable housing needed in the parish. SEAHL is asking the Parish Council to endorse the need for a parish survey. SEAHL would then apply for the funds and carry out the work. There is a considerable amount of work involved and SEAHL is looking for more committee members to help with this work.

b) No one else wished to speak on any other issue.

4) Date of the next Parish Meeting. The next Parish Meeting will be held on 13 May 2018.

*The meeting closed at 7.30 pm and the Chairman thanked everyone for attending.
The Annual Meeting of the Parish Council followed after a short break.*

Mrs C Wilson ~ Parish Clerk ~ 17 May 2017