

ST EWE PARISH COUNCIL

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DRAFT MINUTES

Parish Council Ordinary Meeting
St Ewe Village Hall, 7.00 PM
Monday 11 JANUARY 2016

PRESENT:

Councillors: Will Richards (Chairman), John Dickinson (Vice-chairman), Trevor Johns, Jenny May, Janet Lockyer, Allan Brooks, Diane Clemes, Rueben Collins, Sam Roberts

ALSO PRESENT:

Mrs Christine Wilson, Clerk to the Parish. 4 members of the public.

ABSENT:

Councillor: Trevor Harman

Abbreviations:

Councillors' names – abbreviated with their initials. **CC** – Cornwall Council. **PC** – Parish Council. **VH** – Village Hall. **LCF** – Low Carbon Fund. **LMP** – Local Maintenance Partnership. **CALC** – Cornwall Association of Local Councils. *** indicates consultee comments for planning applications decided by the Parish Council; formal submission is delegated to the Clerk.

Note on numbering:

The prefix will follow the Municipal Year which begins in May. January and March will carry the 15/ prefix. At the May 2016 meeting the first item on the Agenda will be 16/01.

The meeting began at 7.00 pm and the Chairman welcomed all.

15/54 Apologies

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Harman (proposed WR, 2nd JL).

15/55 Public Session

A) It was agreed to move Item 15/61(A) Planning Correspondence forward because a member of the public was present to discuss this item. See the item below.

B) It was agreed to move Item 15/63 Footpaths forward because a member of the public was present to discuss this item. See the item below.

Two members of the public left the meeting.

15/56 Meetings and governance

A) Declarations of interest. RC declared an interest in Item 15/16(D)iii.

B) Requests for dispensation. None.

C) Previous ACTION POINTS were reviewed.

- i. 15/37. It was reported that the Transparency Fund Grant of £1,313 has been awarded, which includes the cost of Internet and WIFI for the Village Hall (see Item 15/60 below). The money taken out of reserves for website design and clerk's hours on the website will be replaced by

- the grant money (proposed JD; 2nd WR).
ACTION: Clerk
- ii. 15/46. The Low Carbon Fund Panel met on 10 November and distributed funds. There will be another bidding point in May 2016. Application deadline in April. Please see the dedicated page on the St Ewe website. JD said he would be happy to represent St Ewe PC on the Low Carbon Fund Panel if no one else wished to and was duly elected (proposed WR, 2nd JL).
- iii. 15/47. It was reported by AB that the Red Telephone Kiosks have been purchased and it was noted that they are in need of property damage insurance. Full update below at 15/59.

D) The minutes of the meeting held on 9 November were approved and signed as a true and correct record (proposed AB, 2nd DC).

E) Clerk’s reports on Payments against Budget and Cash Flow were noted.

F) Payments. Payments totalling £584.11 were authorised (proposed: JL; 2nd JM):
 C Wilson, Clerk salary & expenses, £520.39, includes the renewal of Society of Local Council Clerks membership for the Clerk (St Ewe PC pays 25% and Luxulyan PC pays 75%); Insurance for new Red Telephone Kiosks, £63.72.

G) Insurance. The newly acquired telephone kiosks needed property damage insurance, which St Ewe PC has not had before. The Council’s insurer, AON, offers a flat fee for Property Damage, no matter what property is involved, and the excess is £125 on each occurrence. This fee (above) is for the remaining year until the renewal date, 1st June. A full year’s coverage for Property Damage is £165, over and above the £375 premium. The PC requested the clerk search out a better rate from other insurance providers.
ACTION: Clerk

15/57 Ward Member Malcolm Harris’ report

The boundary commission has confirmed that there WILL be an urgent assessment due to there being some unfairness in the size of some divisions, ie, some much larger than others in population numbers, and changes will be rushed through in time for the next elections. This has met with strong opposition from most members, purely because of the tight time line and being unfair to the residents – due to stability - as it has already recently been changed. So there may very well be changes to this St Mewan boundary. We’ll have to wait and see.

Also, at full council we debated and voted in favour of lobbying for the voting age to be reduced to 16.

I attended a recent meeting at the Polgooth Inn, where the dementia home planned at the bottom of Tregongeeves lane was discussed at length, There is a lot of local concern over this as it is in a flood plain and the access lane is very restrictive. The last application was recommended for refusal, hopefully this amended application will be too.

Once again I have become very disillusioned with the strategic planning process. At our last meeting we had an application for a pig farm and Bio Gas plant at Fraddon. Although the pig farm has been there for many years, extensive development has recently taken place without planning permission, and the Bio gas plant has not been sighted where it was given permission for, is much larger, and 4 ½ metres taller. Its required quantities will rise from 7 tons to over 40 tons. Respectively, the amount of articulated lorry movements will rise from 4 to over 40, in a tiny residential lane with a 45 degree bend where already much damage has been done to residential properties. The highways officer’s

answer to the question – ‘what if a resident parked their car in the lane’ was – ‘We’ll have to impose parking restrictions’. On residents already putting up with an unacceptable nightmare. His arrogant answer simply beggars belief. Our own officer when questioned said that enforcement is a last option, we must work with the applicant to find a way forward. It was all approved, except for the Bio Gas plant, but the decision was only deferred to explore the possibility of a better access directly on to the A30 – of which we were already told is not possible from a highways point of view. Which means it will be passed, as when it comes back to us at committee, a way forward will have to be found. So... the message we are sending out to developers is ‘build whatever you like, wherever you like- the council and the committee are a soft touch, won’t impose enforcement and will strive to find a way forward to reach an approval. We’re not just fighting NPPF planning policy, but once again – our own officers too. I will continue my fight and will- as previously- go public when I have strong evidence to back it up.

Finally, I cooked for the elderly who would have otherwise been alone on Christmas day, and I would just like to acknowledge Lidl in St Austell who provided – at short notice – most of the supplies that were needed. A very sincere thanks to them.

Not a lot to report for the moment, there was obviously no Full Council over the festive period. A more thorough update next time.

15/58 Polmassick Culvert Project

A lengthy discussion was held to try to understand the reasons for the delays. Cllr Johns explained his current reservations. It was universally agreed that an informational meeting with the parties involved would be helpful and Cllr Malcolm Harris will contact Cornwall Council to request the meeting with the Project Manager in the Committee Room of St Ewe Village Hall. TJ will send the Clerk the names and emails of the owners of the private water lines.

ACTION: Cllr Malcolm Harris; TJ and Clerk

15/59 Red Telephone Kiosks

AB reported that the Red Telephone Kiosks (boxes) in St Ewe and Kestle are now the property of St Ewe PC. The St Ewe Telephone Box is Listed. The transfer happened more quickly than expected and the telephones were removed immediately – to everyone’s surprise! AB also outlined the costs for a defibrillator that could be placed inside or outside a telephone box. The Clerk reported that a planning application for the telephone kiosk, if needed, would be under £100. Now the Council will have to: 1) paint the kiosks and make them look good; and 2) consult the community to find out what they would like to do with the two boxes. The public is invited to contact any Councillor, the Clerk and/or attend the Council’s next meeting to let us know their ideas about the kiosks. AB and the Clerk will make up a flyer to post on the notice boards, website, telephone kiosks, Church, Village Hall and Pub. The councillors will distribute them as best they can to the homes in the parish. Cllr Harris explained that his Community Fund might be able to help with any project involving the kiosks and he will send a form to AB.

ACTION: AB & Clerk; Councillors; Cllr M Harris

Cllr Harris left the meeting. The Council thanked him for his assistance, as always.

15/60 Internet Connection for the Village Hall

The Transparency Code Fund has granted the St Ewe PC £468 to install internet into the Village Hall, which includes the first year’s fees. The on-going fees would be in the region of £240/year. The Council noted that the internet is not necessary for Parish Council meetings; however, it could be

helpful at meetings, could facilitate other activities in the Hall, and could make the rental of the Hall more attractive. WR will request that the Village Hall committee investigates the best way to install Internet and WiFi.

ACTION: WR

15/61 Planning. ‘Planning Decisions’ and ‘Applications of note from other parishes’ are reported in Clerk’s Notes and listed on the website at *Parish Council/Planning St Ewe Parish*. Enforcements are reported in Clerk’s Notes. Any of these can be discussed and/or commented upon at the meeting if required or requested.

A) Planning correspondence. (This item was moved to the beginning of the meeting.) The owner of a modern barn at Little Polgooth came to the meeting and explained his plans to remove the barn and replace it with a small dwelling. He will be applying for Planning permission in the near future. The Council appreciated the information and was generally in support of his ideas; however, it was made clear that the Council would have to judge anew when the completed planning application arrived before them.

B) Planning Decisions and Applications Other Parishes were noted.

C) Enforcements. None to report.

D) Applications for Consultee Comments.

i. Mevagissey PC invited St Ewe PC to comment on its DRAFT Neighbourhood Plan, which is available on their website: www.mevagisseyppcc.co.uk. After discussion, no comments were proposed. The Clerk will reply.

ACTION: Clerk

ii. **PA15/11059** | Conversion and extension of redundant barn to form dwelling and alterations to car port | Tregenna House Farm London Apprentice St Austell Cornwall.
The Council agreed to the following comments (proposed AB, 2nd WR):

*** After studying the plans in some detail, St Ewe Parish Council offers NO OBJECTION to this development, while it would like the case officer to take into consideration the overall size of the proposed building in relation to the other dwellings nearby. The Council also requests that the materials are in keeping with the surrounding structures.

RC left the room for the duration of the discussion and vote on the following item.

iii. **PA15/09482** | Installation of an electrical substation building, and its retention for a period of 30 years, together with ancillary underground electrical cabling. | Tregonan Farm Tregony Truro TR2 5SN.

The case officer advised that he would recommend approval and requested further comment from the PC after its Objection to this proposal in November 2015. The applicant has submitted 2 new documents to address the issues objected to: Supplementary Statement (Points of Clarification): Cirrus Energy; and the Ecological Walkover of Cable Route. The Council was satisfied and agreed to the following comments (proposed AB; 2nd JL):

*** After considering the new documents submitted by the applicant, the Ecological Walkover and Supplementary Statement, St Ewe PC is satisfied that its concerns have been addressed and offers NO OBJECTION to application PA15/09482, as the case officer has explained that the conditions attached to the decision will ensure compliance with best practice and the recommendations of the ecological report.

15/62 Highways

A) Salt Bins. The salt bin at Polmassick is empty. The clerk will enquire if Cormac will fill it for free. JL will let the clerk know the size of the Polmassick salt bin.

ACTION: Clerk and JL

B) Refills. It was agreed that if Cormac would not fill the parish's salt bins for free, the Council would reimburse the cost of the salt if a councillor filled it.

C) Drains. The Clerk will write to Cormac about the badly blocked drains that are at 1) culvert at Bosue; 2) Tregain Cottage; 3) between Trelean and Pengrugla; 4) all roads leading down to Polmassick. The roads in these places are flooding severely and this is causing surface damage.

ACTION: Clerk

15/63 Footpaths (This item was moved to the beginning of the meeting.)

A) A member of the public brought the problem areas at bridleways 13.1 and 16.3 to the attention of the Council. Cllr Dickinson explained that the young trees in the hedges were too large for the contractor to remove. Cormac is planning a review of bridleways in Cornwall with a view to advising the local landowners of their responsibilities with regard to the hedges. The Clerk will ask to be kept apprised.

ACTION: Clerk

15/64 Correspondence and Invitations. (A complete list in Clerk's Notes 9-11-15)

A) The St Goran CLT was formed to provide up to 6 modern, affordable, one - bedroom flats for rent to those who meet certain criteria within the parish of St Goran and the neighbouring parishes of St Ewe and Mevagissey. Notices are going up about a flat available now. The Clerk will ask them to send information that can be put up on our website and will let the Chair, RC Thornton, know about St Ewe PC's next meeting.

ACTION: Clerk

A) Revisions to the Local Plan will be sent out shortly to all parishes for their consultee comments.

15/65 Business for the next meeting.

Possible presentation by St Goran CLT. Polmassick Culvert Project. Select projector for paperless planning. Village Hall internet installation.

15/66 Date of the next meetings.

The next ordinary meeting is Monday, 14 March 2016, starting at 7.00 pm, St Ewe Village Hall. An extra-ordinary meeting to discuss planning may be arranged, if required.

The meeting closed at 9.40 pm and the Chairman thanked everyone for attending.

Mrs C Wilson ~ Parish Clerk ~ 21 January 2016