

ST EWE PARISH COUNCIL

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DRAFT MINUTES

Parish Council Ordinary Meeting
St Ewe Village Hall, 7.00 PM
Monday 14 March 2016

PRESENT:

Councillors: Will Richards (Chairman), John Dickinson (Vice-chairman), Trevor Johns, Trevor Harman, Janet Lockyer, Allan Brooks, Sam Roberts

ALSO PRESENT:

Mrs Christine Wilson, Clerk to the Parish. Ward Member Cllr Malcolm Harris. 12 members of the public

ABSENT:

Councillors: Rueben Collins, Jenny May, Diane Clemes

Abbreviations:

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

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

15/67 Apologies

Apologies were received from DC and JM.

15/68 Public Session

- A) Mr I Lobb read out a prepared statement about his planning applications, Item 76C, and answered questions about the development. He explained that the barns are not suitable for modern farming and are in poor condition. His plans to turn the barns into 4 dwellings will preserve the listed buildings in a sympathetic way and will make use of them now and for future generations.
- B) Mrs L Tregunna clarified her family's viewpoint toward the proposed works at Polmassick bridge. They are not in favour of a culvert and do not want their water pipes touched. There is a dam built in the river downstream which is causing flooding.
- C) Two residents of Polmassick asked for other avenues to be looked at because they are not happy with the culvert as currently proposed and feel it will adversely affect their water supplies.
- D) Other residents of Polmassick spoke in favour of Cornwall Council's proposed Polmassick flood prevention scheme, which would protect the bridge and alleviate their flood risk. They called for a swift conclusion to the delays in order to ensure the funds allocated are not spent elsewhere in the next financial year. A resident offered her land for the culvert because Cornwall Council is very reluctant to spend more money on another feasibility study.
- E) Ward Member, Cllr Harris passed out a diagram of the proposed works at Polmassick. He had spoken with a chief engineer on the project. It will cost £140,000 and in times of severe budget cuts it is very gratifying to have these funds made available. However, he could not confirm that

the earmarked funding would be rolled over to the next financial year. Cllr Harris read out a letter from Steve Double MP who had met with the residents and who supports the project. He hopes for a swift resolution to the delays so that flood prevention can be in place by next winter.

- F) Cllr Lockyer spoke as a member of the Flood Forum and as a resident of Polmassick directly affected by the flooding and read a prepared statement calling for support of the scheme.

Cllr Lockyer left the meeting because of family commitments.

- G) Cllr Johns spoke as a land owner at Polmassick. He agreed that a solution must be found, but explained his objection to the culvert which would pass under his land. He would like to see the river widened where in narrows to only 6 feet across, behind his shed. He believes this is a major cause of the problem.

- H) Cllr Harris offered to facilitate a meeting between the stakeholders and key officers in Cornwall Council so that an effective solution can be found.

ACTION: Cllr Harris

- I) Cllr Dickinson said that, if and when required, information can be posted on the website and the public notice boards.

- J) The Chairman emphasised that the Parish Council has no decisive role in the process but can be used as a communication link between the stakeholders, or like today, as a forum for the issues.

9 members of the public left the room.

15/69 Review of action points.

Previous Item 60. The PC has received a grant from the Transparency Fund of £468 for the installation of broadband in the VH which will be used at PC meetings. The VH committee is looking into broadband providers and WiFi layouts. It was agreed that the VH should make the order and invoice the PC for the cost, up to £468.

15/70 Meetings and governance

- A) The minutes of the meeting held on 11 January 2016 were approved and signed as a true and correct record (proposed AB, 2nd JD).

- B) Declarations of interest. None.

- C) Requests for dispensation. None.

15/71 Finance

- A) Clerk's reports on Payments against Budget and Cash Flow were noted. Year-end accounts will be ready at the May meeting.

- B) Unity Trust Bank. It was agreed to move the bank accounts to Unity Trust Bank which has accounts tailored to Local Councils and gives a better interest rate. Payments can be made online, still requiring two online authorisations, so risk protection is very similar to the cheque system with two signatures. Of course, just as with a cheque, online payments may not be made unless authorised at a PC meeting, but the fact that St Ewe has meetings two months apart will no longer delay authorised payments. (Proposed JD, 2nd SR).

ACTION: Clerk

- C) It was agreed the Clerk would be a signatory on the new bank accounts, which would give her online access to the accounts and enable her to submit the first authorisation for each payment (proposed AB; 2nd TH).

- D) Payments totalling £ 598.27 were authorised: Clerk salary & expenses, £424.93 (a bank fee of £15 for an overdrawn cheque was voluntarily subtracted from her salary); HMRC, £65.00; Luxulyan Parish Council (25% of supplies, travel & training), £42.38; Lime Cloud Media, website annual fees, £65.96. (Proposed: WR; 2nd SR.) See also Item 74.
- E) The council considered the new External Audit arrangements by the sector-led body Smaller Authorities' Audit Appointments Ltd (SAAAL) and agreed to to Opt-in to this scheme (proposed SR; 2nd WR). In practice, because the PC has a turnover under £25,000, an external audit will not be required after 2016-17. The Transparency Code for Smaller Authorities will apply. However, if required, an external audit would be very expensive outside SAAAL.
- F) The clerk advised the council about CC's internal audit service which would come to the clerk's home office, review all policies and processes; however, it would cost over £500. It was agreed to retain the services of Brian Smelt again as internal auditor (proposed WR; 2nd SR).

15/72 Ward Member Malcolm Harris' report

Cllr Harris came directly from another meeting and did not have a written report. The PC thanked him for the contribution from his Community Chest of £108.10 for the paint needed to refurbish the newly acquired telephone kiosks in St Ewe and Kestle. He informed the council that a new tranche of Community Chest funding will be available in the new financial year.

15/73 St Goran CLT – Flats available

The Chairman of the St Goran CLT gave his apologies for not attending. Mrs F Firmin, the CLT Secretary, gave a presentation about their new affordable flats, which are available to St Ewe residents through the Cornwall Rural Housing Association. They expect that two flats will be ready in May 2016, or a bit earlier for an Assured Shorthold Fixed-Term Tenancy. Further information with contact details is available on the website under *Notices*.

1 member of the public left the room.

15/74 Red Telephone Kiosks.

As mentioned at Item 72, the PC has the funds available to purchase the paints for the refurbishment of the telephone kiosks. The red is a particular BS number used for all telephone kiosks. Payment of up to £108.10 was authorised for paints (proposed WR, 2nd SR). AB and the clerk will coordinate the purchase. A working party was formed consisting of AB, SR and WR (proposed TJ, 2nd TH). The working party will organise the painting of the kiosks, hopefully with some help from volunteers. The clerk emphasised the need for a simple risk assessment and list of the councillors/volunteers working at each session. This will satisfy insurance requirements.

ACTION: AB, SR, WR and Clerk

15/75 Appointment of representative

It was agreed that SR would represent the PC at the informational meeting about the St Austell A30 Link consultation – to explain what the consultation will be seeking to cover and how it will be conducted. Tuesday 22 March.

15/76 Planning

A new projector and screen were borrowed from Luxulyan PC and used at this meeting in conjunction with paper planning documents. After 1st April, CC will no longer send paper planning applications and St Ewe will rely exclusively on a projector to see planning documents.

A) The merits of the Luxulyan LED projector were discussed. It was agreed to use the CC paperless planning grant to purchase a projector which is the same or similar to the one used at the meeting (proposed WR, 2nd JD). Perhaps a zoom lens would be convenient. The VH has a screen which the PC can use. The VH will investigate a lockable cupboard for the projector. The clerk will enquire with the insurance company to see whether the PC can rent the projector to other groups hiring the VH.

ACTION: Clerk, VH committee

B) Planning Decisions and Enforcements were noted. See Clerk’s Notes and the website.

C) Planning correspondence. None

D) Applications for Consultee Comments.

i. **PA16/01495** | Change of use of range of traditional barns to four dwellings together with construction of new access | Lower Kestle Farm St Ewe St Austell PL26 6EP.

After discussion, the PC agreed to the following (proposed WR, 2nd AB):

*** St Ewe Parish Council finds the proposed development a great improvement to the property, in keeping with its surroundings and with improved access as well. St Ewe offers NO OBJECTION to the development.

ii. **PA16/01496** | Listed building consent for proposed conversion of range of stone and slate barns to four residential units | Lower Kestle Farm St Ewe St Austell PL26 6EP.

After discussion, the PC agreed to the following comments (proposed JD, 2nd SR):

*** St Ewe Parish Council offers NO OBJECTION to the conversion of these listed buildings and, supporting their new function, would welcome sensible suggestions from the listings officer that preserve the nature of the vernacular.

15/77 Highways

A) Four areas were reported: 1) a large pothole at the end a new tarmac outside Tregear Farm; 2) an open trench filled only with hard core was left in that state by BT contractors between Lower Kestle Farm and Gilley Lane; 3) a pothole between Trelewack and Tregain; 4) very poor road surface between Polmassick and Drunken Bridge.

ACTION: Clerk

B) A schedule of transport and highway work requests with responses has been prepared for each area. This schedule is available on the Cornwall Council website. There are no Highways requests for St Ewe Parish.

15/78 Footpaths

A) It was agreed to accept the LMP payment offer of £321 which goes towards the maintenance of the footpaths and the bridleways. This is an increase of 10% from last year’s payment of £292.

B) It was requested that the clerk enquire with Cornwall Council about the situation regarding FP11/1. The original path has buildings across it and there is now a sign indicating that the FP skirts around the buildings, but it probably should to around the other side of the buildings in order to link up with the rest of the footpath which continues in the next parish as FP 405/7/1.

15/79 Correspondence and Invitations. (A complete list in Clerk’s Notes 9-11-15)

A) The clerk received a survey about war memorials at the recent SLCC Roadshow, AB will give it to someone who could fill it out. They are attempting to register all war memorials in England.

ACTION: AB

B) The Police 'Level of engagement with local parishes' policy statement was noted. The PC chose not to elect a Police Liaison and will communicate with the police through the clerk.

C) The survey request from the Rural Services Network was noted, but St Ewe declined to respond because it does not offer the community any particular benefit.

D) It was noted that the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) is carrying out an electoral review in Cornwall and is holding a meeting on 30 March 2016. Cllr Harris informed the council that boundaries will not change until the 2021 election.

15/80 Business for the next meeting.

Appoint signatories for the new bank account. Approval of the Annual Return.

15/81 Date of the next meetings – three on the 9th of May.

A) PARISH MEETING (Meeting of the Electors) — Monday, 9th May 2016, starting at 7.00 pm, St Ewe Village Hall; chaired by the chairman of the parish council.

B) Annual Meeting of the Parish Council — follows the Parish Meeting after a statutory intermission of 2 minutes.

C) Ordinary meeting of the Parish Council — follows the Annual Meeting.

D) If required, an interim meeting to discuss planning may be called by the Chairman.

The meeting closed at 9.25 pm and the Chairman thanked everyone for attending.

Mrs C Wilson ~ Parish Clerk ~ 24 March 2016