

Submission on the Community Governance Review for Cornwall 2019

Please complete and return this form with any accompanying papers to Cornwall Council, by email or post, no later than noon 17 July 2019.

Email: CGRs@Cornwall.gov.uk

Postal address: Community Governance Review, Cornwall Council, Room 3E.01, County Hall, Treyew Road, Truro, TR1 3AY

1. Please state the area or Parish to which this submission relates:

The whole of St Ewe Parish.

2. Is this submission from:

- A Parish Council (City, Town, Parish or Community Council, or Parish meeting)
- A community organisation
- Any other body or organisation
- One or more individual resident(s)

3. Please indicate whether this submission relates to a change or no change:

- No Change – *please continue to section 5*
- Change – *please continue to section 4*

4. Submission proposal:

Please tick any that apply

- Change to Parish boundary
- Create a grouped Parish with at least one other Parish
- Creation of a new Parish
- By separating part of a Parish
- By aggregating parts of a Parish
- By amalgamating Parishes
- Change to Parish name
- Create Parish wards
- Change the boundaries of existing Parish wards
- Abolish Parish wards
- Change the total number of Councillors (say how many you want in the future)
- Change the number of Councillors in each ward (say how many you want in the future)
- Other (please provide details below)

5. Details of proposal(s):

Please give details of any submissions that you are proposing or, if appropriate, reasons why you do not want change.

Please give sufficient evidence to support your submission, including any information that you may have already provided to Cornwall Council.

Please explain why you consider that the submission you are making will ensure that community governance within the area will reflect the identities and interests of the community and will be effective and convenient.

There are many good reasons why the borders of St Ewe Parish should remain as they are.

1) As you may know, St Ewe Parish was recently the focus of a proposal by St Mewan Parish Council to annex the whole of the parish. In a previous proposal St Mewan PC also considered annexing 19 residences and 3 businesses on the northern border of St Ewe Parish.

With an overwhelming show of engaged governance and community cohesion, over 35 parishioners and councillors from all areas of St Ewe Parish attended an extraordinary meeting of St Mewan PC (Thurs, 4th July) and unanimously spoke of their wish to remain independent. The parish council was able to report that the PC's early June letterdrop consultation with the residents and businesses affected by St Mewan's first proposal – the annexation of northern properties at Hewas Water and Lower Sticker – showed very weak support for a move to St Mewan parish. Only two residents were interested in such a move and two residents wrote wishing to remain in St Ewe parish; no other representations were received.

The parishioners at the 4th July meeting represented many others who were unable to attend, but who had sent representations by letter and email. Some letters and emails had also been sent to you, the Electoral Review Panel, indicating their wish that St Ewe keep its independent borders and governance.

The Parish had been given three days' notice, but on the strength of the parishioners' arguments, St Mewan retracted both annexation proposals.

2) History. Surnames in the first civil parish council minutes on 19th December 1894 (see attached photograph) are familiar surnames in the parish today. The parish council has always encouraged a membership from both the hamlets and farms from different areas of the parish so that the council will be a good representation of

the whole parish and can draw on a wealth of local knowledge. The council currently has members (and soon-to-be co-opted councillors) spread throughout the parish: Bosue, Gorran, Tregony, Polmassick, Kestle, Pengrugla and St Ewe, and membership includes at least two farmers.

St Ewe's response to the Local Government Boundary Commission review in autumn 2017 showed St Ewe's focus to the west: "St Ewe is allied to rural and farming parishes more to its west, rather than the urban areas to its east, because St Ewe and the parishes to its west have strong ties historically and educationally (especially considering shared secondary education) through shared community and farming activities."

3) Community cohesion. St Ewe is a very interconnected rural parish and the governance of the parish council reflects this. The parish council tends to work with local groups such as the St Ewe Country Fair, an annual event, and PC representatives are on the 1) St Ewe Village Hall Committee, 2) SE AHL – St Ewe Affordable Housing Limited and 3) the St Ewe Relief in Need Charity.

In conjunction with SE AHL, the PC is directly involved with the provision of affordable housing. SE AHL delivered 6 new affordable homes 10 years ago and has recently re-formed the steering group which is now working with Rural Housing Enablers at Cornwall Council (following a presentation at a parish council meeting). In September they will report on the results of a 'call for land'. SE AHL is particularly concerned that future affordable housing will remain available first and foremost for the families of St Ewe parish; that is, those who originally showed their need and interest.

The council is involved with many local projects, either through voluntary initiatives or grant funding. Recent examples include refurbishment of all the Parish fingerposts, some of which are listed, provision of a defibrillator in the village and annual walking surveys of our parish paths and bridleways. The council manages a website with webpages on all aspects of local government

including planning, highways and compliance with the transparency code for smaller councils; however, the council website is also a hub of information about local organisations and events.

The Public Session at the beginning of all St Ewe's meetings is frequently used by parishioners and others to bring information and suggestions to the parish council. One recent example: representation from the Hewas Water Action Group concerning development over the border in St Mewan parish, but which affects St Ewe residents. When this happens, the Parish Council will comment on a planning application, though technically it is not a 'consultee'.

At St Ewe's next meeting a parishioner will report to the parish council on a survey he conducted about traffic problems along Luney Lane. Since May this year, the parish council has been working with the residents, the ward member and Cormac to find long term solutions to the traffic problems along that stretch of unclassified road.

4) Neighbourhood Development Plan. St Ewe has invited experts from Cornwall Council on a number of occasions to discuss the possibility of an NDP for St Ewe. Currently the council (and the parishioners in attendance at the NDP discussions) do not feel a need for an NDP; however, the parish council continues to monitor the situation and local feeling on the matter, and its stance could change in the future.

5) Governance. The advertisement for a new clerk in 2014 is attached. It shows that St Ewe Parish Council expects a high standard from its clerk, who acts as proper officer and responsible financial officer. Just looking at the three clerks from this century, one completed the Working with Your Council course, one was a trained solicitor, and one has completed the Certificate in Local Council Administration (CiLCA). The cost of CiLCA training was paid for by St Ewe PC, shared with the clerk's other parish council, and

St Ewe PC continues to support the clerk's requests for further training.

St Ewe Parish Council holds the General Power of Competence.

Despite the size of the parish, the council remains very active and its six ordinary meetings a year have full agendas. When needed, the chairman will call an extraordinary meeting and this is usually because of planning deadlines.

In short, St Ewe Parish Council has reflected the identities and interests of its parish for 125 years and plans to continue doing so for another 125 by listening and developing as local government should.

After community consultation, and after receiving many representations from parishioners, St Ewe Parish Council considers the borders of the parish, and the governance therein, effective and convenient.

(please attach additional pages as required)

6. Evidence in support of submission:

If your proposals involve any changes to existing boundaries, please submit ordnance survey base maps showing clearly proposed new boundaries.

Please give detailed information on the number of dwellings and other significant buildings (shops, industrial premises etc.) affected by your proposed changes.

Please give details of any consultation that you may have carried out with affected residents, and the outcome.

If your proposals affect other parishes, please state what discussions you have had with other parish councils and the outcome.

(please attach additional pages as required)

7. List of attachments:

1 of 2. Photograph of minutes of the first civil parish council meeting 19 December 1894.

2 of 2. Advertisement for Clerk

8. Submitted by:

Christine Wilson 16 July 2019



Organisation and position (if submitting on behalf of an organisation):

Clerk to St Ewe Parish Council

Contact details:

Lower Burlorne Tregoose, Washaway, Bodmin PL30 3AJ

Clerk@st-ewe-parish.co.uk

01208 831 283

December 19th 1894.

Resolved to notice given by Mr. Wm. Parnall (the Chairman of the Parish meeting) the first meeting of the Council was held at the Brass School Church, from one the above date at 7.30 P.M.

All the members were present, viz: Messrs L. B. Amos, J. B. Amos, J. W. Keenan, P. B. Keenan, J. B. May, J. P. Phillips, J. B. Richards, G. D. Clark, J. W. Stevens, also Mr. W. Parnall before whom, also before each other, each member solemnly made and signed the required declaration on reception of Office.

Res. I.
On the proposition of Mr. Wm. Amos by Mr. Richards, Mr. John Jennings was unanimously elected Chairman of the Council.

Res. II.
On the proposition of Mr. Keenan seconded by Mr. Stevens, Mr. Edmund Clark unanimously elected Vice-Chairman.

It was proposed by Mr. Amos seconded by Mr. Phillips that Mr. John Kent Assistant Overseer be appointed Clerk, to which an amendment was proposed by Mr. Stevens seconded by Mr. Richards that Counsellor J. Keenan be appointed. For the amendment Messrs Keenan and Richards, for the original

motion Messrs Amos & Phillips, Clark and Stevens.

Res. III.
It was then resolved to appoint Mr. John Kent as Clerk who being present immediately undertook the duties of the Office.

Res. IV.
It was unanimously resolved to appoint Mr. Arthur Cook (Minister of the Congregational Church, St. Austell) as Treasurer.

Res. V.
That the Clerk be instructed to procure Receipts and Account Books and general Stationery.

Res. VI.
That the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Clerk be a committee to report at the next ensuing meeting the most suitable day and form of Quorum Book for the Parish of St. Eves with the cost of the same.

Res. VII.
That the Clerk give notice two than three days written notice of meetings to each member of the Council.

Res. VIII.
That the next meeting be held on the same premises at 7 P.M. on the 6th day of July, next and that the Clerk give due notice to the Clerk of the School Board.

John Kent
(Clerk)

John Jennings
Chairman

St Ewe Parish Council Clerk - VACANCY

St Ewe Parish Council is looking for a new Clerk and RFO.

The parish council is particularly interested in hearing from applicants who have clerking experience.

- 5 hours per week (home based and mostly flexible)
- Meeting January, March, May, July, September and November on second Monday of month
- Occasional additional meetings if urgent planning (or other matters) dictate
- Currently paid at SCP 18 (£9.009/hr) but candidate experience will be taken into account
- Home office allowance of £4/week
- Travelling expenses paid at 40p/mile
- Stationery and equipment costs reimbursed
- High standard of detailed and balanced minute taking expected
- Accurate and meticulous accounting (currently manual but could be moved to spreadsheet)
- Confidence when dealing with outside agencies and especially Cornwall Council essential
- Friendly, open and approachable attitude to parishioners and public
- Sound, efficient and intelligent administration required
- No assets save for 3 notice boards
- Annual precept in the region of £5000 with local tax base of 221.60
- Rural parish - small hamlets and individual farmsteads
- No coastline, public toilets, bus stops, cemeteries or other responsibilities
- Currently engaged in LMP agreement and grass verge cutting agency agreement
- Regular grants made to independent Village Hall, local Church and PCC magazine
- No website but creation of one is an objective
- Council of team players, chairmanship cycles every two years
- Supportive and engaged community

Please contact the clerk for more information / informal discussion.

Rose Hardisty, Clerk to St Ewe Parish Council
The Headlands, School Hill, Mevagissey, ST AUSTELL, Cornwall, PL26 6TH
01726 842869 - steweparish@yahoo.co.uk

APPLICATION BY CV and COVERING LETTER to
Cllr Janet Lockyer
Chair of St Ewe Parish Council
Mill Cottage, Polmassick, St Ewe, ST AUSTELL, PL26 6HA
lockyer1@tiscali.co.uk

Closing date Friday 11.04.2014

Shortlisting will be undertaken by the Employment Committee (3 councillors)
Interviews before full council to be scheduled for Monday 28.04.2014
