

STEWEPARISHCOUNCIL

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DRAFT MINUTES

Annual Parish Meeting (Meeting of the Electors)

St Ewe Village Hall, 7.00 PM

Monday 13 May 2019

PRESENT:

Will Richards (Chairman of the Parish Council), Diane Clemes, John Dickinson, Tracey Jenkin, Janet Lockyer and 4 other electors of the parish.

ALSO PRESENT:

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

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 14th May 2018 were approved as a true and correct record (proposed Diane Clemes, 2nd Janet Lockyer) and signed by the Chairman.
- 2) Reports from organisations in the Parish.
 - a) There was no Police Report and the clerk will write to ask that they give a report at the next Parish Council meeting.
 - b) Chairman's Report. Chairman of the Parish Council, Will Richards presented his report:

I don't want to take up too much valuable time this evening. Most people in this room are here because you care about what goes on in their community. And because you care, you already know what's been happening. If you haven't attended, you've probably kept up by reading the minutes available on our website: www.st-ewe-parish.co.uk.

It's important that I take the time to recognise the effort put in by lots of people. Firstly, I'd like to thank my fellow councillors for giving up their time to serve the parish. Even when we struggle to reach agreement, I take comfort in the fact that we are all trying to get the best for our community and our parish.

Also, a big thank you to our ward member, Cherilyn Mackrory. We owe her a big thanks for keeping us up to date with what's going on at Cornwall Council and working for our benefit.

Since, I'm on the thank yous, I would like to thank Christine for all her hard work. For the most part as councillors, after the meeting with the decisions made, we get to walk away and put things to the back of our mind; however, Christine has to take all that away and turn it into action. So thank you, Christine.

Finally, I would also like to thank the members of the public who take an interest in what we do on their behalf, some of whom come to the meetings and voice their issues and concerns and those who don't attend, but still read the minutes to find out what is going on. Thank you for taking part.

c) Cornwall Councillor's Report. Cherilyn Mackrory presented this report:

Mevagissey Surgery. I was sad to learn last week that there doubt over the future of Mevagissey Surgery. Patients are currently being written to and there is a consultation which I would urge everyone to get involved with. Details of how to get involved at on the letter, but I can also forward them is required. The consultation opens on 15th May.

It has been confirmed that the current sole partner of the surgery has given notice to hand back their contract to the NHS. This will take place on 31st July. This does not mean that the surgery will be closing and steps are now in place to find someone to take over the practice. Clearly, it important that primary care services continue in Mevagissey and are able to effectively serve our rural population. Myself, Cllr James Mustoe and Steve Double MP continue to work with NHS Kernow to do everything possible to ensure this happens.

Again, I would encourage all patients to engage with the consultation once they receive their letter.

Park Homes Forum. I am pleased that the Portfolio Holder for Neighbourhoods has, as a result of meetings initiated by myself and St Mewan Parish Council, announced that she is hoping to reinstate the popular Park Homes residents' forums. I am waiting for her to meet with me to formalise how this will be done and how we will communicate this with residents. I welcomed the announcement but had to remind Full Council that the meeting had originally been arranged following issues we had identified in this Parish! I have chased the Portfolio Holder again this morning – we wait. If you know anyone who lives on a Park Homes site in Cornwall, this is good news.

Better Beach Management. I helped to petition County Hall to debate a motion to increase resources devoted to the management of council owned beaches. This has been referred to committee and if successful will result in council owned beaches benefiting from an increase in the provision and maintenance of refuse/dog waste bins and also the installation of recycling centres for public use.

Electoral Review Panel. This committee will undertake the Community Governance Review. The panel has not met since St Ewe's last Council meeting but is due to meet on 16th May. I have not yet seen the agenda. We can discuss the boundary between St Ewe and St Mewan later in this evening's meeting.

Cornwall Countryside Access Forum (CCAF). This committee meets quarterly to discuss the Council's management of our rights of way network. As ever, there is lots we could do, but little money in the budget. Its members comprise of land owners, ramblers, cyclists, horse riders and three Cornwall Councillors. Working groups from this committee, meet with strategic development project teams, such as the A30 link road and the Garden Village at Carclaze ensure there is easy access to green space and that existing rights of way are maintained, and it has had some great results.

One initiative, I thought St Ewe could be interested in, is for Parishes to map their rights of way and encourage residents to submit their own favourite 20 or 30 minute strolls from their own front door. It is an NHS guideline that people get at least 20 mins activity every day. The initiative has not yet been formalised or communicated, but my thinking is that, done properly, St Ewe Parish Council could promote walks to local people and visitors, which could help St Ewe's website be a valuable health and wellbeing resource to residents. It could also potentially help to find 'lost' paths that are not currently mapped, in readiness for the 2026 deadline.

This committee is looking for new members. The deadline for applications is 7th June. Please

give me a shout if you would like details on how to apply.

Housing Figures. It is my understanding that the number of rough sleepers in the whole of Cornwall is down to 43. Only a short time ago this figure was 99. The figure for St Austell is 2. There is a project currently underway in the Dutchy, funded by central government which is obviously working. I have asked Cornwall Housing to ensure that they have the funds to continue this good work once the project finishes in a couple of years. They fear it will have to come out of existing resources. I have mentioned this to Steve Double MP who agreed it was a great reason for central government to keep funding. Hopefully Cornwall Council makes the case to Government in time.

I have also been told that the Homechoice register figures for the whole of Cornwall are down to approximately 9,000. They could alter them further by keeping on top of people who have not bid on the Homechoice register for two months. It is estimated that a truly dynamic Homechoice register would sit at about 6,000 for the whole of Cornwall.

Highways. Signs for the road at Grampound to discourage Heligan traffic from using the lanes have now been agreed. Highways will be asking Heligan to pay for the signs and once they have agreed they can be erected. We can discuss Luney Lane on tonight's agenda. Am awaiting an update from Highways regarding the silt in the culvert works.

Community Chest. I am inviting applications from local community groups for the Community Chest Fund which has just opened for 2019/20. This is an annual sum of £2000 of Taxpayers money that I have discretionary control over.

Thank you. *****

- d) The Parish Council's Financial Report for the fiscal year 2018-19. It is attached to these minutes. The clerk gave the report and there were no questions. The Annual Return (AGAR) and other documents about the parish accounts will be posted on the parish council website under *Council Accounts* in June. You may also contact the clerk with any queries.
 - e) Helen Nicholson, Community Link Officer for the St Austell and Mevagissey Community Network reported:
 - The Community Network (CN) meets every 3 months and St Ewe's Councillor Janet Lockyer is the Vice-chair.
 - The CN does receive a regular crime report!
 - There is a Community Speed Watch group organised through the CN. Volunteer time is limited, but it could consider expanding to this parish if needed and if volunteers can be found.
 - The Highways Scheme is now in its second year and the CN is learning how to deal with Highways issues relatively successfully through this channel.
 - The Future of Localism is much discussed and Community Networks could play an important part in the implementation of robust Localism.
 - f) No other reports were received from organisations in the parish.
- 3) St Mewan Parish Council's proposal to annex some northern areas of St Ewe Parish at Hewas Water and Lower Sticker. A short PDF presentation sent from St Mewan Parish Council was viewed which included a map of the proposed areas for annexation.
- There are no substantial reasons given for the proposal. 'Clarity for planning' is too broad. It states that the residents of St Ewe were consulted. How and when? 'Minimal impact' does not explain what the impact to residents will be regarding taxes or any other matters and whether St Mewan PC has looked into these impacts.

- It is unclear whether the residents of these areas have had the implications of such a change explained to them, particularly regarding taxes and services.
- The proposed boundary cuts through farms.
- There are no minutes of meetings to indicate the reasons for these decisions.
- Cllr Mackrory pointed out that the council may want this change, but the residents might not. We just don't know and should find out.
- The St Mewan Neighbourhood Plan will have to go to referendum in these areas if they are annexed. There appears to be no precedent for legalising a Neighbourhood Development Plan in areas that have been annexed subsequent to consultation for the NDP.
- St Ewe Parish Council should consult with the residents regarding this change, if it is to reply in any meaningful way.
- Helen Nicholson offered to coordinate discussion between the three parishes: St Ewe, St Mewan, Grampound with Creed.
- It is possible that a few more meetings could be called to discuss this topic in order to fully consult with those affected by the proposed changes.

The Parish Meeting **RESOLVED** unanimously (proposed Will Richards) to request that the Parish Council hold an extraordinary meeting on Tuesday, 28 May to discuss this issue and to gather as many interested parties together as possible. All residents are asked to send the agenda for the extraordinary meeting to all those interested. Mick Howell of the Hewas Water Action Group offered to send the agenda to the Action Group which comprises a good number of people in Hewas Water.

4) Issues from electors of the parish.

- a) A member of the Hewas Water Action Group came to update the council on its activities. It is interested in all planning applications that could affect the area and will comment as a group when appropriate. It's name changed from the Hewas Water Farm Action Group by dropping 'Farm'.
- b) Luney Lane, traffic and speed. Two residents reported on the traffic situation on Luney Lane.
 - Pulling out of residences is dangerous because of the speed of much of the traffic.
 - Pets have been killed.
 - Thankfully the racing at 2 am on Tuesday nights has stopped after complaints to the police.
 - Road markings saying 'SLOW' have worn away and are no longer doing their job.

Cllr Mackrory offered to take their list of evidence to Highways and ask that they do an investigation with a feasibility study for the solutions needed for Luney Lane. She thought that this area had been neglected for long enough.

5) Date of the next Parish Meeting. The next Parish Meeting will be held on 11 May 2020.

*The meeting closed at 8.10 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 ~ 23 May 2019

Briefing Note

Financial Report Year End 2018-19

8 May 2019

Cash and Bank Reconciliation

The year-end bank reconciliation is complete and shows the year beginning with £8,022.74 in cash and ending with £7,441.65. The decrease in cash is due to Cornwall Council's delayed payment of the Agency Agreement: £707.25.

Reserves and earmarked funds

The standing reserves were not used: contingency reserve (£1.5K), election reserve (£3.5K) or website and village feature reserve (£1K). Payments from the Community Chest grant for the repair of the metal fingerpost, was £350 and was the only payment from reserves.

Transparency Fund.

The transparency fund for fiscal year 2018-19 has £109.40 remaining to purchase a printer/scanner, for the clerk's office, but is not yet needed.

Pittsdown Wind Turbine Fund, now the *Aura Wind Turbine Fund*.

This year the parish council received the second index-linked payment of £1,720.75. This will be paid by Aura Wind (Tregony) Limited to the parish council each year for the next 18 years and will be used for the benefit the parish. The Fund currently stands at 2,220.75.

Budget Comparison

Total payments for 2018-19 are £7,741.78 (without VAT). Subtracting earmarked funds of £350.00 from total payments, the payments from the 2018-19 budget amount to £7,391.78 compared to the budget of £7,464.

VAT.

Parish councils do not take VAT into consideration for budgeting purposes because parish councils may reclaim VAT.

Transparency Code and audit

All councils must publish their Annual Return along with the Notice of Period for the Exercise of Public Rights. The Annual Return was rebranded this year as the Annual Governance and Accountability Return or AGAR, which many people still call the Annual Return.

The Transparency Code for Smaller Authorities applies to St Ewe, as its annual turnover is well under the £25,000 cut off. In accordance with the Code, the council's financial details have been published on its website since the 2014-15 financial year, and these include a list of all payments. The Code requires a list of payments over £100 and St Ewe publishes all payments.

External Audit.

At St Ewe's level of expenditure, the external audit is a 'limited review' audit. Beginning financial year 2017-18, St Ewe is not required to have an external audit and accordingly the council has again opted out of the limited review external audit for 2018-19 a cost of £200. The council will not submit the Annual Return to the external auditor, but will still publish its unaudited Annual Return (AGAR) on the website, along with the documents required by the Transparency Code that include a list of all payments.

Internal Audit.

In accordance with Audit Regulations, all parish councils have an internal audit for assurance that the council is conducting its affairs lawfully and handling its public money properly. An independent and competent internal auditor is appointed each year by the council. The internal auditor's report forms part of the Annual Return and any issues raised by the internal auditor must be addressed by the council before it completes its Annual Governance Statement for the Annual Return. Internal audit is the public's assurance that its council is proceeding lawfully and effectively.

Christine Wilson

Proper Officer and Responsible Financial Officer

St Ewe Parish Council

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