

ST EWE PARISH COUNCIL

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DRAFT MINUTES

Parish Council Ordinary Meeting

St Ewe Village Hall, 7.00 PM

Monday 8 July 2019

PRESENT:

Councillors: Will Richards (Chairman), John Dickinson (Vice-chairman), Diane Clemes, Adam Getliff, Tracey Jenkin, Janet Lockyer

ALSO PRESENT:

Mrs Christine Wilson, Clerk to the Council. Ward Member Cllr Cherilyn Mackrory. 6 members of the public

ABSENT:

Councillors: Trevor Johns, Philip Vellenoweth

Abbreviations:

Councillors' names – 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. SEAH – St Ewe Affordable Housing Limited. 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.

19/39 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr Johns and Cllr Vellenoweth.

19/40 Councillors' interests

A Declarations of interest. None

B Request for dispensation. None

19/41 Public Session

A The Chairman explained to two members of the public who had shown an interest in becoming parish councillors that, because there had originally been three candidates, the decision was made to ask that they sit through this meeting so they could see how a parish council really works. Co-option will take place at the September meeting.

B The applicant for PA19/04506 explained his application to the councillors and was able to answer their questions. The council agreed to move the discussion and decision on the planning application to this point. (See the decision at Item 19/49.C.i)

A member of the public left the meeting.

- C Two applicants gave a short explanation of their planning application PA19/03465 and the councillors were able to ask questions. The council agreed to move the discussion and decision on that the planning application this point. (See the decision at Item 19/49.C.ii)

Two members of the public left the meeting.

- D A resident on Luney Lane gave the councillors an update. He wrote a consultation letter to 24 properties along the lane asking for their views on the traffic situation. He received 14 replies which highlighted the residents concerns with 1) speed, 2) size of vehicles, especially delivery lorries, and 3) poor signage. He pointed out that signage on the lane is confusing to tourists and other visitors. Ward Member C Mackrory said that Highways has promised to monitor traffic along the lane as a first step to find remedies to the traffic problems there. Hopefully there will be a report from Highways by the September meeting. The resident promised to collate his research for the September meeting.

A member of the public left the meeting.

19/42 Previous Actions for report.

All actions complete.

19/43 Meetings and governance

- A The council **REVIEWED** the Annual Parish Meeting draft minutes and thought they were are good record of the meeting held 13 May. The minutes will be approved at the next Annual Parish Meeting on 11 May 2020.
- B The council **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Annual and Ordinary meetings of the Parish Council held on 13 May were a true and correct record (proposed DC, 2nd TJe) and they were duly signed.
- C The council **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Extraordinary meeting held on 28 May 2019 were a true and correct record (proposed DC, 2nd AG) and they were duly signed.
- D Notice Boards. It was **RESOLVED** that Cllr T Jenkin will post the notices on the St Ewe notice board; Cllr J Lockyer will continue posting notices in Polmassick; and Mr P Shannon will post notices on the board in Kestle.
- E Internal Controller. It was **RESOLVED** (proposed WR, 2nd JD) that the internal controller will be Cllr A Getliff. The clerk and AG will coordinate a convenient time for the check.
ACTION: AG and Clerk
- F Change of meeting date. It was **RESOLVED** (proposed WR, 2nd JD) to move the ordinary September meeting of the parish council from the second Monday to the first **Monday, 2nd September** because the clerk has requested leave during the second week of September for family commitments.

19/44 Report on the St Mewan extraordinary meeting, Thursday, 4th July at Sticker Football Club.

On the 1st of July St Mewan PC informed the clerk that, regarding the Community Governance Review and changes to parish boundaries, the recommendation of their working party was to annex the whole of St Ewe parish, and that St Mewan's submission to Cornwall Council would be agreed on 4th July at an extraordinary meeting of full council. This galvanised councillors and parishioners alike into action. 37 parishioners and councillors from St Ewe attended the meeting at Sticker FC. The meeting was well run and all who wanted to speak were allowed to do so.

St Ewe's arguments were well researched and well-coordinated by a number of parishioners and the

clerk was copied into the email communication. After the parishioners spoke very eloquently and pointedly against St Mewan's position, St Ewe's Chairman read out a statement prepared by the Vice-chairman and himself in conjunction with the clerk, other parish councillors and parishioners. St Ewe was overwhelmingly united in opposition to the annexation of the parish. The clerk was able to report that St Ewe's early June 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).

After listening to St Ewe's strong rebuttal to all their arguments, St Mewan PC retracted 1) the proposal to annex the whole of the parish and 2) its previous proposal to annex the northern properties. St Ewe's Chairman then thanked St Mewan Parish Council for listening to St Ewe's residents. He assured St Mewan that, despite the strong feeling, no offence was taken and that he hoped the relationship between the neighbouring parishes would remain very friendly and cooperative as it always has been.

It was **RESOLVED** (proposed TJe, 2nd JL) that the statement read by the Chairman at the July 4th meeting is a true and correct statement of the parish council's position.

It was **RESOLVED** (proposed JD, 2nd AG) to write a NOTICE to be posted on the notice boards and other places in the parish informing all residents of the outcome and thanking all those involved for their robust support of an independent St Ewe parish. The notice will be written by the clerk and reviewed by the Chairman and Vice-chairman before sending it to all councillors.

ACTION: Clerk

19/45 Response to the Community Governance Review.

All towns and parishes must submit their views to the Community Governance Review by 17 July. It was noted that a number of residents had already sent representations to the Electoral Review Panel concerning St Mewan's proposals. Therefore, in light of recent events, the council **RESOLVED** (proposed WR, 2nd TJe) that the clerk would write the submission in conjunction with the Chairman and Vice-chairman. The submission will explain that 1) St Mewan's proposals have been withdrawn after amicable and democratic process, so that St Mewan PC no longer wishes to govern St Ewe parish; and 2) St Ewe PC and the parishioners do not want to change the borders of St Ewe Parish. Historic and recent examples of competent and engaged governance will be cited.

ACTION: Clerk, WR, JD

19/46 Finance

A Clerk's reports on Budget Comparison and Cash Flow, through 30 June, were previously circulated and **NOTED**. There were no questions regarding the accounts.

B In accordance with data regulations it was **RESOLVED** (proposed JL, 2nd WR) to register St Ewe Parish Council as a data controller and to pay the yearly subscription of £35 to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO).

C It was **RESOLVED** to authorise payments totalling £557.20 (proposed: WR; 2nd DC). C Wilson, Clerk salary & expenses, £557.20.

19/47 Ward Member Cherilyn Mackrory's report

Community Governance Review. Again, I would like to pay tribute to the Parish Council and to the local community for your sterling effort last week, following the news from St Mewan that they planned to propose encompassing St Ewe Parish in its entirety into St Mewan as part of this review.

A strategic and tactical response, which was passionate, knowledgeable and robust, organised a few short days was enough to persuade St Mewan that this was a path not worth pursuing.

My position was difficult, as I had made many of you aware. Because I sit on the Electoral Review Panel at Cornwall Council, I was unable to formally take a position or be seen to be part of the decision-making process in either parish. Had I done so, I would have been kicked off the panel and/or/ not been able to vote in defense of changes being made in my division. I cannot tell you how much it goes against my natural instinct to keep quiet over something I feel so strongly about! As it stands, I can now ensure that when our area is discussed during the remainder of this process, I can tell the rest of the committee, with pride, how amicably and sensibly a resolution was agreed and that 'people power' is alive and well in rural Cornwall!

Polmassick Culvert. I had a meeting with a local resident, Rachael Tatlow from Highways and Mark Hollow (Structures at Cornwall Council) regarding the culver. Concerns regarding the lack of maintenance have not been properly addressed by Cornwall Council and this was leading to increased anxiety that the structure might fail because of the silt build up.

The maintenance of this structure does not come under the Highways budget, but the Structures budget (much smaller). Mark Hollow told us that it was always part of the culvert design that silt would build up in the culvert. He stated that many of CC culverts behave in this way, it's normal. He went on to say that it's not considered a problem or a design flaw. In a flooding scenario, the silt wouldn't prevent the culvert allowing the maximum water flow through to the downfall side. It wasn't a priority for clearance and his budget wouldn't cover the costs.

Email to Ben Pyle (Cormac).

I recently had a site meeting with residents, Rachael Tatlow (Highways) and Mark Hollow (Structures) regarding the silt build up of this structure and its ongoing maintenance requirements.

This structure was completed 2 years ago. It is my understanding that the design and project was the full responsibility of Cormac, but please do correct me if I am mistaken. I was only elected upon its completion.

Since its completion, it has already saved local properties from flooding at least twice. Local residents are, however, concerned that it is not being maintained as well as it could be. This is why we held the meeting. Mark Hollow spoke very well and was extremely knowledgeable. As a result of this meeting, a commitment was made that the silt would be removed this September in time for the Autumn/Winter rainfall. Please can I have your assurance that this work is definitely scheduled - an expected date for the work would be even better!

A few points that were raised at this meeting still leave a few questions and I hope you can help.

- 1. When questioned about why this design was adopted by CC instead of a direct, unobstructed culvert, without an offset silt trap directly in front of the culvert pipe, it was claimed that it was standard CC design, approved by the EA and that it works well. He also said that if the river was allowed to flow through the culvert unobstructed by the silt trap at all times, ie: more like other 2 tunnels, there may be more silting up rather than less. Residents would appreciate evidence that proves this theory. Please can you provide?*
- 2. Evidence that this structure works perfectly without regular silt clearance would also be useful and probably stop me from hounding your team unnecessarily.*
- 3. Why are silt deposits inside the pipe evident if the silt is supposed to accumulate in the trap?*
- 4. Did the project team provide a level of rainfall that would definitely test the structure? Worries about a Boscastle/Coverack type of weather event are ever present in the village. Some figures would help, I believe.*
- 5. Can I be assured that despite budget constraints, this structure is being given the attention it needs to ensure it can perform properly.*

Thank you for looking into this matter. Local residents remain worried each time heavy rain is forecast!

Vose Farm - PA19/01635. To date there have been 25 public comments on this planning application. I met with the planning officer who indicated that she shared many of the concerns about Highways

impact, sustainability and water pressure to neighbouring properties. I was expecting a decision to have been made but to date it is still awaiting decision.

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 Tax Payers money that I have discretionary control over.

19/48 Considerations

A Renewed fingerpost. Discussion was held on how best to replace the dilapidated 'sick' wooden fingerpost. The fingerpost needs three fingers pointing towards: Polmassick/St Ewe, Caerhays, Grampound.

JD had looked in a number of places to find a post but was unsuccessful. The possibility of a square metal post was considered and perhaps quotes can be gathered for this less expensive metal design, the same shape as the wooden one. The clerk will look into the cost of a new regular post. Other councillors will look into other parts that might be manufactured locally. Quotes should be available for the September meeting.

ACTION: Clerk & Councillors

B Defibrillator grant. It was **RESOLVED** (proposed JL, 2nd DC) to accept the British Heart Foundation's partial grant for a defibrillator, which leaves £1000 (£600 for the defibrillator, £150 the cabinet and £200 installation) to be raised by the parish council and the community.

ACTION: AG

C Defibrillator funding. The parish council needs to raise £1000. The Crown Inn quiz teams have pledged £500 which is a very good start! It was **RESOLVED** (proposed WR, 2nd TJe) to raise funds by selling something like enamel badges, as a kind of poppy appeal. AG will source the badges with WR, probably heart shaped with an appropriate logo, to sell at the upcoming Church Fête and Country Fair and possibly at the Pub and other businesses. The parish council will purchase the badges. The parish council will look into the possibility of a sponsorship drive with a special reward for those that sponsor the defibrillator with, for example, £10 or £20 or more.

ACTION: AG, WR and parishioners

D The parish council reviewed the polling places for St Ewe parish 1) for any polling taking place before 2021, and 2) for polling at the 2021 elections. There are currently three polling places for St Ewe voters: St Ewe Village Hall, Polgooth Village Hall, St Marks Church Hall. There was no proposal for any change to the current polling places or polling districts and the council **RESOLVED** (proposed WR, 2nd JD) to reply to the consultation in support of the current arrangement.

ACTION: Clerk

E The parish council had no proposal regarding the Street Trading Policy consultation.

19/49 Planning. Decisions are listed on the website under Planning St Ewe Parish and in *Clerk's Notes*.

A Of note.

- i. Parish ST MEWAN. **PA19/01230** | Development of 9 dwellings with associated parking, roads and drainage | Sunnyvale Road From A390 To Truro Road Hewas Water St Austell PL26 7JF. Some St Ewe parishioners who live near this proposed development have contacted St Ewe PC with their grave concerns. The council discussed the application and St Mewan PC's published consultee comments. As it is not in St Ewe parish, the parish council was not consulted, but it could respond, nevertheless. Unfortunately, the 'Standard Consultation Expiry Date' has passed but the council **RESOLVED** (proposed JD, 2nd JL) to submit the following comments directly to the case officer in the hope that St Ewe's opinion will carry some weight regarding the decision:

*** St Ewe Parish Council has received concerns from its parishioners regarding flooding onto the highway, also that the proposed height of the three storey residences would be quite out of keeping with the area. After consideration of the application, St Ewe is in agreement with and supports the consultee comments of St Mewan Parish Council: the housing is too dense; they are too high; there are unacceptable problems with maintenance and water runoff because of the density; the developer's statement regarding the Environmental Map is inaccurate.

B Planning correspondence. It was **NOTED** that there are a number of neighbours objecting to planning application **PA19/01635** at Vose Farm mainly because of its impact on traffic. A number have copied in the parish council when writing to the planning authority.

C Applications for Consultee Comments.

i. **PA19/04506** | Erection of an oak framed garage with 2 open bays for car parking and 2 closed bays for general storage. | The Old School House Road From Junction West Of Wayside To Chapel Hill Lower Sticker St Austell PL26 7JN

The council discussed the application and **RESOLVED** (proposed JD, 2nd JL) to submit the following consultee comments:

*** St Ewe Parish Council has NO OBJECTION to this application.

ii. **PA19/03465** | Siting of a log cabin for holiday use | Land South West Of Oak Ridge Little Polgooth St Austell Cornwall PL26 7DD

The council discussed the application and **RESOLVED** (proposed JD, 2nd TJe) to submit the following consultee comments:

*** St Ewe Parish Council understands that this is a small project for business diversification on a working farm. St Ewe has NO OBJECTION on the understanding that conditions will ensure that this a temporary structure, like a caravan, that may not become a year-round permanent residence and that reclassification of this small bit of field will not greatly impact the productivity of this prime agricultural land (NPPF Para 83.c; Para 170.b).

19/50 Highways

A Existing problems continue:

Traffic and signage problems along at Luney Lane are being followed up by the Ward Member. Signage is desperately needed at Drunken Bridge to keep large coaches and lorries from getting stuck, especially now it is tourist season. It is possible that the drains at Pengrugla are functioning better, but we await a bit of rain to see for sure. The clerk will send to Highways a photograph of an impressive two storey charabanc manoeuvring a 10-point turn near School House. If parishioners have photographs of other such incidents, please send them to the clerk with the date, place, and any other pertinent details.

ACTION: Clerk & Ward Member C Mackrory

19/51 Assets

A Footpaths and verges. The clerk continues to report the boardwalk in the churchyard, FP 4/1, and has now highlighted that it is quite dangerous.

B Telephone Kiosks. See Item 19/48.B and C.

C Website. No comments. The clerk continues to post draft minutes, annual accounts and other pertinent notices for the parish.

19/52 Parish Matters

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| A | SE AHL. There should be an update about the results of the call for land at the September meeting. |
| B | There were no other matters for report. |

19/53 Correspondence and Invitations. (A complete list in *Clerk's Notes*)

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| A | A couple requested permission from the Parish Council to tidy up the Cross-mounting Block in St Ewe village (not the war memorial mentioned in the agenda). The parish council replied and explained that the mounting block is not owned or maintained by the parish council but that everyone would be very grateful for their volunteering to tidy it up. |
| B | Rural Housing Enabler of Cornwall Council wrote generally to all parishes and the clerk gave it to WR for the SE AHL committee. |
| C | Mr M Wheeley was contacted by the St Austell Voice about the extraordinary meeting of St Mewan PC and its proposals to annex St Ewe parish. He has reported that democracy was served – St Mewan listened to the robust and reasonable response of St Ewe's parishioners. |
| D | The clerk has found correspondence dating from 1974 regarding the designation of St Ewe village as a conservation area. The correspondence ends in 1975 without conclusion. |
| E | The clerk has found correspondence regarding the ownership of the Cross/mounting block in the middle of the village. |

19/54 Business for the next meeting.

Co-option of two new members.

19/55 Date of the next meetings.

The next ordinary meeting is Monday, 2 nd September 2019, starting at 7.00 pm, St Ewe Village Hall. NB: this meeting was moved from the second Monday to the first Monday. Other ordinary meetings will continue on the second Monday of the odd months.
An extra-ordinary meeting to discuss planning may be arranged, if required.

The meeting closed at 9.20 pm and the Chairman thanked everyone for attending.

Mrs C Wilson ~ Parish Clerk ~ 10 July 2019