

ST EWE PARISH COUNCIL **DRAFT MINUTES**

Ordinary Meeting, MONDAY 14 November 2022

7.00 pm, St Ewe Village Hall

PRESENT:

Councillors: Will Richards (Chairman), John Dickinson (Vice-chairman), Peter Cox, Mick Howell, Janet Lockyer, Peter Shannon, Terrye Teverson and Philip Vellenoweth.

ALSO PRESENT:

Clerk to the Parish, Mrs Christine Wilson, Ward Member Cllr Michael Bunney, and two Members of the Public.

ABSENT:

Adam Getliff.

ABBREVIATIONS:

Councillors' names – abbreviated with their initials. CC – Cornwall Council. CN – Community Network. LMP – Local Maintenance Partnership. PC – Parish Council. SECAG – St Ewe Climate Action Group. *** indicates consultee comments for planning applications decided by the Parish Council; formal submission is delegated to the Clerk.

MINUTES:

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

22/68 Apologies

Apologies were received from AG.

22/69 Declarations of interest or requests for dispensation.

None.

22/70 Public Session

A WARM HOME DISCOUNT SCHEME. To see whether you are eligible, see: <https://www.gov.uk/the-warm-home-discount-scheme> Or ring: 0800 107 8002.

B A SECAG member reported on the wildflowers seeded in the verges (see 22/75.A) and the traffic situation at Luney Lane (see 22/77.A).

A member of the public left the meeting.

22/71 Co-option of a new member

There were no candidates for co-option at this meeting.

22/72 Meetings and governance

A The council **RESOLVED** (proposed PC, 2nd JD) that the minutes, as read, of the meeting on 21st September 2022 – using the Agenda for 12th September and postponed because of national mourning for Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II – were a true and correct record and they were duly signed.

B The council **RESOLVED** (proposed PC, 2nd JD) in the Minutes of 8 November 2021 at Minute 21/86 to change the date of the approved minutes from “13 September 2021” to “11 October 2021”. The change on the signed minutes was initialled by the Chair “WR” and the Clerk “CBW”.

C	The Financial Regulations were reviewed and the council RESOLVED (proposed PC, 2 nd WR) to change only item 1.14 where the amount was £5000, it will now be £200. The item will now read: “the [full] council must: ... approve any grant or a single commitment in excess of £200”. This is in keeping with St Ewe’s current practices. The Financial Regulations are available on the parish council website in an accessible format.
D	The council’s Privacy Policy was reviewed and the council RESOLVED (proposed JL, 2 nd PS) one minor change to reflect that some of the website content about local organisations & events is uploaded or modified by the Clerk and some by volunteers. The Privacy Policy is available on the parish council website.
E	Cllr Bunney, Cllr Lockyer and the Clerk reported on the Community Network Review. The Networks are being reduced from 19 to 12 to reflect the number of staff available after budget cuts. Cornwall Council’s view is to group the 212 parishes in Cornwall into 12 geographic areas, which results in Networks of 17+ parishes each. They would be rebranded Community Area Partnerships and would have many duties, such as bid preparation, without any more powers and using volunteer labour. After discussion it was AGREED to write to CC that a geographic grouping of parishes would not be fit for purpose because of the variability within an area of 17+ parishes. St Ewe would rather see Networks/Partnerships based on projects or subject matter so that appropriate expertise from dedicated officers could inform any work the Network sets out to do.

22/73 Finance

A	There were no queries regarding the Clerk’s reports: <i>Bank Reconciliation, Budget Comparison</i> and <i>Cash Flow</i> , to the end of October 2022.										
B	2023/24 RESERVES. After discussion the council RESOLVED (proposed PC, 2 nd MH) to approve the following reserves from an estimated starting balance of £12,500: Contingency Reserve £2,401 Election Reserve £3,600 Earmarked funds: CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy) fund £3,260; Aura Wind Turbine Fund £2,519; St Ewe defibrillator fund £400; Emergency Plan fund £170; Transparency Fund £109; SECAG project fund £41.										
C	2023/24 BUDGET. The council discussed a draft budget, previously circulated, looked closely at the projected payments and considered the healthy levels of reserves. The council RESOLVED (proposed PC, 2 nd MH) a budget of £7,652, which is a -1.6% decrease compared with last year.										
D	2023/24 PRECEPT. With projected income of £1,152, the council RESOLVED (proposed PC, 2 nd MH) to demand a precept of £6,500 which is a decrease of £87. The taxbase has decreased slightly this year, so the change to the precept is a -1.3% decrease compared with last year and -£0.77 decrease for the annual payment for Band D properties.										
E	The council AUTHORISED payments for November 2022 totalling £1,101.93 (proposed TT, 2 nd PC). <table> <tr> <th>Description</th><th>Amount with VAT</th></tr> <tr> <td>Clerk's salary and expenses</td><td>566.73</td></tr> <tr> <td>HMRC payment</td><td>116.20</td></tr> <tr> <td>Footpaths & verges</td><td>384.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>Information Commissioner's Office annual fee</td><td>35.00</td></tr> </table>	Description	Amount with VAT	Clerk's salary and expenses	566.73	HMRC payment	116.20	Footpaths & verges	384.00	Information Commissioner's Office annual fee	35.00
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A	Report on Actions. All completed.
B	The council RECEIVED a report by TT on the Conference in Exeter about Neighbourhood Plans: In and Beyond Neighbourhood plans for community nature and climate.
C	MH reported that there were no relevant Police notices.
D	<p>Ward Member Michael Bunney's report to the Parish</p> <p>I have now been your councillor for over 18 months and I have especially enjoyed helping at the many community events, and serving at Grampound Community Shop on Friday mornings. Well done to everyone who helps with all the community events, we are truly blessed in every one of our villages. As I write this, we are looking forward to the St.Ewe bonfire night, which is always wonderful and the October craft fair in Grampound was particularly impressive this year. I will also be attending the Trewoon Christmas coffee morning and many other Christmas events across our villages. I will be joining you for services and will be reading at the Merlin fundraising carol concert at Tregony Church. I will also be speaking on Cornish history at Polgooth Ladies Group and on the Cornish botanists at Grampound Gardening Club in February. I am also working hard to prepare for Remembrance Day. As a history teacher of over 21 years, I know how crucial it is that we continue to remember the men and women who gave their lives, so we can enjoy freedom today. I will be laying wreaths in every parish I represent and will be joining the Armistice Day service in Grampound. I also run a Remembrance Day exhibition in Gorran on Remembrance Sunday, where we show photos and exhibits of every man who was lost from the parish, in Gorran Old School Room from 10am to 1pm.</p> <p>I know these are difficult times for many families and I am involved with community help schemes and other support services right across our area. I also work very closely with the food banks and Cornwall Poverty Forum to help local people. I deliver donations every week to Truro or St.Austell Food bank and I am always happy to pass on donations from residents. I do weekly collections across our area and am happy to collect from anyone. There are many important things I need to do as a councillor and reaching out and helping the most in need must be a key priority for me at this challenging time. Cornwall Community Foundation also offers crisis grants of £250- 1000 and be contacted on tel 01566779333 or online at www.cornwallcommunityfoundation.com and click on grants to apply. I see so much hardship in Cornwall, but also a lot of wealth, with empty second homes. We all want to live in a free society, but I believe we do need to share the wealth just a little bit more fairly. I hope one day we do not need to work to help food banks, but in the meantime, we desperately need them and must do all we can to help our wider community.</p> <p>In terms of local issues, I dedicate much time to representing our communities' views on planning. There is a real fear that too much of Cornwall is being over-developed and whilst we certainly need homes for local people, too much development does not help local communities. I will always represent local opinions on planning applications and take my lead from parish council's decisions. In the last year we have successfully stopped inappropriate planning applications in St.Mewan, St.Ewe and Pentewan Valley and are at present working hard on an application in Grampound, which is causing significant concern. I am a member of Cornwall's planning committee and do all I can to fairly and objectively protect the Cornwall we love. Sadly, many applications are taken</p>

to appeal with the planning inspectorate in Bristol and sometimes local decisions are overruled. I am campaigning for Cornwall to have control of our own planning policy, as decisions about Cornwall are best taken by the local people who know it well.

It has been a very busy time and I always focus on local issues and helping local people. I continue to work on our highways improvements and the best news is that average speed cameras have been supported in Trewoon and they are programmed for construction in January. I am pressing this hard and will update residents as soon as a final completion date is confirmed. I also am working hard on the 20mph schemes for our other villages and the new pedestrian crossing we have agreed for St.Mewan School on the A390. Sometimes crucial Cornwall wide issues come to the fore and I am working hard to support the Royal Cornwall Museum. I have joined the board as we need to protect and enhance this superb Cornish institution. I am very happy to help with any issues, but it really helps if residents can report any issues to the council too, as it adds a weight of evidence and supports me to focus on wider issues. Please do report any issues to Cornwall Council, online is easiest at www.cornwall.gov.uk/report-something or you can telephone 03001234232. You will receive confirmation the report has been received and follow up emails to explain what the council is going to do about it and when.

I continue to run my monthly councillor surgeries in various venues across our area, please contact me if you would like to book an appointment. Please never hesitate to get in touch if I can help with anything.

Oll an gwella. (All the best in Cornish),

Michael Bunney | 07939457590 in office hours | cllr.michael.bunney@cornwall.gov.uk

22/75 Considerations

A SECAG update.

SECAG's wildflower consultant reported that the verges were cut back at the correct time and that the 2nd year of wildflower seed has been sown on the verges along with some plugs of Yarrow and Lawn Daisy grown from seed. He is hopeful that the seed will establish itself and survive even if we have another very dry summer.

PC reported that daffodil bulbs have been planted in the St Ewe village triangle.

B The council discussed wildflowers at Polmassick. Jubilee seed was sown there last year that didn't do well, but it is just possible that some of the seed is dormant and will sprout next spring. It would be good to wait to see. JL will plant some plugs of wildflowers at the telephone box and, as her husband mows the grass there, they will be careful of the seedlings.

C The council **RESOLVED** unanimously to send a letter to Cornwall Council about the lack of transparency of information about the proposed Mayor of Cornwall and the changes it would bring to the structure of Cornwall Council, its chain of command, its budget and the democratic mandate of the elected Cornwall Councillors.

D The council **RECEIVED** a letter from a member of the public about the difficulty many vulnerable people have with digital media. When computers are required by Cornwall Council and other government and health institutions to complete the most basic tasks such as paying a bill, receiving notices, making appointments, the elderly are at such a disadvantage as to label this abuse. And when using digital devices makes the vulnerable susceptible to digital scams, the effects can be dire.

The council had a long discussion about these concerns and **AGREED** to take these into

consideration in all its activities. I would be good to hear from parishioners about how the parish council can work better with people who are not adept with digital media.

Cllr Howell left the meeting.

22/76 Planning

A Planning Correspondence.

- i. EN22/01365. This enforcement case has been closed with a review in 6 months.
- ii. EN22/00613. The enforcement is ongoing, and the council has concerns about the impact of ongoing works which is exacerbated because of the amount of time the decision is taking. It was **RESOLVED** (proposed PV, 2nd TT) that the Clerk will write to the Enforcement Team about its concerns.
ACTION: Clerk

B Of note. Planning decisions are reported in Clerk's Notes and on the website.

- i. At the request of the parish council, Cllr Bunney elevated the application **PA22/01979** to planning committee, held 26 September. Cllr Bunney, speaking for the parish, and Cllr Cox, representing the parish council, both objected to the development of a new reception room at Lower Barn, Bosue. The application was **REFUSED** on the grounds that it would be overdevelopment of the site.
- ii. **APPEAL Notice APP/D0840/W/22/3302876** for **PA21/08050** | Outline application with some matters reserved for rural exception site for up to nine dwellings and associated landscaping works | Land North East Of Glebe Cottage St Ewe St Austell Cornwall PL26 6EY.
Cllr Bunney emphasised the importance of sending representations to the Planning Inspectorate (<https://acp.planninginspectorate.gov.uk>) and therefore after discussion the council **RESOLVED** (proposed JD, 2nd JL) to submit the following to the Planning Inspectorate:
*** St Ewe Parish Council discussed this application again at its meeting on 14 November 2022 and remains unanimous in its strong opposition to this development. The parish council is also aware of strong local opposition to this development and notes with regret that the applicant and his agent have not engaged with the community or the parish council since the refusal of PA21/08050.
The previous submission from the Parish Council dated 21 October 2021 is included in full in the planning officer's report and still stands. However, the Parish Council would like to emphasise points 1,2 and 8 of its previous submission as being of key concern to the community.
By way of additional new material the Parish Council would comment as follows:
 - The applicant argues that, because a scheme for 6 affordable houses was considered proportionate in 2009, their current scheme for a further 9 houses must also be considered of proportionate scale. The reality is quite the opposite. The fact that the village was expanded by 25% in recent years by the previous development means that any further development has to be looked at on a cumulative basis. Were this new development to go ahead it would, when combined with the St Ewe Affordable Homes (SEAH) development, see the number of houses in the village increase to 39 which would represent a 63% increase in the last 10 years or so.
 - St Ewe is a village that is not designated in any way for development and has therefore had no investment in supporting services or infrastructure over this period.

- The SE AHL development is very different to this new proposed development for the following reasons:
 - The SE AHL development, Glebe Terrace, is 100% affordable, built and operated by a not-for-profit trust, SE AHL, which is administered by local residents in conjunction with Cornwall Council.
 - Glebe Terrace is a terrace of 6 homes, built in linear form along the road, in keeping with the rest of the village. The proposed development is a small cul-de-sac estate in a field behind other properties, which the case officer rightly described as “a suburbanising impact in an otherwise undeveloped pastoral and rural location”.
 - The SE AHL homes were supported by the local community.
 - Glebe Terrace has had a minimal environmental impact, whereas the proposed development would have quite wide-ranging impacts on the environment.
- The local community is not against development in general and, in particular, it is supportive of new affordable housing as evidenced by the successful SE AHL development.
- The Parish Council, SE AHL and the church PCC are currently in active dialogue with Savills, the land agent for the diocese, in respect of the potential to bring forward an extension of the existing SE AHL development on adjoining land.
- The appealed outline application (No.3302876) is not an affordable housing led scheme. The application indicates that 3 of the 9 houses could be affordable and a further 2 potentially of intermediate status. There is no definition of what affordable or intermediate might be and absolutely no certainty or commitment as to what would actually be delivered as, in this application, all matters are reserved apart from Access.
- As a result of this, the application provides no basis for it to be properly considered by the LPA or the local community. The Cornwall Housing Policy (Supplementary Planning Document February 2020) sets out the recommended planning route for Rural Exception Site applications. For the reasons clearly set out in that document, the appropriate route is pre-planning advice followed by a full planning application.

iii. Glebe Land for rent in St Ewe village. Representatives of the Parish Council, the PCC (Parochial Church Council) , SE AHL (St Ewe Affordable Housing Ltd), the CC Ward Member and Savills (land agent for the Diocese) met earlier in the afternoon to discuss the two parcels of Glebe land: the first between Glebe Terrace and the Village Hall; the second behind the row of houses west of Glebe Terrace. The Diocese has recently rented both parcels for three years for grazing. Awaiting the land’s availability, the Parish Council declared its interest in the two parcels for a possible future affordable housing scheme and for a community natural or ‘wilding’ area. The Parish Council will write to Savills formally confirming its interest in the two parcels of land. If successful, the parish council will be consulting with the parish about its use.
ACTION: Clerk

C There were no applications for consultee comments.

22/77 Highways & Flooding

A Luney Lane. A resident explained that the traffic continues to be a problem and the traffic report showed that the road is very busy. Cllr Bunney is in contact with the residents and is very supportive.

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| B | Pengrugla traffic monitoring has been agreed. |
| C | The consultation for a 20 mph speed limit in St Ewe Village is now taking place. Cllr Bunney encourages all residents to respond to the consultation. |

22/78 Assets – reports and maintenance

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| A | Footpaths and verges. Nothing to report. |
| B | Telephone Kiosks. Kestle Kiosk is being prepared for Christmas. |
| C | Website. Some of the information may be out of date. JL will check the tourist information. The Clerk will ask others to check their relevant pages.
ACTION: JL & Clerk |
| D | Notice Boards. Two notice boards are in great need of repair/replacement, another is warped. The Clerk will bring quotes for notice boards of various sizes and materials to the next meeting. |

22/79 Parish Matters – reports

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| A | SE AHL (St Ewe Affordable Housing Limited). The AGM is coming up soon. |
| B | Village Hall. Nothing to report. |

22/80 Correspondence & Invitations (complete list in Clerk's Notes)

Nothing outside of Clerk's Notes.

22/81 Business for the next meeting

To consider the feasibility of a Neighbourhood Development Plan for St Ewe parish. Notice Board replacement. To consider options for a plaque for the Jubilee tree.
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22/82 Second Public Session for feedback from the public

Regarding 22/75.D, a member of the public suggested a 'Befriending' service to help those who are not confident with digital media to navigate the online world of government forms and services.

22/83 Dates of next meetings.

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| A | Ordinary Meeting 9 January 2023, 7.00 pm at St Ewe Village Hall. |
| B | An extraordinary meeting may be called by the Chair to decide on Planning or other business if needed. An agenda would be posted 3 clear days before. |

The meeting closed at 10.00 pm and the Chairman thanked everyone for attending.

Mrs C Wilson ~ Parish Clerk ~ 17 November 2022

SIGNED:

THESE ARE DRAFT MINUTES.

Chair of meeting: _____ Date: _____