

ST EWE PARISH COUNCIL **DRAFT MINUTES**

Ordinary Meeting, MONDAY 13 NOVEMBER 2023

7.00 pm, St Ewe Village Hall

PRESENT:

Councillors: Will Richards (Chairman), John Dickinson (Vice-chairman), Peter Cox, Kevin Davis, Jenna Fuggles, Janet Lockyer and Philip Vellenoweth.

ALSO PRESENT:

Member of the Public.

ABSENT:

Mick Howell, Terry Teverson, Peter Shannon.

ABBREVIATIONS:

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

MINUTES:

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

23/52 Apologies

Apologies were received from PS, MH, TT.

23/53 Declarations of interest or requests for dispensation.

None.

23/54 Public Session

There was a Roadshow in the Village Hall earlier in the day about the changes to Rubbish and Food Waste collection — **starting January 2024**. Jonathan Grigg, CC Waste & Recycling Community Support Officer, came to the parish council meeting to answer questions about the changes to the waste collection service. Some main points:

- **Food Waste** will be collected separately from all other waste every week.
- Recycling will be collected every other week / Rubbish will be collected every other week.
- Each household will receive two new outside bins. One for food waste & one for rubbish.
- **Food Waste** must not be collected in plastic bags. One roll of compostable bags will be provided when the Food Waste Bin is delivered.
- **Food Waste** will go to an Anaerobic Digestion Plant to produce electricity and the solid byproduct will be used as fertiliser.
- As people become accustomed to this new way of waste collection and recycling, the cost of collection is expected to go down and Cornwall will move closer to a Zero Carbon future. You can see a complete briefing on YouTube: www.youtube.com/watch?v=b095lsAhdBQ. An explanation is also on the PC website under [Notices](#).

Mr Grigg left the meeting.

Reports on planning about Tremen Barn and Meadow Lakes were brought forward.

See Minute 23/59.A. Cllr Bunney gave his report (see 23/57.E) after which he and Cllr Vellenoweth left the meeting.

23/55 Meetings and governance

A	The council RESOLVED (proposed WR, 2nd JL) that the minutes, as read, of the meeting on 11 September 2023 were a true and correct record and they were duly signed.
B	Cornwall Council is holding its 5-year review of Polling Districts and Polling Places. CC does not propose any changes for St Ewe parish, nor does the parish council.
C	The council requested that the clerk forward all CAP emails to all councillors.

23/56 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 2023.										
B	Internal Auditor. The council considered four quotes for internal audit for the 2023-24 fiscal year and RESOLVED (proposed WR, 2 nd JF) to appoint Barbara Goraus who is Finance Officer for Hayle Town Council and who was one of a number of possible internal auditors suggested by Cornwall Assoc of Local Councils (CALC).										
C	BUDGET 2024-25. The council discussed a draft budget, previously circulated, looked at the projected payments and considered the healthy levels of reserves. The council RESOLVED (proposed JD, 2nd PC) a budget of £8,545. The budget rise mainly reflects two things; there was a decrease in the budget last year and inflationary pressure is now catching up with costs.										
D	PRECEPT 2024-25. The increase in the Budget has been moderated by the increase in revenue from bank interest and a rise in the taxbase. The council RESOLVED (proposed JL, 2 nd PC) a precept of £6,796, which is a 4.6% rise from the 23/24 precept. For a Band D property this will be an annual rise of £1.99, or 17 pence per month. The Budget & Precept for 2024-25 will be posted shortly on the council's website.										
E	Society of Local Council Clerk's (SLCC). It was RESOLVED (proposed JL, 2 nd WR) that the council would again support the clerk's membership in the SLCC. The clerk's other parish pays for the membership and St Ewe will reimburse them 25% or £47.00.										
F	The council AUTHORISED payments for November 2023 totalling £1,187.13 (proposed JL 2nd WR). <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Description</th><th>Amount with VAT</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Clerk's salary and expenses</td><td>606.13</td></tr> <tr> <td>HMRC payment</td><td>126.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>Footpaths & Verges</td><td>420.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>Information Commissioner's Office annual fee</td><td>35.00</td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Description	Amount with VAT	Clerk's salary and expenses	606.13	HMRC payment	126.00	Footpaths & Verges	420.00	Information Commissioner's Office annual fee	35.00
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23/57 Reports

A	The wildflower seed mix for the verges of St Ewe village has been delivered to Cllr Richards; however, the ground is now too sodden to plant. Unless it dries up a bit soon, Cllr Richards will sow the seeds in the spring. The project has only been partially successful and the pros and cons were discussed. This will be the last sowing of the three-year trial, after which the project will need to be assessed.
B	Proposed cycle route from Gorran Churchtown to Heligan. WR attended the meeting held at St Ewe Village Hall on 18 th September. He reported that there are currently more questions than answers. The potential budget is £1million but after discussion, it appeared that this probably wasn't enough to create a trail of potentially 5km, 6m wide.

	The next stage is a feasibility study to propose some potential routes which would probably include some of the quiet lanes behind the busy Gorran Highlanes road.
C	Cornwall Council has commissioned assessments of the Playing Pitches and of the Built Sports Facilities in Cornwall. The assessment will help CC plan for sports provision over the next 15-20 years. Cllr Richards has volunteered to fill in the lengthy surveys for St Ewe parish.
D	<p>MH sent his report as Councillor Advocate for the Police:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updates are on the police website for Operation Ragwort (Rural Crime) and for Operation Scorpion ('County Lines' drug problems). • There is a new 'call back' option available on the police 101 service so you don't have to stay on the line. They will ring back in the order the calls were received. • MH will attend an online Anti-Social Behaviour seminar on 21st Nov.
E	<p>Ward Member Michael Bunney's report to the Parish.</p> <p>Firstly, apologies for the unusual length of this report, there is so much on at the moment I felt the need to include all this. I hope everyone was safe in the recent storm. I received many reports from residents about road problems and flooding and reported these to Highways. I messaged all our community volunteers in St.Ewe and Gorran, to check all ok and share emergency numbers e.g. for Highways. This is an example where our St.Ewe and Gorran community volunteers group, which we set up in the pandemic, could be helpful in the future to help neighbours.</p> <p>Thank you to all the volunteers who run our many community events. I am looking forward to Will Keating at St.Ewe Church and all our Winter activities. I have already agreed to help with the Merlin Centre Carol Concert and I will also be speaking at Polgooth Gardening Club this week on the Cornish botanists, Sticker WI in January & Grampound WI for their centenary. I donate all funds from these talks to local charities and will be handing all donations to St.Austell and Truro food banks over the winter. I support Truro & St.Austell Food Banks and the demand for their services continues to grow enormously. They provide advice and training too and all donations they receive make a huge difference. Cornwall Community Foundation also offers crisis grants of £250- 1000 and be contacted on tel 01566 779333 or online at www.cornwallcommunityfoundation.com and click on grants to apply.</p> <p>Cornwall wide some key developments are the new waste arrangements. The new containers will be delivered in Nov/ December and collections will start mid-January. The aim is to recycle more and cut waste, to help the environment. Residents will receive leaflets with further details and more information when the containers are delivered. Some collection days will change and a new collection calendar will be delivered to every house in December. The waste team are running community roadshows to explain the changes and they have been here in St.Ewe on Monday 13th November. They will also be at Sticker, St.Marks Hall on the 17th November from 4pm and at Grampound Village Hall on Mon 27th November.</p> <p>Follow this link for all details on the new service and roadshow venues- New food waste, recycling and rubbish service - Cornwall Council</p> <p>The other main issue is the council budget and council tax. Like Birmingham, many councils are facing bankruptcy; the good news is Cornwall is not in that position, but tough choices are ahead. The Council leadership are proposing the maximum 4.99% rise in council tax and cuts to services, to ensure financial stability. I want to hear from St.Ewe residents to get feedback on this proposal. At present, I do not feel I can vote for</p>

a 4.99% rise in council tax when residents are facing a cost-of-living crisis. I also sense considerable dissatisfaction with many council services and this means a large council tax rise is unjustifiable. These are complex issues though, so please do let me know your views, as my job is to represent you.

Lots of my work is focused on roads and drains. I have reported 7 drains in Polmassick that need clearing and pressed for the culvert to be cleared. Highways have agreed to this and are programming the work, to be completed by the end of this month. Following residents' requests, I have also submitted expression of interest forms to Highways for gateways in Lower Sticker, these would be like the ones in Pengrugla, if Highways and the local community support them.

I am pleased the 20mph zones in St.Ewe and Polmassick are now in place. Unless central government sends further instructions to councils, the rest of our area will come up for consideration for 20mph zones as part of the Cornwall wide roll out in 2024.

Planning is another major part of my work, and I will always endorse the community's views as represented by the parish council. In my area we have done well over the last few years to prevent inappropriate developments and won cases at committee and planning appeal. I am heavily involved with a number of planning & enforcement cases and GDPR rules mean I can't say much more on this, but rest assured I am speaking up for our communities.

Following requests from the parish, I have met with SEAHM to look at options for affordable housing in St.Ewe Parish and have arranged a meeting for us with the council affording housing officer to learn more. I also attended the community area partnership social housing working group and it was helpful to learn more about community land trusts and eligibility criteria. In general, with planning, I would urge anyone who has an idea for an application to please consult with the community and parish council at the very earliest opportunity.

I continue to work hard as your Cornwall Councillor and have met many residents to help with case work. I continue to volunteer at Grampound Community Shop and present my Cornish history talks; I donate all proceeds from these to local charities.

Financial pressures have meant I have needed to return to a few days teaching, due to the limitations of the councillor allowance. I have subsidised the last few years with my savings, which have now run out sadly. Importantly, I claim no expenses at all from the council, as I feel my role is to serve you and all funds should be used for our much-pressed public services. The next parish council and Cornwall Council elections will be in 18 months' time, and I would encourage anyone interested in standing to go for it. Being involved is the best way to make a difference and I will happily explain what is involved if anyone is interested. Please never hesitate to get in touch if I can help with anything. Please do report any issues to Cornwall Council, online is easiest at www.cornwall.gov.uk/report-something or you can report any emergencies 24hrs on 03001234222.

Oll an gwella (All the best in Cornish),
Michael Bunney | cllr.michael.bunney@cornwall.gov.uk

F Cllr Bunney's report on the new waste disposal arrangements with links to more information is on the parish council website under [Notices](#).

23/58 Considerations

A SECAG. Nothing to report except wildflower project: See 23/57.A.

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| B | St Ewe Relief in Need Charity. The secretary is stepping down. There are only two other Trustees and it has been very difficult in recent years to find people willing to serve as trustees. It was AGREED that the councillor representative Trustee, Cllr Cox, would speak with the other trustees to consider alternative ways of administering the Charity's funds. Cllr Cox will report to the next council meeting so that a way forward can be arranged. |
| C | St Mewan Parish Council is holding a consultation on a proposed Design Code that would sit alongside their adopted Neighbourhood Development Plan and asked St Ewe PC for its comments. After reviewing the documents, the council RESOLVED (proposed JL, 2nd WR) that it has NO OBJECTION to St Mewan's proposed Design Code. |
| D | There was no proposal to respond to Cornwall Council's consultation on the Licensing Act Policy Review. |

23/59 Planning

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| A | Of note. Planning decisions are reported in Clerk's Notes and on the website. | | |
| | <table border="1"> <tr> <td>i.</td> <td>Regarding the current enforcement case for Tremem Barn and the development at Meadow Lakes (near Luney Barton), Cllr Bunney is not able to divulge the details of these cases, which are data protected, but he assured the council that he is in contact with the residents of St Ewe parish and the Enforcement Team about these issues.</td> </tr> </table> | i. | Regarding the current enforcement case for Tremem Barn and the development at Meadow Lakes (near Luney Barton), Cllr Bunney is not able to divulge the details of these cases, which are data protected, but he assured the council that he is in contact with the residents of St Ewe parish and the Enforcement Team about these issues. |
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| B | Applications for consultee comments. There were no applications. | | |

23/60 Highways & Flooding

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| A | WR will report online (Report a problem with a road or pavement) two roads where the edge is crumbling away. They have been fixed but only last until the next tractor passes. |
| B | The Highways Scheme is accepting Expressions of Interest so there is an opportunity for new Highways projects. Contact the clerk or a councillor if you have any suggestions. |
| C | <p>A letter from a resident about the Polmassick culvert was read out. Cllr Bunney will request that Highways schedule annual desilting of the Polmassick culvert.</p> <p>[Since the meeting, Cllr Bunney has enquired and Highways has replied that de-silting will not be scheduled. Highways states, "In terms of future maintenance, generally this is likely to be on a reactive basis." The residents will have to report a build up of silt each time it happens, then "should the inspection reveal that silt is at a level where it causes a safety concern, arrangements will be made for clearance."]</p> |

23/61 Assets – reports and maintenance

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| A | Footpaths and verges. Nothing to report. |
| B | Telephone Kiosks Nothing to report. |
| C | Website. Nothing to report. |

23/62 Parish Matters – reports

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| A | <p>SEAH (St Ewe Affordable Housing Limited).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A meeting was held with the CC Strategic Property Officer in to identify Cornwall Council land in the parish where an affordable housing scheme might be possible. Areas were tentatively identified, but planning permission is not guaranteed. PC has been investigating avenues of funding and they are all dependent upon the applicant's control/ownership of the land. |
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- A meeting has been arranged with a CC Affordable Housing Enabler at the end of this month to identify whether a planning application for affordable housing could be approved on any of the possible sites.
- If there are possible sites, SE AHL will begin a parish consultation.

B Village Hall. JF reported that the AGM was held last Monday. There have been some very successful events promoting and raising funds for the Village Hall.

23/63 Correspondence & Invitations (complete list in Clerk's Notes)

None.

23/64 Business for the next meeting

Review of Reserves. CAP priorities and St Ewe PC involvement. St Ewe Relief in Need Charity

23/65 Second Public Session for feedback from the public

None.

23/66 Dates of next meetings.

A Ordinary Meeting Mon, 8 January 2024, 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 9.35 pm and the Chairman thanked everyone for attending.

Mrs C Wilson ~ Parish Clerk ~ 15 November 2023

SIGNED:

THESE ARE DRAFT MINUTES.

Chair of meeting: _____ Date: _____