

# ST GERMANS PARISH COUNCIL

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Website – [www.stgermansparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.stgermansparishcouncil.gov.uk)

## **Minutes of the virtual Parish Council meeting held on 14 December 2020 at 6.00pm**

### **Present**

Tideford Ward: Cllr L Gomersall, Cllr D Carter and Cllr A Hodge  
Polbathic Ward: Cllr S Barnes and Cllr R Elliott  
St Germans Ward: Cllr L Stroud, Cllr G Mackeen, Cllr B Skelton and Cllr N Witton  
Bethany Ward: Cllr P Pipe and Cllr P Chilton  
Cornwall Council Cllr J Foot

**1. Declarations of Interests and Requests for Dispensations** *(a member may not participate in any discussion or vote upon a matter at the meeting in which he/she has a disclosable pecuniary interest).*

**1.1** To receive declarations of interest from Councillors on items on the agenda

**1.2** To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests (if any)

**1.3** To grant any requests for dispensations as appropriate

Cllr Witton declared an interest in item 6.4.1.

Cllr Stroud joined the meeting.

**Public Participation for a maximum of 15 minutes in total** *(for the public to comment only on the items below. Anything else please email the clerk)*

One member of the public was present to ask if a native tree and memorial plaque could be planted in the parish in memory of his grandparents who used to reside in St Germans. See item 7.1 for more information.

Cllr Carter joined the meeting.

**2. Apologies for absence** – None received.

**3. Approval of Minutes of Parish Council meeting held on Monday 30 November 2020** (to approve the minutes as a correct record)

It was proposed by Cllr Elliott to approve the minutes. Seconded by Cllr Stroud. All in favour.

**4. Councillor Reports**

**4.1** Cornwall Councillor Foot – report on all relevant matters - Cllr Foot attended the recent Gateway meeting, there is no further update on the Polbathic road. Milladon Lane bund is ongoing, they are looking at a solution to allow cyclists and walkers through the bund but the residents are concerned about safety. It was also raised about a footpath from St Germans to Polbathic and Cllr Foot is going to look into this. Happy Christmas to everyone.

**4.2** Cllr Witton – Gateway meeting

Crime figures are up by 3.2% which is the first increase for a very long time and from a low figure. The Police do not believe this is anything significant to worry about. Police staffing levels are increasing and the community constables are being returned to the earlier levels and will be out patrolling.

The road safety partnership have now purchased the dash cams and are being rolled out to A38 users, there are 170 cameras in total and they will be linked back into identifying where the accidents are taking place. Loan shark units have posters and articles available. The clerk will be sent information there are two prosecutions being processed in Cornwall at the moment. Highways funding for this year includes money for the St Germans feasibility study for progress to a 20 mph limit, and the VAS signs to go around all parishes in the gateway area are funded for the next 4 years. Have not removed the virtual footpath from the list but they have earmarked the funding. Paul Allan is taking early retirement in April and Will Glassup from Notter Bridge (our area steward) will be taking over his role.

**5. Planning Applications** (*please view all applications at <http://www.cornwall.gov.uk/environment-and-planning/planning/online-planning-register/>*)

**5.1.1 Application number - PA20/08541**

**Proposal:** New gateway access for use by farm vehicles and animals.

**Location:** Tredudwell Farm Tideford Cross

This application was objected to in October's meeting. It was then reconsidered in November at a separate planning meeting and the councillors still objected on the basis of loss of a Cornish hedge resulting in loss of wildlife and wildflowers.

The Planning Officer provided a Design and Access Statement to explain the reasons behind the application, along with a new plan.

The councillors reconsidered but felt that a 'permissive right of way' probably exists, and/or the applicant and land owner need to resolve an access issue. Cllr Hodge proposed they still object on the loss of a Cornish hedge and asks if they have considered moving the existing gate slightly left? Seconded by Cllr Carter. 8 Councillors were in favour. 3 abstentions.

**5.1.2 Application number – PA20/11014**

**Proposal** Fell and remove English Elm (3806), fell and remove English Elms (5739) and remove limb and monolith stem of Oak tree (705)

**Location** The Quay, Quay Road St Germans PL12 5NA  
Noted.

**5.1 Planning Appeals** – None.

**5.2 Planning decisions** – None.

**5.3 Planning correspondence and reports** – None.

**5.4 Planning matters raised by members** – The Clerk was asked to report a mobile home at a property along Bagg Lane. The Clerk was asked to look at reporting another site just outside Tideford Cross that appears to have caravans, etc.

**6. Finance**

**6.1** To note and approve the current financial position on all accounts

**Current financial position - Bank Reconciliation for Lloyds Treasurers account**

Local Council Name – **St Germans Parish Council**

County - **Cornwall**

Financial period ending 30 November 2020

Prepared by: Mrs Emily Young (Parish Clerk)

Date: 10 December 2020

**Balance per bank statement as at 30.11.2020**

Treasurers Account

£  
79,725.98

£  
79,725.98

**Less:** unpresented cheques as at 30 November 2020  
From Treasurers Account only

<b>Cheque number</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Amount £</b>
780	Western Web old domain renewal	£30.00
785	Clerks November expenses	£33.35
786	Q Store confidential paper shredding	£9.30
787	Pear Technology annual burial s/w support	£102.00
788	Nut Tree invoice number 6563	£85.50
789	N Witton LogMeIn 24 Oct – 23 Nov	£36.00
790	N Witton LogMeIn 24 Nov – 23 Dec	£36.00
791	Came & Company St Germans Rec insurance 21/09/2020 – 20/09/2021	£771.81
792	Cornwall Council legal fees Sept 2020.	£11.99
793	The PPG Quay Lane surgery donation	£500.00
		<b>(£1,615.95)</b>

**Net bank balance as at 30 November 2020** £78,110.03  
**Balance per Clerks s\sheet as at 30 November 2020** £78,110.03

**Current financial position - Bank Reconciliation for Lloyds Instant Savings account**

Local Council Name – **St Germans Parish Council**

County - **Cornwall**

Financial period ending 30 November 2020

Prepared by: Mrs Emily Young (Parish Clerk)

Date: 10 December 2020

<b>Balance</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Instant Account	40,001.00	
Interest added + .31p	40,001.31	

**Less:** unpresented cheques as at 30 November 2020  
From Instant Account only

<b>Cheque number</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Amount</b>
No cheques		<b>(£0.00)</b>

**Net bank balance as at 30 November 2020** £40,001.31  
**Balance per Clerks s\sheet as at 30 Nov 2020** £40,001.31

**Current financial position - Bank Reconciliation for Nat West Community Current account**

Local Council Name – **St Germans Parish Council**

County - **Cornwall**

Financial period ending 30 November 2020

Prepared by: Mrs Emily Young (Parish Clerk)

Date: 10 December 2020

<b>Balance as at 30.11.2020</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Current account	80,000.00	80,000.00

**Less: unpresented cheques as at 30 November 2020**  
From current account only

<b>Cheque number</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Amount</b>
No cheques		<b>(£0.00)</b>

<b>Net bank balance as at 30 November 2020</b>	<b>£80,000.00</b>
<b>Balance per Clerks sheet as at 30 November 2020</b>	<b>£80,000.00</b>

The bank reconciliations and current bank statement (for Lloyds accounts) were distributed to all councillors. Cllr Chilton proposed these are all approved. This was seconded by Cllr Gomersall. All in favour.

**6.2** To authorise payments on the income and expenditure schedule for this month

<b>EXPENDITURE Date</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Gross (£)</b>	<b>VAT (£)</b>	<b>Nett (£)</b>	<b>Cheque No (if applicable)</b>
14.12.20	Clerk's December 2020 expenses	£202.51	£34.46	£236.97	794
14.12.20	Clerk's December 2020 salary plus processing fees	£1,241.39	£4.00	£1,245.39	D.D
14.12.20	Clerk's Pension £40.00 (£20.00 Parish Council, £20.00 Parish Clerk)	£40.00	£0.00	£40.00	D.D
14.12.20	£11.00 Clerk's mobile phone	£9.17	£1.83	£11.00	D.D
14.12.20	Southern Electric – Tideford lighting	£6.05	0.30p	£6.35	D.D
14.12.20	Cornwall Council legal fees Port Eliot leases October 2020	£39.98	£8.00	£47.98	795

**INCOME**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Gross (£)</b>	<b>VAT (£)</b>	<b>Nett (£)</b>
03.12.20	Trequite final payment towards defibrillators	£3,718.56	nil	£3,718.56

The income and expenditure schedule was distributed to all councillors. It was proposed by Cllr Chilton to approve the schedule, seconded by Cllr Mackeen. Approved by all. The cheque signatories will be Cllr Witton and Cllr Pipe.

**6.3** To note and approve Clerks monthly timesheet – 19 Oct – 10 Dec 2020 – Proposed by Cllr Mackeen to approve. Seconded by Cllr Chilton. 10 in favour with 1 abstention.

**6.4 Requests for spending**

Cllr Witton left the meeting.

**6.4.1 £1500.00 grant request for the St Germans public toilet from Eliot Hall**

**committee** – The Eliot Hall Community Centre look after the maintenance of the public toilet for which they have submitted a grant request for £1500.00. A grant request was queried as it was felt this request for expenditure should be come under a ‘Service Level Agreement’. This will be looked at for next time. Cllr Carter highlighted that we need to be consistent when awarding grant money and in this instance it was felt that evidence was needed on how much it actually costs to run the toilet. The Clerk will ask for a breakdown.

Cllr Witton returned to the meeting.

**6.4.2 £500.00 grant request for True Butterflies Foundation** – They offer support to people of domestic abuse and their families. They are based out of Truro and the question was asked of how many parishioners they have helped in St Germans? The Clerk will ask for more information and report back.

**7. Burial ground**

**7.1** Tree request - It was proposed by Cllr Barnes and seconded by Cllr Mackeen to support the family in planting a native tree and plaque in the burial ground in St Germans. This location is a piece of land owned by the Parish Council. The Clerk will liaise with the family to arrange.

**8 Matters arising from the previous minutes** – no matters arising.

**8.2 Highways – ongoing issues**

**8.2.1 Polbathic road** – statistics have just been received from Cormac on the two VAS devices. Cllrs expressed concern at the speed of the traffic. Clerk to contact Cornwall Council Safety Engineers to ask about next steps.

**8.2.2 Milladon lane** – Noted. See comments from Cllr Foot.

**8.3 Highways – new issues**

**8.3.1 Footpath from St Germans to Polbathic** – Cllr Stroud would like to see a safe route from Polbathic to St Germans. She will give this some thought and report back.

**8.4 Playparks**

**8.4.1 St Germans** – Weekly inspections appear fine. Cllr Witton to continue until next meeting.

**8.4.2 Tideford** – playpark remains closed. Cllr Carter, Gomersall, Skelton and Hodge will meet on site on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> to discuss the next steps.

**8.5 Lease renewals with Port Eliot** – no update as contact on annual leave.

**8.6 Bethany chapel** – Clerk circulated cost for asbestos survey. Cllr Elliott proposed there is no asbestos survey carried out at the moment. Seconded by Cllr Stroud. 6 Cllrs were in support of this decision. 5 against. 1 abstention.

Parishioner survey to be launched beginning of January 2021. Bethany residents to receive survey in paper format by Cllr Chilton. SAE included for these people. £200.00 cost proposed by Cllr Carter for the stamps to return the survey. Seconded by Cllr Mackeen. 10 in support. 1 abstention.

**8.7 Emergency parish plan** – deferred to 2021.

**8.8 Health & Safety policy** – deferred to 2021.

**8.9 Recycling in the Parish** – Cllr Stroud was asked if she would like to engage with the community to try and increase our current amount of recycling and to offer advice on home composting in line with the PCs carbon neutral policy.

**8.10 Christmas break** – office closed 18 Dec – 4 January inclusive.

**8.11 Local Government ethical standards** – It was felt this survey was an individual reply and not a PC. Cllrs will look to reply individually.

**8.12 CIL payment** - £3,000.00 credited 7 May 2020. £225.00 credited Nov 2020. **£1081.44 debited against defibrillators. Balance £2,143.56** Expires 7 May 2025. To be used to support the development of the local council’s area, or any part of that area, by funding: a) the provision, improvement, replacement, operation or maintenance of infrastructure: or b) anything else that is concerned with addressing the demands that development places on an area. (CIL Regulation 59C) – **Noted.**

**9. Urgent Business raised by Ward members and admitted by the Chair**

\* Cllr Carter raised safety concerns down Bridge Road in Tideford. Clerk to raise concerns with Highways.

Meeting closed at 8.16pm.

Signed as a true record of the meeting.....

Chairperson

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Date