

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ST GERMAN'S PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 21ST AUGUST 2023 AT POLBATHIC HALL AT 6.30PM

Present:

Tideford Ward: Councillor A Hodge.
St Germans Ward: Councillors. R Elliot, B Skelton, N Witton.
Polbathic Ward: Councillors. S Barnes, J Williams.
Bethany Ward: Councillors. P Pipe (Chair) and P Chilton.

Also attending: Mrs J Hoskin (Parish Clerk)
 Two members of the public.

Public Forum: The Chairman opened the meeting and invited the members of the public to address the council, if they so wished. The couple had submitted a planning application (agenda item 5a) and outlined their proposals for the building.

1. Apologies for absence. None.

The Chairman notified the meeting that Cllr Daniel Hale had resigned. The Clerk will inform Cornwall Council.

2. Declarations of Interest relating to matters on the agenda. None declared at this stage of the meeting.

3. To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday, 31st July 2023. The minutes of the meeting held on the 31st July 2023 were approved and signed by the Chairman. Proposed by Cllr Hodge, seconded by Cllr Barnes and unanimously agreed

4. Report from Cornwall Councillor Kate Ewert (circulated to Councillors). Councillors noted the report submitted by Cllr Ewert. There were no updates for August as Councillors had their summer recess.

5. Planning applications – to discuss the following application:

a) **PA23/05605 Barapill Farm, Bethany, Trerulefoot – Proposed equestrian building.** Support, proposed by Cllr Williams, seconded by Cllr Hodge and unanimously agreed.

6. Planning decisions and reports to be noted.

a) **PA23/03884** Land adjacent to Polbathic Hall – erection of a two storey dwelling – **Refused.**
 b) **PA23/05436** Nut Tree Hill Holiday Cottages – works to trees – **Decided not to make a TPO.**

7. Finance:

- i. **to note and approve current financial position on all accounts.** The Clerk awaited the figures from the Cambridge Building Society to complete the bank reconciliation.
- ii. **to approve and authorise the payment of accounts, as circulated.** It was proposed by Cllr Hodge, seconded by Cllr Skelton and unanimously agreed the accounts be accepted and paid.

Method	Payee	Details	Nett	Vat	Total
BACS	J Hoskin	Salary & HMRC	1016.30		1016.30
BACS	Tamar Accounting	Monthly fee	23.00	4.60	27.60
Cheque	Tideford & St Germans RBL	Room hire July	30.00		30.00
Cheque	Cornwall Council July	Legal fees Tideford lease	236.00	47.20	283.20

Cheque	Parish Magazine Printing	One edition	178.70		178.70
Cheque	J Hoskin	Top up mobile phone	10.00		10.00
Direct Debit	SSE June / July/ August	Tideford street lighting	40.64	2.02	42.66

- iii. **update on Nationwide application.** Ongoing.
- iv. **to confirm the date for the September finance meeting.** It was agreed to hold the finance meeting on Thursday, 19th October 2023.
- v. **Insurance renewal and to approve the renewal costs.** Cllr Witton had reviewed the insurance renewal documents and made some minor changes. Councillors agreed the renewal be paid once the revised quote had been received. Proposed by Cllr Witton, seconded by Cllr Chilton.
- vi. **to consider and approve the cost of purchasing a safe for the parish councils civic regalia.** It was agreed that Cllrs. Witton and Skelton look at options available and report back to the parish council.

8. Policy documents – update on the review of the Health and Safety and Lone Working Policies.

The Clerk had passed draft Health & Safety and Lone Working policies to Cllrs. Hodge and Skelton who will review and report back to the parish council.

9. Burial Ground – to note any matters requiring attention and approve any work requiring attention. Update on the work to raise the memorial stones.

Cllr Chilton asked the burial committee to meet at the cemetery and look at the condition of the site. Many of the areas were very overgrown and the grass needed to be cut lower and cuttings removed. The site needed a general tidy up. Cllr Witton notified the meeting that he had spoken to the contractor who will attend to the grass cutting as soon as he can.

Cllr Chilton had spoken to the contractor appointed to carry out the raising of the memorial stones. The Clerk will purchase a sign “please shut the gate”.

It was agreed to review the grass cutting contract at the October meeting.

10. Playparks – to identify and approve any matters requiring attention.

- i. **St Germans.** Cllr Eliot will continue to carry out the inspections. It was agreed that Cllr Hodge be authorised to spend up to £300 to hire a pressure washer and the necessary equipment to carry out the cleaning of the play area. Proposed by Cllr Witton, seconded by Cllr Chilton and unanimously agreed.
- ii. **Tideford – update on the completion of the lease – Cllr A Hodge** offered to carry out the inspections, and informed the Council that the lease was almost complete.
- iii. **Treland cleaning update. Lease of freehold of land –** Cllr N Witton had received a plan from the CC Community Link Officer outlining the Cornwall Council ownership in the area of Treland play area and Lowerton Woods. It was proposed by Cllr Skelton, seconded by Cllr Chilton and unanimously agreed a more detailed plan be obtained.

11. Nut Tree – report for the next parish magazine. Cllr Witton to write the September report. Cllr Williams to write the October report.

12. Overgrown hedges around the parish – to approve the draft letter to residents and note work required by the landowners / tenants. It was proposed by Cllr Witton, seconded by Cllr Skelton and agreed by the majority the letter be approved. Cllr Williams did not support this motion. It was agreed the contents of the letter be published in the Nut Tree magazine before the Clerk started distributing it to landowners / tenants.

Cllr Barnes had walked the village section of path going from Polbathic to Trerulefoot as reported by the public at the last meeting. Many sections including the steps and the post box were overgrown. It was agreed that Cllr Barnes drafts a letter to be sent via the Clerk to Cormac requesting this matter be addressed, and to include the trimming needed in the Cornwall Council car park at Polbathic.

13. Matters arising from previous decisions, and any urgent matters (which cannot be voted on) at the discretion of the Chair. Cllr Hodge reported on comments made to Tideford Talk about the repainting work needed to the old telephone box in St Germans. Cllr Witton confirmed that work had started today, and the council had authorised costs of £300 for this.

Bethany – The clerk will ask Cormac to replace the directional sign at Bethany stating routes to Cutmere, Doddy Cross and Trerulefoot.

14. CC Levelling Up Fund – application information and the Community Area Partnership (CAP). Cllrs. Witton and Hodge had attended the CAP meeting and spoke about the Levelling Up Fund. The Chairman asked Councillors to think about projects that could be applied for from this fund.

15. Bethany Chapel and the future of the building. The chapel had been closed for some time. The Clerk will contact the Methodist circuit asking for their plans on the future of the chapel.

16. Parish Councillor reports.

- i. **Safe A38 – Cllr Hodge** stated there were no meetings in August; the next meeting being held on the 19th September 2023. Money had been allocated to upgrade the lighting and signalling in the Saltash tunnel. New speed cameras had been installed at Landrake.

17. Correspondence – Noted.

18. Date of the next meeting. Monday, 25th September 2023 at The Eliot Hall, St Germans commencing at 6.30pm with a 15 minute public forum, if required. Cllr Skelton presented his apologies for this meeting.

19. To close the meeting. There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.30pm.

Dated.

Signed.