

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ST GERMAN'S PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2023 AT THE TIDEFORD ROAL BRITISH LEGION HALL AT 6.30PM.**

**Present:**

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

**Also attending:** Mrs J Hoskin (Parish Clerk)  
Cornwall Councillor Kate Ewert.  
Ten members of the public.

**Public Forum:** The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and invited the members of the public to address the council, if they so wished.

Residents of Tideford again expressed their concerns about the speed of traffic travelling along the A38 and drivers going too fast along Church Road. Various options to make drivers aware of the speed and traffic calming were discussed and Cllr Ewert reminded everyone that a speed survey had been carried out in the past along various sections of the A38.

One resident mentioned the tractors travelling late at night; and it was noted that farmers and contractors needed to carry out harvesting when the weather permitted, they were not committing any offence and there were no time restrictions as to when they could travel on the public highway. Parking on the pavements at Tideford was an ongoing problem for those needing to use the whole width of the path. The path width had been measured and the lady had contacted Disability Cornwall. It was noted the car park at Tideford was for public use and not just for visitors to the Rod & Line public house.

Another resident asked if the speed limit along the A374 could be reduced from 60mph to 50mph. Cllr Witton reported this had been requested in the past.

Cllr Ewert offered to continue reporting matters back to the CC highways authority.

(members of the public left at 6.55pm)

**1.. Apologies for absence** were received and accepted from Cllrs. B Skelton, P Chilton.

**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, 25<sup>th</sup> September 2023.**

The minutes of the meeting held on the 25<sup>th</sup> September 2023 were approved and signed by the Chairman following an amendment to Item 4; proposed by Cllr Hodge, seconded by Cllr Witton and unanimously agreed by those who had attended. Cllrs. Williams and Elliot abstained.

**4. Report from Cornwall Councillor Kate Ewert.** Cllr Ewert presented her report, as circulated. Cllr Ewert offered to arrange a meeting with Mr Will Glassup (Cormac) at Tideford to discuss matters raised by members of the public. She would also look at the issues along the A374 as a separate matter, but did advise the meeting there was no money available within Cornwall Council to carry out a feasibility study. Funding could be requested from the 2025 Community Area Partnership Highway Scheme. It was suggested the other parishes bordering the A374 be included on any discussions.

It was noted the grass verge by Polbathic car park had not been cut back and the black and white posts had not been changed.

The allocation of a Cornwall Council property, restricted with a local connection covenant did give priority to a St Germans family looking for a home in the parish  
It was reported the resurfacing in Old Quay Lane had to work around obstacles in the road.

(Cllr Ewert left the meeting at 7.10pm to attend another meeting)

**5. Planning applications – to discuss the following application.**

- a) **PA23/07676 Fairfield, Trerulefoot – Certificate of lawfulness for existing use. Residential dwelling without condition imposed by planning permission S/87/01154/0, S/88/00433/F or PA21/01494.** Support – proposed by Cllr Elliot, seconded by Cllr Hodge and unanimously agreed.
- b) **PA23/08118 Marae Barn, St Germans – Proposed change of use along with extension to form annexe.** Object on the reasons of sporadic development in the countryside, the annexe was not clearly defined and was not joined or close to the existing building. Proposed by Cllr Pipe, seconded by Cllr Barnes and unanimously agreed.

**6. Planning decisions and reports to be noted.**

- a) **Nothing to report.** Noted.

**7. Finance.**

- I. **to note and approve current financial position on all accounts.** The Clerk had completed the bank reconciliation. Bank balances were read out by the Chairman.
- II. **to approve and authorise the payment of accounts, as circulated.** It was proposed by Cllr Hodge, seconded by Cllr Barnes and unanimously agreed the accounts be approved and paid.

BACS	J Hoskin	Salary & HMRC	909.84		909.84
BACS	Tamar Accounting	Monthly fee	20.00	4.00	24.00
Cheque	Cornwall Council September	Legal fees Tideford lease	236.00	47.20	283.20
Cheque	Parish Magazine Printing	October edition	178.70		178.70
Cheque	N Witton ref play area	Expenses for cleaning	59.95		59.95
Cheque	Western Web Ltd	Renewal of cloud email	72.00	14.40	86.40
Cheque	B H Gardens	Grass and maintenance	2215.00	443.00	2658.00
Direct Debit	SSE September	Tideford street lighting	13.69	0.68	14.37
SO	Port Eliot Estate	Tideford lease	100.00		100.00

- III. **update on the Nationwide application.** The Clerk was awaiting confirmation of the new account number.
- IV. **to receive a report and recommendation from the Finance Committee meeting.** The minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting held on the 26<sup>th</sup> October 2023 were approved by the committee and signed by the Chairman. Proposed by Cllr Witton, seconded by Cllr Elliot and unanimously agreed.
- V. **to consider and approve the precept for the 2024/2025 financial year.** The council agreed to accept the recommendation of the F & GP committee and request a precept of £58,000 for the 2024/2025 financial year. Proposed by Cllr Hodge, seconded by Cllr Barnes. This kept the precept the same as the current financial year.

VI. **proposals for the purchasing of a safe for the parish councils civic regalia.** Cllr Witton had spoken with the hall committee and the size of a safe had now been agreed. It was proposed by Cllr Witton, seconded by Cllr Williams and unanimously agreed a budget up to £400 be granted for the provision of a safe. Cllr Witton to action.

VII. **Audit.** The clerk reported the notice concluding the 2022/2023 financial year audit had been received.

**8. Policy documents – update on the review of the Lone Working Policies.** Cllr Hodge circulated a draft Lone Working Policy. Cllr Hodge agreed to make some minor amendments and bring this back to the next meeting.

**9. Burial Ground – to receive an update on the work at the burial ground.** Councillor agreed to accept a quotation for repairs at the burial ground subject to confirmation that the shelter would have a wood preservations treatment and not be painted. Wood preserver was also needed on the fence around the section containing the cremation plots.

**10. Play Parks – to identify and approve any matters requiring attention.**

i) **St Germans** – Cllr Elliot reported on the amount of leaves that has recently fallen and the moss killer being applied to the tarmac section. Cllr Witton will carry out the next inspections.

ii) **Tideford – to report on the completion of the lease.** Cllr Hodge reported on the damaged to the rope walk and the quotation from South West Play to carry out the repair. Councillors agreed to accept the cost of £522 including Vat. Proposed by Cllr Williams, seconded by Cllr Barnes. The grass at the park will be cut when the weather allows.

iii) **Treland cleaning update. Lease or freehold of land.** Costs were approved for the hire of a pressure washer. Cllrs. Hodge and Barnes to confirm a date, early November 2023 for the work to be done.

**11. Nut Tree – report for the next parish magazine. Response from Landrake in contributing articles for the magazine.** Cllr Williams will submit a report for the December edition of Nut Tree. There had been no response from Landrake following the committee meeting when it was agreed to accept their request to submit articles in the magazine.

**12. Overgrown hedges around the parish – letter to be sent to landowners / tenants.** The council had received no feedback following the publication of an article in the Nut Tree reminding landowners and tenants of their responsibilities to trim back over grown vegetation.

**13. Matters arising from previous decisions, and any urgent matters (which cannot be voted on) at the discretion of the chair.** No matters reported.

**14. Parish Council vacancy (Tideford Ward) – to note Cornwall Council notices have been displayed and the election or co-option process following the electors rights period.** The co-option notices had been circulated for the notice boards.

**15. Bethany Chapel – future of the building. Update from Cllr Pipe.** Cllr Pipe had spoken with a representative from the chapel and it was agreed to ask for an update as to the Methodists intention for the future of the building. It was noted discussing were being held about the covenants on the building.

**16. Directional sign at Bethany – damaged and needs replacing.** The old wooden directional sign, adjacent to the post box had now disappeared. The Clerk will contact Cormac to ask for a replacement.

**17. First aid / defibrillator training – Cllr Williams.** Cllr Williams will arrange a training session at the Eliot Hall, St Germans.

**18. Parish Council reports**

i) **Safe A38 – Cllr Hodge** notified the council of the next meeting was on the 15<sup>th</sup> November.

**19. Correspondence – to be noted.** The Chairman reminded Councillors of the Menheniot Parish Council Economic Development meeting being held on the 22 November via Zoom; and asked for Councillors feedback on an email from a resident about the plans for the public open spaces at the Polbathic Iron Works development. It was agreed to forward the parishioners comments to the Cornwall Council planning department.

**20. Date of the next Parish Council meeting –** the next meeting will be held on Monday, 27<sup>th</sup> November 2023 at Polbathic Hall and will commence at 6.30pm with 15 minutes public forum, if required.

**To note the December 2023 meeting will be held on the 18<sup>th</sup> at the Eliot Hall, St Germans.**

**21. To close the meeting.** There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.16pm

Dated. 27<sup>th</sup> November 2023

Signed.