ST GERMANS PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ST GERMANS PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY, 31ST MARCH 2025 AT THE ELIOT HALL, ST GERMANS AT 6.30PM.

Present:

Tideford Ward: Cllr A Hodge.

St Germans Ward: Cllrs. N Witton, R Elliott, B Skelton, J True.

Polbathic Ward: Cllr S Barnes, T Hooper.

Bethany Ward: Cllrs. P Pipe, P Chilton.

Also attending: Mrs J Hoskin (Parish Clerk), Cllr K Ewert (Cornwall Council) and one member of the public.

- 1.. Chairman to open the meeting followed by the public session. The Chairman opened the meeting and invited the member of the public to address the council, if they so wished. The gentleman had submitted a grant application for funding to support the St Germans May Tree Fair and outlined the details for the money required to support the event (agenda item 9v). The gentleman left the meeting at 6.35pm.
- 2. Apologies for absence. None.
- **3.** Declarations of interest relating to matters on the agenda. Cllr True declared an interest in agenda item 9v) to consider a grant application for the May Tree Fair. Cllr Witton declared an interest in agenda item 6b) planning application PA25/01782.
- **4.** To approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday, 24 February 2025. The minutes of the meeting held on the 24 February 2025 were approved and signed by the Chairman, proposed by Cllr Elliott, seconded by Cllr Hooper and unanimously agreed by those who attended. Cllr True abstained having not been at the meeting.
- **5. Report from Cornwall Councillor Kate Ewert.** Cllr Ewert had little to report as Councillors were now entering the pre-election period.

Liaison with the Port Eliot Estate events organisers had hopefully now resolved parishioners concerns for forthcoming events. The previously postponed public meeting would now be held sometime mid-April.

Mount Edgcumbe Estate had a bumper start to their 2025 season.

Cllr Skelton raised the issue about increase parking charges. Cllr Ewert confirmed a third party management company had taken over the running of the car park and were setting the charges. Annual parking permits were available which reduced the daily fee.

Cllr Ewert left the meeting at 7.45pm to attend another event.

- 6. Planning applications -to discuss and vote whether or not to approve:
 - a) PA25/01284 Western Cottage, St Germans Listed building consent to widen the vehicular entrance to the property along Galley Lane. The proposal is to widen the existing entrance by 3 metres, demolishing and rebuilding the existing stone wall in its revised position.

 Support, proposed by Cllr Skelton, seconded by Cllr Chilton and unanimously agreed.

b) PA25/01782 The Old Rectory, Old Quay Lane, St Germans – Listed building consent to seek agreement to retain, replace on occasions or alter small items of earlier maintenance works carried out by the owner. Cllr Witton declared an interest and left the meeting for this item. Support, proposed by Cllr True, seconded by Cllr Elliott and unanimously agreed.

Planning Matters - to note any planning matters requiring attention. Nothing to report.

- 7. Cornwall Council Planning decisions and reports to be noted: Noted.
 - a) PA24/02733 Horsemans Hill Farm, Trerulefoot Change of use of site from agricultural to Regenerative Low Impact Development including erection of off-grid low-impact dwelling (retrospective), erection of polytunnel, erection of workshop and erection of compost toilet. Demolition of a shed. Awaiting a decision.
 - b) PA24/05652 Old East Iron Works, Polbathic Reserved matters application for construction of 19 dwellings and landscaping following outline approval PA17/12198, without compliance of condition x of decision PA21/10521 dated 21.01.2022 Awaiting a decision
 - c) PA24/06315 Meadow Farm Annexe, Tideford Cross, Saltash Proposed conversion of steel frame agricultural building into single dwelling. Approved with conditions.
 - d) PA24/09470 Lynher House, St Germans Proposed replacement windows. Approved with conditions.
 - e) PA24/09029 Penquite Farm, Trerulefoot Removal of existing agricultural shed and construction of new shed for use as dung store and cattle shed. Approved with conditions.
- **8.** St Germans Gardening Club Open gardens event on 8th June and the displaying of promotional posters. Having discussed the email from the gardening club, it was confirmed that the parish council were not permitted to give such permission for the displaying of advertising posters, and the organisation should apply directly to the local highways authority, landowners, or statutory authority should they wish post notices on verges or the local BT or street light columns. The council agreed posters could be displayed in the parish council notice boards.

9. Finance

- i) to note and approve current financial position on all accounts. The bank reconciliation was circulated by the Clerk and the bank totals confirmed 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 paid subject to withholding an account from Cornwall Council to which details needed to be obtained.

It was also prosed by Cllr True, seconded by Cllr Hodge and unanimously agreed not to pay the new Lloyds bank monthly charge.

It was proposed by Cllr Witton, seconded by Cllr Skelton an unanimously agreed not to pay the CALC annual membership at the cost of £693.26 including Vat.

Method	Payee	Details	Nett	Vat	Total
BACS	J Hoskin & HMRC	Salary & PAYE	971.33		971.33
BACS	Tamar Accounting	Monthly fee	20.00	4.00	24.00
Cheque	St Germas Eliot Hall	Room hire & heat tokens	46.00		46.00
Cheque	Parish Magazine Printing	Nut Tree	184.16		184.16
Cheque	BH Gardens	Grass cutting etc	915.00	183.00	1098.00

- iv) update on the new Skipton Bank Account. Nothing to report.
- v) to consider a grant application for the St Germans May Tree Fair. Cllr True declared an interest and left the meeting for this item. Having considered the grant application, the council resolved to make a financial contribution of £272.00. Proposed by Cllr Chilton, seconded by Cllr Hodge and unanimously agreed.
- vi) Costs for the repair / replacement of the parish council laptop. Item deferred. Cllr Hodge had offered to take the laptop to a colleague who would investigate the problems with the device.

10. Parish Councillor reports

i) **Safe 38:** - Cllr Hodge updated the council on the installation timescale for the new average speed cameras, with their aim to slow traffic down and hopefully improve the air pollution through Tideford. The next meeting was scheduled for the 21 May 2025.

11. Matters arising from previous decisions, and any urgent matters (which cannot be voted on) at the discretion of the chair. Items for the next agenda.

- Parish Council contracts for grass cutting, hedge trimming, tree inspections to be rolled over for another year; and agree to continue using the general maintenance contracts as and when required (agenda item for April 2025).
- Cllr True notified the council of a man who wished to film the proceedings of the parish council meeting, having made a U tube video at Port Eliot. Cllr True was informed the parish council regulations for the filming and recording of meetings was displayed on the notice board at the back of the hall.
- 12. Correspondence to be noted. Noted.
- **13.** Staffing Committee to confirm the date of the staffing committee meeting **30** April **2025**. Noted.
- 14. Burial Ground to receive an update on the burial ground and approve any work required.

The committee had met and reviewed the burial regulations and recommended a summarised version be placed on the notice board in the cemetery. To be circulated to Councillors and approved at the next meeting.

It was proposed by Cllr Barnes, seconded by Cllr Skelton and unanimously agreed to accept the quote to install the new water butt, including additional materials required to complete the work. This was over the £200 expenditure limit recommended at the last meeting but the extent of the wok was clarified by Cllr Chilton.

It was noted that a contractor had trimmed the outside boundary hedge and left a lot of cuttings inside the burial ground.

Work to irradicate the moles was ongoing.

A couple from Tideford had paid for a reserved burial plot. The Clerk had spoken to the people and was establishing a plot location / number for the certificate.

- **15.** Nut Tree to nominate a Councillor to write a report for the next parish magazine. Cllr True to write a report for the May edition.
- **16.** Cornwall Council Licencing to discuss licensing procedures as written in Cllr Witton's report. Nothing to report. Cllr Witton had not received a response.

- **17.** Parish Council Policies update on the next policy to be reviewed. The reviewed policy will be circulated by the Clerk.
- 18. Playparks and public areas:- to identify and approve any work requiring attention.
- i) St Germans / Treland. Cllr Elliott had nothing to report. Cllrs Witton and True to carry out the next inspections. The investigatory work carried out by Wildanet made no damage to the park.
- **ii) Tideford.** Cllr Hodge reported the park was well used and offered to carry out the next inspections. The advisory work to repair the log walk was still to be done.
- **19. Date of next Parish Council meeting.** The next meeting will be held on Monday, 28 April 2025.

To decide on a date for the 2025 Annual Parish Meeting. It was agreed to hold the Annual Parish Meeting on the 28 April 2025 before the parish council meeting – start time 6.15pm.

20. To close the meeting. There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.55pm.