

ST GERMANS PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ST GERMANS PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY, 23RD FEBRUARY 2026 AT 6.30PM AT POLBATHIC HALL.

Present:

Tideford Ward: Cllr. A Hodge (Vice Chairman).
St Germans Ward: Cllr R Elliott (Chairman), B Skelton, J True.
Polbathic Ward: Cllr T Hooper.
Bethany Ward: Cllr P Chilton.

Also attending: Mrs J Hoskin (Parish Clerk)
Cllr K Ewert (Cornwall Council)
Two members of the public.

1.. Chairman to open the meeting followed by the public session. The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and invited the members of the public to address the Council. A local resident expressed his interest in joining the parish council. The other gentleman had also expressed an interest but had now withdrawn his application owing to other commitments.

2. Apologies for absence were received from Cllr T Price.

3. Declarations of interest relating to matters on the agenda. None declared at this stage of the meeting.

4. To approve the minutes of the meetings held on 26th January 2026. The minutes of the meeting held on the 26th January 2026 were approved and signed by the Chairman. Proposed by Cllr True, seconded by Cllr Chilton and unanimously agreed.

5. Report from Cornwall Councillor Kate Ewert. Cllr Ewert informed the Parish Council she had attended a meeting at Tideford car park with Cornwall Councillor Dan Rogerson (cabinet member for transport) to look at the site, and discuss the covenant on the land. Cllr Hodge had also attended. There had been over 10,000 responses to the Cornwall Council parking consultation that looked at parking charges and the introduction of parking charges on new sites throughout the county. Cllr Ewert reported work on the Tideford Crossing would start before the end of March 2026. The situation with potholes across Cornwall was a major problem, with the wet weather having prevented Cormac from carrying out repairs. Cornwall Councillors would be setting the CC budget at Full Council tomorrow. The Rame Peninsula Transport Group were looking at the Plymouth Metro service and hoped to reinstate the Tavistock train line with funding from the dockyard defence money. The conclusion on the Tamar Tag consultation (to raise the tag administration cost from 80p to £2.00 per month) had not been decided.

A question was asked about the occupancy of the homes at the new Treleddan Estate at Carkeel. Cllr Ewert felt the rumours that many of the properties had been bought by a Council outside the County was a myth but suggested a Freedom of Information request could be made to clarify this. The public subsidy fee at Newquay Airport had been cut and flights to Gatwick had been stopped.

Cllr Ewert left at 7.00pm to attend another meeting.

6. Planning applications –to discuss the following planning applications and any other applications received between the publication of the agenda and the meeting.

a) **PA26/00268 Land South West of Meadowsweet, Trerulefoot – Application for Permission in Principle for the construction of up to 2 dwellings (minimum of 2, maximum of 2).** The Parish Council had no objection in principle to this application. Proposed by Cllr Skelton, seconded by Cllr Hodge and unanimously agreed.

Planning Matters – to note any planning matters requiring attention.

7. Cornwall Council Planning decisions and reports were noted.

a) **PA25/03300 Land West of St Germans Railway Station – Construction of two dwellings, car park and associated works. APPLICATION WITHDRAWN.** It was agreed the Clerk contacts the Cornwall Council Planning Enforcement team to confirm they will now continue the investigations that began prior to the planning application being submitted.

b) **PA26/00268 Land South West of Meadowsweet, Trerulefoot – Application for Permission in Principle for the construction of up to 2 dwellings (minimum of 2, maximum of 2). AWAITING A DECISION.**

8. Finance

i) **to note and approve current financial position on all accounts.** The bank reconciliation was noted and bank account balances were verified by the Chairman.

ii) **to approve and authorise the payment of accounts, as circulated.** It was proposed by Cllr Hodge, seconded by Cllr Chilton and unanimously agreed the accounts be paid.

Staff & HMRC	Salary & PAYE	1024.91		1024.91
Tamar Accounting	Monthly fee	20.00	4.00	24.00
Polbathic Hall	Room hire 23.02.2026	20.00		20.00
The Play Inspection Comp	Reissue of Cheque	189.90	37.98	227.88
Cornwall Tree Consultancy	Dec 25 Inspections	868.40		868.40
Cornwall Council	Final lease costs Tideford	94.50		94.50
Lloyds Bank	Charges Dec 25 / Jan 26	5.75		5.75
St Germans Youth Project	Grant (agreed Jan 26)	1,200.00		1,200.00
Parish Magazine Printing	March edition	232.98		232.98
BH Gardens	Grass cutting / maintenance	830.00	166.00	996.00

9. Parish Councillor reports

i) **Safe 38: - Cllr Hodge – to report on any updates.** The February meeting had been cancelled. Date of the next meeting, Wednesday 18th March 2026 at the RBL Tideford.

ii) **Cornwall Council Community Area Partnership Meeting (CAP) – Cllr Hodge – date of the next meeting to be confirmed.** Cllr Hodge confirmed the date of the next meeting, 7th April 2026 at East Taphouse.

An additional meeting may be held to discuss the Tamar Bridge tag consultation.

10. Correspondence – to be noted. Noted. The Clerk reported a Public Path Diversion Order on part of Footpath 1 at Tredudwell had been approved.

11. Nut Tree – to nominate the Clerk /a Councillor to write a report for the next parish magazine. Cllr True offered to submit a report for the April edition.

12. Parish Council Policies – GDPR policy. To confirm the next policy review and elect a councillor to look at this with the Clerk. Nothing to report.

13. Burial Ground – to note and approve any work required. Update on the removal of the storm damaged shelter and to decide whether or not this should be replaced.

Cllr Chilton reported the remains of the damaged shelter had now been removed from the burial ground. Cllr Hodge questioned how this work was authorised.

It was agreed the contractor be asked to tidy the bank where the shelter was situated and plant grass seed.

Having looked at the options for a replacement area to house the bins and water storage tank it was agreed to install a small block building with doors and a slate roof (an alternative to box profile sheets). The contractor will be required to complete the work with the installation of a step, if needed and to also re-fit the water pipes and tap using the existing materials.

The building to be installed on the left-hand side as you enter the site.

A further quote will be obtained.

14. Playparks and public areas:- to identify and approve any work requiring attention.

i) St Germans / Treland. To note inspections and agree actions to be taken. Cllr True reported on recent inspections, that identified the need to cleaning the wooden toadstools and rake up the leaves. The Clerk had informed Cormac of the blocked highway drain that was causing surface water to enter the park; and reported this should now be cleared. Cllr Skelton to check.

A discussion was held about installing new play equipment on this site.

Cllr Elliott will carry out the next inspections.

ii) Tideford. To note inspections and agree actions to be taken. Cllr Hodge had carried out the inspections with nothing to report and offered to continue for the next month.

15. Tideford Car Park – update from Cornwall Council on the consultation to introduce parking charges; and the request to have the car park devolved to the Parish Council. Councillors agreed to await the results of the parking consultation and feedback from Cllr Ewert if Cornwall Council would be prepared to look at devolving this asset to the Parish Council.

If the Parish Council did take on the responsibility of the car park there was funding to support the financial costs for the upkeep of the site for the first five years. Also discussed under Item 5 of this meeting.

16. 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.

- **Twinning visit to Plouguerneau 14th-17th May 2026.** Having discussed the return visit and the support to retain relationships with this French town it was proposed by Cllr Skelton, seconded by Cllr Hodge and unanimously agreed to allow Cllr True to attend the event on behalf of St Germans and agreed funding for this trip to cover the ferry costs.
- **Funding for the May Tree Fair – item for the next meeting agenda.**

7. Parish Council vacancies – Bethany (1) Polbathic (1) Tideford (1) St Germans (1) To consider applications and co-option of Councillors. Having considered an application for co-option it was proposed by Cllr Hooper, seconded by Cllr Hodge and unanimously agreed to invite Mr Chirs Holl to join the Council at the next meeting.

18. Date of next Parish Council meeting – Monday, 30th March 2026 at the Eliot Hall, St Germans.

19. To close the meeting. There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.05pm.