

ST GERMANS PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ST GERMANS PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY, 29TH JUNE 2026 AT THE ELIOT HALL, ST GERMANS AT 6.30PM.

Present:

Tideford Ward: Cllr. A Hodge.
St Germans Ward: Cllrs. R Elliott, B Skelton, J True.
Polbathic Ward:
Bethany Ward: Cllrs. P Chilton, C Holl.

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, if they so wished. The two residents were both interested in the parish councillor vacancies and introduced themselves.

2. Apologies for absence. None.

Councillors noted that Cllr T Hooper had now moved out of the parish.

Councillors were concerned about the absence of Cllr T Price at meetings and asked the Clerk/Chairman to make contact and check she was okay and intending to continue in her parish councillor role.

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 the 26th May 2026. The minutes of the meeting held on the 26th May 2026 were approved and signed by the Chairman. Proposed by Cllr Hodge, seconded by Cllr True and agreed by those who attended.

5. Report from Cornwall Councillor Kate Ewert. Cllr Ewert spoke about an incident with an ongoing water leak in some gardens at Fairfield and issues between Cornwall Council and South West Water. Cllr Ewert reported that overnight work to install the Tideford Crossing should begin on the 7th September 2026.

Contact had been made with the Port Eliot Estate asking that a meeting is held with the Parish Council and the organisers of the forthcoming Wild Gardens Festival.

Cllr Ewert spoke about the CAP meeting held on the 25th June 2026.

Plans by National Highways to improve safety along the A38 at the Menheniot and Looe junctions were noted.

Work on the new bus shelter at Trerulefoot along the A374 has started today.

The Clerk will chase the CIL money owed to the Parish Council.

Enquiries were being made with Cornwall Council to have the car park at Tidfeord devolved to the Parish Council and possibly the wooded area behind Treland play area at St Germans.

(Cllr K Ewert left the meeting at 7.00pm)

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

a) PA26/03379 Polbathic Garage, Polbathic – Construction of one dwelling. Councillors agreed to look at the site and report back to the Clerk by the end of the week, so comments could be submitted.

b) PA26/03528 The Old Rectory, Old Quay Lane, St Germans – Listed Building Consent for proposed window repairs and replacement. Agreed to support, proposed Cllr True, seconded by Cllr Hodge and unanimously agreed.

c) PA26/03623 Marae Barn, St Germans – Proposed extension. The Parish Council resolved to object to this application. The extension would be overdevelopment of the site in this rural area, taking into account previous developments that have already happened at Marae Barn.

d) PA26/03726 Fairfield House, St Germans – Replacement of existing windows. No objections; proposed by Cllr True, seconded by Cllr Holl and unanimously agreed.

Planning Matters – to note any information relating to planning or enforcement matters.

EN/00649 The Clerk read the latest response from Cornwall Council Planning Enforcement in relation to the land west of St Germans Railway Station. This followed on from previous correspondence that stated the initial enforcement case could not be re-opened following the submission and withdrawal of planning application PA25/03300. Councillors agreed to pursue the breach of planning and illegal dumping of inert waste on this site.

7. Cornwall Council Planning decisions and reports to be noted: Noted.

a) PA26/01207 Tower View, Quarry Lane, St Germans – Works to trees subject to a Tree Preservation Order – removal of Eucalyptus tree. **Approved.**

8. Finance

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

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 paid.

Staff & HMRC	Salary & PAYE	1024.91		1024.91
Tamar Accounting	Monthly fee	20.00	4.00	24.00
Elliot Hall	Reissue payment for Winter Art Hub	360.00		360.00
Cornwall Ass Local Councils	Clerk conference Oct 26	37.50	7.50	45.00
Lloyds Bank	Charges May 26 / Jun 26	7.25		7.25
Parish Magazine Printing	July edition	272.51		272.51
BH Gardens	Grass cutting / maint	1370.00	274.00	1644.00
No Butts Bin Comp (NBB)	Seat for burial ground	342.00	68.40	410.40
1 st St Germans Brownies	Grant (agreed May 2026)	1800.00		1800.00

iii) Accounts 2025/2026 – to approve the Annual Governance Statement, to agree the Annual Accounting Statements and to consider whether there is a conflict of interest with BDO the external auditors. Item deferred. The Clerk explained the extension of the audit to the end of July 2026 and changes to the Internal Auditor. It was agreed there was no conflict of interest with BDO the external auditors.

9. Parish Councillor reports

i) Safe 38: - Cllr Hodge – to report on any updates. Cllr Hodge gave a report from the Annual General Meeting held on the 17th June 2026, and the officers elected.

Since the introduction of the speed cameras and reduced limits along the A38 from Carkeel to Trerulefoot there had been a significant reduction in serious accidents. Cllr Hodge reiterated the statement made by Cllr Ewert that the work to install the new crossing at Tideford would start in September 2026.

The next meeting was being held on the 16th September 2026.

Cllr Skelton commented on the work for the new roundabouts at Stoketon Cross and the direction of the traffic flow once the new road layout was complete.

ii) Cornwall Council Community Area Partnership Meeting (CAP) – Cllr Hodge – report from the 25th June 2026 meeting. Cllr Hodge had issued a written report of the meeting and gave further details on the forthcoming changes to the planning rules.

At the meeting the Clerk of St Keyne gave a presentation on the results of a questionnaire about community engagement

The Tamar Tag Action Group were carrying out an organised protest across the bridge in July.

Cllr Hodge updated the meeting on the work on the Saltash tunnel.

The next meeting was being held on the 6th October 2026.

10. Correspondence – to be noted. Noted.

11. Nut Tree – to nominate the Clerk /a Councillor to write a report for the next parish magazine.

The Clerk will submit a report for the next edition of the Nut Tree.

12. Parish Council Policies – GDPR policy review. The Clerk gave Cllr True a copy of the Data Protection Policy to review and report back.

The Clerk will identify the next policy to be reviewed and when.

13. Burial Ground – to note and approve any work required. To approve the specification for the new shelter / bin storage building and agree quotations be obtained. Cllr Skelton had contacted the architects to produce the drawings for a new shelter and bin store and expected these to be ready within three weeks for Councillors approval.

It was agreed a working party be formed to build the new bench and tidy the shed. The group will also look at the work identified in the contractor's quotation.

The Chairman offered to organise the delivery of topsoil once the monumental mason had set a date to start work of raising the second section of tablets to ground level.

Cllr Chilton identified an area at the lower section of the site that could be used for burial plots in the future. She also suggested enquiries be made into allowing another section of the burial ground be used for the internment pets (cremated remains only).

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 had nothing to report from recent inspections. The public had been invited to put forward suggestions for upgrading the park. Plans from the School Specialist Play Company had been circulated and will be reviewed by Councillors. Cllr Hodge had picked up a brochure from another company.

ii) Tideford. To note inspections and agree actions to be taken. Councillors approved the costs to repair the wire rope equipment. Proposed by Cllr Skelton, seconded by Cllr True and unanimously agreed. Cllr Hodge to instruct the company to carry out the work.
New timber was being sourced to improve the log walk.
Councillors will arrange to trim the tree adjacent to the entrance gate and will look at the remainder of the hedging work required.

15. Tideford Car Park – update on the request to Cornwall Council to devolve the car park to the Parish Council. Before progressing with the devolution of the car park Councillors were asked if they would consider taking on the car park at Polbathic and the wooded area behind Treland play park as this could all be added to one application.

16. Bethany Chapel – to confirm if the chapel is still being marketed for sale and the way forward should the parish council wish to reconsider purchasing the site for the creation of a community hall/ warm space. The Clerk will contact the Methodist circuit to see if the building is still for sale.

17. 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.

- **Port Eliot Wild Gardens Festival 16th-19th July 2026** – feedback from the event to be discussed at the next meeting.

18. Parish Council vacancies – Polbathic (2) Tideford (1) St Germans (1). It was proposed by Cllr Hodge, seconded by Cllr Chilton and unanimously agreed that Owen Evans and Joy Rudenburg be co-opted onto the Parish Council to fill vacancies in the Tideford and St Germans Wards. This leaves two vacancies for the Polbathic Ward.

19. Date of next Parish Council meeting – Monday, 27th July 2026 at the RBL, Tideford.

20. To close the meeting. There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.50pm.

Dated

Signed.