

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ST GERMANS PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 29TH JANUARY 2024 AT THE RBL BUILDING, TIDEFORD AT 6.30PM.

Present:

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

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

Public Forum: The Chairman invited the members of the public to address the council, if they so wished. The planning consultant for application 5c) PA24/00007 notified the council about the changes to the revised application.

1.. Apologies for absence. None.

2. Declarations of Interest. Cllrs. Skelton and Witton declared an interest on Agenda Item 5d) Planning application PA24/00490.

3. To approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday, 27th November 2023.

The minutes of the meeting held on the 27th November 2023 were approved and signed by the Chairman following an amendment to those present. Cllr B Skelton (St Germans ward) had attended the meeting. Proposed by Cllr Barnes, seconded by Cllr Witton and agreed by those who attended. Cllr Elliot abstained.

4. Report from Cornwall Councillor Kate Ewert. Cllr Ewert presented her report and spoke about the forthcoming road closure necessary for the St Germans church wall repairs.

The dark skies rollout had now started with some street lights being turned off during the night. New waste collections were starting in April 2024. Cornwall Council were holding a roadshow in Polbathic Hall on the 26th February from 10.00am – 4.00pm to answer any questions. The new wheelie bins and food waste bins were being delivered to householders.

A virtual Air Quality meeting was being held on Wednesday, 30th January to report the data collated for Tideford.

5. Planning applications – to discuss the following applications:

- a) **PA23/10284 Trees along the B3249 Port Eliot Estate, St Germans – Works to trees within a conservation area (TCA) – removal of 11 x Ash. 1 x Elm, 1 x Sycamore and works to 5 x trees as noted in works schedule.** Noted – no requirement to make a comment.
- b) **PA23/10024 Marae Barn, St Germans – Conversion of outbuilding to annex together with extension.** It was resolved to request a site meeting with the planning officer before making an comments on this application. Proposed by Cllr Skelton, seconded by Cllr Barnes and unanimously agreed.
- c) **PA24/00007 3 Cuddenbeake Terrace, Quay Road, St Germans, Revised householder planning application for 1 off-road parking space (following refused application PA23/00118).** Support with the recommendation a permeable surface drainage is installed. Proposed by Cllr Skelton, seconded by Cllr Hodge and unanimously agreed.

- d) **PA24/00490 Lynher House, St Germans – Proposed snooker room over existing garage.** Councillors Skelton and Witton declared an interest and left the meeting for this item. Support; proposed by Cllr Barnes, seconded by Cllr Hodge and unanimously agreed. Councillors commented on the little information provided with this application.

6. Planning decisions and reports to be noted:

- a) **PA23/08118** Marae Barn, St Germans – proposed change of use along with extension to form annexe. Application withdrawn.
- b) **PA23/09392** 2 West End Cottages, St Germans – works to trees in a conservation area. Decided not to make a TPO (TCA apps).
- c) **PA23/01672** Venture Filling Station, Polbathic – Reserved matters application following Outline approval PA19/08643 dated 8th March 2021 for a single dwellinghouse (access, appearance, landscaping, layout and scale) Approved.

7. Finance:

- i. **To note and approve current financial position on all accounts.** The bank reconciliation was circulated by the Clerk.
- 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.

Method	Payee	Details	Nett	Vat	Total
BACS	J Hoskin & HMRC	Salary & PAYE Nov 2023	1051.79		1051.79
BACS	J Hoskin & HMRC	Salary & PAYE Dec 2023	771.30		771.30
BACS	Tamar Accounting	Monthly fee Nov & Dec	40.00	8.00	48.00
Cheque	Parish Magazine Printing	February edition	176.62		176.62
Cheque	BH Gardens	Grass cutting Nov / Dec	460.00	92.00	552.00
Cheque	Cornwall Council	Legal fees October 2023	35.40	7.08	42.48
Cheque	South West Play - Tideford	Final 50% of repair work	217.50	43.50	261.00
Direct Debit	SSE – November	Tideford street lighting	13.27	0.66	13.93
Direct Debit	SSE – December	Tideford street lighting	14.10	0.70	14.80

- iii. **Appointment of auditor for the 2023/2024 financial year.** Having considered the costs from two recognised local council auditors, it was agreed to use L Coles Bookkeeping Services. Proposed by Cllr Barnes, seconded by Cllr Elliot and unanimously agreed.

8. Policy documents – to receive and approve the final draft of the Lone Working Policy. Cllr Hodge had now completed the final draft of the policy, as agreed and will circulate to Councillors.

9. Burial Ground – to receive an update on the work at the burial ground. Cllr Chilton reported that the stonemason had 21 ½ hours of work left until the allocated budget was spent. The work being carried out to raise memorial stones and top up graves. It was agreed that when the invoice from the Monumental Mason had been received, the council could then establish how much work remained. Proposed by Cllr Hodge, seconded by Cllr Barnes and unanimously agreed. The top and outside of the boundary hedge had been cut. The contractor was coming back to cut the inside.

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

- i) **St Germans.** Cllr Elliot presented a report of inspections over the past two months with no matters identified. He offered to continue the inspections until the next parish council meeting.

ii) **Tideford** – Cllr Hodge reported the rope had now been fixed. No matters to report. Cllr Skelton offered to carry out inspections until the next parish council meeting.

11. Review of grass cutting contract. Following a discussion, it was proposed by Cllr Witton, seconded by Cllr Skelton and unanimously agreed the current contractors be asked continue on the same basis as the current year.

12. Nut Tree – report for the next parish magazine. Cllr Witton to write the report for the March edition. Cllr Hodge reported a local resident had expressed an interest in writing a report for the Nut Tree.

13. Matters arising from previous decisions, and any urgent matters (which cannot be voted on) at the discretion of the chair.

- **Church Road Tideford** – agreed to place an item on the agenda for the next meeting. Cllr Witton to seek costs from Cormac for a road survey and options that could be considered to address public concerns with crossing, parking and traffic speed.
- **SSE contract for Tideford street lighting** - Cllr Skelton reviewed the new contract being offered by SSE and recommended this be renewed.
- **Dog Walking field** – Cllr Chilton had been approached by a resident asking if the parish council would be interested in purchasing part of a field for a dog walking paddock. Councillors suggested the resident contacts the land owner to ask if the field is available.

14. Parish Council Vacancies – co-option to fill the vacancies (Tideford and Polbathic wards). No applications received. The Clerk will produce some notices. Cllr Witton will report the vacancies in the Nut Tree article.

15. Bethany Chapel – future of the building. Update if available. Nothing to report. The Clerk will contact the Liskeard Looe Methodist Circuit to ask their intentions for the future of the building and the current situation with the site.

16. Directional sign at Bethany – response from Cormac. The Clerk had contacted Cormac and awaited a reply. Cllr Skelton will ask a local tradesman to provide a cost to repair or replace this wooden sign.

17. Defibrillator training. Councillors confirmed the defibrillators were being regularly checked. It was decided no further training was required, at this time.

18. Parish Councillors reports:

i) **Safe A38** – Cllr Hodge gave details of the meeting held on the 17th January that reported new banners had been erected at various sites along the A38. Cornwall Councillor Martin Worth had highlighted the proposals set by the Peninsula Transport Group up to 2050.

The 5th December 2023 Community Area Partnership meeting mentioned a statement from the Leader of Cornwall Council, Cllr Linda Taylor who announced the road improvement from Carkeel to Tideford was on a list but other general matters relating to waste and the economy took priority.

Cllr Witton had attended the Economic Development Group meeting organised by Menheniot Parish Council that mentioned strategic planning, and the costs needed to address issues along the A38.

19. Correspondence. Noted. Cllr Hodge will, if available attend the Shevioc PC virtual meeting on the 20th February to look at road issues along the A374 (Torpoint Twisters).

20. Date of the next meeting. Monday, 26th February 2024 at Polbathic as per the Nut Tree report.

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

Dated.

Signed.