



The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2023 at the St Erme Community Centre.

**Those present:**

Cllr Trethewey (Chairman), Cllr Hodgkinson (Vice-Chairman), Cllr Light, Cllr P Jones, and Cllr S Jones.

**In attendance:**

Mrs Sally Trethewey (Clerk), Graham Ellis (CAD Architects), Paul Clarke (Legacy Properties) and 1 member of the public.

**94/23 To accept apologies.**

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Barnes (work commitments), Cllr Gould (holiday) and Cllr Glasson (Cornwall Councillor)

**95/23 Declarations of Interest in items on the agenda**

- **Councillors to disclose any declarations of interests on any agenda items.**

Cllr Trethewey declared a pecuniary interest on the following agenda items.

12) To approve overtime for the Clerk.

16) Staff / Employment

- b) To review and consider the way forward regarding employee gratuities and pensions.

Cllr Trethewey, Cllr Light, and Cllr Hodgkinson declared a non-pecuniary interest on the following agenda item:

11) To receive correspondence from the St Erme Playing Field Trust regarding their application to Cornwall Council for S106 monies towards security gates for the Community Centre car park.

**96/23 Dispensations**

- **Member/s to request a dispensation for an item on the agenda that has just become apparent at this meeting.**

Due to without a dispensation the number of persons unable to participate in the transaction of business would be so great as to impede the transaction of business.

It was therefore,

**RESOLVED for Cllr Hodgkinson to have a dispensation in relation to agenda item 11 involving the St Erme Playing Field Trust.**

**Public Participation (15 minutes)**

The public are given 15 minutes to discuss any items on the agenda, after this period the members of the public may stay in the meeting but will not be able to comment or participate.

Cllr Trethewey asked Paul Clarke (Legacy Properties) that he noted that there was no mention of solar panels on the roofs or car charging points in the planning application they had submitted. He

questioned that during the consultation they had informed the public that all properties would be installed with these.

Paul Clarke responded stating that yes, all properties would have solar on the roof and car charging points and was not sure why these had been missed in the application submitted.

There were no more questions.

**97/23 To approve the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> July 2023 and the extraordinary meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> August 2023.**

The minutes previously circulated were agreed it was proposed and seconded and therefore

**RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> July 2023 and the extraordinary meeting held on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> August 2023 be approved as a true record and duly signed.**

**98/23 Councillors to discuss any matters with Cornwall Councillor if present.**

Cllr Glasson had given her apologies for the meeting and there were no questions.

It was proposed and seconded and agreed to bring agenda item 7 forward

**99/23 Planning:**

**a) To consider any planning applications received up to the date of the meeting.**

**i) PA23/04633: Legacy Properties – residential development for up to 80 dwellings and associated access roads, landscaping, and services.**

This item was discussed at length.

Cllr Trethewey raised some concerns that part of the site to the south of the proposed development was more sensitive as shown on the St Erme Local Landscape Character Assessment. The affordable element was low for an exception site which this location would be classed as. There was concern that the 5 bedroom properties did not have enough car parking and that there was no visitor car parking on the site. There seemed to be a large number of 5 bedrooomed properties in proportion to the development.

All members were concerned over the lack of parking provision and were disappointed in the 35% affordable element and would have preferred this to be higher. Members were pleased that there were several bungalows included within the development. The pedestrian links and a safe crossing point was discussed and would need to be included.

It was proposed and seconded to support the application with three members in favour and two against. Cllr P Jones and Cllr Trethewey voted against the proposals.

It was therefore

**RESOLVED that the application be supported with the following conditions**

- 1) Parking provision needs to be adequate for all properties with additional parking provision provided for the larger properties within the curtilage of the property.
- 2) Solar panels and electric car charging points should be included for all dwellings as stated during their consultation process.
- 3) Pavements at the junction onto Eglos Road should be included and extended to the east with a safe pedestrian crossing point.

**b) Other planning issues:**

**i) To update on Cornwall Council planning decisions.**

PA23/04078: Millbrook Cottage, St Erme, Truro – APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS

PA23/04786: Pengelly View, Pengelly Farm, St Erme – APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS

**ii) To agree and respond to correspondences received regarding the ‘A Moratorium and Further Solar Industrial Sites on Farmland’.**

This item was discussed, and it was agreed that we should respond stating that we understand their concerns but as a Council we need to be careful due to predetermination in case any future applications come forward in our parish or a neighbouring parish. The clerk will draft a response and get this checked before responding.

#### **100/23 Clerks update and report.**

There clerk updated as follows:

**National Highways Social Fund** – The St Erme Playing Field Trust were not successful in their grant funding application.

**'No Dog' Signage, School Playing Field** – These have now been put up on the gates of both entrances to the field.

**School Park** – There have been some reports of anti-social behaviour.

**Cornwall Council Briefing** – A briefing has been held in relation to the new rubbish, recycling, and food waste collection service. There will be extensive community advertising of the new services in each area as the programme is rolled out.

**New Bench** – The seat from Earth Anchors has been delivered and waiting for installation.

**New Solar Interactive Speed Sign** – has now been delivered and will be installed shortly.

Members were informed of all correspondences received and reminded of forthcoming training events and meetings.

#### **101/23 Highways:**

##### **a) To update on the Community Speed Watch.**

The Community Speed Watch members have received their first training session with Allen Reid and Mick (Devon & Cornwall Police) and have been out on another session on their own. We will be having another training session hopefully week beginning 4<sup>th</sup> Sept. If Allen is happy, we will then be fully approved and set up ready to officially start. Cllr Hodgkinson and the Clerk as coordinators will be able to train any further volunteers.

At the first training session the Police were surprised at the speed of some traffic at Trispen Hill and Mick took out the Police Radar gun to monitor. They will be looking at adding this area to their own speed monitoring in the future.

##### **b) To receive a response from Cormac regarding additional 20mph signage north of the village and agree how to take this forward.**

Members had received a response from Cormac regarding additional signage which can be added providing that they are within the highways guidelines, but the Council will have to pay for these works themselves.

This item was discussed, and it was agreed to request a quotation from Cormac to add additional signage to the north of the village with a 20mph sign above the gateway and for a roundel to be painted on the road as you enter the village off the bypass.

##### **c) To update on concerns regarding the traffic leading to the junction of Chaple Road.**

This item was discussed, and Cllr Glasson has continued to look at the concerns of a resident regarding this area and the removal of the speed bump before the junction of Chaple Road. Cormac stated that this was installed as part of the original traffic calming scheme and if this was removed it would speed up the traffic further. The red pedestrian area was a priority for pedestrians when they are walking on this area, and it would be expected that provided it is safe to do so the virtual footway can safely be overrun by traffic. Clearly if a pedestrian was using the footway, you would expect a driver heeding the road layout with due care and attention to stop and/or pass the pedestrian with care. Similarly in a scenario where a vehicle is driven around the speed humps

rather than over them, speeds would remain low regardless as a result of the deflection around the feature and we would expect the same behaviour – i.e. to drive with due care and courtesy to pedestrians – those that do not would be in breach of their Road Traffic Act responsibilities.

Members discussed the issues and concerns over the safety of the junction; it was a difficult junction and there was no easy solution due to the old layout of the road which was in close proximity to the houses. The main issue is the width of the road which is not something that can be changed.

**d) To update regarding accessibility of the village, addition yellow lines and no waiting restrictions and to agree a community consultation of the draft proposals.**

The draft scheme was submitted to Cormac to request that the draft be drawn up properly so we could consult with the community. Cormac said that the sketches were suitable for the purposes of an informal consultation with residents They can draw them up properly but there would be a cost associated with this.

It was agreed to use the informal drawing we had and to hold a consultation in October/November. The clerk will arrange the dates and advertise the consultation in the usual places.

**e) To agree on the area to request additional verge cutting in the Council's SLA for 2024/2025.**

This was discussed and it was agreed to request that the area of verge between Treworgan View and Great Close be included and 15m past the junction. We will request that the visual displays at the junction of Eglos Road onto Trispen Hill are included too.

**102/23 Finance:**

**a) To receive the financial 'Statement of Accounts' for the year to date and to approve payments.**

Name	Details of payment	Cost	VAT	Total
Sage	Payroll	£ 8.00	£ 1.60	£ 9.60
O2	Mobile Phone	£ 23.57	£ 4.71	£ 28.28
Mrs S Trethewey	Salary Month 4			
Mr G Brunsden	Salary Month 4			
M Pearson	Grass Verges	£ 195.00		£ 195.00
M Pearson	Strim hedges	£ 150.00		£ 150.00
Cornwall Council	Print Annual Report	£ 58.58		£ 58.58
Cornwall Council	Emptying Dog Bin 22/23	£ 37.55	£ 7.51	£ 45.06
PWLB	Loan Repayment	£2,812.02		£ 2,812.02
Mr G Brunsden	Final Salary			
Mrs S Trethewey	Salary Month 5			
Sage	Payroll	£ 8.00	£ 1.60	£ 9.60
O2	Mobile Phone	£ 23.57	£ 4.71	£ 28.28
Southwest Sweepers	Road Sweeping	£ 360.00	£ 72.00	£ 432.00
M Pearson	Grass Verges	£ 195.00		£ 195.00
Vision ICT	SSL Certificate - annual fee	£ 50.00	£ 10.00	£ 60.00
Elancity UK	Solar Speed Sign	£2,250.00	£ 450.00	£ 2,700.00
Vision ICT	Website MOT	£ 145.00	£ 29.00	£ 174.00
Earth Anchors Ltd	New Seat	£ 474.00	£ 94.80	£ 568.80
St Erme PFL	Hall Hire - July	£ 18.00		£ 18.00
Mrs S Trethewey	Expenses	£ 197.94		£ 197.94
		£9,837.90	£ 675.93	£ 10,513.83

**The following invoice was added to the above for payment;**  
St Erme Village Hall (Hall Hire – 17/08/23) = £10.00

The 'Statement of Accounts' and bank reconciliation were agreed, and it was therefore

**RESOLVED that the 'Statement of Accounts' be approved as a true record and duly signed. The clerk to arrange payment of the invoices.**

**b) To receive and discuss the council's receipts and payments against the budget.**

Members had received copies of the receipts and payments against budget and there were no questions.

**c) Cllr Light to report on the Council's Internal Control checks.**

Cllr Light reported that he had carried out the internal control checks and there were no issues highlighted.

**103/23 To receive the requested documents and consider a request for a grant to the Trispen & St Erme Hardship Fund (C/O Trispen Methodist Church) or £550.00 as per the Council's Grant Policy.**

Members had received copies of the requested policies and procedures and it was therefore proposed and seconded and

**RESOLVED to grant the Trispen & St Erme Hardship Fund £550.00 with a condition that the monies support at least 5 parishioners with a maximum of £110.00 each.**

Cllr Trethewey and Cllr Light had declared a non-pecuniary interest on the next item and left the room.

Cllr Hodgkinson had declared a non-pecuniary interest on the next item but had a dispensation to discuss and vote on this item. Due to without a dispensation the number of persons unable to participate in the transaction of business would be so great as to impede the transaction of business.

Cllr Hodgkinson as Vice-Chairman chaired this agenda item

**104/23 To receive correspondence from the St Erme Playing Field Trust regarding their application to Cornwall Council for S106 monies towards security gates for the Community Centre car park.**

This item was discussed, and it was agreed to support the St Erme Playing Field Trust in their application for the S106 monies from Cornwall Council for a security gate for the entrance of the playing fields.

Cllr Light rejoined the meeting.

Cllr Trethewey remained out the room as he had declared a pecuniary interest on the next item.

**105/23 To approve overtime for the Clerk.**

This item was discussed, and it was agreed and therefore

**RESOLVED to pay the clerk 17.5hrs overtime for catch up work following two weeks annual leave. This will be paid with September's salary.**

Cllr Trethewey rejoined the meeting.

**106/23 To receive costs and agree on equipment for the role of Street Cleaner.**

Members had received a report of the equipment required which included an outside storage unit to keep the street cleaner's equipment in.

The purchase of a trolley for the bin bags was considered and it was agreed for the Clerk to speak to Mr Kendall to see if this was required. An additional wheelie bin for the layby at Trispen Hill was considered and this would require approval from Cornwall Council first. The clerk will look into this further.

It was proposed and seconded and all in favour and therefore

**RESOLVED for the clerk to purchase the equipment required for the street cleaner up to the value of £800.00**

**107/23 Councillors to report on any meetings attended as representative:**

- **St Erme Playing Field Trust (Cllr Hodgkinson)**

Cllr Hodgkinson reported that a member of the committee has resigned due to other commitments and would be looking for a new member. Their AGM will be held on October.

- **St Erme Village Hall (Cllr S Jones)**

Cllr S Jones stated that they had not held a meeting.

- **St Erme Community Enhancement Group (Cllr Trethewey)**

Cllr Trethewey reported that a few members and volunteers had met on Saturday to work on the flower borders at the entrance north of the village. More work was required, and another date will be arranged shortly. They are looking at obtaining some daffodil bulbs to plant in this area and around the village.

The K6 phone box had been completed inside and now required another coat of paint on the outside. Information was being gathered to put inside with the book swap.

**108/23 To agree the date and time of the next meeting of the Council on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2023.**

The above date and time were agreed.

## **PART 2**

Pursuant to section 1(2) of Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 it is resolved that, because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the public and the press leave the meeting during consideration of the following agenda items.