



The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 7th October 2025 at the St Erme Community Centre.

Those present:

Cllr Trethewey (Chairperson), Cllr Hodgkinson (Vice-Chairperson), Cllr Light, Cllr McGinnes, and Cllr Baird.

In attendance:

Mrs Sally Trethewey (Clerk), Cllr Karen Glasson (Cornwall Councillor) and three members of the public.

110/25 To accept apologies.

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr P Jones and Cllr S Jones (Holiday).

111/25 Declarations of Interest and Dispensations.

a) Councillors to disclose any declarations of interests on any agenda items.

Cllr Trethewey and Cllr Light declared a non-pecuniary interest on the follow agenda item;'

11) To finalise details for the Council's Scarecrow for the Scarecrow competition.

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

17) Staff / Employment

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

There were no dispensations requested.

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.

The three members of the public present spoke against planning application PA25/04749: Land off Polisken Way.

Cllr Trethewey thanked the members of the public and there were no questions.

112/25 To approve the minutes of the extraordinary meeting held on Tuesday 2nd September 2025.

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

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 2nd September 2025 be approved as a true record and duly signed.

113/25 Councillors to discuss any matters with Cornwall Councillor if present.

Cllr Glasson stated that she is looking into the A39 speed limits and will update on this as soon as she can.

Cllr Glasson said that the way the recent road closures of the A39 was dealt with by Cormac was not good enough and communication with the public was extremely poor.

114/25 Clerks update and report.

The clerk reported on the following:

Members were informed of the following scheduled road closures:

- A39 Carland Cross to Union Hill, Truro - 20th Oct to 24th Oct – (19.00 to 06.00 hours)
- Road from Trenerry to layby at Truthan, St Allen and Road from layby at Truthan to A39, Truthan, St Erme – 6th Nov to 7th Nov (8.00 to 16.00 hours)
- Road from St Erme to Chy Glyn. Stairfoot, St Erme – 17th Nov to 19th Nov – (24hours)

Cornwall Council had advised us that the charges to the Council for the uncontested election on 1st May would be £287.32.

Code of Conduct Training – Members were reminded of the dates of their mandatory Code of Training.

A letter had been received from a member of the public with concerns of the parking south of Eglos Road by the bend. This area had been highlighted for double yellow lines in consultation, but the cost for these works and other areas in the village would mean initial cost of £8,000 for statutory consultation without the cost of the work. The clerk was asked to contact Cornwall Council to see if it would be possible to share the cost and be included in other statutory consultations in the area.

Members had been notified of all correspondences received and reminded of forthcoming meetings and training.

115/25 Planning:

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

- **PA25/06305: Land South of Eglos Road, St Erme, Truro**
Residential development and associated access roads, landscaping, and services without complying with condition 2 of decision PA23/04633 dated 16/08/2025.

Members considered the changes to the original application, and it was proposed and seconded and therefore,

RESOLVED to support this application with no recommendations.

- **PA25/04749: Land off Polisken Way (Polisken Green), St Erme, Truro**
Permission in principle for the erection of up to three dwellings (minimum two maximum 3).

This application was discussed, and it was proposed and seconded and therefore

RESOLVED to object to the application for the following reasons:

St Erme Parish Council strongly objects to this planning application. The proposed development would result in the loss of an area of open space which would be detrimental to the health and well-being of the local community it is intended to serve. It has not been demonstrated that the open space is surplus to requirements, nor has a replacement area of open space been identified. The open space was designated as a 'Local Green Space' within the St Erme Neighbourhood Development Plan and the proposal conflicts with Policy 7. The NDP examiner stated that the land meets the criteria for designation set out in paragraph 100 of the NPPF. During the consultation of the St Erme NDP 99% of respondents stated that they value the open spaces they have and the six 'Local Green Spaces' highlighted in the St Erme NDP, of which Polisken Green is one of. The consultation process of our St Erme NDP commenced in 2015 and the area was formally designated early in 2016.

An appeal was dismissed and upheld by the Planning Inspectorate in 1985 which stated that this area is combined forming an enlarged open space. Since this time Cornwall Council and formally

Carrick District Council have maintained the area as formal open space since the development was finalised in the 1980's.

Furthermore, development of the site would harmfully erode the open character of the area experienced by the surrounding properties; causing shadowing, loss of light and overbearing and will affect the health and wellbeing of those that live there and those that regularly use the open space for recreation and social activities. This is the only local green space within Polisken Way. Polisken Green has been extensively used daily by the community for play and recreation, and this has been the case for the last 40 years.

The proposed application does not improve the economic, social, and environmental conditions in the area.

The proposal conflicts with policy 7 of the St Erme Neighbourhood Development Plan (2018-2030), policies 1, 12, 13, 16 and 25 of the Cornwall Local Plan Strategic Policies 2010-2030, policies C1 and G1 of the Climate Emergency Development Plan Document 2023, paragraphs 8, 103, 104, 106, 124, 125, 129 and 135 of the National Planning Policy Framework 2024 and sections 7.1.1 and 9.3.3 of the Cornwall Design Guide 2021, which together seek to ensure development maintains the character of the area and improves the health and wellbeing of communities and protects existing open space.

St Erme Parish has provided housing well above the average for the size of the parish during the St Erme NDP period so far with 80 properties being built and a further 116 that have recently been granted planning permission; this equates to an increase of properties in our parish of 39% during the St Erme Neighbourhood Development Plan period so far.

We would like it noted that the provision of a GP surgery at St Erme is incorrect this is not an NHS facility but a private practice.

We feel that any benefits of the proposed application on the communities 'Local Green Space' does not outweigh the harmful effects that the proposal would have on the character of the area and the health & wellbeing of the community it serves. The current use of the 'Local Green Space' far outweighs the benefits that two or three more dwellings would bring to the area.

b) To update on Cornwall Council planning decisions.

There were no updates.

c) Other planning items.

There were other items.

116/25 Highways:

a) To update on the Community Speed Watch.

Cllr Hodgkinson will be attending the area Community Speedwatch meeting on 14th October being held at the St Erme Community Centre.

b) To update on the site meeting regarding abandoned cars at the Chancery Close car park and at Polisken Way.

Cllr Light, Cllr Trethewey, Cllr Karen Glasson (Cornwall Councillor), and the Clerk met with an officer from Cornwall Council regarding the abandoned car issues in the village. The officer explained the constraints that they must deal with and the how the system works. The Chancery Close car park is in the ownership of Cornwall Housing who do have the power to instigate the removal if they want to. We are waiting to hear who the Cornwall Housing Officer is for this area as they are currently off work and try to arrange a meeting.

We discussed the possibility of a multi-agency community event which would look at the tidiness of areas within the village including properties as well as abandoned vehicles through the ASB officer. Cllr Glasson said that she will speak to the ASB Officer for the area.

c) To relook at the Street Lighting scheme at St Erme.

We had heard that other parishes have had a say in the timings, and which streetlights are turned off, Ladock being one of these. Cllr Light has received several verbal complaints, but we have received no written complaints other than the one initial complaint in writing. We have since received an email in support of the current system.

Cornwall Council will review the new system for our area if requested but we will need to provide evidence to back up our reasons.

The clerk had spoken to both of Ladock and Probus who both stated that they had not requested any changes in the lighting times prior or since the changes.

It was agreed to continue monitoring this.

Cllr Glasson left the meeting.

117/25 Finance:

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

Lloyds Bank	Charges	£ 4.25		£ 4.25
SageUK	Payroll	£ 11.00	£ 2.20	£ 13.20
O2	Mobile Phone	£ 11.82	£ 2.36	£ 14.18
Mrs S Trethewey				
Mr M Kendall				
Nest				
Mrs S Trethewey	Clerks Expenses	£ 26.00		£ 26.00
HMRC	2nd Qtr. payment	£ 611.28		£ 611.28
St Erme PFL	Hall Hire (Aug)	£ 11.00		£ 11.00
St Erme PFL	Hall Hire (Sept)	£ 23.00		£ 23.00
Trispen & St Erme Funday Committee	Grant 25/26	£ 359.96		£ 359.96
Trispen & St Erme Funday Committee	Grant 24/25 c/f	£ 275.00		£ 275.00
		£ 2,827.37	£ 4.56	£ 2,831.93

The following invoices were added to the 'Statement of Accounts' above for payment.

Cornwall Council (Election Expenses) = £287.32

Kernowek Gardeners Ltd (Grass Maintenance = £600.00

Vision ICT Ltd (Email Addresses x2) = £36.00.

The 'Statement of Accounts' above were agreed and it was proposed and seconded and therefore,

RESOLVED that the 'Statement of Accounts' be approved as a true record and the invoices to be paid.

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

Members had received copies 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 Council's 'Internal Control' checks and there were no issues highlighted.

- d) To discuss the Council's 1st draft budget for 2026/2027 and the format of the public precept meeting to be held on Tuesday 18th November 2025.**

Members discussed the first draft of the precept/budget for 2026/2027, and it was agreed for a second draft option to be drawn up to present at the meeting to show the difference it would make by not offering all the proposed services.

It was agreed for Cllr Trethewey to present the 'Devolution' projects, Cllr Light will present the proposed budget/precept. The Clerk to ask a member of the NPS Steering Group to update on the Neighbourhood Priority Statement (NPS).

The clerk will ask St Erme Silver Circle if they would like to make and serve the refreshments.

- e) Members Allowances for 'Travel & Subsistence' outside of the Parish.**

Members were informed and reminded of the allowances for travel and subsistence.

118/25 Public Rights of Way.

a) To update on the 'Enhanced LMP Grant for 2025/2026.

We had only received one quotation for work so far. Cllr Trethewey will look at getting quotations for the boardwalk at Resugga. We will be unable to apply for the funding if we cannot secure further quotations.

119/25 To receive and respond to the following Cornwall Council consultations.

- **'Cornwall Fire & Rescue Service – Community Risk Management Plan consultation 2026-2030'.**
- **Lets' Talk Taxis – Removal of Hackney carriage Taxis Zones**

There were no comments on these consultations, and it was agreed that members could respond to the above consultations as individuals if they wished to.

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

Cllr Hodgkinson chaired the next item.

120/25 To finalise details for the Council's Scarecrow for the Scarecrow competition.

This item was discussed, and it was agreed to make a scarecrow for Polisken Green. The clerk agreed to help Cllr Hodgkinson with this.

Cllr Trethewey and Cllr Light rejoined the meeting.

121/25 To agree the purchase of a memorial wreath for Remembrance Day (under Section 137 of the Local Government Act (LGA) 1972) and agree for the Chairperson to attend the Village Remembrance Day Service at St Erme Church.

This item was discussed, and it was agreed for Cllr Trethewey to attend the service and lay a wreath on behalf of the Council, and it was proposed and seconded and therefore

RESOLVED to purchase a memorial Wreath under Section 137 of the Local Government Act (LGA) 1972)

122/25 To receive a report from the Neighbourhood Priority Statement Committee.

The Clerk reported the following:

The group have been looking at the 'Visions & Objectives' for the NPS and are now working on the first draft. The group are aiming to hold Community Engagement events in November.

The group are looking at putting together a newsletter to be delivered to households in the parish.

123/25 To receive a report from the Health & Wellbeing Group.

At their last meeting it was agreed to look at further quotations to print a small amount of the booklets to share in community areas such as the village hall, community centre, church chapel, shop, buzz, in the information telephone kiosk and through all local organisations.

It was suggested that the Emergency Plan wardens for each area have some that they can deliver to anyone new moving to their area.

A number of the group met with members of the Probus Family Hub and were impressed by the number of sessions they offer in their area. They had the support from Probus GP Surgery and are in the Arbennek hub area, which St Erme are not. They offer monthly sessions with a Family Hub where a number of agencies attend such as Adult Social Care, Community Energy Plus, Citizens Advice, social prescriber, and care co-ordinators. They hold monthly pain clinics, dementia and falls sessions, digital help sessions, and a community food bank.

These are all held in Probus Church so there are no hire costs, and all the safeguarding and insurance is covered by Probus Church.

124/25 Councillors to report on any meetings attended as representative:

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

Cllr Hodgkinson reported that the events committee have been holding auditions for the pantomime and were currently arranging the DBS checks for members for this. They are looking for more volunteers to help with community events.

The St Erme Community Larder have now stopped using Fareshare due to the lack of funds, but the larder is still being supported by the community garden and surplus foods from Marks & Spencer's. They have been successful with a grant through Neighbourly and Sainsbury's of £500.00 to purchase non-perishable supplies.

The refurbishment of the lounge bar had now been completed.

- **St Erme Village Hall (Cllr Light)**

Cllr Light reported that the village hall was providing refreshments after the Remembrance Service and will have stands up showing the history and information at the event.

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

Cllr Trethewey reported that the Enhancement Group held an event with Truro Nourish Hub, which went very well, it would have been nice if more people attended. They used produce from the community garden and had a cooking demonstration. They even had a visit from Daleks too.

125/25 To agree the date and time of the next meeting of the Council on Tuesday 4th November 2025 and the Precept Public meeting on Tuesday 18th November 2025.

The above dates and times 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.

SIGNED

CHAIRPERSON

DATED

CONFIDENTIAL

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