MEVAGISSEY PARISH COUNCIL

[mevagissey-pc.gov.uk](http://mevagisseyparishcouncil.co.uk/)

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at the Mevagissey Activity Centre

On Thursday 19 June 2025 at 7.15 pm

Present Cllrs. M Roberts (Chairman), M Facey (Vice-Chairman), G Barham, J Brown, L Burdett, B Collins,

J Gann, K Prynn, G Shephard, P Simpson, J Whatty, G Williams.

In Attendance P Howson (Clerk to the Council), 3 members of the public.

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*UNRATIFIED UNLESS SIGNED*

1. Apologies for absence had been received from Cllrs. J Morgan and J Mustoe (Ward Member).

2. The Chairman declared an interest in agenda items 25a (annual grant to the Jubilee Hall) and 26 (grant application from Mevagissey Rowing Club).

3. Public participation. Martin Walton (Secretary and Treasurer of the Mevagissey Rowing Club) spoke on agenda item 26. He gave a brief history of the club, which was a founder member of the Cornish Pilot Gig Association and will celebrate its 40th birthday next year by building a new gig boat, funds for which are being raised. When the weather is too bad for training in the bay, the gig has to be trailed by road round to the River Fowey. All this means that a new trailer is required, and he asked the Council for its support.

4. Proposed by Cllr. Gann, Seconded by Cllr. Barham that agenda item 26 be brought forward and dealt with immediately. Carried.

5. To consider a grant application from Mevagissey Rowing Club for the sum of £4,800 for the purchase of a new gig trailer. The Chairman withdrew for this item, having declared an interest, and the Vice-Chairman took the chair.

Proposed by Cllr. Prynn, Seconded by Cllr. Barham that under the Local Government Act (LGA) (Misc. Provisions) 1976 s 19 the Council purchases the trailer and donates it to the rowing club. Carried.

The Chairman returned to the meeting and retook the chair.

6. Proposed by Cllr. Prynn, Seconded by Cllr. Shephard that the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 15 May 2025 be accepted..  Carried.

7. Proposed by Cllr. Brown, Seconded by Cllr. Simpson that the minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 15 May 2025 be accepted. Carried.

8. Proposed by Cllr. Brown, Seconded by Cllr. Whatty that the minutes of the extraordinary meeting held on 11 June 2025 be accepted. Carried.

9. The Clerk reported that:

* The monthly update from Ocean Housing had been circulated to the Housing Working Group (WG). The required work on the wall behind Meadow Street flats had been deferred to 2026-27;
* The meeting with Ocean Housing’s MD and Property Services Supervisor to review the external decorations at Wesley Court would be on 25 June at 2pm;
* He had written to Cornwall Council Portfolio Holders for Children, Families and Schools, and for Transport regarding free travel on the St Austell school bus and been told that the Transport Portfolio Holder was due to meet the Ward Member to discuss and would reply in due course;
* The new VE/VJ memorial bench was delivered yesterday to the harbour and will be sited below ‘The Oss’;
* Further details of the new Business Liaison WG are awaited so the ToR can be set;
* An intention notice had been received stating that the road between Tregiskey crossroads and Pengrugla would be closed overnight (7pm - 6am) during 8-20 September, weekends included, for patch repairs.

10. The Ward Member's report had been circulated and would be taken as read.

It can be seen on the Council’s website.

11. To approve the monthly finances.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Bills to Pay | West Wharf PC hygiene services 08/06/25 - 07/09/25 (paid) | £ | 432.97 |  |  |
|  | Service seasonal litter bins 05/05/25 - 15/05/25 (paid) | £ | 185.76 |  |  |
|  | Valley Rd PC water 07/05/25 - 02/06/25 (paid) | £ | 685.37 |  |  |
|  | West Wharf PC water 07/05/25 - 02/06/25 (paid) | £ | 245.03 |  |  |
|  | Valley Rd PC electricity 02/05/25 - 01/06/25 (paid) | £ | 48.49 |  |  |
|  | West Wharf PC electricity 02/05/25 - 01/06/25 (paid) | £ | 52.55 |  |  |
|  | Valley Rd PC hygiene services 29/06/25 - 28/09/25 | £ | 370.52 |  |  |
|  | Service seasonal litter bins 19/05/25 - 26/05/25 + Duty of Care cert. | £ | 254.40 |  |  |
|  | Service bottle bank during late May | £ | 204.00 |  |  |
|  | Annual data protection fee | £ | 52.00 |  |  |
|  | Jubilee Hall annual grant | £ | 2,000.00 |  |  |
|  | St Peter's Church annual grant towards printing Tower & Spire | £ | 350.00 |  |  |
|  | IT support June 2025 + members' annual licenses | £ | 720.14 |  |  |
|  | Popcorn for childrens' immersive dome climate event | £ | 87.50 |  |  |
|  | Transfer of BT telephone kiosk in Market Square | £ | 1.00 |  |  |
|  | Plantings in Valley Road | £ | 120.00 |  |  |
|  | Operate Valley Rd PC June 2025 | £ | 1,457.97 |  |  |
|  | Operate West Wharf PC June 2025 | £ | 1,432.88 |  |  |
|  | May staff costs | £ | 1,854.12 |  |  |
|  | Office costs (new printer) | £ | 86.99 |  |  |
|  | Hire of hall for climate awareness film | £ | 38.00 |  |  |
|  | TOTAL | £ | 10,679.69 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Accounts | Amount available to spend as of last meeting | £ | 160,534.86 |  |  |
|  | Expenditure last month | £ | 7,425.13 |  |  |
|  | plus First cut of inland footpaths | £ | 535.57 |  |  |
|  | Valley Rd PC water 02/04/25 - 06/05/25 | £ | 739.24 |  |  |
|  | West Wharf PC water 02/04/25 - 06/05/25 | £ | 249.26 |  |  |
|  | Grant to Mevagissey Youth | £ | 1,000.00 |  |  |
|  | Grant to Mevagissey Youth FC | £ | 1,000.00 |  |  |
|  | Internal Audit | £ | 250.00 |  |  |
|  | May meeting room hire | £ | 41.73 |  |  |
|  | Flash drives for showing climate awareness films in pubs etc. | £ | 30.75 |  |  |
|  | Bank charges | £ | 8.40 |  |  |
|  | West Wharf PC cardreader receipts (net) | £ | 213.99 |  | Received |
|  | West Wharf PC cash receipts | £ | 850.00 |  | Received |
|  | Available to spend | £ | 150,318.77 |  |  |
|  | Bank Statements (31/05/2025) |  |  |  |  |
|  | Current Account |  |  | £ | 49.01 |
|  | Deposit Account |  |  | £ | 150,269.76 |
|  | TOTAL |  |  | £ | 150,318.77 |

Proposed by Cllr. Prynn, Seconded by Cllr. Simpson that the monthly finances be approved and the bills paid.

Carried.

12. Proposed by Cllr. Facey, Seconded by Cllr. Prynn that the Asset Register prepared for the Annual Audit be accepted.

Carried.

13. Proposed by Cllr. Facey, Seconded by Cllr. Ollins that the Annual Internal Audit Report for year ending 31 March 2025 be accepted. Carried.

14. Each section of the 2023/24 Annual Governance Statement was discussed by members and completed by the

Chairman, with no further explanatory statements required. Proposed by Cllr. Prynn, Seconded by Cllr Facey that

the Annual Governance Statement be approved. Carried.

15. The Statement of Accounts for the Annual Audit Return for year ending 31 March 2025 was received.

Proposed by Cllr. Facey, Seconded by Cllr. Barham that the Statement of Accounts be approved. Carried.

16. Proposed by Cllr. Facey, Seconded by Cllr. Barham that there is no conflict of interest between the Council and

BDO LLP, the external auditor, and that the declaration should be signed accordingly. Carried.

17. Proposed by Cllr. Burdett, Seconded by Cllr. Barham that the Terms of Reference for the Finance Committee be approved. Carried.

18. Proposed by Cllr. Barham, Seconded by Cllr. Burdett that the Terms of Reference for the Public Toilets Working Group be approved. Carried.

19. To set the Terms of Reference for the Housing Working Group. This was deferred.

20. Proposed by Cllr. Gann, Seconded by Cllr. Barham that a Devolution Working Group should be formed for the purpose of progressing with Cornwall Council an agreed devolution package. Carried.

It was agreed that the WG would comprise Cllrs. Prynn, Gann, Barham, Collins and Mustoe, with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman as ex officio members. The Clerk will arrange the first meeting of the WG, at which a Chair will be elected and draft Terms of Reference recommended for approval at the next Council meeting.

21. To receive a report from the Public Toilets Working Group.

Cllr. Facey reported that it had been a busy month for the public toilets. There had been several blockages, including by nappies. Nearly all the advertising space has now been sold. The West Wharf ladies toilet door has been installed and repaired. The water bills for Valley Road continue to be monitored.

22. Proposed by Cllr. Barham, Seconded by Cllr. Prynn that the cost of re-flooring the Valley Road toilet block with resin to remove future slip hazards be approved. Carried.

23. To receive a report from the Housing Working Group.

Cllr. Gann asked for a meeting to be arranged with Cornwall Council’s new Portfolio Holder for Housing. It was agreed that there was some overlap with the Tourism, Localism and Planning Portfolio, headed by Sarah Preece, and that an opportunity to meet her to discuss the challenges we face here, including from the changes to planning law, would be welcomed.

24. Cllr. Burdett presented a report from the Climate Action Working Group, including the following:

* The immersive experience dome event held at the school on 9 June was attended by 230 people – residents, pupils and teaching staff. Thanks to all who helped promote the event.
* The next Cornwall Climate Care films – Power to the People (on clean energy) and Down the Drain (on fresh water pollution and flooding) – will screen during Net Zero Week at 7pm on 10 July at the MAC on the new 300 inch (laser projector) screen. Sub-titled versions of all 8 films now loaded onto flash drives with active on-going distribution to all local pubs and the museum (via Local business together group).
* He had been invited to the recent committee meeting of Three Bays Wildlife and explored areas for future collaboration.

25. To receive a report from the Asset Working Group. Cllr. Shephard has started planning for the transfer of the phone box in Market Square from BT Payphones to the Council. More news on this is awaited. Cllr. Barham said that the defibrillator at Boots had been opened but had not been used.

26. To receive a report on the seasonal litter bins. Cllr. Gann reported that Suez had taken over the service from DCW and he had found them very co-operative. Cllr. Facey will be requesting extra service during Feast Week, and said that a few more businesses would be contributing this year.

27. Proposed by Cllr. Simpson, Seconded by Cllr. Barham that the sum of £107.66 should be paid to the organisers of the VE Day 80 commemoration to cover costs incurred. Carried.

28. To approve budgeted annual grants.

28a. The Chairman withdrew for this item, having declared an interest. The Vice-Chairman took the chair.

Proposed by Cllr. Williams, Seconded by Cllr. Prynn that under the LGA 1972 s 133 the sum of £2,000 be granted to the Jubilee Hall towards annual operational costs. Carried.

28b. The Chairman returned to the meeting and retook the chair..

Proposed by Cllr. Gann, Seconded by Cllr. Facey that under the LGA 1972 s 137 the sum of £350 be granted to St. Peter’s PCC towards the annual cost of printing the Tower & Spire. Carried.

29. To agree arrangements for the maintenance of the Memorial Garden (deferred from the AGM). Cllr. Williams said that Jackie from the Cellar Bar was keeping an eye on it for the time being.

Proposed by Cllr. Facey, Seconded by Cllr. Barham that the Ward Member be asked if he is prepared to assemble a small group to look after the garden. Carried.

30. To consider how to mark VJ-80 on 15/08/25. Cllr. Facey agreed to co-ordinate the plans, relying on those previously involved in VE Day 80. Proposed by Cllr. Brown, Seconded by Cllr. Prynn that the Council would reimburse all associated costs up to a maximum of £200. Carried.

31. To consider what action may be taken to restrict inappropriate parking by Blue Badge holders (Cllr. Simpson). Highways had advised that ‘regardless of whether there is a waiting restriction in place or not, road users should comply with rules of the Highway Code. The Code advises road users not to park within 10 metres of a junction, and Rule 242 states ‘You MUST NOT leave your vehicle or trailer in a dangerous position or where it causes any unnecessary obstruction of the road.’ It was agreed that this should be publicised on the Council’s Facebook page, the Tower & Spire, and the noticeboard. It was also noted that misuse of a Blue Badge can be reported by phoning Cornwall Council on 0300 1234 121, or via their online form at <https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/health-and-social-care/blue-badge-disabled-parking-permits/use-and-misuse-of-a-blue-badge/#misuse>

A longer term solution would be to change the existing No Waiting restriction to a No Loading restriction or Restricted Parking Zone. This would require the same statutory consultation and legal processes (and costs) as any other new waiting restriction scheme funded through the Community Network Highway Scheme process.

32. To consider actions to raise awareness of the 20mph speed limit in the village. Cllr. Gann suggested that Cornwall Council should be asked to implement a study to monitor compliance with the 20 mph zone; and that once a benchmark has been established, a community speedwatch group might be formed; also that a police officer, perhaps the new PCSO, should be invited to attend a future Council meeting.

33. To consider what action may be taken to address reports of alleged drug dealing in the vicinity of Wesley Court (Cllr. Williams). Proposed by Cllr. Prynn, Seconded by Cllr. Gann that the Council should write to Ocean Housing’s Neighbourhoods Manager, pointing out that the increasing reports of anti-social behaviour suggest breaches of tenancy agreements, and that perhaps a generic letter making this clear to all tenants might reverse the current trend.

Carried.

Proposed by Cllr. Barham, Seconded by Cllr. Brown that the police be asked to increase their visibility in the area.

Carried.

34. To fill the casual vacancy by co-option. Two applicants for the vacancy, Patrick King and John Fillingham, made presentations to the Council. Following a secret ballot of members, John Fillingham was co-opted onto the Council.

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35. The meeting ended at 9.20 pm. Date of next meeting: 17 July 2025.

Signed ......................................................................................... Dated ....................................