

# Linkinhorne Parish Council

## Minutes of the Meeting of the Council

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2025 at 7.30pm at Rilla Mill Village Hall

### Minutes

Present at the meeting were: Cllr K. Wallis (Chairman), Cllr S. Beech, Cllr M. Corfield, Cllr C. Hearn, Cllr C. Hordley, Cllr B. Martin, Lena Batten (Clerk).

Members of the public: Five members of the public were present at the meeting.

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting and wished everyone a Happy New Year.

#### 1) Apologies:

Apologies were received from Cllr R. Hanson.

#### 2) Code of Conduct:

- a) To receive declarations: None.
- b) To grant dispensations: None.

#### 3) Minutes:

**Resolved that** the minutes of the previous Meeting of Linkinhorne Parish Council held on the 9<sup>th</sup> December 2024 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman

#### 4) Public Participation:

Three members of the public were in attendance at the beginning of the meeting. The Chairman welcomed them to the meeting. One member of the public attended to raise concerns about the continued deterioration in the roads around the Parish, pot holes not repaired regularly and left for lengthy periods before being repaired. The Chairman confirmed that members of the public were able to report these pot holes to Cornwall Council on the website and encouraged individuals to do this, with photo's if possible. The same gentleman also raised concern regarding a rotten gatepost in the Linkinhorne village. The clerk advised that Cornwall Council were not prioritising footpath maintenance unless it posed a risk however Linkinhorne Parish Council had recently gained a volunteer to replace and repair footpath signage and new signs were stored ready to be fitted. Stiles and gates could be ordered however Cornwall Council would only deliver, the expectation was that the land owner then fitted them. Finally, he asked what the Parish Council was doing about the decision making by Highways in relation to the junction at Plusha onto the A30. The meeting reported that Highways had presented their proposals, the decision appeared to have already been made by Highways, based upon costs and was due to take place this summer. However, it was understood that a motion was being put forward to Cornwall Council to push for a flyover and this continued to date. The Chairman thanked the member of the public for his contribution.

Two other members of the public were then asked to speak as local business owners in the Minions area. Both reported that they had recently been informed of the adverts for tenders for pop up traders on two sites, Hurlers car park and Minions car park. No prior consultation had taken place with them from Cornwall Council and they were objecting from both a business and a personal perspective. From a business perspective Minions Tea Rooms, Post Office and Shop would be

directly impacted as a result of any pop up traders. They had worked hard since June 2024 to promote the business into a thriving social hub and Tea Room. The Post Office ran at a loss and the Tea Rooms subsidised this to allow it to remain open, they were considered to be a valuable community asset in the area. The Chairman informed them that the pop up sites were being discussed at item 17 and asked if all present were in agreement with moving item 17 forward for discussion. It was agreed that item 17 be brought forward following item 7 planning applications.

#### **5) Reports from and matters of concern to:**

- a) Cornwall Councillor Phil Seeva: None.
- b) Councillors: None.

#### **6) Finance:**

- a) Cash flow of accounts / bank reconciliation -

**Resolved that** the bank reconciliation / cash book statement was confirmed as an accurate account, and this was signed by the Chairman.

b) Payments - i) £222.00 (Allotment rent for Dec 2024 – Dec 2025), ii) £366.88 (Corserv field maintenance Dec), iii) £8.57 (Lena Batten, park signage), iv) £117.00 (Lena Batten, Mileage July / Dec), v) £81.58 (Viking toilet roll), vi) £21.58 (Lena Batten, Ink), vii) £89.99 (Lena Batten, Norton subscription 2025), viii) £390.00 (WC cleaning, Dec).

**Resolved that** the following payments were approved with all in favour.

- c) Receipts – None.
- d) To note for information the total value of CCLA investment at 30<sup>th</sup> November 2024 was £40,909.89 – Noted for information.

#### **7) Planning:**

- a) Planning applications –

**Resolved that** Linkinhorne Parish Council made the following recommendations:

i) PA24/06982 – Land North of Gospenheal, Upton Cross, PL14 5AX – outline planning consent for an exception scheme of up to fourteen dwellings with the matter of access only for consideration - The Chairman reminded those present that this had previously been discussed in 2021 when concerns were raised about the access at that time. Linkinhorne Parish Council objected to the application at the time and had forwarded a report with evidence, on the poor access to the site. The response had been that as the road was in a 20mph limit, it was acceptable and no accidents had been reported there. However, it was known that in 2024 there have been several knocks and bumps on that particular piece of road which is narrow and on a slight bend, there had also been a hit and run which involved a young boy and a van. One Councillor also reported that Community Speed Watch had been on that stretch of road in 2024 and over 50% of the vehicles had been driving in excess of 20mph. It was resolved that Linkinhorne Parish Council supported the house builds in principle however objected to the application as it did not consider the current design to be safe for vehicles or pedestrians. The Council also disputed the findings of the traffic report and considered the current access to be in the wrong place with little consideration given to footpath access and speed management. The preference would be to look at alternative access on the unclassified road leading up to Sterts in that a safe access could be made there on the corner which would give increased visibility and allow for better traffic calming measures. Placing the access on the corner would also provide required road improvements on the corner at the same time and take into account future ability to access other land in the vicinity.

- b) Any applications received before the meeting – None.

Two further members of the public entered the room. The Chairman welcomed them to the meeting and with the agreement of the meeting informed them that although they had not been present at item 4, public participation, invited them to speak. Both members of the public

introduced themselves and conveyed their concern regarding the potential anti social behaviour which could be associated with pop up traders located in both Hurlers and Minions car parks with a licence to remain open until 10pm. The Chairman thanked both members of the public for their contribution.

**17) To consider the information received regarding Pop up sites and any local businesses who were interested in tendering at Hurlers and Minions car parks:**

The Chairman gave an overview of the situation and provided documentation with one Councillor that evidenced that both car parks were still registered as common land. Under The Law of Property Act, 1925, application was made to the Secretary of State for the Environment for his Consent to the construction of the car parks and there was never any permissions given other than for car parking. It was concluded that Cornwall Council would be in breach of the agreement should they use it for pop ups. Other objections raised included a) that pop up sites were anti competitive, b) 24 hour WC facilities were not always available, c) being able to open until 10pm would encourage potential overnight stays, d) food sources would encourage livestock to the car park increasing risk to both the livestock and the public, e) waste and rubbish disposal, f) the area is a World Heritage site, dark sky area and an area of outstanding natural beauty. The consensus of Linkinhorne Parish Council was a strong objection for all the above reasons including that it would be a breach of the agreement and also included that they would object to any services, products or goods that impacted upon the local Minions Tea Room, Post Office and Shop given that it was a valued rural service, social hub and vital asset to the immediate community. Further objection was raised that no economic or environmental assessments appeared to have taken place prior to the advert. Linkinhorne Parish Council concluded to state that they strongly objected on the above grounds last time and do so again this time on the same grounds.

**Resolved that** the clerk would respond to Cornwall Council with the objections and also contact Duchy for Cornwall to inform them the agreement was potentially in breach.

Five members of the public left the room.

**8) Play equipment and recreational areas:**

a) Weekly safety inspections:

Weekly safety inspections had taken place, it was reported that one bench required repair which one Councillor offered to undertake. Signage had been placed in both play areas to state parental supervision was required. One Councillor also reported the staples had been removed from the football posts again.

**Resolved that** one Councillor would contact a local blacksmith with a view to replacing them.

b) Jubilee Field:

i) To note for information following the clerk contacting Fields in Trust again, a response was received on the 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2025 to state that unfortunately Fields in Trust could not afford to absorb 50% of the costs and therefore were unable to proceed with the offer to transfer the field: A brief discussion was held and this was noted for information.

**Resolved that** the clerk would research the potential of registering the field as a village green, circulate the information to all members and list on the next agenda for further discussion.

ii) To consider / agree the additional gazebo repair costs for the roof at £80.00 plus VAT:

**Resolved that** the additional repair costs be accepted and the clerk would inform the contractor he could proceed.

c) Rilla Mill Play Area:

No reports of concern.

**9) Public Conveniences:**

a) Minions:

i) To review / update the risk assessment – Both risk assessments were briefly discussed.  
**Resolved that** both risk assessments for Minions and Upton Cross WC's were accepted.  
On the 21<sup>st</sup> December the water meter reading was 753.

b) Upton Cross:

No reports of concern.

**10) To consider / resolve the creation of a potential committee in relation to the Public Switched Telephone Network switchover and emergency planning:**

Consideration was given to the diversity of population in the Linkinhorne Parish and it was the general consensus that many individuals were not aware of this.

**Resolved that** the clerk would compile an advert to place in the Link and on the website. Two Councillors would form a working party to monitor the situation and any updates.

**11) To consider / resolve the purchase of two new notice boards for Minions and Henwood. Both are in a poor state of repair:**

**Resolved that** the clerk would provide quotes to the next meeting.

**12) To consider / resolve a talk from Devon and Cornwall Police Cyber Protect Team who deliver security advice open to Councillors and members of the public:**

**Resolved that** the clerk would invite Devon and Cornwall Police Cyber Protect Team to the next Annual Parish Meeting due to be held on the 14<sup>th</sup> April 2025.

**13) To consider / resolve any response to the request regarding a vote of no confidence in Cornwall Council's planning and enforcement department:**

This was noted for information.

**14) To note for information the clerk is booked onto pre election training 14th January and 14th April 2025:**

This was noted for information.

**15) To confirm sending of a letter expressing disappointment at no response from MP Anna Geldred as agreed at the last meeting of the 9th December 2024 in relation to Primrose Vale Cottages:**

The Chairman reported that she had now recently received an email which firstly apologised for the delay in response but also gave an update of the situation following conversation with LiveWest. LiveWest reported that they were committed to safe and affordable housing and sought to invest in safe and efficient homes. Primrose Cottages were reported to have an EPC rating of F and they were unable to ensure appropriate safe, space or energy standards were met within the properties therefore they were not suitable for renovation to upgrade them. LiveWest further concluded that they continued to work with Cornwall Council with a view to lifting the S.106 restriction in order that they could be sold on the open market. Therefore there was currently no immediate resolution to the situation.

**Resolved that** the Chairman would respond to thank her for the information and invite her to a future Parish Council meeting.

**16) To confirm the clerk has requested prior notice of the amount of costs involved in the ongoing repair of the drains at Netherton Lane heading to the allotments and has been informed that estimates will be forwarded as soon as possible:**

A debate was held regarding the unknown ongoing expenses of the lane. The clerk confirmed she was waiting for confirmation of the additional costs. One Councillor reported that PA24/09173 was an application for prior notification of agricultural development and felt that the one third

contribution made was for improvement not just maintenance. It was noted for information and the clerk would wait to hear any updates.

**17) To consider the information received regarding Pop up sites and any local businesses who are interested in tendering at Hurlers and Minions car parks:**

This was previously discussed after item 6.

**18) To note for information the response from the owners of the allotment land following the request to purchase at £7,500 was “this needs to be considered as part of a broader discussion about the future of the farm. We hope to sit down with the land agent sometime in the first quarter of 2025. I will update you after that”:**

This was noted for information.

**19) To note for information that Sunday (29th Dec) the defib at Minions was deployed to a cardiac arrest and had a successful outcome. A bleed control kit is now available in the cabinet, the annual subscription cost if £40.00. To resolve / consider subscribing to this to ensure maintenance checks are completed:**

It was reported that the defibrillator at Rilla Mill Village Hall had also recently been deployed although this had not been needed. Consideration was given to the option of subscription to the annual bleed kit check however it was decided that this was not needed. The bleed kit will remain in the defibrillator cabinet.

**Resolved that** the clerk would ensure information was placed in the Link to inform members of the public that the defibrillator now housed a bleed kit as well. The option of an annual subscription would not be taken up.

**20) To agree the proposed advert for new Councillors to be placed in the Link during Jan / Feb / March 2025:**

Several amendments were made to the proposed advert.

**Resolved that** the advert be placed in the Link for the next three months.

**21) Correspondence as listed:**

|             |                               |  |
|-------------|-------------------------------|--|
| 10/12/2024* | Community Link Officer        | A388 Community Road safety Campaign                                  |
| 10/12/2024* | Minutes                       | Strategic Planning Committee, Thursday, 21st November                |
| 10/12/2024* | Cancelled Meeting             | East Sub-Area Planning Committee 23 <sup>rd</sup> December           |
| 15/12/2024* | Cornwall Council              | Town and Parish Council Newsletter                                   |
| 20/12/2024* | Newsletter                    | Parish Online  |
| 20/12/2024* | Councillor advocate           | Budget slides  |
| 22/12/2024* | Chris Sims                    | A388 Road Safety Campaign  |
| 30/12/2024* | Councillor advocate           | Police and Crime Commissioner's weekly column                        |
| 05/01/2025* | Police and Crime Commissioner | Building on partnerships which delivered for our communities in 2024 |
| 05/01/2025* | Community Link Officer        | A388 Community Road safety Campaign                                  |

**Decisions forwarded by Cornwall Council:**

PA24/07904 – Meadowgate, Upton Cross, Liskeard, Cornwall, PL14 5AX - Construction of single storey extension (replacing covered veranda – approved.

PA24/08149 - Rosemary Cottage, Henwood, Liskeard, Cornwall, PL14 5BP - Decided not to make a TPO (TCA apps) Works to Tree(s) within a Conservation Area (TCA) - Mature Ash - Remove fallen trunk and fell remaining to ground level – decision not to make a TPO.

PA24/07456 – Sterts Barn, Upton Cross, Liskeard, Cornwall, PL14 5AZ - Hedgerow removal notice for removal of 3.05 metres of hedgerow – withdrawn.

PA23/04505 - Land West Of Highway From Rillaton To Rilla Mill, Rilla Mill, Cornwall, PL17 7PB - Construction of slurry lagoon to accord with government requirements, with associated works approved.

PA24/01397 - Lynher House, Rilla Mill, Callington, Cornwall, PL17 7NT - Exception notice for removal of Leylandii – closed, advice given.

PA24/08396 - Brook Cottage, Henwood, Liskeard, Cornwall, PL14 5BP - Works to trees in a Conservation Area (TCA) Dismantle T1, Beech Tree to ground level, as is showing signs of Meripilus - Decided not to make a TPO.

PA24/08494 - Cheesewring Farm, Caravan And Camping Site Minions Cornwall PL14 5LJ - Works to Trees within a Conservation Area (TCA) - G1 - Conifers - To be dismantled to ground level and native trees replanted here – Decided not to make a TPO.

PA24/09173 - Orchard Park Rilla Mill Cornwall - Prior notification of agricultural development for three horticultural polytunnels measuring 9 x 30m each – Prior approval not required.

**Notifications forwarded by Cornwall Council:**

PA24/01364 – Moorlink, Henwood, Liskeard, PL14 5BP - Pre Application advice for proposed extension and alterations to existing property, and new proposed entrance.

PA24/08734 - Sharptor Farm, Sharptor, Henwood, Liskeard, PL14 5AT - Works to trees in a conservation area (CA), works include T1, Oak tree has been growing out of a hedgerow and is heavily weighted to the road side due to other trees behind it. The tree in close proximity of two houses and compromising the hedge line bank and in high winds you can see the stones moving. Due to concerns of the tree potentially falling into the houses and road the proposed work is to dismantle to ground level.

PA24/09173 - Orchard Park, Rilla Mill, Cornwall - Prior notification of agricultural development for three horticultural polytunnels measuring 9 x 30m each.

**22) Close of Business:** The meeting closed at 21.20