

Linkinhorne Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council

Monday 8th September 2025 at 7.30pm at Rilla Mill Village Hall, Rilla Mill

Minutes

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

Seven members of the public were present at the meeting.

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting and introduced herself to all members of the public.

1) Apologies:

None.

2) Code of Conduct:

a) To receive declarations: None.

b) To grant dispensations: None.

One further member of the public entered the room with Councillor C. Hearn who gave apologies for being late.

3) Minutes:

Resolved that subject to the amendment of “president” to “precedent” at item 7, the minutes of the previous Meeting of Linkinhorne Parish Council held on the 14th July 2025 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

4) Public Participation:

The Chairman invited all members of the public to speak.

One member of the public introduced himself as Mr Kris Fowler and stated that his partner and he were present in connection with planning application PA25/03502 – Orchard Park. He confirmed that he was aware the Parish Council had not supported the application to extend the timeframe. Mr Fowler wanted to give a brief overview of the work completed to date and detailed that Ecological Land Co-operative owned the land however were bound by a covenant to keep the land as agricultural. Mr Fowler confirmed they had previous experience and had evidenced economic viability to date selling around the area and had no plans to develop the land. He further confirmed that on the 20th September 2025 they were holding an open day and members of the community would be welcome to attend and see the progress that had been made to date.

A second member of the public was invited to speak and introduced himself as Louis. He confirmed that he was present in full support of the work that had been done at Orchard Park and felt it to be an asset to the community.

Another member of the public who was present with his wife then introduced himself as Mr Wayne McMaster. Mr McMaster reported that together with his wife, they were also resident on site

although their business model was slightly different as they were growing flowers. They had successfully integrated within local markets and were keen to increase the bio diversity on the land.

A final member of the public also introduced himself as Steve Sandercock and confirmed that he had been fully aware of the positive changes to the land as he had initially done the excavations. He felt that the increase in bio diversity over the past two years had been outstanding and echoed previous comments stating that it was an asset to the community.

The Chairman thanked all members of the public for their comments and advised that if they were going to appeal they should put in a wider explanation of what positive changes had taken place. One Councillor asked about their future plans for potential development. Mr Fowler responded to confirm there were definitely no plans for further development. Another Councillor advised that the Parish Council had not been aware how far things had progressed.

Steve Sandercock was then asked to speak in relation to another matter and reported that there was a public footpath leading from Bathpool to Stara Woods which was no longer accessible. It was not clear which path this was.

Resolved that Mr Sandercock would liaise with the clerk to confirm the details of the path and the clerk would report this to Countryside services.

The Chairman thanked all members of the public for their time and they left the meeting.

5) Reports from and matters of concern to:

a) Cornwall Councillor Jim Gale:

The Chairman confirmed that Councillor J. Gale would be present later in the meeting.

b) Councillors:

Councillor C. Hearn reported that following the last Community Area Partnership meeting it was confirmed that training was soon to be offered on emergency planning.

Councillor B. Cox reported that he had recently spoken to T.M.S. who were still in the process of trying to remove vehicles that did not belong to them, from behind the workshop at Upton Cross. The current parking arrangements at the front of the workshop would be alleviated once all vehicles were removed as they intended to make a parking area around the back of the workshop. The Chairman thanked Councillor B. Cox for taking the time to talk to them.

Councillor K. Wallis reported that she had been approached by a member of the public in relation to an unsightly garden in one property in Rilla Mill. The member of the public had reported this to Cornwall Council but nothing had changed. The clerk was not aware of which garden it was.

Resolved that Councillor K. Wallis would obtain the address and forward onto the clerk to allow her to proceed and report it.

6) Finance:

a) To receive/approve cash flow of accounts/bank reconciliation:

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

b) Payments:

i) £390.00 (WC cleaning July), ii) £200.00 (Pension top up contribution), iii) £30.00 (RMVH room rent), iv) £60.00 (CALC, training), v) £366.88 (Corserv field maintenance, July), vi) £165.00 (CALC,

training), vii) £99.00 (Minions WC, repairs), viii) £46.80 (Cornwall learning hub), ix) £366.88 (Corserv field maintenance, August), x) £235.00 (replacement slide fitted), xi) £12.00 (toilet seat, gents WC), xii) £390.00 (WC cleaning August), xiii) £18.00 (Western Web, repair of email), xiv) £188.00 (SLCC membership), xv) £136.76 (Viking, Toilet roll).

Resolved that the following payments were approved.

c) Receipts: i) £125.00 (burial ground ashes interment):

This was noted for information.

d) To arrange a date for the Finance Committee to meet to prepare the 2026/2027 budget proposal, decide precept proposal and review Financial Management procedures and asset register:

Resolved that the clerk would distribute several potential dates to the Finance Committee towards the end of October 2025.

e) To resolve the addition of a further signatory for Unity bank:

Resolved that the clerk would start the application for two further Councillors to be registered as able to provide authorisation for payments and amendments in the bank.

f) To note for information a donation of £20.00 paid to CALC as agreed:

This was noted for information.

g) To note for information CCLA investment now stands at £42,160.46 on the 5th

August 2025:

This was noted for information.

7) Planning:

a) Planning applications:

Linkinhorne Parish Council made the following recommendations:

i) PA25/05330 – Great Lanhargy Farm, Bray Shop, Callington – erection of a pair of semi detached garages to serve dwellings approved under PA24/06991 - Subject to inviting Cornwall Council to ensure there was no adverse impact on the nearby public right of way footpath and asking them to ensure that each garage was individually tied to one barn and could not be separated they had no objection to the application.

ii) PA25/03877 – Land to the South of Sutton, Upton Cross, PL14 5BA – Re-application for the demolition of existing farm building and construction of new dwelling in lieu of Class Q approval for residential conversion of this farm building ref:PA24/06001 – 5 day protocol – the general consensus was to agree with the planning officer – this was noted for information.

b) Any applications received before the meeting – None.

8) Play equipment and recreational areas:

a) Weekly safety inspections:

Weekly safety inspections had taken place. It was noted for information that the volunteer was away until the 22nd September and then available until Christmas. One Councillor was asked to complete a further inspection next week and the clerk completed one inspection on the 2nd September 2025. One Councillor also reported an area starting to rot on the balustrade around the mound which he felt was replaceable but would need to be tailed into the existing structure.

Resolved that two Councillors would look to see if a repair could be done.

b) Jubilee Field:

i) Highways have confirmed they are responsible for the verge however the hedge belongs to Linkinhorne Parish Council - To receive / agree two quotes in relation to the cutting back of the trees and hedge along the road side of the field:

The clerk reported that Community Speed Watch had raised concern regarding visibility due to the overhanging trees and the village hall had also requested the trees overhanging the car park be cut back. Debate took place as it was felt the visibility was a Highways issue however it was the general consensus that the trees at the car park did require maintenance.

Resolved that the clerk would contact Highways to try and confirm a date that the verge would be cut. The clerk would obtain two further quotes in relation to the cutting of the trees which were overhanging in the car park and around the signs near the Chicanes. If a quote can be sourced at less than £750.00 the clerk to confirm they can proceed.

ii) To consider / resolve using lock tight nuts or a nonslip washer to prevent the swings coming loose again:

Resolved that two Councillors would look to fit these at both the Jubilee Field swings and the Rilla Mill Play area swings.

iii) To note the slide has been replaced:

This was noted for information.

iv) To note the spring on the gate is sitting proud of the post:

One Councillor will fix this.

c) Rilla Mill play area:

No reports of concern.

9) Public Conveniences:

a) Minions:

i) To note for information the water meter reading on the 5th August at 796 and 28th August at 804: This was noted for information.

ii) To note for information that the plumber states the toilet in the gents has been fixed however the mortar is showing signs of deterioration hence when it does leak again it will be worth a full replacement:

This was noted for information.

b) Upton Cross:

i) It was noted for information the tiles have been completed above the sink.

The Chairman enquired as to whether the external public convenience should be closed due to the village hall being closed until further notice. The clerk reported that she had contacted the village hall for clarification and was awaiting a response.

Resolved that if the village hall wanted the public convenience closed, the clerk would lock it and put a sign on the door directing members of the public to Minions public conveniences.

Councillor Jim Gale entered the room at 8.30pm and gave apologies for being late. The Chairman asked if he would share his report later in the meeting which he agreed to.

10) Public Rights of Way:

i) To consider next steps as the land owner is not willing to replace the rail at Woodland Rise due to insurance purposes:

Considerable debate took place as it is known that these steps were regularly used. Several options were discussed however it was agreed that as the land is privately owned, the Parish Council cannot ensure the future safe use of the steps.

Resolved that the clerk contact the land owner and advise them of the Council's views.

ii) To resolve next steps in relation to updating the footpath booklets:

The Chairman shared one footpath booklet and discussion took place.

Resolved that the booklet would be placed on the website to give access to all members of the public.

iii) To confirm ownership of the shovel digger:

Resolved that the shovel digger did not belong to the Parish Council and the clerk would contact Stara Woods and inform them it was likely to be the property of Mrs Todd.

iv) To resolve next steps in relation to footpath 614/28/1 which has been blocked:

The clerk gave information in relation to this path which had clearly been blocked for several years due to the overgrowth present.

Resolved that the clerk would forward the information to Councillor J. Gale to progress this further.

v) To consider / resolve an email received from LMP regarding enhanced grant funding for specific works for surfacing & drainage, access furniture, vegetation / scrub clearance & signage with quotes required:

Discussion with regards to any specific works required on the footpaths took place however no isolated pieces of work were identified.

Resolved that the grant would not be applied for.

vi) The clerk is meeting with the owner of Cresta, footpath 614/13/1 to clarify where she would like the post fitted and the volunteer is going to fit this:

This was noted for information.

vii) To consider a response to Cornwall Council for the requested proposal for a Public Footpath diversion order at 614/32/1:

The clerk shared the proposed information.

Resolved that the clerk would distribute the full information to all Councillors and request their views by the 18th September in order to feed back before the end of the consultation date.

11) To note for information a meeting is arranged for the 9th September at 7.00pm at Rilla Mill Village Hall with Simon Jones from Rural Housing LiveWest:

This was noted for information.

12) To agree / resolve donation for the Memorial Wreath for Remembrance Day:

Resolved that £40.00 be donated for a Memorial Wreath.

13) To agree dates and venue excluding August for Linkinhorne Parish Council Meetings for 2026:

It was agreed that it was not known when Linkinhorne Parish Hall was likely to re open. The clerk advised that she had provisionally booked the dates into Rilla Mill Village Hall however they were unable to facilitate the Annual Parish Council Meeting to be held on the 13th April 2026 due to the room size.

Resolved that the clerk would contact The Crosslink Center to see if they were able to facilitate the alternate monthly meetings and the Annual Parish Council Meeting with the caveat that meetings would return to Linkinhorne Parish Hall as soon as they were open again.

14) To agree / resolve Linkinhorne Parish Council's contribution to Linkinhorne Community Day on the 12th October 2025:

Consideration was given to what the Parish Council could contribute towards the event which is due to take place on Sunday the 12th October 2025 from 10.00 – 4.00pm.

Resolved that the clerk email all Councillors to see if a rota can be put together to ensure Parish Council presence for the day.

15) To consider / resolve whether to purchase a fire bag for the Cemetery books:

Various types of fireproof containers were considered.

Resolved that the clerk proceed and purchase a safe.

16) To note for information a spare key to the Minions Bus shelter has been placed with Minions Tea Rooms and the notice had been altered accordingly:

This was noted for information.

17) To accept information from Duchy following the clerk requesting more information in relation to access to mineral rights on Duchy land:

The Duchy recognises the importance of the potential resources of Critical Minerals within its mineral rights ownership and we do grant agreements with companies wishing to explore these opportunities. In this instance, an exploration licence has been granted to Cornish Tin for a period of three years commencing in April 2024, with two years left to run. The purpose of the licence is to facilitate Cornish Tin to undertake non – intrusive research with a view to substantiating whether there is any modern day potential for critical minerals, in line with the Government’s critical mineral strategy. The research project will be concluded in March 2027 and the licence does not grant any rights to Cornish Tin for mineral extraction”.

Resolved that the clerk would arrange a meeting for early 2026 with Cornish Tin.

18) To resolve next steps for Minions bus shelter as the clerk has been informed that the bus stops on the other side of the road for safety reasons:

Resolved that as it had been confirmed the bus stops on the opposite side of the road for safety reasons, the bus stop would be left as it was.

19) To consider next steps regarding a request from a member of the public to access Primrose Vale Cottages and receive an update from Cllr J. Gale:

Councillor J. Gale gave a brief update to confirm that following his communication with LiveWest, the area around the cottages had been cleared albeit minimal work had been done. He confirmed that he was not clear how to progress the situation further at this time. It was concluded that a further meeting with LiveWest is due to take place and the option of involvement from the Press was raised.

Resolved that the option of involving the Press would be raised at the meeting to be held with LiveWest and the clerk would feed back details of the meeting held to Councillor J. Gale. The clerk would inform one member of the public that they would need to contact LiveWest in order to gain access to the properties.

The Chairman invited Councillor J. Gale to share his report.

Councillor J. Gale stated that Minor Injuries Unit in Launceston was now open again five days a week. He had recently attended a meeting with EDF in relation to the potential Solar Farm and had raised questions about it. He expressed concern regarding Cornwall Council selling instead of renewing farm tenancy agreements. At the last full Council Meeting devolution for Cornwall was discussed again and it was voted in favour although he voted against it. With regards to the A390 at St Ive, there were a few black spots and there had been several accidents around the Pensilva area. There had also been concerns raised with regards to incidents on the A388 on the road heading towards Newbridge from Liskeard to Callington due to unauthorised works on the right hand hedge.

20) To discuss / resolve Cornwall’s ‘Needs budget’ email received:

This was debated and it was agreed no response was required.

21) To discuss / consider any response to Community Speed Watch received:

The clerk was asked to advise Community Speed Watch to contact Highways.

22) To agree / resolve whether to direct the clerk to purchase several bags of spare salt for the salt bins:

Resolved that the clerk would purchase additional salt to be stored in case of emergencies in bad weather.

23) To consider any training opportunities forwarded by CALC:

Training opportunities available were shared.

Resolved that any Councillors who wished to complete training contact the clerk to arrange the sessions.

24) To consider / resolve any next steps following a letter being received from a member of the public to request action regarding the parking on bonfire night:

The anonymous letter was shared and it was discussed and agreed that the Parish Council had no responsibility or authority with regards to the annual Bonfire Night held at Parsons Meadow.

Resolved that the clerk would forward the letter to the organisers of the event inviting them to place an advert in the Link to encourage members of the public to take into consideration local residents when parking.

25) To note for information that the volunteer who wanted the bin replaced in Jubilee Field is not covered by Parish Council insurance however a bin is now going to be placed in the car park of the village hall for general waste and will be emptied by a local member of the public:

This was noted for information.

Councillor C. Hearn gave apologies and left the meeting.

26) To consider / resolve a request from the drop in café on a Thursday afternoon normally held at the village hall, to continue a trimmed down service in the field:

The clerk shared a robust risk assessment completed by the drop in café with the meeting.

Resolved that the clerk respond to confirm the drop in café are welcome to use the Jubilee Field.

27) To consider / resolve any response to an email received from Sterts regarding overflow from the ditch in the Jubilee Field:

The clerk read the request from Sterts in relation to the culvert which is not fit for purpose and fills with debris thus allowing the water to flow and pour down the Sterts car park. Debate took place as the ditch had recently been dredged and Highways had cleared the pipe at the top end of the field.

Resolved that the clerk would contact one contractor to look at the potential to replace the culvert with a larger version. Dependent upon the cost involved further quotes would potentially be sought. The matter be listed for the next meeting.

28) To note for information a thankyou from Sarah Mason, CALC for retirement donation:

This was noted for information.

29) To agree one application for an additional memorial following interment of ashes to plot B2:

Resolved that the request for an additional tablet to be laid on B2 was agreed.

30) To consider / resolve any actions following an email being received to state that 3 Woodland Cottages is going up for sale by auction:

This was noted for information.

31) Correspondence as listed:

10/07/2025*	CALC	Training opportunity for Chairing skills
10/07/2025*	Rural Newsletter	RSN weekly news
14/07/2025*	Seven concerned citizens	Food security and resilience

17/07/2025*	Chris Sims	National emergency alert test
17/07/2025*	Newsletters	RSN weekly news
17/07/2025*	Planning and Housing service	Notification of property sale
18/07/2025*	CALC	Training opportunities
22/07/2025*	Councillor Advocate	Crime prevention and radical recovery
28/07/2025*	Positive planning	Quarterly newsletter
28/07/2025*	Councillor Advocate	Policing Devon and Cornwall during the summer holidays
31/07/2025*	CALC	Quarterly planning newsletter
01/08/2025*	Newsletter	Open Spaces Society
01/08/2025*	Newsletter	Cornwall Council
04/08/2025*	PCSO Steve Edser	Since 3/7/25 to 2/8/25 there has been the following disclosable crimes Assault, 2 Criminal Damage, 3 Harassment
04/08/2025*	Cornwall Council	Affordable Housing newsletter
11/08/2025*	East sub area planning committee	Minutes
11/08/2025*	Strategic planning committee	Agenda
28/08/2025*	RSN	Weekly newsletter
29/08/2025*	PCSO Steve Edser	Since 3/8/25 to 29/8/25 there has been the following disclosable crime 1. threats to kill dog.

Decisions forwarded by Cornwall Council:

PA25/03521 - Knowle Farm, Upton Cross, Liskeard, PL14 5BG - Prior notification of agricultural or forestry development for: Agricultural Storage Building – prior approval not required.

PA25/03985 – Land at Linkinhorne South, PL17 7LZ - National Grid Electricity Distribution - Overhead Electricity Lines application to include: -NGED propose to install a 3rd wire to upgrade existing overhead line from single phase to 3 phase between poles 45NHE36 and 45NHEH8. The 3rd wire installation is approximately 650 metres in length. -The transformer at 45NHEH8 will be replaced with a 3 phase 100kVA unit and all associated low voltage wiring to be reconfigured to 3 phase – no objection.

PA25/03068 - Disused Public Conveniences At Upton Cross, Next To The Primary School - Planning Application for the demolition of the former public conveniences and creation of 1no. 2 bed self build dwelling, along with associated proposed new boundary conditions – withdrawn.

PA25/02560 - Building North East Of Treovis Farm Cottage, Upton Cross - Conversion of the existing building to a self build dwelling with associated works including addition of a plant room, a porch and formation of a parking/turning space – approved.

PA25/00668 - The Wheal Tor Hotel, Upton Cross, Liskeard, PL14 5PJ - Do I need planning to convert the change of use from hotel (C1) to residential (C3) under Permitted Development Rights – closed advice given.

PA25/04710 - Phoenix House, Minions, PL14 5LJ - Works to trees within a Conservation Area - T1 - Leylandii - full removal and T2 - Leylandii - full removal - Decided not to make a TPO (TCA apps).

PA25/04707 - Henwood House, Henwood, Liskeard, PL14 5BP - Works to Trees within a Conservation Area (TCA) - T1 - 5 x Oak trees surrounding the house to be reduced in height by approximately 4.5m

or up to 10% and to remove and reduce the overhanging branches - Decided not to make a TPO (TCA apps).

PA25/03467 – Treloven, 3 Elc, Orchard Park, Netherton, Upton Cross, PL14 5BD - Certificate of lawfulness for proposed construction of a pond with site curtilage – withdrawn.

PA25/03171 - South West Intervention Services (SWIS), Springfield House, Bray Shop, PL17 8PZ - Change of use from dwelling house (C3) to Children's Home (C2) – approved.

Notifications forwarded by Cornwall Council:

PA25/04710 - Phoenix House, Minions, PL14 5LJ - Works to trees within a Conservation Area - T1 - Leylandii - full removal and T2 – Leylandii.

PA25/04707 - Henwood House, Henwood, PL14 5BP - Works to Trees within a Conservation Area (TCA) - T1 - 5 x Oak trees surrounding the house to be reduced in height by approximately 4.5m or up to 10% and to remove and reduce the overhanging branches.

32) Close of Business: The meeting closed at 9.38pm.