

Linkinhorne Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council

Monday 8th December 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 J. Gale, Cllr C. Hearn, Cllr S. Street, Cllr A. Thomas.
Lena Batten (Clerk).

No members of the public were present at the meeting.

The Chairman welcomed all to the last meeting of 2025.

1) Apologies:

Cllr C. Hordley.

2) Code of Conduct:

a) To receive declarations: Cllr S. Street, item 6 b (i).

b) To grant dispensations: Cllr S. Street was granted dispensation to remain in the room.

3) Minutes:

Resolved that subject to the addition of Cllr C. Hearn present at the meeting but not listed and the amendment of the incorrect spelling which stated “lay” and should state “play” on page 61, item 11, the minutes of the previous Meeting of Linkinhorne Parish Council held on the 10th November 2025 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

4) Public Participation:

No members of the public were in attendance.

5) Reports from and matters of concern to:

a) Cornwall Councillor Jim Gale:

Cllr J. Gale reported that a Full Cornwall Council Meeting had taken place in November 2025. One motion put forward was for the better support of veterans, it was a unanimous decision to better support veterans. A second motion put forward was the suggestion of digital ID, cross party agreement was reached to confirm Cornwall Council would question the government on this proposal. Another item raised was the multi storey car park in Truro which was currently closed due to it being in a dangerous condition. One Councillor raised concern that many buildings were erected around the same time with the same materials and questioned whether other buildings could also be dangerous. It was agreed that cars had got heavier over the past few years causing a substantial increase in the weight being carried by multi storey car parks and as structures became weaker with age problems were arising. Cllr J. Gale also fed back that he had attended a recent meeting at Houseman’s Shaft at Minions with Cornwall Heritage Trust who had recently taken it over. It was in a poor state of repair due to the length of time it had been sat. Cornwall Heritage Trust had a certain amount of funding but it was going to take more to rectify it to a completed state. Cllr J. Gale also reported he would continue to liaise with Cornwall Council to try and progress a positive outcome for the derelict Cheesewring Hotel. Finally Cllr J. Gale concluded with the Community Highway Improvement Programme and stated that three million was available over the next three years. Briefings had been held and the deadline for expressions of interest was the 27th

February 2026 with £134,659.00 available to the Tamar to Moor CAP. Councillors debated Highways works required in the area and felt that it would be appropriate to explore what the public would like to prioritise.

Resolved that the clerk would put an advert in the Link to seek suggestions from members of the public as to what they would like to see improved and why.

b) Councillors:

No reports were received from Councillors.

6) Finance:

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

Resolved that the bank reconciliation / cash book statement for November 2025 was confirmed as an accurate account, and this was signed by the Chairman.

One Councillor reported that the date on the budget column needed to be amended.

b) Payments:

i) £360.00 (Sheila Street, WC cleaning Nov), ii) £14.49 (Lena Batten, Lanyards for ID), iii) £17.48 (Lena Batten, High vis vests), iv) £157.00 (Gareth Haimes, repair to Minions WC), v) £136.76 (Viking, toilet rolls), vi) £364.00 (Martin Budge, cutting back of hedge / trees at Jubilee Field), vii) £15.99 (Lena Batten, hazard tape), viii) £52.34 (Lena Batten, ink), ix) £366.88 (Corserv field maintenance), x) £40.00 (Wreath donation), xi) £93.70 (clerk mileage June / November), xii) £30.00 (RHVH room hire).

Resolved that the following payments were approved. One Councillor abstained.

c) Receipts:

i) £1400.00 (LMP grant), ii) £285.00 (LAHA site rent)

The receipts were noted for information.

d) To note for information CCLA investment currently stands at £42,599.63 as of 5th November 2025:

This was noted for information.

e) To note for information an increase of £1.00 to £7.00 per month bank charges as from the 1st February 2026:

This was noted for information.

7) Planning:

a) Planning applications: None.

b) Any applications received before the meeting – None.

8) Play equipment and recreational areas:

a) Weekly safety inspections:

i) To note regular safety inspections had taken place by the volunteer who reported a large indentation at the top of the slide at the Jubilee Field:

The most recent inspection had not noted this and it was felt no immediate action was needed.

b) Jubilee Field:

i) To discuss / resolve next actions for the play house. It is reported to be structurally sound with superficial repairs required only. Only one quote had been received at £254.00. Linkinhorne Scouts had offered to paint it as part of a community project:

Debate took place where it was agreed that the play house needed to remain closed until the repairs had been completed and if the Scouts would need to sign individual volunteer forms or if the Scout leader would sign on behalf of the group.

Resolved that the quote was accepted and the contractor informed to proceed with the repairs. The clerk would contact the insurance company to clarify who needed to sign the volunteer forms. The Scouts leader would be contacted to thank them for the kind offer and confirm that once the insurance was agreed, on the condition that gloves were worn, the Scouts group could proceed and treat the playhouse under supervision. One Councillor would source the appropriate treatment.

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 14th November was 875, on the 22nd November was 876:

This was noted for information and it was agreed that the water usage had now stabilised.

ii) To note for information the cistern has now been fixed:

This was noted for information.

b) Upton Cross:

No reports of concern.

10) Public Rights of Way:

i) 614/18/1 Patrieda Barton – one member of the public has been advised by the land owner to walk a different route, this has been reported to countryside services who have responded to state “this has been logged on our data management system but they are prioritising health and safety issues only”:

Consideration was given to the footpaths of Linkinhorne Parish as the clerk had reported several recent incidents and was consistently informed that although these incidents were logged, countryside services were prioritising health and safety concerns only.

Resolved that the clerk would respond to Countryside services and request that they contact the landowner to suggest they apply for a diversion order so that it would be formally recorded that the path had been re routed. Cllr J. Gale would also look to add how reported concerns on footpaths are managed to the next CAP agenda.

ii) To note for information receipt of £1400.00 LMP grant for 2025-26:

This was noted for information.

iii) To note for information receipt of the estimated grant for LMP 2026-27 has been received at £2580.92:

This was noted for information.

11) To note for information the phone box at Rilla Mill was formally adopted on the 13th March 2019 by Linkinhorne Parish Council however there is no current guardian recorded and no written agreement in place:

Two Councillors put their names forward to become the legal guardians of the phone box.

Resolved that the two Councillors would put their proposals in writing for the clerk to list on the January 2026 agenda.

12) To note for information a new secretary for Roberts and Jeffery Foundation has been appointed on the 21st November 2025. To consider / resolve the re appointment of the following Trustee's – Christopher Daniels, Philip Riley. To consider / resolve the appointment of Sophie Hughes and Maxine Browne as Trustee's. To note for information the original Roberts and Jeffery Charity Deed is now securely stored in Linkinhorne Parish Council's fire proof safe:

It was noted that a new secretary had been appointed on the 21st November 2025 for the Roberts and Jeffery Foundation. The clerk read a brief synopsis which gave an overview of herself from Sophie Hughes as a potential new Trustee.

Resolved that the current Trustee's Christopher Daniels and Philip Riley were re appointed for a further three year term. Sophie Hughes was appointed as a new Trustee and Maxine Browne was appointed as a Trustee where she had previously been co-opted. Russ Hanson had resigned. It was agreed that Linkinhorne Parish Council safe was the most appropriate storage for the original charity deed.

13) To note for information Linkinhorne Parish Hall's structural engineers report is currently with the insurance company however it is likely fund raising will have to take place alongside insurance funds prior to the hall re opening:

This was noted for information. The Chairman asked Cllr J. Gale if there was any additional funding that could be obtained from the Community Chest Fund.

14) To note for information the clerk has re enrolled Linkinhorne Parish Council with the Pension Regulator as required every three years:

This was noted for information.

15) To consider / resolve quotes received for the repair of the bench in Commemoration of the Jubilee:

The clerk reported that she had received a further quote prior to the meeting and shared two quotes with the meeting. Debate took place regarding the quality of the wood as it would have to withstand extreme weather conditions at the location.

Resolved that the clerk would contact the first contractor and ask for a further quote using Accoya which was guaranteed for fifty years, once received the cheaper quote would be accepted. The clerk would remove the plaque to ensure she was able to purchase a second plaque of a similar size. The Chairman would contact Chrissie Palfrey to request she forward the clerk the wording she wanted on the plaque.

16) To consider / resolve a request from a Adam Jennings, Principal Manager of Metal Mines, to locate the land owners of Leymill Wood and Taylor's wood in order to undertake water monitoring of Mark Valley Stream:

Resolved that the clerk direct Mr Adam Jennings to Kivells who would likely know the landowners contact details.

17) To consider / resolve whether to support with a donation to the Open Spaces Society:

Debate took place with regards to a donation to the Open Spaces Society.

Resolved that the clerk respond to clarify that Linkinhorne Parish Council were unable to use Section 137 funds unless it was for the benefit of a whole or part of Linkinhorne Community and include the grant application process details should they wish to apply in April 2026 when the application process would open.

18) To consider / resolve any response to the email calling for larger sites from the Local Plan:

Resolved that the clerk respond to state that Linkinhorne Parish Council did not believe they fell within the category.

19) To consider / resolve whether to submit an expression of interest to CAP for a local scheme with a deadline of 27th February 2026:

This was previously discussed at item 5 (a) Cllr J. Gale's reports.

The Chairman confirmed an email had been received of a confidential nature in relation to Upton Cross:

Exclusion of Press and Public -

Resolved that the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business – confidential by virtue of relating to matters of a legal, financial, staffing or contractual nature and / or affecting persons other than the Council as defined in Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.

The email was read in full.

Resolved that the clerk would request further justification for the decision.

20) To review / update Linkinhorne Parish Council's Data Protection Privacy Policy:

Resolved that Linkinhorne Parish Council's Data Protection Policy was reviewed and agreed.

21) Correspondence as listed:

06/11/2025*	Newsletter	The Rural Services Network
10/11/2025*	30 year anniversary	Tamar Valley National Landscape event
12/11/2025*	Newsletter	The Rural Services Network
17/11/2025*	Newsletter	Affordable homes
22/11/2025*	Newsletter	The Rural Services Network
22/11/2025*	Email	Community Highways Improvement Plan
26/11/2025*	Newsletter	The Rural Services Network
26/11/2025*	CALC AGM	Draft minutes and presentation slides
30/11/2025*	Newsletter	Parish Online
02/12/2025*	Simon Jones	Highways do not agree with the potential change to location of entrance at Upton Cross
02/12/2025*	PCSO Steve Edser	Since 31/10/25 to 1/12/25 there has been the following crime Malicious Communication.

Decisions forwarded by Cornwall Council:

PA25/01013 - Colpitt Cottage, Rilla Mill, Callington, PL17 7PD - Pre-application advice for the siting of a Shepherd's hut or similar temporary mobile structure for holiday letting, year-round as indicated on the attached block plan, in a field formerly used for agriculture but recently (5 years) used for domestic leisure purposes – closed advice given.

PA25/07300 - Great Lanhargy Farm, Bray Shop, PL17 8QJ - Prior Approval for change of use of agricultural building to 6 dwellings – planning permission required.

Notifications forwarded by Cornwall Council:

PA25/08368 - Idle Cottage, Sharptor, Liskeard, PL14 5AT - Works to trees within Conservation Area – clearance works to groups G1 of 4.5 metres comprising of re pollarding and re coppicing. Where there are a number of Oaks and Hawthorn present minimal clearance of around 2-3m where Possible.

The Chairman thanked all Councillors and the clerk for their valuable support in 2025 and wished everyone a Happy Christmas and New Year in Cornish.

22) Close of Business: The meeting closed at 8.46pm.

