

# Linkinhorne Parish Council

## Minutes of the Meeting of the Council

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2026 at 7.30pm at The Crosslink Centre, Upton Cross

### Minutes

Present at the meeting were: Cllr K. Wallis (Chairman), Cllr S. Beech, Cllr B. Cox, Cllr J. Gale, Cllr C. Hearn, Cllr C. Hordley, Cllr S. Street, Cllr A. Thomas.

Lena Batten (Clerk).

One member of the public was present at the meeting.

#### 1) Apologies:

Cllr M. Corfield.

#### 2) Code of Conduct:

a) To receive declarations: Cllr C. Hearn – item 15, Cllr S. Street – item 6 b (iii) and item 14, Cllr A. Thomas - item 14.

b) To grant dispensations: Cllr S. Street and Cllr A. Thomas were granted dispensations to remain in the room.

#### 3) Minutes:

**Resolved that** the minutes of the previous Meeting of Linkinhorne Parish Council held on the 12<sup>th</sup> January 2026 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

#### 4) Public Participation:

One member of the public introduced herself and wanted to raise several issues within the parish. She also wanted to know more about what powers the Parish Council had and what it was able to achieve. The first point raised was in relation to the poor bus service in the area. She pointed out that many individuals were grateful that the new bus shelter had now been erected at Upton Cross however stated that it was costing £6.00 for a return trip to the local GP's surgery in Liskeard just to hand in a prescription. The Chairman advised that this could be done on line however several were in agreement that this was not always accessible for the elder population. The member of the public had also raised the poor bus service with Councillor J. Gale who was going to look into it further. The Chairman advised that the Parish Council had no power over the bus service, but that Callington Health Centre did do a free delivery service. The member of the public confirmed that the local GP in Liskeard no longer provided this. General concerns were raised with regards to accessing the increasing move to online health services especially for more vulnerable members of the community who did not drive in a rural area. The member of the public also wanted to raise a further concern in relation to accessing the food bank, again the bus service did not facilitate this adequately, leaving more vulnerable members of the community at risk. The Chairman thanked the member of the public for her time and invited her to remain in the meeting.

One Councillor reported that an email had been received from a member of the public with three issues listed. Firstly, the material that was to be used for the replacement of the bench at Minions – it was agreed that the material was substantial and therefore would proceed. Secondly, in relation

to Houseman's engine house owned by Cornwall Heritage Trust, the member of the public wanted clarification as to whether Cornwall Heritage Trust was planning to also take over The Prince of Wales Engine house as well. Finally, clarification as to what constituted "Crown Land" whether this was Government Land, Crown Estate land, Duchy of Cornwall land or Duchy of Lancaster Land. Councillor J. Gale requested the clerk send details to him and he would seek to provide further information.

One Councillor proceeded to report another concern raised by a parishioner with regards to what steps they could take as they believed a neighbour was going to remove a wall without planning permission in a conservation area. The individual had logged their concern with Cornwall Council planning department. The advice was to also log this with Cornwall Council planning enforcement team with photos of the wall prior to it being demolished and if it was a listed building, to ensure planning enforcement was aware of this.

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

a) Cornwall Councillor Jim Gale:

Councillor Jim Gale reported that Cornwall Council was to hold a cabinet meeting on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February to set out the 2026/27 budget. It was expected that the 4.99% increase to Council tax would be approved. There was to be a full Council meeting on the 24<sup>th</sup> February when the budget would be presented. Expressions of Interest were still being accepted by Cornwall Community Highways Improvement Plan, decisions were to be made on the 26<sup>th</sup> March 2026.

On the 26<sup>th</sup> March 2026 The joint Rivers and Sea Summit meeting was to take place in Truro. There would be a live feed on facebook and other social media for those who wanted to attend. The BBC would also be filming this. The focus of the meeting was pollution, South West Water had a new Company Executive Officer and it was hoped that this meeting could find a way forward for the future.

**Resolved that** one Councillor would attend and feedback at the next Parish Council meeting.

Cllr J. Gale proceeded to report that he had received an email from Cornwall planning enforcement to state that planning conditions had been breached at Houseman's Engine House which was a grade 2 listed building. In relation to the bus services, he felt that there was a balance to strike as it was not unusual for buses to travel rural areas with just a few individuals on board. Community transport was being created in many areas and he would be looking into this further.

Cllr J. Gale also confirmed that Cornwall's fifth round of Community Infrastructure Levy funding was now open for applications if Linkinhorne had a particular project in mind. Initial expressions of interest needed to be submitted by the 27<sup>th</sup> February 2026. He reported that following the recent storms there had been a lot of flooding and trees down. Cornwall Council had ensured professionals were available on stand by and many of the incidents that required urgent attention had been dealt with promptly.

The Chairman added to his comments in relation to flooding and stated that the B3257 from Coads Green to Bray Shop flooded frequently which caused dangerous driving conditions and the road from B3257 at Kersbrook Cross leading down to Rilla Mill passing Halwinnick Butts was becoming eroded due to water run off from the fields. She asked Cllr J. Gale to report both to Highways for their attention.

One Councillor who attended the recent flood forum reported that the Government needed to look at providing additional funding in this area to take into account the increased risk of flooding. She

felt that there should be a budget for community resilience to flooding moving forward. Finally, Cllr J. Gale confirmed that discussions with Cornwall Council and the MP were ongoing in relation to the potential parking charges to be implemented at Kit Hill. The argument was that it was given by the King for the people of Cornwall to enjoy the outdoors and should not be subject to charges.

b) Councillors:

One Councillor reported back on his recent attendance at the Rural Affordable Housing presentation. He gave statistical information on the amount of families who were currently residing in Bed and Breakfast accommodation in Cornwall and confirmed that the full presentation was available on youtube for those who wished to view it in full.

**Resolved that** the clerk would forward the link to all Councillors for their information.

**6) Finance:**

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

**Resolved that** the bank reconciliation / cash book statement for January 2026 was confirmed as an accurate account, and this was signed by the Chairman.

b) Payments:

i) £222.00 (Annual allotment rent), ii) £366.88 (Corserv, field maintenance), iii) £330.00 (Sheila Street, WC cleaning, January).

**Resolved that** the following payments were approved.

c) Receipts: None.

**7) Planning:**

a) Planning applications:

i) PA26/00326 – Land North West of Kenilworth, Rilla Mill, PL17 7PB – construction of new self build dwelling and associated works ) in lieu of PIP PA23/09394) – there was no objection to the application.

b) Any applications received before the meeting –

i) PA26/00723 – Meadowgate, Upton Cross, PL14 5AX – Single storey side extension to enlarge living room - Linkinhorne Parish Council discussed the application at their meeting held on the 9th February 2026 and wanted to draw attention to the size of the build in relation to the size of the plot, they expressed concern that this could be regarded as over representation of the development. It was further remarked upon that in the event that there was a local occupancy condition applied to the premises, that this should be retained.

c) To note for information the response received from Cornwall planning with reference to PA25/07804 – This was noted for information.

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

a) Weekly safety inspections:

i) To resolve Cllr cover for safety checks in the play areas for three weeks commencing the 9th February 2026 – One Councillor kindly offered to cover the volunteer for the next two weekly checks.

b) Jubilee Field:

i) To consider / resolve treatment of the rails of the paling fence on top of the mound at Jubilee Field which are showing evidence of rot – one Councillor reports that no immediate work is required – **Resolved that** this would continue to be monitored weekly during visual inspections.

ii) To consider / resolve repairs to the balustrade at the top of the slide which is wobbly – **Resolved that** one Councillor would seek to repair the balustrade.

iii) To consider / resolve any next steps following information received regarding debris from Highways blocking the drain which the clerk has reported to Highways – debate took place as this

was an ongoing issue primarily caused by highways debris. Consideration was again given as to whether it would be beneficial to remove the pipe thus allowing easier access for maintenance. **Resolved that** the clerk would forward details to Cllr J. Gale and allow him to liaise with Highways in the first instance.

c) Rilla Mill Play Area:

i) To note for information the funky chicken has been checked and is safe to use – It was confirmed that one Councillor had checked the funky chicken and it was safe for use.

**9) Public Conveniences:**

a) Minions:

i) To note for information the water meter reading on the 22<sup>nd</sup> January was 882 - This was noted for information.

b) Upton Cross:

No reports of concern.

**10) Public Rights of Way:**

i) To note for information footpath 614/18/1 which was reported to Countryside services, has been listed for an officer to visit but no timescales can be confirmed – This was noted for information.

**11) To consider / resolve whether to accept the offer of trees from Proper Cornish Trees:**

**Resolved that** no trees were required at this time but the clerk would respond to confirm that their offer was kept for future reference.

**12) To consider / resolve whether to hold a public meeting in Autumn 2026 to look at a public safety plan for Linkinhorne Parish Roads during poor weather conditions:**

**Resolved that** the matter would be listed on the July 2026 agenda with a view to arranging a meeting in the Autumn.

**13) To consider / resolve the update of Linkinhorne Parish Emergency plan:**

Consideration was given to Linkinhorne Parish Council's emergency plan which was initially discussed in 2017 however was not adopted. This was due to emergency plans being the statutory responsibility of regulatory authorities. Any local emergency plan was deemed to be primarily to deal with the first 30 minutes of a significant event. It was concluded that the Parish is not in a primary flood area, is not at high risk of terrorism and does not house any significant highways that are likely to cause ongoing disruption in the event of an accident.

**Resolved that** Linkinhorne Parish Council website displays the contact details for the clerk and all Councillors therefore there was a point of contact for those who needed it and they could then be directed accordingly.

Cllr J. Gale reported that there is an Emergency planning team within Cornwall Council who were in the process of contacting Parishes and Towns with the offer of coming to give an overview and advice on emergency planning.

**Resolved that** when the email was received the clerk would arrange for this to take place.

**14) To confirm the written agreement between Linkinhorne Parish Council and the new Guardians of the BT kiosk located at Rilla Mill:**

**Resolved that** Linkinhorne Parish Council accept the written agreement.

One member of the public, Councillor C. Hearn and Councillor J. Gale left the room.

**15 Pursuant to section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, and having regard to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted it was –**

**Resolved that** the press and public be excluded from the Meeting for the following item of business - Potential purchase and acceptance of donation: (CONFIDENTIAL) by virtue of relating to matters of a legal, financial or contractual or commercial nature affecting persons other than the Council)

**Resolved that** separate minutes would be distributed.  
The press and public could be re admitted to the meeting.

**16) To consider / resolve whether to apply for the CIL funding now open until the 27th February 2026 for a local infrastructure project:**

Brief debate took place with regards to potential infrastructure projects in the parish that could benefit the community holistically.

**Resolved that** the clerk would submit an application to Cornwall’s Community Infrastructure Levy funding programme. This could provide the potential for future safeguarding of both allotments and burial ground space.

**17) To agree the advert, policy and application form for grant applications for 2026 with a closing date of 1st April 2026 and applications to be considered on the 13th April 2026 meeting:**

The grant advert, updated policy and application form was discussed.

**Resolved that** with the addition of “I will adhere to the terms and conditions of the policy” to be added to the application form, the advert, policy and application form be agreed with a closing date for applications of the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2026.

**18) To agree application for a Memorial to be placed in Upton Cross Civic Burial Ground:**

The Clerk stated that it was detailed in the Burial Ground Regulations that all memorials, inscriptions and additions must be approved by the Parish Council before erection. It was agreed that provided the request was within the specifications detailed in the Burial Ground Regulations the clerk could use discretionary powers to agree the application without listing it on the agenda.

**Resolved that** the memorial application was within the agreed sizes and could proceed.

**19) To agree/ resolve any comments to be submitted in relation to the Public Path Diversion Order for footpath 32 with a deadline for submission of 25th February 2026:**

There was no objection to the application for diversion of footpath 32.

**20) To consider / resolve to respond to a request for information regarding Community transport in the Parish:**

The Chairman read the email which requested information with regards to any community transport provision accessible in the parish.

**21) To consider / resolve any response to Wildanet who wish to utilise the National Grid pole in Jubilee Field for fibre optic cabling:**

**Resolved that** Wildanet could proceed.

**22) Correspondence as listed:**

08/01/2026*	Community Road Safety Campaign	Survey
08/01/2026*	The Rural Services Network	Newsletter
15/01/2026*	The Rural Services Network	Newsletter
19/01/2026*	Local Council Training	Positive planning
19/01/2026*	Newsletter	Affordable housing
19/01/2026*	CALC	Training opportunities

22/01/2026*	The Rural Services Network	Newsletter
26/01/2026*	Newsletter	Neighbourhood Planning
28/01/2026*	The Rural Services Network	Newsletter
30/01/2026*	PCSO Steve Edser	Since 1/1/26 to 29/1/26 there has been the following crime disclosable - Malicious communication
30/01/2026*	Newsletter	Positive planning Cornwall
30/01/2026*	Newsletter	Open Spaces Society

**Decisions forwarded by Cornwall Council:**

PA25/09134 - Mill House, Rilla Mill, Callington, PL17 7NT - Works to Trees within a Conservation Area (TCA) - T1 - 3 Cherry trees - Cut back by 80%. T2 - Beech - Pollarding and reduction by 15%. T3 - Beech - 4 lower limbs to be removed. T4 - Ash - Remove 4 lower limbs. T5 - Ash - Full removal of tree - Decided not to make a TPO (TCA apps).

PA25/09254 - Meadow Brook, Rilla Mill, Callington, PL17 7NT - Works to Tree within a Conservation Area (TCA) - T1 - Beech - Full removal - Decided not to make a TPO (TCA apps).

PA25/09363 – Nampara, Henwood, Liskeard, PL14 5BP - Works to trees in a Conservation Area, T1- reduce 8 Ash Trees by up to 40% as annotated in photographs - Decided not to make a TPO (TCA apps).

PA25/07804 - Land South Of Lanhargy, Bray Shop, Cornwall, PL17 8QA - Proposed self build farm managers dwelling and garage – approved.

**Notifications forwarded by Cornwall Council:**

PA25/09700 – Netherhill, Rilla Mill, Callington, PL17 7NT - Works to trees in a Conservation Area, T1 - Oak tree needs pruning, T2 - Oak Tree needs pruning, T3 - 3 Sycamore trees need pruning.

PA26/00373 - Barn At Great Lanhargy Farm, Bray Shop, Callington, PL17 8QJ - Prior Approval for change of use of agricultural building to 6 dwellings.

**23) Close of Business:** The meeting closed at 9.08pm.