

Linkinhorne Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council

Monday 13th July 2026 at 7.30pm at Rilla Mill Village Hall, Rilla Mill

Minutes

Present at the meeting were: Cllr Kathy Wallis (Chairman), Cllr Jim Gale (Ward Councillor), Cllr Steve Beech, Cllr Brian Cox, Cllr Carl Hearn, Cllr Christine Hordley, Cllr Sheila Street, Cllr Ann Thomas. Lena Batten (Clerk).

Three members of the public were in attendance at the meeting.

The Chairman welcomed all the members of the public to the meeting.

1) Apologies: Cllr Mike Corfield (Vice Chairman). Cllr C. Hearn gave apologies in advance that he would be arriving late.

2) Code of Conduct:

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

b) To grant dispensations: The Chairman granted permission for Cllr S. Street to remain in the room but not speak.

3) Minutes:

Resolved that the minutes of the previous Meeting of Linkinhorne Parish Council held on the 8th June 2026 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

4) Public Participation:

Three members of the public were in attendance. The Chairman invited them to speak. One member of the public introduced herself and confirmed she was interested in becoming a Councillor and wanted to remain in the meeting to listen. Two members of the public wanted an update in relation to the salt bin at Higher Stanbear. The Chairman asked the meeting if they would be happy to discuss item 16 after item 6 for the benefit of both members of the public.

Resolved that item 16 would be considered following item 6.

5) Reports from and matters of concern to:

a) Cornwall Councillor Jim Gale:

Cllr J. Gale had given apologies as he would be late and would share his report on arrival.

b) Councillors:

The Chairman reported that she recently attended the opening ceremony of the new bench in memory of Mrs Byne which took place on Friday 19th June 2026. Several Councillors and members of the public attended despite the poor weather conditions. The Chairman thanked all who attended for their time.

6) Finance:

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

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

b) Payments:

i) £390.00 (Sheila Street, WC clean June), ii) £42.00 (CALC, AI training), iii) £112.00 (Gareth Haimes, repair to play house), iv) £138.00 (Gareth Haimes, repair to mound structure), v) £13.24 (Lena Batten, purchase of toilet signs), vi) £960.00 (Martin Budge, Half year grass cutting Jubilee Field, vii) £270.00 (Martin Budge, Half year grass cutting Parsons Meadow, viii) £45.00 (CALC, conference attendance), ix) £215.94 (Viking, toilet roll), x) £88.20 (Lena Batten, half yearly mileage), xi) £92.40 (Western Web, renewal of Cloud email), xii) £246.00 (Duchy Defibs, annual monitoring fee).

Resolved that the payments were approved. The Chairman also confirmed that the scouts had started to paint the play house however two more tins of paint would need to be purchased which she had authorised the clerk to proceed and purchase.

c) Receipts:

None.

d) To note for information the clerk has re-registered for FSCS protection with Unity Bank – This was noted for information.

16) To consider / resolve next steps following the response received by a member of the public from Highways stating that Linkinhorne Parish Council are responsible for implementing a further salt bin at Stanbear:

As agreed, this item was brought forward. Two members of the public stated that they had been informed following their request to Cornwall Highways, that Linkinhorne Parish Council were responsible for the purchase of any new salt bins. The Chairman confirmed that Linkinhorne Parish Council had no legal responsibility for provision of salt bins but it was agreed that it would support the relocation of the salt bin from further up the road to make it more accessible.

Resolved that the clerk contact Highways and confirm that Linkinhorne Parish Council would support the relocation of the salt bin to nearer the properties so that it was more accessible and request if Highways would move this. Councillor J. Gale entered the room and gave apologies for being late. He was given a brief overview of the situation and agreed he would also be in support of the salt bin being relocated.

Cornwall Council Car Parks - Councillor Gale proceeded to detail his report and stated that Cornwall Council car parks would be going cashless for payments as of the 1st August 2026. One car park in towns would remain open to take cash but all others would need to be paid for via alternative methods. He confirmed that Cornwall Council had stated over 90% of their parking revenue was already collected digitally and this was going to save significant funds due to the collection of cash costs involved.

Go Bus - Go Bus was also raised as Cllr J. Gale had recently been contacted by several members of the public who had been left stranded, one in particular who was an elderly lady was left, then had to obtain a taxi back home at a cost of £40.00. He stated that he had liaised with Go Bus who had confirmed that they transport 10,000 students per day in Cornwall successfully however he felt that the number 78 bus in particular had left several people down recently and the service was not adequate.

Pot Holes – Cornwall Council had done exceptionally well in catching up with the backlog, and were now getting approximately 708 reports per day, a significant drop from the over 2,000 that were being received at the beginning of the year. Now that they are in the process of catching up, they would be looking to resurface some roads.

Cllr J. Gale reported that he had eight active enforcements in place, none of which were in the Linkinhorne Parish. In relation to the signage agreed for Minions Highways and the Finance team were looking at this now. The complaints from residents continued with regards to speeding through the village. It was confirmed that Community Speed watch were now active in the Minions area.

Homes Cornwall Project – there was 700 acres identified for building in Cornwall. Cornwall Council were now working with different companies to increase housing, there would be a stipulation that homes would be for locals first. It was not known at this time which parishes were affected by this. The drain at the Jubilee Field which became a health and safety issue during bouts of bad weather was shown to Cllr J. Gale recently. He confirmed that he felt something needed to be done and had spoken with Highways in order to progress this forward. He had raised this as case work and would continue to pursue a positive outcome.

7) Planning:

a) Planning applications: None.

b) Any applications received before the date of this meeting:

i) PA26/04484 – Hurlers Halt, Minions, PL14 5LE – application to discharge planning obligation in relation to E2/98/00459/F dated 15th February 1999 as buyers cannot obtain a mortgage – having considered the proposal Linkinhorne Parish Council resolved not to support the removal of the planning obligation in relation to E2/98/00459/F.

c) To note for information in relation to planning application PA26/02245 notification has been received to state Cornwall Planning are unable to tie the proposed building to the dwelling however have attached a condition to the same effect – This was noted for information.

8) Play equipment and recreational areas:

a) Weekly safety inspections:

Weekly safety inspections have taken place with no new issues identified.

b) Jubilee Field:

i) To note for information the playhouse has been fixed – this was noted for information.

ii) To note for information the loose wood on the mound has been fixed – this was noted for information.

iii) To note for information one Councillor had trimmed and sanded the left side of the slide repair due to it protruding – this was noted for information.

iv) To consider / resolve any further steps required following the toddler swing chain coming loose and being tightened by a member of the public – the clerk reported that the nuts were not self locking as advised and they needed to be checked.

Resolved that One Councillor agreed to identify and purchase the appropriate nuts and would look to fit them. The Councillor would be reimbursed for the costs of the nuts.

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 8th June 2026 was 902 and on the 25th June 2026 was 906 - This was noted for information.

The clerk informed the meeting that she has checked the water meter again two days prior to the meeting and a new meter had been fitted with a reading of 00003. The clerk contacted Pennon Water Services to ask why the meter had been changed but was informed that a response would follow by email as they were not clear why this had happened at this time.

Resolved that the clerk would contact Pennon Water Services again if she did not hear back.

b) Upton Cross:

No reports of concern.

10) Public Rights of Way:

- i) To note for information the clerk is waiting for a quote to complete the application for the enhanced LMP scheme grant funding to re open footpath 614.28.1 – this was noted for information.
- ii) To consider / resolve whether to request quotes for the re erection of footpath post at Rilla Mill end of footpath 614/18/1 as the post has been laid down in the hedge. Other posts also need re erection around the parish –

Resolved that although there was a current volunteer there were footpaths posts that had fallen down and needed to be erected. The clerk would put an advert in the Link to see if any other volunteers would come forward. In the event that no volunteers were identified, the clerk would bring quotes to the September meeting.

11) To consider/ resolve the option of a public meeting to identify volunteers to spread salt on the roads during icy periods:

Debate took place as it was agreed a public meeting to identify volunteers was not appropriate.

Resolved that the clerk would put an advert in the Link in October 2026 to request that members of the public did not use too much salt and that it was for Highway use only, not private properties.

12) To consider / resolve any required projects as there is Community Chest funding available via Cllr J. Gale:

Cllr J. Gale confirmed there was funding available for a specific project in the parish. Consideration was given to the option of a fence / gate around the drain at the Jubilee Field to ensure it was kept separate from the play area.

Resolved that Councillors would consider an appropriate project and bring their ideas to the September meeting where a decision would be made.

13) To review / update Linkinhorne Parish Council's

i) Training and Development Policy –

Resolved that Linkinhorne Parish Council's Training and Development Policy was reviewed and agreed.

ii) Grievance Procedure –

Resolved that Linkinhorne Parish Council's Grievance Procedure was reviewed and agreed.

14) To consider the request by a member of the public for the internment of ashes at Upton Cross Civic Burial Ground as currently there is no specific cremation plots only burial plots:

The clerk shared information she had received following having sought advice.

Resolved that the clerk would respond to confirm that unfortunately Upton Cross Civic Burial Ground only had burial plots for sale, there were no cremation plots. The member of the public was welcome to purchase a burial plot for cremated remains however St Pauls Church had cremation plots remaining in the churchyard if she specifically wanted a cremation plot.

15) To review / update Upton Cross Civic Burial Ground Regulations to include BACS payments:

It was agreed that the wording on the Civic Burial Ground Regulations on the third page was confusing and as most people paid by BACS bank account details should be added to the form. The clerk further confirmed that she had sent a reminder email to the administrator of the Central Methodist Church to see if they were able to provide an update in relation to land available at The Retreat but had not received a response to date.

Resolved that the clerk would remove “cremation” from the fees section and would add BACS information to the form.

Councillor C. Hearn entered the room and again gave apologies for being late.

16) To consider / resolve next steps following the response received by a member of the public from Highways stating that Linkinhorne Parish Council are responsible for implementing a further salt bin at Stanbear:

This item was previously discussed after item 6.

17) To consider / resolve if any Councillors would like to attend Cornwall Local Council’s Conference with the clerk taking place at Wadebridge Showground on Tuesday 6th October 2026 – 10am – 4pm:

The clerk was booked to attend the conference.

Resolved that if any Councillor wanted to attend they would contact the clerk to book a space.

18) To note the new bench for Rillaton has been delivered and consider next actions:

It was suggested that as the bench was rotten in the burial ground but not fixed to the floor it may be more beneficial to replace the burial ground bench and repair the bench at Rillaton which could be done in a similar manner to the bench recently repaired at Minions. The concrete posts were fixed into the ground for the bench at Rillaton and would take a significant amount of work to remove.

Resolved that the clerk would obtain quotes for the repairs to the bench at Rillaton and the new bench purchased would replace the old bench in the burial ground which was not able to be repaired.

19) To accept correspondence from Pennon Water detailing the potential vote of no confidence by Cornwall Council:

The open letter was read by the Chairman which detailed actions of Pennon Water Services. One Councillor anticipated that the matter would be raised at future CAP meetings and would keep Linkinhorne Parish Council updated with any information.

Resolved that Linkinhorne Parish Council would respond to acknowledge the information forwarded.

20) To consider / resolve any response to the invite by St Ive and Pensilva Parish Council to comment on the draft proposals of a Neighbourhood Development Plan:

Resolved that the clerk would respond to confirm receipt of the Draft Neighbourhood Priorities Statement and confirm Linkinhorne Parish Council had no comments to make.

21) To consider / resolve attendance of one Councillor at CALC’s extraordinary General Meeting on the 23rd July online:

One Councillor confirmed this was primarily a procedural meeting and Councillors were welcome to attend should they wish too.

Resolved that the Chairman would like to attend, the clerk would forward the relevant information.

22) To confirm all Councillors have completed the new Registers of Interests in compliance with changes under Section 32(2) of the Localism Act 2011:

There was some confusion as Councillors that had looked at the form stated there was no box to tick / area to confirm that they did not want their address to be published.

Resolved that the clerk would seek further clarification as to how to ensure the address was not left on the Register of Interests as it was not clear on the form.

23) To receive an update in relation to Linkinhorne Parish Hall:

The Chairman read the latest update from Linkinhorne Parish Hall dated July 2026 which detailed that the insurance investigations were completed on the building which identified wide problems with the sub floor. It was now confirmed the insurance company were not going to cover the damage. The forensic survey concluded that the damage was caused by non accidental and inevitable circumstances with problems from the outset known as latent defects. The trustees were now looking at obtaining advice on how to ensure the overall health and safety of the building to reduce further deterioration whilst the building sits empty. Fundraising continues and maintenance tasks are ongoing. Finally, the trustees thanked the community spirit and support around them.

24) Correspondence as listed:

08/06/2026*	Newsletter	The Rural Services Network
08/06/2026*	CAP	Strategic Partner Updates
11/06/2026*	CALC	Training opportunities
11/06/2026*	Newsletter	The Rural Services Network
21/06/2026*	Cornwall CALC	Annual Conference
21/06/2026*	Newsletter	The Rural Services Network
24/06/2026*	Open Letter	Parish and Town Councils South West water
25/06/2026*	Newsletter	The Rural Services Network
30/06/2026	PCSO Steve Edser	From 30/5/26 to 29/6/26 there has been the following crimes Criminal Damage, Harassment and assault.
02/07/2026*	Newsletter	The Rural Services Network

Decisions forwarded by Cornwall Council:

PA24/06982 - Land North Of Gospenheal, Upton Cross, PL14 5AX - Outline planning consent for an exception scheme of up to 14 dwellings with the matter of access only for consideration – withdrawn.

PA26/03267 - Dalston/Butts Cross, Rilla Mill, Cornwall - Prior notification of agricultural or forestry development for an agricultural storage building for machinery and straw – Prior approval not required.

PA26/03360 - Play Area Parsons Meadow, Rilla Mill - Works to Trees within a Conservation Area (TCA) - T1, T2, T3 and T4 - Alder trees - Full removal – decision not to make a TPO.

PA26/03791 - Land South West Of Higher Churchtown, Linkinhorne, PL17 7LY - prior notification of agricultural or forestry development for an agricultural shed for fodder produced on the 350 acres we farm and machinery storage – prior approval not required.

Notifications forwarded by Cornwall Council:

PA26/03791 - Land South West Of Higher Churchtown, Linkinhorne, PL17 7LY - Prior notification of agricultural or forestry development for an agricultural shed for fodder produced on the 350 acres we farm and machinery storage.

PA26/04142 - Phoenix House, Minions, PL14 5LJ - Works to trees in a Conservation Area, namely 1) Tree 1. A small, dead, unidentified tree. Fell. 2) Tree 2. A solitary fur tree. For safety reasons this should be felled. 3) Tree 3. A half-dead Leylandii. Fell. 4) Tree 4. A half-dead Leylandii. Fell.

25) Close of Business: The meeting closed at 8.40pm.

