

Linkinhorne Parish Council

Notes of the Informal Meeting of the Parish Councillors Monday 14th September 2026 at 7.30pm at Rilla Mill Village Hall, Rilla Mill Minutes

Present at the meeting were: Cllr Jim Gale (Ward Councillor), Cllr Steve Beech, Cllr Brian Cox, Cllr Carl Hearn, Cllr Sheila Street, Cllr Ann Thomas.

Lena Batten (Clerk).

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

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

1) Apologies: Apologies were received from Cllr Kathy Wallis (Chairman), Cllr Mike Corfield (Vice Chairman), Cllr Christine Hordley.

Cllr Carl Hearn and Cllr Jim Gale sent apologies as they were going to arrive late.

Quorum

In the temporary absence of a quorum the meeting convened initially upon an informal basis, with a view to ratification / determination of relevant matters on a quorum being met.

2) Code of Conduct:

a) To receive declarations: Cllr S. Street item 6 b (iii) and 6 b (xi).

b) To grant dispensations: None.

Councillor Carl Hearn entered the room and gave apologies for being late. A quorum was restored.

The Chairman gave an overview of the collective views that had been made at the meeting up to this point and the Meeting of the Parish Council was formally convened.

Linkinhorne Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council Monday 14th September 2026 at 7.30pm at Rilla Mill Village Hall, Rilla Mill Minutes

Present at the meeting were: Cllr S. Beech, Cllr B. Cox, Cllr C. Hearn, Cllr Sheila Street, Cllr A. Thomas. A quorum being in place the Council proceeded to review the outcome of the prior information consideration of items 1- 2 as listed above arising from which is was:

Resolved that the prior information deliberations of Members of the Parish Council (Minute No's 1-2 refer), be adopted and endorsed.

3) Minutes:

Resolved that the minutes of the previous Extraordinary Meeting of Linkinhorne Parish Council held on the 17th August 2026 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

One member of the public entered the room.

4) Public Participation:

One member of the public was present with a view to potential co-option, a second member of the public was invited to speak but stated that she did not wish to speak.

5) Reports from and matters of concern to:

a) Cornwall Councillor Jim Gale:

Deferred due to Cllr J. Gale not present.

The Chairman stated that Cllr J. Gale would share his report on his arrival.

b) Councillors:

One Councillor gave an overview of the Public Meeting held at the Crosslink Centre on the 9th September. He stated that the purchase of the Meadow at Upton Cross was shared with all members of the public present and reported a good attendance at the meeting. All members of the public were supportive of the purchase. Councillor C. Hearn was not present at the meeting.

6) Finance:

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

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

b) Payments: i) £4.50 (Admin, Lena Batten), ii) £36.00 (Linkinhorne P.C.C., room rent), iii) £420.00 (Sheila Street, WC Cleaning, July), iv) £20.00 (RMVH, room rent), v) £7.99 (Simon Hordley, screwdriver bits for play area), vi) £252.00 (BDO LTD, annual audit), vii) £45.99 (Lena Batten, tamper for footpath posts as agreed with one Cllr), viii) £20.00 (Lena Batten, 2 x keys for coin mechanisms at Minions WC), ix) £14.50 (Lena Batten, creosolve for footpath posts), x) £87.74 (Lena Batten, materials for completed notice board at Henwood), xi) £390.00 (Sheila Street, WC cleaning, August), xii) £200.00 (SLCC annual membership), xiii) £10.00 (RMVH, room hire), xiv) £19.55 (Lena Batten, Ink).

Resolved that the payments were approved.

c) Receipts: i) £150.00 (Memorial Stone), ii) £522.99 (VAT reimbursement), iii) £110.00 (Minions coinage): this was noted for information.

d) To note for information the CCLA investments currently stands at £43,702.16 on the 5th July 2026 and £43,839.70 on the 5th August 2026: This was noted for information.

e) To arrange a date for the Finance Committee to meet to prepare the 2027/2028 budget proposal, decide precept proposal and review Financial Management procedures and asset register: In their absence the Clerk had dates available from two Councillors and a date was set for the 28th October 2026 at 7.00pm.

f) To accept the notice of conclusion for Audit 2025-2026 to conclude that the Annual Governance and Accountability Return is in accordance with Proper Practices: This was noted for information.

7) Planning:

a) Planning applications:

i) PA26/05848 – Land South West of Higher Churchtown, PL17 7LY – Steel portal framed agricultural covered self feed silage building -

Resolved that Linkinhorne Parish Council had no objection to the application.

ii) PA26/05994 – Riverside, Rilla Mill – works to trees in a conservation area – dead ash and Beech tree to be felled – comments requested - Debate took place as Linkinhorne Parish Council are not normally asked to comment in relation to works to trees.

Resolved that Linkinhorne Parish Council had no objections to the application subject to the agreement of Cornwall Council Planning tree officers.

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

i) PA26/05888 – Yonder, Netherton, Upton Cross, Liskeard, PL14 5BD – listed building consent to carry out damp remediation works – As the planned work was remedial and there were no structural alterations involved there were no objections.

Resolved that Linkinhorne Parish Council had no objection to the application.

Councillor Jim Gale entered the room.

The Chairman welcomed Cllr J. Gale to the meeting and invited him to share his report.

Cllr J. Gale stated that the A30 closures had now started and were due to continue until March 2027 with potential overnight closures and lengthy diverted routes. It has been noted that a lot of drivers had been identifying alternative short cut routes via sat nav's which was causing significant difficulties on back roads. Highways had a twenty four hour, seven days a week hotline that they could be contacted on 03001235000 if the issue was urgent, or an email address info@nationalhighways.co.uk for non urgent issues to report.

In relation to Homes Cornwall, eight locations had been identified in the division with the potential for housing. Much of this was identified farm land. New planning regulations had now come in and Cllr J. Gale was no longer able to take any controversial planning matters to committee. These matters were now decided at the planning officer level. The National planning framework was now heavily weighted towards housing. This significantly weakens the local Neighbourhood Development Plans in place.

Cllr J. Gale attended a meeting last week with regards to recycling. Cornwall currently recycle 56% and want to improve this by 2030. Cornwall Council were looking closely at general household waste and had concluded that a large percentage of this was waste food, often in recyclable packaging. New bottle recycling was to be re introduced where members of the public would be able to return their bottles to local supermarkets for a small reimbursement.

On another matter, Cornwall portfolio holder for Environment and Climate Change, Loic Rich had recently requested clarification from Cornwall Council as it had been raised that households with an annex were being asked to clarify if they were being used as air bed and breakfasts.

Cllr J. Gale reported that there was a full consultation meeting due to take place on Truro on the 30th September 2026 in relation to the local bus services. Questions needed to be pre registered which he had done. Cllr J. Gale was of the view that rural bus services were heavily subsidised and it was not acceptable for alternative transport provision not to be provided if there was a break down on bus routes.

Finally, Cllr J. Gale commented on the eloquent manner in which the Chair of the CAP meeting had managed the recent South West Water commercial presentation which took place.

Cllr J. Gale thanked everyone for their time.

8) Play equipment and recreational areas:

a) Weekly safety inspections:

Weekly safety inspections have taken place with no new issues identified. The slide was closed due to concerns about children getting splinters, it was awaiting repair by two Councillors.

b) Jubilee Field:

i) To consider / resolve the potential option of fencing and a gate as suggested by Cllr J. Gale around the drain in the corner of the field. Highways have confirmed the jetting unit will be sent again to clear the drain prior to winter:

Resolved that Cllr J. Gale would speak with the Highways Manager again to see if a long term solution could be identified.

ii) To consider / resolve any actions to take regarding one member of the public requesting a secure boundary at the bottom of Jubilee Field:

The clerk shared the concerns raised by one member of the public who had experienced ongoing difficulties with children who had left the field and entered the private garden causing damage.

Resolved that this item would be deferred to the next meeting to allow all Councillors opportunity to visit the site and consider the most appropriate way forward.

c) Rilla Mill Play Area:

i) To consider / resolve reimbursement of funds for the purchase of one tool to lift the slide floor and agree the fixing of the floor, the slide was taped of by the clerk on the 12th August 2026:

This was agreed.

9) Public Conveniences:

a) Minions:

i) To note for information the water meter reading on the 10th July was 003, the 29th July was 010, the 25th August was 026. The clerk has three times requested further information as to why the meter was renewed but has not received a response:

This was noted for information.

ii) Two additional keys have been purchased for the coin machines as one broke when the clerk was emptying the machines:

This was noted for information.

b) Upton Cross:

No reports of concern.

10) Public Rights of Way:

i) To note for information one member of the public is now enrolled as a Cormac volunteer for erection of new way marker's as needed on the footpaths:

This was noted for information.

11) To agree the dates and venue for Linkinhorne Parish Council monthly meetings for 2027:

Resolved that the dates for 2027 meetings were accepted and agreed.

12) To agree / resolve a donation for the memorial wreath for Remembrance Day and note the War Memorial has been weeded:

Resolved that a £45.00 donation was agreed.

13) To receive key stats from Citizens Advice for 2025-2026:

This was noted for information.

14) To receive suggestions from Councillors about an appropriate project to request funding from Councillor Jim Gale as agreed at the July meeting:

Debate took place as several avenues for funding were available.

Resolved that the clerk would contact Cllr J. Gale to make an application to the Community Chest Fund.

15) To accept the quotes received for the repairs to the bench at Rillaton and resolve to identify an appropriate quote to get the bench fixed:

The clerk shared the two quotes she had received however reported that a member of the public had offered to repair the bench as a volunteer.

Resolved that this item be deferred until November to give the member of the public the opportunity to fix the bench.

16) To consider / resolve whether to apply to Forest for Cornwall for grant funding towards trees:

Resolved that Linkinhorne Parish Council did not require any trees at this time.

17) To note for information a thank you to the Parish Council for the grant for supporting Echoes of Gonamena, the two performances went well with an audience of 208 people:

This was noted for information.

18) To note for information correspondence from Cllr J. Gale to confirm that Primrose Cottages remains a priority and work is being undertaken to improve the site:

The Chairman thanked Cllr J.Gale for his intervention to progress this forward.

19) To note for information one member of the public has made a new notice board for Henwood and one Councillor will fit this:

This was noted for information, the Chairman thanked both the Councillor who fitted the notice board and the volunteers who helped to fit and who made the board.

20) To consider / resolve whether to apply for Better Futures Funding if it is felt that the eligibility criteria is met:

The clerk shared brief information regarding the Better Futures Funding threshold criteria.

Resolved that this would be shared at the next working group for the Meadow.

21) To consider / resolve a request from PCSO to purchase reusable banners as St Cleer have done advertising the importance of no BBQ's / fires in hot weather:

Resolved that the signage would be best placed in Cornwall Council car parks, Linkinhorne Parish Council did not feel that it could offer further contribution.

22) To note for information the new bench has been placed in the burial ground and agree / resolve to remove and break up the old bench which cannot be repaired:

Resolved that the old bench was beyond repair and would be broken up and taken to recycling by one Councillor.

23) To consider / resolve the co-option of one member of the public as a Councillor:

One member of the public was asked to introduce herself and a brief conversation took place. The Chairman asked the member of the public to leave the room.

Resolved that the member of the public had valuable skills to contribute to the Parish Council and upon being invited back into the meeting was co-opted as a Councillor and completed a Declaration of Office.

24) Correspondence as listed:

09/07/2026*	Newsletter	Affordable housing
09/07/2026*	Newsletter	The Rural Services Network
16/07/2026*	Newsletter	The Rural Services Network
16/07/2026*	Newsletter	Parish online
20/07/2026*	Teams event	Changes to Planning Committees and Protocols
20/07/2026*	Planning consultation	Draft Validation Guide
22/07/2026*	Local Council Training	Housing viability on 16/9 and update and Changes to Planning Committees and protocols, Policy update on 23/9
22/07/2026*	CALC	Building local benefit through Community

		Ownership - community energy
27/07/2026*	Newsletter	The Rural Services Network
27/07/2026*	Community energy	Building Local benefit through community ownership
29/07/2026*	The Editor	Public Sector Network newsletter
01/08/2026*	Newsletter	Fields in Trust
01/08/2026*	Notes	CAP minutes
01/08/2026*	Newsletter	The Rural Services Network
01/08/2026*	PCSO Steve Edser	Since 30/6/26 to 31/7/26 there have been the following crimes Criminal Damage X 2 and Actual Bodily Harm
04/08/2026*	Positive Planning	Planning news
17/08/2026*	Newsletter	Rural Services Network
17/08/2026*	Newsletter	Town and Parish Council
23/08/2026*	Newsletter	Rural Services Network
01/09/2026*	Positive Planning	Planning Committee reforms - video
01/09/2026*	South West Water via CAP	Pre submitted questions
02/09/2026*	PCSO Steve Edser	Since 1/8/26 to 1/9/26 there has been the following crimes 1. Criminal Damage 2. Assault

Decisions forwarded by Cornwall Council:

PA26/04142 - Phoenix House, Minions, Liskeard, 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, I believe this should be felled. 3) Tree 3. A half dead Leylandii. Fell. 4) Tree 4. A half-dead Leylandii. Fell - Decided not to make a TPO (TCA apps).

PA26/04816 - Chapel Lodge, Rilla Mill, Callington, PL17 7NT - Works to Tree within a Conservation Area (TCA) - Yew tree - Reduce overhanging branches by 1.5 metres - Decided not to make a TPO (TCA apps).

PA26/04606 – Tredowr, Rilla Mill, Callington, PL17 7NT - Works to Trees within a Conservation Area (TCA) - T1 - Beech - Reduce by 6m to a height of 7m, T2-T4 - Sycamore - Remove 3 stems that's are obstructing view when pulling out of junction - Decided not to make a TPO (TCA apps).

PA26/05277 - 1 - 2 Midmoor Cottages, Minions, PL14 5LR - Works to trees within a Conservation Area - removal of 3 Leylandii trees, removal of 6 Ash trees and removal of 1 Pine tree - Decided not to make a TPO.

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 - - S52/S106 and discharge of condition apps.

Notifications forwarded by Cornwall Council:

PA26/04606 – Tredowr, Rilla Mill, Callington, PL17 7NT - Works to Trees within a Conservation Area (TCA) - T1 - Beech - Reduce by 6m to a height of 7m. T2-T4 - Sycamore - Remove 3 stems that's are obstructing view when pulling out of junction.

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PA26/05277 - 1 - 2 Midmoor Cottages, Minions, PL14 5LR - Works to trees within a Conservation Area - removal of 3 Leylandii trees, removal of 6 Ash trees and removal of 1 Pine tree.

25) Close of Business: The meeting closed at 8.37pm.

