

# WITHIEL PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN

THE WITHIEL VILLAGE HALL ON WEDNESDAY, 4<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2024 AT 7.00PM

Present	Cllr. M. Davies (Chairman)	Mrs. J. Burdon (Parish Clerk)	Cllr. Ms. J. Shearer (Vice-Chair)
	Cllr. Mrs. W. Symons	Cllr. E. Piper	Cllr. R. Wilson
	Cllr. Ms. A. Lake	Cwll. Cllr. Mrs. J. Cruse	5 Members of Public

Minute	AGENDA ITEMS	Action
219/24	<b>Apologies:-</b> Councillor S. Coy.	
220/24	<p><b>Public Forum (Members of the public are permitted to make representations, answer questions, and give evidence in respect of any item of business included in the agenda. The designated time will be 15 minutes and no longer than 5 minutes per person, the time may be extended at the discretion of the Chair):-</b> Five members of the public in attendance.</p> <p>A member of the public raised in respect of the appeal for the shepherd's hut on the agenda this evening. She is hoping Councillors have read through to see the Planning Officers concerns which have now been addressed. It was originally refused by the Planning Officer for two reasons, which she duly noted. Chairman reported there appears to be various elements it has been refused on, rather than just two. Councillor Ms. J. Shearer had some concerns about the points raised by Stags. One of the concerns was about the generator and the noise as she can hear it from her property. A member of the public asked whether she needs planning permission for the generator. The member of public commented that the Planning Officer had not noted the generator as a refusal, she advised if she had known at the time she would try to do something to alleviate the noise, with sound proofing of some kind.</p> <p>Another member of the public advised the signs in the village have been altered and look the correct way, he wanted to know how we monitor this, if a vehicle is not local what action can we take? Councillors said unfortunately how would we know if they were local. Chairman suggested if you see something to contact the firm and ask where the lorry is going or report it to the police as it is a road violation. Councillor E. Piper advised the larger vehicles should no longer be coming through the village as the road is now inaccessible for HGVs. Cornwall Councillor Mrs. J. Cruse suggested taking photographs of the registration number and send to Rachael Tatlow of Cornwall Highways, Cornwall Council portal and copy her in as well.</p>	
221/24	<p><b>Members Declaration of Interest in items raised on the Agenda/Requests for Dispensation:-</b> Councillors Ms. J. Shearer and R. Wilson declared a non-registerable interest under Paragraph 3.5A in respect of the Camel Valley CAP.</p> <p>Councillor Ms. J. Shearer declared a non-registerable interest in respect of the letter from Cornwall Council for the appeal on PA24/02456 – Shepherds Hut, Land North West of Penosivvi, Withiel.</p>	

222/24

**Monthly Cornwall Councillor Report:-** Cornwall Councillor Mrs. J. Cruse reported as follows:-

- Planning - In September I attended a meeting between Devonshire Homes and the Cornwall Design Panel at the proposed Callywith site also in attendance was Stephen Kirby. Concerns I raised were (1) Bodmin College completely full; (2) Primary Care unsatisfactory and overstretched. Bodmin Hospital unable to extend; (3) Waste Treatment Works over capacity and discharging into the river Camel; (4) Phosphates issue not resolved and developers need to find their own solution; (5) Concerns regarding local access and providing footpaths into town, particularly the Cooksland Road junction; (6) Developers seemed unaware of the SEC.1 requirement to build carbon neutral homes with a £25,000 levy per house if not achieved.
- We are waiting for the Panderosa and Halgavor Moor applications to be heard at Strategic Planning. Apart from the insanity of building on a flood plain and wetland the above concerns still hold, with highways, and significant ecological and environmental objections.
- Bodmin and my ward have received funding from the Community Levelling Up Fund. The full details can be found on the CLUP and Good Growth website. Major benefactors are Bodmin Bowls, Into Bodmin, The BEAT, Walker Lines Sports Centre, Bodmin CIC, Nanstallon Community Centre, Helland Village Hall, Blisland Village Hall, Lanivet One for All, plus further awards for local feasibility studies.
- I have been working with the management companies of Coastline, and First Port to get all the adoption of common spaces finalised and clearing and tidying of areas that were being left overgrown at Borough View and Coastline. Clearing these areas has had a beneficial effect on residents and encourages them to take good care of their environment. Road closures at Green Valley Road have again caused disruption this is due to the road not being in a satisfactory state for adoption by Cornwall Council.
- The road from Jims to Nanstallon and the road from Trewint to Blisland has been resurfaced (top dressing for Nanstallon in the Spring). This has improved the flooding situation on both roads. We are also hoping to get a quiet lanes installed in the villages around Bodmin and linking into the Camel Trail.
- The Vote of No Confidence in our Leader was soundly defeated. I spoke in support of Linda; she has worked tirelessly to promote Cornwall both locally and on the National arena. She has always found time to listen, advise and support me and has made me feel a valued member of the Council. Her dedication to the role as Leader is immense and she has had to steer us in very difficult times. Any suggestion that she is not well supported was finally put to rest. I can assure you that she has the support of all her Conservative group and as proved by the vote of many of the opposition as well.
- On Thursday at Health and Adult Social Care I spoke about my concerns for Southwest Water adding fluoride to our water. Philosophically I cannot support this and suggested we should be putting all our efforts into encouraging schools to promote healthy eating and good oral hygiene. The recently published Healthy Schools Tool Kit has an excellent link on Oral Health and can easily be incorporated into the school curriculum. There are too many uncertainties surrounding fluoride and ethically I do not agree with having this imposed upon the population. The only option to decline would be drinking bottled water, which is hardly a sustainable solution.

- There has been a major breakdown of the Water Treatment Works at Blisland with up to 10 tankers taking waste water away for treatment to Nanstallon. I had no notification of this, and it has taken a great deal of chasing by email and phone calls to find out the exact problem which is complete breakdown of the system. A temporary fix is in place, and we are told the repairs should be done by Christmas. The lack of consultation and information from South West Water does not install any confidence in how they view the public and how efficiently they are running their treatment works.
- I am also concerned to hear that Labour are now removing the £50 subsidy from SW Water bills, this is beginning to feel like a war on pensioners, businesses, farmers and now anyone living in the Southwest.
- After laying a wreath at the Bodmin Keep last Sunday I was very pleased to lay a wreath at the memorial in Blisland where I joined a good number of residents in the service and then laid a wreath at Cardinham. It is a very special time of year when we remember those that died so that we could live in freedom.
- The Draft 25/26 Budget plans are now out for public consultation. We need to find 58 million savings for next year. If you follow this [Cornwall Council Draft Budget 2025-26 | Let's Talk Cornwall](#) you can view how Council Tax money is spent, also follow a link to where the proposed cuts will be from and then you can leave a comment. If you don't have time to do this I can say that the majority of spend is 27% adults who need our help 25% helping children and young people get the best start in life 9% on housing benefit to prevent homelessness 8% collecting rubbish and looking after countryside parks and beaches 6% fixing and maintaining roads street lighting and public transport 4% on fire and rescue and keeping communities safe 4% on running the council and holding elections 2% online services 2% keeping people well and stay healthy 1% running libraries, registration and trading standards
- At Full Council next on Tuesday, we proposed a Motion to Support our Farmers and oppose Labours Family Farm Tax. Labour did not include in their manifesto the policies they have subsequently adopted. The suggestion that wealthy people are buying up farms to avoid inheritance tax is not evidenced in Cornwall. This farm tax will destroy medium and small sized family farms on whom we so much rely upon for our food and countryside custody.
- And finally, I would highly recommend time to read the recently published Nature Recovery Strategy which is an excellent piece of work undertaken by Cornwall Council with expert help from Exeter University. All the links and a chance to have your say are at [Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Nature Recovery Strategy | Let's Talk Cornwall](#) The loss of so much of our wildlife can be and must be reversed and the amount of effort and study that has gone in to producing the interactive map and the processes for making the best use of land for nature is well worth a study, should you have the time.

Chair thanked Cornwall Councillor Mrs. J. Cruse for her report and attending the meeting this evening. There were no questions from the Councillors present on this report.

223/24

**Confirmation of Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on the 6<sup>th</sup> November 2024:-** Resolved to approve the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on the 6<sup>th</sup> November 2024 as circulated which were confirmed as a true and accurate record and duly signed by the Chairman (Proposed: Councillor E. Piper; Seconded: Councillor Ms. J. Shearer) (All in Favour)

224/24	<p><b>Matters Arising from the Monthly Meeting held on the 6<sup>th</sup> November 2024:-</b></p> <p><b>Page 2 Min.205/24 Ownership of verge nearby House of Fishes Crossroads:-</b> Cornwall Councillor Mrs. J. Cruse reported she was unsure of the location. Chairman confirmed the location, there is a layby with a large area that almost looks like a viewing splay <b>Action:</b> Cornwall Councillor Mrs. J. Cruse.</p>	Cwll. Cllr. Mrs. J. Cruse
225/24	<p><b>Highway Issues in the Parish:-</b> Councillor R. Wilson reported on the second crossroads in the other location further down to be followed up for ownership as well. Chairman reported the edges of the roads are wearing away, he asked whether Councillors should continue to report using the online system once we establish the land ownership but the more, they are reported the better <b>Action:</b> Cornwall Councillor Mrs. J. Cruse.</p> <p>Councillor R. Wilson reported nearby Clarence Barns the Withiel sign is damaged, Chairman said to be reported using the online system <b>Action:</b> Chairman.</p>	Cwll. Cllr. Mrs. J. Cruse  Chair
226/24	<p><b>Footpath Issues in the Parish:-</b> Clerk reported the annual letter in respect of Local Maintenance Partnership for 2025-2026 had been received from Cornwall Council announcing the amount will be increased by 1.1%, therefore, the amount offered to the Parish Council is £403.13. Resolved Parish Council accepts once received (Proposed: Councillor Ms. J. Shearer; Seconded: Councillor E. Piper) All in Favour <b>Action:</b> Clerk.</p> <p>Councillor E. Piper reported on an issue recently regarding a footpath in another area whereby around 30 sheep were attacked, and he wanted to know if there was anything we could do to help in this parish. Chairman advised signage is the best option <b>Action:</b> Chairman to source a suitable sign for the noticeboard in the Bus Shelter warning people to keep their dogs on leads.</p> <p>Councillor R. Wilson to highlight to local businesses who have visitors from other areas of the need to ensure dogs are kept on leads, it was agreed to include in the News and Views report <b>Action:</b> Councillor Ms. J. Shearer. Councillor E. Piper said it would be nice to see a leaflet in the News and Views to ask businesses to ensure visitors are made aware.</p>	Clerk  Chair  Cllr. Ms. J. Shearer
227/24	<p><b>Planning Applications received at the meeting and prior to the meeting; Planning Pre-Applications; Planning Results; Planning Correspondence; Any letters received for or against any Planning Applications:-</b></p> <p><b>Planning Applications:-</b> None received.</p> <p><b>Planning Results:-</b></p> <p><b>PA24/07280 – Mr. Tim Perring</b> – Submission of details to discharge Condition Number 4 in respect of Decision Notice PA24/02671 dated 6/8/24, Wood House Barn, Withiel – <b>S52/S106 and discharge of condition apps</b></p> <p><b>PA24/06720 – Mr. Sam Clancy</b> – Siting of building to contain wild deer larder and venison processing facility, to include storage of equipment and hosting of educational parties, Land West of Buzzards Reach, Withiel – <b>Approved</b></p> <p>Councillor Ms. J. Shearer declared a non-registerable interest in respect of the following item of correspondence and did not vote:-</p>	

	<p><b>Planning Correspondence:-</b> Cornwall Council – Appeal – PA24/02456 – Retrospective planning application for holiday let in the form of shepherds hut and associated development as part of farm diversification scheme, Land North West of Penosivvi, Withiel. <b>Resolved to support the application with a condition regarding the decibel level of the generator</b> (Proposed: Councillor E. Piper; Seconded: Councillor Mrs. W. Symons) (1 abstention) All in Favour <b>Action:</b> Clerk.</p> <p>Two members of the public left the meeting at 8.00pm.</p>	Clerk												
228/24	<p><b>Monthly Accounts for December 2024, including monthly bank reconciliation and budget monitoring and any other Financial Matters:-</b> It was proposed that the Council approve and accept the accounts for December 2024 as circulated on schedule, including agreement with the bank reconciliation and budget monitoring as reported (Proposed: Councillor R. Wilson; Seconded: Councillor Ms. A. Lake) All in favour</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>HSBC – Bank Charges</td> <td>£8.00</td> <td>November 2024</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Salaries and Expenses</td> <td>£291.26</td> <td>December 2024</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HMRC – Income Tax</td> <td>£66.20</td> <td>December 2024</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Receipt:-</b> HSBC – Gross Interest</td> <td>£45.57</td> <td>November 2024</td> </tr> </table>	HSBC – Bank Charges	£8.00	November 2024	Salaries and Expenses	£291.26	December 2024	HMRC – Income Tax	£66.20	December 2024	<b>Receipt:-</b> HSBC – Gross Interest	£45.57	November 2024	Clerk
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229/24	<p><b>Approval of Budget/Setting of Precept for the next Financial Year (2025-2026) including Policy for Reserves to be confirmed and adopted:-</b> Resolved to approve the budget and set the precept at £8,000.00 (which is £53.42 per year for a Band D household) (Proposed: Councillor Ms. J. Shearer; Seconded: Councillor Mrs. W. Symons) All in Favour. <b>Action:</b> Clerk.</p> <p>Reserves Policy adopted as set out on the precept budget sheet as General Reserve of £3,000.00 and Election Reserve of £1,000.00 (Proposed: Councillor Ms. J. Shearer; Seconded: Councillor Mrs. W. Symons) All in Favour.</p> <p>Cornwall Councillor Mrs. J. Cruse left the meeting at 8.08pm.</p>	Clerk												
230/24	<p><b>Application for Voltaise Funding:-</b> Application received from The Beacon. Resolved to agree it is a worthy application but believe it is more of a County wide project and not necessarily targeted on residents of Withiel, perhaps point her towards Cornwall Capacity Fund which is for feasibility studies, support with business plans, architect fees, consultations, etc. There is also CLUP (Cornwall Levelling Up Programme) which is more for infrastructure and building, however, both funds are now closed for 2024, as this may be more within keeping for this application (Proposed: Councillor R. Wilson; Seconded: Councillor Ms. A. Lake) All in Favour <b>Action:</b> Clerk.</p>	Clerk												
231/24	<p><b>Camel Valley Community Area Partnership (Including Template from Cornwall Council for current projects, issues and/or questions):-</b> Councillor Ms. J. Shearer reported on the Cornwall Capacity Fund and the amount spent. <b>Template from Cornwall Council for current projects, issues and/or questions:-</b> No update.</p>													
232/24	<p><b>How do we, the Parish Council, honour Ted &amp; Jenny Pentland on their time producing News &amp; Views:-</b> Resolved that Councillor Mrs. W. Symons obtains a voucher from Camel Valley Tea Rooms (Proposed: Councillor Mrs. W. Symons; Seconded: Councillor E. Piper) All in Favour <b>Action:</b> Councillor Mrs. W. Symons.</p>	Cllr. Mrs. W. Symons												
233/24	<p><b>Parish Councillor Training Requirements:-</b> Councillor E. Piper was interested in planning training, Clerk advised to watch the CALC training emails that come around and notify of any he would be interested in attending.</p>													

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**Correspondence – Clerk listed correspondence and actions required:-**

1. NALC – Chief Executive’s Bulletin – 7<sup>th</sup> November; 14<sup>th</sup> November; 21<sup>st</sup> November, 28<sup>th</sup> November 2024
1. Duchy Defibrillators Community Update
2. Cornwall Council – Precept 2025/2026 documentation and Council tax calculator
3. Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner - The Police and Crime Commissioner's weekly column - 'We all deserve to feel safe on our roads'
4. NALC – Events Newsletter
5. The Rural Bulletin – 12<sup>th</sup> November; 19<sup>th</sup> November; 26<sup>th</sup> November 2024
6. Great Western Railway - Reminder - Newquay line closure 18<sup>th</sup> November to 1<sup>st</sup> December 2024
7. Cornwall Council - Affordable Housing Newsletter - November 2024
8. Great Western Railway - Old Oak Common HS2 Station Work – London Paddington Station Closed Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2024
9. CALC – NALC Legal Bulletin – November 2024
10. NALC - Chief Executive's Bulletin – 14<sup>th</sup> November 2024
11. CALC – Code of Conduct Training for Councillors on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2024
12. Cornwall Council – Telecommunications Resilience Planning
13. Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner - The Commissioner's weekly column - Paving the way to zero deaths on our roads
14. CALC – Teams Meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> November for remote attendance & proxy voting and emergency resilience in the Telecoms Network
15. Visit Cornwall - Tourism Summit 2025 - Press Release
16. CALC – Hedgerow Management and Burial & Cremation Consultation Papers
17. Cornwall Council - Update: Community Levelling Up Programme Interim Report (CAP 4)
18. Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner - Police and Crime Panel meeting
19. Cornwall Council - Invitation to Cornwall Council budget stakeholder online event: 12<sup>th</sup> December 2024
20. Great Western Railway - Reminder - Rail improvement work affecting journeys in Devon & Cornwall
21. Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner - Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner's weekly column - learnings from London on combatting antisocial behaviour through collaboration
22. Cornwall Council - Town & Parish Elections May 2025 - Recharge Estimates
23. Great Western Railway - Storm Bert travel update
24. Great Western Railway - Storm Bert travel update 26<sup>th</sup> November 2024
25. Cornwall Council - DRAFT NOTES: Camel Valley Community Area Partnership Meeting - Monday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2024
26. Cornwall Rural Community Council – Clean Cornwall Newsletter
27. Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner - Councillor Advocate Seminar - online (Teams) Monday, 2<sup>nd</sup> December - 09:30 - 12:00
28. CALC - Remote attendance and proxy voting – Supporting slides on virtual meetings
29. Great Western Railway - Invite - GWR MD Mark Hopwood stakeholder webinar on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December from 16.45-18.00pm
30. Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner - Councillor Advocate Seminar 4
31. Bodmin Police Station – Bodmin Sector Newsletter for December
32. Ben Maguire MP – Contact Card **Action:** Clerk to request more cards.

**Clerk**

	<p>33. CALC – Presentation slides and ministerial response to Cornwall Council – Public switched telephone network and emergency planning</p> <p>34. Office of the Police &amp; Crime Commissioner - Police and Crime Commissioner's weekly column - Innovation and partnership are the key to success</p> <p>35. The Rural Services Network - RSN Rural Funding Digest - December 2024 Edition</p>	
<b>235/24</b>	<p><b>Any Urgent Matters the Chair considers relevant for this meeting:-</b> Chairman asked who is maintaining the waste bins inside and outside of the bus shelter, possibly one needs moving as it is causing problems when the children are waiting for buses. Councillor Mrs. W. Symons empties the waste bin outside the bus shelter <b>Action:</b> Councillor Mrs. W. Symons to contact Erica Simpson to arrange moving outside.</p>	<b>Cllr. Mrs. W. Symons</b>
<b>236/24</b>	<p><b>Date of next Meeting:-</b> Next meeting would be held on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2025 at 7.00pm in the Withiel Village Hall. All other Meetings confirmed for 2025 as follows - Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> February, 5<sup>th</sup> March, 2<sup>nd</sup> April, 7<sup>th</sup> May, 4<sup>th</sup> June, 2<sup>nd</sup> July, 6<sup>th</sup> August, 3<sup>rd</sup> September, 8<sup>th</sup> October, 5<sup>th</sup> November and 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2025.</p> <p>There being no further business to discuss the meeting closed at 8.26pm.</p>	

Signature: .....

Chair

Date: 8<sup>th</sup> January 2025