

# WITHIEL PARISH COUNCIL

## DRAFT MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN

THE WITHIEL VILLAGE HALL ON WEDNESDAY, 4<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2026 AT 6.30PM

Present	Cllr. Mrs. W. Symons (Vice-Chair) Cllr. J. Hancock	Mrs. J. Burdon (Parish Clerk) Cllr. E. Piper	Cllr. D. Cotton Cllr. R. Wilson 1 Member of Public
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Minute	AGENDA ITEMS	Action
33/26	<b>Apologies:-</b> Councillors M. Davies (Chair), Ms. A Hoyle and Cornwall Councillor C. Batters.	
34/26	<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) (Including Monthly Report from Cornwall Councillor Report if received):-</b> One member of public in attendance with nothing to raise.</p> <p><b>Monthly Report from Cornwall Councillor:-</b> Report received from Cornwall Councillor C. Batters as follows:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Apologies for not being able to attend this evening, but I have a meeting in North Cornwall which will not see me finished until around 7.00pm or later.</li> <li>• I hopefully will have spoken to the Clerk, but the biggest subject I would have mentioned and no doubt discussed with you would have been the Budget. The budget was presented by the Deputy Leader, Adam Paynter, whom some of you might know as one of our most experienced Councillors in connection with past budgets. He introduced the budget as one of the hardest he had ever worked on.</li> <li>• One of the largest issues both locally and throughout Cornwall was the intended upgrading of a lot of free car parks to paying car parks. The car parks in question that directly affected my area and those of my adjoining Councillors were Wenford Bridge – Camel Trail – Camelford area; Helland Bridge – Camel Trail - My area; Scarletts Well – Camel Trail next to Bodmin Jail – My area and Grogley Halt – Camel Trail – Wadebridge area. He has openly voiced his strong opposition on several local Facebook pages to charges being made on these cars parks, and the result, although not finalised until later this month did receive some success. Of the four car parks, at present it is expected that only one will become fee paying, that being Scarletts Well as it is immediately alongside the large fee paying Bodmin Jail Car Park. Unless a fee is charged for the Scarletts Well Car Park, it would mean that visitors to Bodmin Jail would possibly use the free car park whereby stopping locals. It is believed that there may be a free period of about one hour followed by fee paying after that period. This is to be confirmed. The remaining three Camel Trail car parks will remain unchanged with no fees charged.</li> <li>• Whilst writing this report he is hoping also to have a quick chat to Councillor R. Wilson to check that there are no outstanding problems regarding highways. At this time, what with an improvement in the weather, many of the backlog of 6,000 plus potholes and drainage problems following the recent</li> </ul>	

	<p>long, wet and stormy weather are being attended to. Many received what was classed as 'temporary' repairs as it was too wet to do a permanent repair, so they will be visited again. Vice-Chair thanked the Clerk for circulating Cornwall Councillor C. Batters report.</p>	
35/26	<p><b>Members Declaration of Interest in items raised on the Agenda/Requests for Dispensation:-</b> Councillor Mrs. W. Symons declared a non-registerable interest under Paragraph 3.5A in respect of the News and Views. Councillors Mrs. W. Symons and R. Wilson declared a non-registerable interest under Paragraph 3.5A in respect of the Withiel Playing Fields Committee.</p>	
36/26	<p><b>Confirmation of Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on the 4<sup>th</sup> February 2026:-</b> Resolved to approve the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on the 4<sup>th</sup> February 2026 as circulated, which were confirmed as a true and accurate record and duly signed by the Chairman (Proposed: Councillor R. Wilson; Seconded: Councillor J. Hancock) All in Favour</p>	
37/26	<p><b>Matters Arising from the Monthly Meeting held on the 4<sup>th</sup> February 2026:-</b></p> <p><b>Page 2 Min.2/26 Application for Community Chest:-</b> Clerk reported a response had been received advising the grant payment is waiting for one final manager approval before officially sending the grant award notice letter <b>Action:</b> Keep Pending.</p> <p><b>Page 2 Min.22/25 Re-appointment of Footpath Contractor:-</b> Clerk reported she had spoken to the Contractor this week and he is happy to continue.</p>	Clerk
38/26	<p><b>Highway Issues in the Parish (Including letter from Cornwall Council – Community Highways Improvement Programme):-</b>Councillor J. Hancock reported he now has dates for tarmac to commence, which is Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2026, hopefully it will take about two days, all neighbours in the area had been pre-warned.</p> <p>Councillor R. Wilson reported on car parks raised by Cornwall Councillor C. Batters, this will now go back to cabinet and the only one under review will be Scarlett Well in Bodmin. Potholes – Cormac have acknowledged they will be carrying out temporary fixes. Expression of Interest for vision on crossroads was rejected by the Highways Investment Programme as not being suitable.</p>	
39/26	<p><b>Footpath Issues in the Parish:-</b> Clerk reported she had submitted the invoice for the Enhanced LMP stiles project and reimbursement had now been received. Councillor E. Piper suggested some possible signage with no dogs allowed to be put in footpath/bridleway areas <b>Action:</b> Councillor Mrs. W. Symons to arrange to print and laminate more ready for Councillors to put them up.</p>	Cllr. Mrs. W. Symons/ Cllrs.
40/26	<p><b>To RECEIVE consultation response requests and to RESOLVE a response. Formal requests from the planning authority received before the start of the meeting will be considered, including Results/Correspondence/Any Planning Results:-</b> No planning applications received.</p> <p><b>Planning Results:- PA25/09075 – Chloe Bines –</b> Submission of details to discharge Condition number 6 (Ecology) in respect of Decision Notice PA22/07974 dated 12/12/23, Trelowarth, Inches, Bodmin – <b>S52/S106 and discharge of condition apps</b></p> <p><b>Planning Correspondence:-</b> (a) Cornwall Council Planning - Consultation on River Camel Local Development Order; (b) Cornwall Council Planning - Local</p>	

	Councils interactive mapping.													
41/26	<p><b>Monthly Accounts for March 2026, 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 March 2026 as circulated on schedule, including agreement with the bank reconciliation and budget monitoring as reported (Proposed: Councillor E. Piper; Seconded: Councillor J. Hancock) All in favour</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Salaries and Expenses</td> <td>£304.36</td> <td>March 2026</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HMRC – Income Tax</td> <td>£69.60</td> <td>March 2026</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Receipt:-</b> Cornwall Council</td> <td>£4,100.00</td> <td>Enhanced LMP Funding</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Receipt:-</b> HSBC – Gross Interest</td> <td>£32.33</td> <td>March 2026</td> </tr> </table>	Salaries and Expenses	£304.36	March 2026	HMRC – Income Tax	£69.60	March 2026	<b>Receipt:-</b> Cornwall Council	£4,100.00	Enhanced LMP Funding	<b>Receipt:-</b> HSBC – Gross Interest	£32.33	March 2026	Clerk
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42/26	<p><b>Voltaise Funding:-</b> Resolved to establish if, after the fundraising event for the window, they inform the Parish Council of the final remaining amount required (Proposed: Councillor E. Piper; Seconded: Councillor D. Cotton) All in Favour <b>Action:</b> Clerk to include on the next agenda.</p>	Clerk												
43/26	<p><b>Defibrillator:-</b> Agreed to include on the next agenda when the Chairman is back to report <b>Action:</b> Clerk.</p>	Clerk												
44/26	<p><b>Camel Valley Community Area Partnership (Including Template from Cornwall Council for current projects, issues and/or questions):-</b> Councillor R. Wilson reported there was no update. <b>Template from Cornwall Council for current projects, issues and/or questions:-</b> None.</p>													
45/26	<p><b>Parish Councillor Training Requirements:-</b> None.</p>													
46/26	<p><b>Correspondence – Clerk listed correspondence and actions required:-</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. NALC – Chief Executive’s Bulletins</li> <li>2. Cornwall Rural Community Charity - Clean Cornwall Newsletter</li> <li>3. Cornwall Council - Draft Notes: Camel Valley Community Area Partnership Meeting - Monday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2026</li> <li>4. Cornwall Council - Consultation on River Camel Local Development Order</li> <li>5. Great Western Railway - Travel updates</li> <li>6. NALC - Events Newsletter</li> <li>7. NALC - Launch bookings for an exclusive study tour at Taunton Town Council</li> <li>8. Cornwall Council - Help Us Promote the Skills and Careers Fair – 10<sup>th</sup> March 2026</li> <li>9. Bodmin Police Station - 2 Bodmin February 2026 Newsletter</li> <li>10. NALC - Tickets are now on sale for our Annual Conference, the flagship event for Parish and Town Councils</li> <li>11. Rural Services Network – Weekly Newsletters</li> <li>12. Cornwall Council - Town and Parish Council Newsletter: 13<sup>th</sup> February 2026</li> <li>13. Cornwall Council - Invitation: Good Growth SPF Showcase Event 18<sup>th</sup> March 2026</li> <li>14. Cornwall Council – Cornwall Council and Imerys Public Rights of Way Open Day to be held on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2026 between 10.00am to 7.00pm at St. Stephens Social Club</li> <li>15. Age UK coach trip to the Royal Cornwall Show, Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2026</li> <li>16. CALC Training Update – Planning Training Sessions with Andrew Towleron</li> <li>17. CALC Training Update – AI in your community – presented by Breakthrough Communications</li> <li>18. CALC Training Update – ROSPA Playground Inspection Course</li> <li>19. CALC Training Update – Accessible documents presented by Mark Tomkins</li> </ol>													

	<p>from Aubergine</p> <p>20. Cornwall Council - Supplier update</p> <p>21. Great Western Railway - GWR launches new Famous Five campaign</p> <p>22. CALC - Information Sharing and information requests 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2026</p> <p>23. The Cornish Lithium Team - Trelavour Lithium Project - Statutory Consultation under Section 42 of the Planning Act 2008</p> <p>24. NALC - Star Council Awards 2025/26 winners announced</p> <p>25. CALC - Training Update - Finance Training Sessions with Steve Parkinson – New Schedule for training dates</p> <p>26. Cornwall Council – Emergency Resilience</p> <p>27. Invitation: Meet the Suppliers Event – DCM Surfacing &amp; Gwella Contracting</p> <p>28. Clerks and Councils Direct Magazine</p> <p>29. Cornish Lithium – Statutory Consultation</p>	
47/27	<p><b>Any Urgent Matters the Chair considers relevant for this meeting:-</b></p> <p>Councillor Mrs. W. Symons reported on the new hire agreement with regards to the Village Hall.</p>	
48/27	<p><b>Date of next Meeting:-</b> Next meeting to be held on Wednesday, 1<sup>st</sup> April 2026 at 6.30pm in the Withiel Village Hall, which will also include the Annual Parish Meeting.</p> <p>Councillor R. Wilson offered to submit a CAP Report for the Annual Parish Meeting <b>Action:</b> Clerk to include on the agenda.</p> <p>There being no further business to discuss, the meeting closed at 7.04pm.</p>	<p><b>Cllr. R. Wilson/ Clerk</b></p>

Signature: .....

Chair

Date: 1<sup>st</sup> April 2026