WITHIEL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN

THE WITHIEL VILLAGE HALL ON WEDNESDAY 7TH OCTOBER 2026 AT 6.30PM

Present	Cllr. Ms. W. Symons (Vice-Chair)	Mrs. J. Burdon (Parish Clerk)	Cllr. R. Wilson
	Cllr. D. Cotton	8 Members of Public	Cllr. Ms. A. Hoyle

Minute	AGENDA ITEMS	Action
174/26	**Public Forum (Including Monthly Report from Cornwall Councillor if received):-** Amanda Pennington from Wadebridge Leisure Centre attended to update the Parish Council, advising that they have had the centre for four years now and have more members than they have ever had, with a variety of different groups. They are looking for £3.00 per dwelling per parish to build up funds. The contribution from Withiel would be £480.00 for the year **Action:** Next Agenda to allow Councillors to review documentation received. Amanda Pennington left the meeting at 6.37pm. Five members of the public attended the meeting as observers. A member of the public reported on the quorum of Councillors as mentioned last month. It was noted that three were the quorum for Withiel, and the Chair can be involved and have the casting vote if necessary. A member of the public had queried the application for bell ropes from the Voltaise funding. Chair advised that it appears the money already held for this fund was spent on the roof repair and not bell ropes, as confirmed by Jenny Hoskin, the Bell Tower Captain. A member of the public also raised matched funding and asked for clarity. A member of the public reported on the waste bin issue and mentioned he had emptied it himself this week and put a new bin liner in. He advised the refuse collectors suggested putting out a wheelie bin as they may possibly empty. Member of the public asked about the bell ropes and mis-spend. Chair and Councillor R. Wilson reported on the overspend. **Monthly Report from Cornwall Councillor:-** Apologies received from Cornwall Councillor C. Batters advising he is currently on crutches, so not driving and it could take up to two months. It has not stopped him doing office work or telephone calls and all contact with the public seeking to speak to him. He would be happy to attend via a Teams link if required for future meetings; otherwise, he is happy to continue to send emails. Clerk reported Councillor R. Wilson had offered his laptop for him to join the meeting if we required this.	**Clerk**
175/26	**Apologies:-** Cornwall Councillor C. Batters.	
176/26	**Members Declaration of Interest in items raised on the Agenda/Requests for Dispensation:-** 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.	
177/26	**Update on Vacancy of Parish Clerk:-** Clerk reported the interviews had been held yesterday afternoon and the Chair and Councillor Ms. A. Hoyle would update in a closed session following this meeting.	
178/26	**Update on Vacancy of Parish Councillors:-** Clerk reported the advertisement already put up from Cornwall Council expired and the Parish Council advertised to co-opt, and there have been no applications to date **Action:** Keep Pending.	**Clerk**
179/26	**Confirmation of Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on the 2nd September 2026:-** Resolved to approve the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on the 2nd September 2026 as circulated, which were confirmed as a true and accurate record and duly signed by the Chair (Proposed: Councillor R. Wilson; Seconded: Councillor A. Hoyle) All in Favour	
180/26	**Matters Arising from the Monthly Meeting held on the 2nd September 2026:-** **Page 1 Min.60/26 Ownership of opposite side of new footpath:-** Cornwall Councillor C. Batters is still waiting for a response **Action:** Keep Pending. **Page 2 Mi.138/26 Footpath at Lanjew washed out:-** Clerk reported she is waiting for an update from Cornwall Councillor C. Batters **Action:** Keep Pending.	**Cwll. Cllr. C. Batters** **Cwll. Cllr. C. Batters**
181/26	**Highway Issues in the Parish:-** Councillor R. Wilson reported there had been fly-tipping at Retire, which has already been removed.	
182/26	**Infra24-272 Countywide 20mph Speed Limits – Phase 5 – Bodmin:-** Councillor R. Wilson reported it is a roll-out of most of the routes in Bodmin and he submitted his own comments.	
183/26	**Wadebridge Sport & Leisure Centre Presentation for Councillors consideration:-** Councillors to read and Clerk to include on next agenda and re-send the email to Councillors **Action:** Clerk.	**Clerk**
184/26	**Footpath Issues in the Parish:-** Cornwall Council – Enhanced LMP Grants for 2026-2027. Clerk reported confirmation had been sent to Max Simpson to commence works and send the relevant invoice to the Clerk when finalised, who in turn will submit it with an invoice to Cornwall Council for reimbursement **Action:** Clerk.	**Clerk**
185/26	**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:-** **Planning Application:-** **PA26/06230 – Mr. Chris Moore, C. J. Plumbing and Heating (SW) Limited** – Proposed storage and warehouse building to update and improve the existing plumbing and heating business, C. & J. Plumbing Southwest Limited, 3 Moorview, Inches, Bodmin – **Support** (Proposed: Councillor R. Wilson; Seconded: Councillor D. Cotton) All in Favour	**Clerk**

<table>
<tr><td></td><td><u>Planning Results:</u>

PA26/02591 – Mr. & Mrs. Atherton – Demolition of existing barn and replacement with a self-build dwelling including the change of use of land to form residential amenity, associated works, and the temporary siting of a caravan on site for accommodation during the construction period, Pooleys Barn, Withielgoose Mills, Bodmin – Approved;

PA26/04392 – Mr. & Mrs. Parsons – Construction of a Garage, Homer Park, Prince Park Road, Withiel – Approved</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>186/26</td><td>Neighbourhood Priorities Statement Update:- Councillor Ms. A. Hoyle thanked one of the parishioners for the information he sent to her. She will be taking information to the Craft Fayre and is moving along slowly. It has been advertised in the News and Views and in the Bus Shelter. It was also on the Withiel Facebook page.</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>187/26</td><td>Monthly Accounts for October 2026, including monthly bank reconciliation and budget monitoring and any other Financial Matters:- It was proposed that the Council approve and accept the accounts for October 2026 as circulated on schedule, including agreement with the bank reconciliation and budget monitoring as reported (Proposed: Councillor D. Cotton; Seconded: Councillor R. Wilson) All in favour.
<table>
<tr><td>BDO LLP External Auditors</td><td>£252.00</td><td>Audit Fee to 31/3/26</td></tr>
<tr><td>Max Simpson</td><td>£390.00</td><td>2nd Cut of Footpaths</td></tr>
<tr><td>Salaries and Expenses</td><td>£323.67</td><td>October 2026</td></tr>
<tr><td>HMRC – Income Tax</td><td>£73.00</td><td>October 2026</td></tr>
<tr><td>Receipt:- HSBC – Gross Interest</td><td>£26.48</td><td>September 2026</td></tr>
<tr><td>Receipt:- Cornwall Council</td><td>£4,000.00</td><td>2nd Half Year Precept</td></tr>
</table></td><td>Clerk</td></tr>
<tr><td>188/26</td><td>Annual Report of Accounts for the year ending 31st March 2026 from External Auditors, BDO LLP:- Clerk reported that there had been two recommendations (1) Full Internal Audit Report to be advertised, which had been actioned; (2) Adopt a Data Protection Policy, which is on the agenda for approval tonight. Clerk reported that the notice of Conclusion and other notices had already been included on the Website and Noticeboard as per regulations.</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>189/26</td><td>Adoption of Data Protection Policy:- Resolved to approve the Data Protection Policy to be included on the Parish Council website once a new Clerk has been appointed to input updated contact information Action: Clerk to include on the next agenda.</td><td>Clerk</td></tr>
<tr><td>190/26</td><td>Voltaise Funding Applications Received: Parish Council would be happy to see evidence of funds being spent on the bell ropes. It is a service to the community, and Jenny Hoskin to be asked for evidence that this money will be spent on the bell ropes and to request what the last funding for the bell ropes was spent on Action: Chair to liaise with Jenny Hoskin.</td><td>Chair</td></tr>
<tr><td>191/26</td><td>CPRE Membership:- Councillor R. Wilson reported that he had not spoken with Jenny Cruse. He suggested removing from the agenda Action: Clerk.</td><td>Clerk</td></tr>
<tr><td>192/26</td><td>Waste Bin in Withiel Update and costings for emptying:- Councillor D. Cotton requested this item be removed from the agenda, as he would procure a wheelie bin Action: Clerk.</td><td>Clerk</td></tr>
<tr><td>193/26</td><td>Camel Valley Community Area Partnership (Including Template from Cornwall Council for current projects, issues and/or questions):- Councillor R. Wilson reported from the quarterly meeting held on the 20th September 2026. Councillor Ms. A. Hoyle and I attended the above meeting at Chy Trevail, Bodmin.</td><td></td></tr>
</table>

	Proceedings began with a long list of apologies, with many of the regular contributing partners absent. This will be a shortened report. The first guest presentation came from a team representing “Exploding Words’’, a charity that promotes reading in pre-secondary school children. With society moving towards a screen-based world, this charity hopes to help show children the benefits of physical books. They hold events or attend book festivals across the year and team up with (usually) 3 children's authors, both local and national. It is an immersive experience where children can meet the authors and illustrators, understand the creation process and enjoy storytelling. Events have been held in such venues as the Eden Project and Callywith College. An experienced team of teachers and childcare experts select the books/authors that are featured at each event. The second presentation was by Dan Thairs, talking about older people housing and care schemes in the Camel Valley area. This was a very statistics-driven talk and showed a significant shortfall in the provision of suitable residential care places in the area. The PowerPoint slideshow is to be circulated to Parishes for further study. (Not supplied at the time of writing) Questions raised included assurances that places would be assigned to local needs, and also about the continuation of the ‘Homes Solutions’ scheme where council staff provide repairs and adaptations to residents' houses, helping to keep people in their family homes for longer. Councillor updates followed with subjects such as anti-social behaviour at Polzeath, water quality and suitability of signs. It was interesting to note that the Padstow lobster hatchery is very vulnerable to sewage spills and one bad discharge could wipe out a year's worth of hatchlings. Community resilience plans were the final subject raised with St. Kew, hoping to tackle emergencies such as fires, floods and power outages. It was noted that with the loss of traditional copper telephone connections, power outages could have even more impact on rural communities. It is hoped that this subject could be a full presentation for future CAP meetings. Councillor R. Wilson (CAP Representative for Withiel Parish Council) **Template from Cornwall Council for current projects, issues and/or questions:-** None.	
194/26	**Parish Councillor Training Requirements:-** CALC – ISOH Training. CALC Training & Development Bulletin | October to December. Councillor R. Wilson, along with Charlie Hoyle, will be attending a site visit with Tom Previte who reported on the Biochar Project last month.	
195/26	**Correspondence – Clerk listed correspondence and actions required:-** 1. NALC – Various correspondence 2. Rural Services Network - Weekly Newsletters 3. CALC – Various Correspondence 4. Great Western Railway - Timetable changes from this Monday 7th September 5. Cornwall Rural Community Council - 80 Miles for 80 Years! 6. Cornwall Council – Camel Valley Community Area Partnership Meeting - Monday 21st September 2026 7. Cornwall Council - Affordable Housing Newsletter	

	8. Cornwall Council - Community Capacity Fund Project Celebration Event - Thursday 29th October 2026 9. Cornwall Council - Let's Talk about Cornwall Survey 10. Cornwall Council - Town and Parish Council Newsletter: 11th September 2026 11. CALC - Key Update: Weed and Public Realm Management 12. Steve J. Martin Limited - Future housing in Withiel — consultation response (Retire / HELAA Site 268988) 13. NHS Cornwall & Isles of Scilly - Cornwall together: September 2026 14. Cornwall Council - Forest for Cornwall Autumn Update - New community funds now open and all our project news 15. Cornwall Council - Scoping Consultation for the Cornwall Local Plan 16. YMCA Cornwall Community Carol Service - Invitation: YMCA Cornwall Community Carol Service 8th December 2026 17. Duchy Health Charity - Please share: Funding available for community projects across Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly 18. Cornwall Council – Draft Notes: Camel Valley CAP Meeting - Monday 21st September 2026	
196/26	**Any Urgent Matters the Chair considers relevant for this meeting**:- None.	
197/26	**Date of next Meeting:-** Next meeting to be held on Wednesday, 4th November 2026 at 6.30pm in the Withiel Village Hall. There being no further business to discuss, the meeting closed at 7.15pm.	

Signature: ……
Chair

Date: 4th November 2026