



Draft minutes of the Monthly Parish Council Meeting that took place at 7.30 p.m. on Wednesday 18th February 2026 at the Community Centre.

1.	Attended by; <i>Cllr j Hobbs (Chair). C. Myers, J Phipps. G Worden. N Steer. J Amos-Yeo. B Savage. J Payne. Clerk J Steer</i>
2.	Apologies for absence. <i>Cllr S. Tilbey. Cllr Faye Emery (apologies sent with a written report). Cllr R Savage.</i>
3.	Public Participation: <i>One member of the public attended, but did not speak on any item.</i>
4.	Disclosures: <i>None</i>
5.	Dispensations: <i>None</i>
6.	<i>Previously circulated minutes of the Monthly Parish Council meetings held on 21st January 2026 were approved & signed by the Chair.</i>
7.	<p>Matters arising from the minutes and updates – for information.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>New PRINTER</u> Received • <u>BROADBAND</u>. Installation costs & monthly cost from a variety of providers were discussed. Council unanimously agreed to go ahead with Cornwall Broadband subject to approval from the Community Centre to install a receiving dish on the south end gable end of the building. Chair confirmed this item is on the Community Centres agenda for discussion. • <u>Appointment of Internal Auditor</u>. Various Recommendations from CALC. All provided quotes &/or limits to their availability. Unanimous agreement to appoint selected internal auditor. • <u>Insurance Quotes</u>. Still waiting to hear from 'Clear Councils' (broker). Clerk to continue following up. • <u>Website</u> - Received a quote & video explaining proposed new website. Clerk to forward video to all Cllrs for further discussion at the next full meeting in March. • <u>Accessing emails</u>; Cllrs reported a number of issues with the way official email accounts need to be accessed. Clerk requested Cllrs email her with details of specific's, which will then be forwarded to current providers with request for clarification of the process required for access.
8.	<p>To receive a report from our Cornwall Councillor Faye Emery. <i>The following report was read out by Chair J. Hobbs; Morwenstow Parish Council 18/02/26 - Report from Cornwall Councillor</i></p> <p><i>Apologies for missing your meeting. I have a couple of updates on Morwenstow issues.</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Potholes - I hope the worst of the problems on the road from Crimp to Shop have now been repaired. This January was Cornwall's wettest in recorded history, and this, alongside three named storms, has meant highways crews have been dealing with an exceptional number of issues since the start of the year. As well as making roads safe from fallen branches and trees, they are repairing over 340 potholes each day. The continuing wet weather and flooded road surfaces make it more challenging to undertake long-lasting repairs, meaning that inevitably some will be temporary. I have been advised that, as soon as conditions allow, highways teams will carry out more durable repairs. Due to the current backlog and the continuing wet weather, this is unlikely to be before May. Highways are inspecting roads more frequently in response to the weather. Please continue to report potholes online and let me know of any recurrent problems.</i> https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/transport-parking-and-streets/roads-highways-and-pavements/report-a-problem-with-a-road-or-pavement/potholes/#report 2. <i>Further extension of footpath closure due to bridge (discussed at the last meeting) - I forwarded a separate email about this. The replacement of the bridge is scheduled for the next financial year, and they are looking at delivering this over the summer or autumn months, due to ground conditions and avoiding disturbing migratory fish. I will ask for some more information on scheduling a bit closer to the time. Please let me know of any comments.</i> <p><i>In terms of Cornwall Council business, the budget continues to be very challenging due to a less than favourable three-year settlement from central government. The position has got worse since the process started last summer when it seemed that there would be a more generous allocation for rural councils under the "remoteness" criteria, recognising that it costs more to deliver services in rural areas. Unfortunately, after lobbying from metropolitan councils, this changed and the overall position is generally poor again for rural authorities. There was no allocation for Cornwall under the government's Pride in Place scheme for regeneration projects, although there is support through the National Wealth Fund for tin mining. There is some welcome additional funding targeted at homelessness, including rough sleepers and victims of domestic violence.</i></p> <p><i>The proposed budget will go to the Cornwall Council meeting on 23 February. Current proposals are available on the Cornwall Council website under the Cabinet papers for the meeting on 13/2. Adult social care and children's services continue to be a challenge. Work is underway to deliver more within Cornwall and reduce the amount spent on provision elsewhere, which is costly and usually not the best option for families.</i></p>

	<p>Negotiations continue over detailed arrangements for increased devolution of powers and funding from central government and a bespoke deal for Cornwall, rather than being part of a larger regional mayoralty. There has been some positive news over government funding for housing through a Homes for Cornwall scheme which will focus on delivering homes for local people using Council owned land.</p> <p>The Cornish language, Kernewek, has been recognised under Part III of the European charter for Regional or Minority languages. This is the same status as Welsh and Gaelic and reflects years of work from community groups and cultural organisations as well as Cornwall Council and MPs, across political parties. Unfortunately, it does not come with a pot of funding to encourage use of Kernewek, but this recognition will help to promote Cornish identity and culture.</p> <p>➤ Cllr commented that the vehicles & rubbish bags previously said to have been removed from the Chapel parking Area on Woodford Road, are still in place. Clerk to follow up with Cllr Emery.</p>
9.	<p>LMP/SWCP (Local Maintenance Partnership/South West Coastal Paths maintenance) MPC have been offered £2843.50 (an increase of 2.2% on last years contribution) & SWCP £1588.56 All payments are towards the ongoing maintenance costs of local footpaths and the SWCP.</p>
10.	<p>Parish Maintenance and Matters for discussion:</p> <p>a) <u>Parish maintenance & hedges;</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · All Cllrs & Clerk to visit the garden at the end of March (Weather permitting) to assess & formulate a plan of action for doing any necessary work. · TREE SURGEON – Full agreement for Clerk to book tree surgeon to undertake necessary work. · OUTDOOR PLAY PEOPLE - Full agreement to accept quote for replacement Towers. Currently awaiting response for potential grant applications. · ROSPA - Clerk to book the playpark inspection. · Vehicle in the Community Centre car park – owner located. The vehicle has broken down and is to be removed ASAP. Note regarding parking to be placed in HAMLETS. <p>b) Tree log; log checked, signed and retained by the Clerk.</p> <p>c) Playpark log; A completed log is still outstanding from the relevant Cllr for January & February (Clerk to follow up). To note completed overall grounds log; log checked, signed and retained by the Clerk.</p> <p>d) To note completed outdoor fitness equipment log; A signed & completed log is still outstanding from the relevant Cllr for January & February (Clerk to follow up).</p> <p>e) Local Maintenance Partnership Enhanced funding application; <i>The council were advised that this year's funding has ceased, but to continue with the current application & apply by start of April for the potential 2026/2027 round.</i></p>
11.	<p>Further matters for discussion;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposed Community Shop - in line with advice from CALC & following MPC's Standing Orders, the Council has requested detailed information regarding the project. The Chair of Steering Committee advised the Parish Council that the group are currently being supported to write the relevant documentation. This information will be received by the council no later than the morning of 11th March 2026 & will be immediately disseminated to ALL councillors to list any questions prior to the next monthly meeting to be held on 18th March 2026. • ASSETS REGISTER – Full Council agreement to removal of now defunct items from list & add new printer prior this year's audit. Clerk to action alongside adding the new printer to the current insurance policy.
12.	<p>Policy reviews / updates Four policies due for review this month were; 1.Complaints procedure. 2.Code of Conduct. 3.General Privacy notice. 4. Privacy notice for staff, Cllrs & role holders. Each Policy was shown on the screen. All reviewed. Recommendations were made to make links between various policies explicit on each, before replacing on website – Clerk to Action. Motion to accept the updated policies called by Cllr C. Myers, Seconded by Cllr J. Phipps. Motion Carried.</p>
12.	<p>General Training: The Usual Opportunities are available within the training Bulletin, to all Councillors. A reminder was given for those who are interested in the planning briefing Tues 24th Feb 4:00pm– 5:15pm. Clerk to forward the link again. Additional Social media training for councillors (reminder were given & list shown onscreen). These are additional to places offered through CALC on; An Introduction to Planning; Planning Enforcement & Appeals; National Planning Policy Framework Reforms.</p>
13.	<p>Correspondence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Emails; CALC re training. Mrs Whibley, Rospa, Community Centre; Parish Magazine Printing; Bude Computers; Police and Crime Commissioner's Office'; Neighbourhood alerts; HMRC; & junk mail * Invoices: Acquis; Nat West; PSJ Garden Services; Bude Computers; Office Stationery expenses; CALC; Xmas tree. * Payments received; Kilkhampton. * Newsletters and updates from <i>Information Commissioners Office; HMRC; Rural Service Network; South West Coast Path;</i> * Parishioner emails, letters and telephone calls – Two parishioners contacting chair & clerk regarding missing paper copies of HAMLETS. Though the digital version of Hamlets was placed on the Parish Council website on 27th January, there was a significant delay in providing paper copies of February's Hamlets due to issues beyond the Parish Councils control. However, the council can confirm that this has now been rectified. All should be back to the usual process from this point. (Paper copies of HAMLETS to be reviewed in six months' time.) <p>Letters of thanks received regarding Grants from; Rose Heard (Woodford Chapel); Lainey Cole (Community Centre; Cornwall Air Ambulance & Bridget Inch.</p>

Response from Head of St. Marks re patronal Festival *The response letter received from the Head of St. marks Academy regarding Parishioner concerns over the numbers of St. Marks pupils who will be unable to contribute to the 2026 Patronal Festival was shown on screen.*

Email received *regarding new roof on the Community Centre & the need to close the public toilets for a few days in the second or third week of March (weather permitting). Council is content for the work to be carried out. Clerk to inform Community Centre.*

14. Finances:
- a) To confirm accounts spreadsheet with bank statements and agree payments due for the month of January 2026.

Statements of Accounts as at 30th January for February 2026 Meeting;

Current account Balance as at 01/01/2026	£11,304.07
Plus, payments in	£267.00
Less Payments debited up to 30/01/2026	£4949.89
Current Account Balance as at 30/01/2026 as per bank statement	£6,621.18
Current Account Balance as at 30/01/2026	£6,621.18
Less cheques still to be debited	£0.00
Balance in Current account will be	£6,621.18
Balance in Business reserve Account as at 31/12/2025	£15,373.34
TOTAL FUNDS	£21,994.52
Less earmarked funds	£0.00
Available Funds	£21,994.52

- b) To sign off and agree invoices and payments for January 2026. **Invoices to pay;** *Acquis - Broadband (DD); Nat West (Bank Charges)- £5.60; PSJ Garden Services (Grass cutting/November) - £2387.00, (Trimming) £200, (Extra footpath/2nd cut Woodford/Marland Downs) - £240.00; Bude Computers (New Printer); Office Stationery - £28.46; CALC Training Data Protection Pt3 - £35.00; (Christmas tree & new lights) £234.97*
- c) Banking update. *Ongoing, but getting closer / Still one mandate to complete.*

15. Planning:

Planning Partnership:

Applications received for consultation by members to agree a consultee response to be submitted to Cornwall Council:

P1 – [PA25/08017](#) Proposed conversion of barn to residential use. Bottaborough Farm Morwenstow Bude Cornwall
Mr J Corre

Morwenstow Parish Council are happy to support this application. The council feel the building is far enough away from the road to avoid having any significant visual impact and they are pleased to see that the silhouette of the building as it currently stands, is being retained.

- **Application update:**

P2 - [PA25/03276](#) | Proposed slurry lagoon (SIG) | Cory Farm Morwenstow Bude Cornwall EX23 9ST - **APPROVED**

16. Date of next monthly meeting – **Wednesday 18th March 2026**; *unless a planning meeting is required before that.*

PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) Act 1960 During the meeting it may arise that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential or special nature of the business to be transacted and the press and public will be instructed to withdraw. When this arises, the Chair will recommend to consider passing the following resolution; “to resolve that in view of the confidential or special nature of the business to be discussed, the public are excluded and instructed to withdraw.”