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MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 22nd October 2026

Members present: Cllrs S. Meads (Chair), K Dickin (Vice-Chair), A. Green, P. Kennen, J Stansfield, G. Sutton

Also present: Maria Roper (Parish Clerk), 1 member of the public (present in part)

AGENDA REFERENCE	DESCRIPTION
26-10/01	**PERSONS PRESENT/APOLOGIES** To **NOTE** persons, present and **RECEIVE** apologies for absence. Apologies received from Cllrs Cruse and Spencer
26-10/02	**MEMBERS DECLARATIONS** To **RECEIVE** any Declarations of Interest from Members for the agenda items a. Pecuniary/Registrable Declarations of Interests b. Non-Registrable Interests c. Declaration of Gifts To **RESOLVE** to grant any requests for Dispensation in line with the Councillor Code of Conduct 2022 as appropriate. To be requested via a **Dispensation Form in advance** of commencement of the meeting. - Cllr Sutton declared an interest in the agenda item 7 **PA26/06706** - Works to trees within Conservation Area - removal of 2 x Ash trees and removal of 1 multi stemmed Sycamore - The Clerk declared in the agenda item 26-10/13d – Clerk's k pay rate adjustment as per NJC agreement an interest pay rate review
26-10/03	**PUBLIC FORUM** A member of the public provided an update on the ongoing issue of the flooding affecting Trewardale and wider community and his correspondence with Cornwall Council regarding the A30 surface water drainage problems. He explained that he had requested an independent review and evidence that the statutory requirements for the drainage scheme had been met, including the approval of the final surface water drainage plan and the required post-construction monitoring. Cornwall Council had advised that the drainage assets were transferred to National Highways in 2019. Following further correspondence, Vicky Fraser, Service Director,

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	confirmed that a joint site visit would take place and that a further review would be undertaken. However, despite this commitment, no substantive findings or supporting documentation had been provided. The resident had also submitted an Environmental Information Regulations request for documentary evidence relating to the drainage arrangements and asset transfer, but had not received a substantive response within the statutory timeframe. He had consequently submitted a complaint to the Information Commissioner's Office. He emphasised that the central issue remained whether the original drainage scheme had been properly approved and implemented, and whether the required post-construction monitoring had been carried out. He was concerned that the focus had shifted to discussions about the transfer of the drainage assets to National Highways, rather than establishing whether the statutory requirements had been fulfilled and addressing the underlying cause of the flooding.
	Agenda item 26-10/15b was brought forward for the benefit of the member of the public
26-10/15b	Cllr Stansfield reported that the works carried out previously had not resolved the problem of surface water running down from the A30. He expressed concern that, six months earlier, a meeting was held with Dan Rogerson and Phil Mason, who had agreed that the matter would be investigated and referred to Vicky Fraser, Service Director. Concern was raised that the response from Vicky Fraser had so far focused on correspondence with National Highways, rather than addressing the underlying cause of the flooding and ensuring that the necessary remedial action was taken. Cllr Stansfield emphasised the need to establish whether the original drainage plans and the associated requirements for future management had been properly implemented, together with the wider supporting documentation. Cllr Stansfield presented a draft letter setting out the Council's concerns. It was **proposed** by **Cllr Dickin, seconded** by **Cllr Green** and **RESOLVED by** the Council to approve the letter for submission to Vicky Fraser, Service Director at Cornwall Council, with copies to Dan Rogerson and Phil Mason. Unanimous. Carried Members also discussed the proposed next steps should the response fail to address the concerns raised. It was suggested that, if no satisfactory response was received, Cllr Stansfield and the resident would approach Dan Rogerson again in approximately six weeks. Other possible routes included raising the matter with the Council's Audit Committee, if necessary.
26-10/04	**APPROVAL OF MINUTES** The Minutes of Blisland Parish Council (BPC) meetings **24th September 2026** having been previously circulated, be taken as read. It was **proposed** by **Cllr Dickin, seconded** by **Cllr Green** and **RESOLVED by** the Council to approve the minutes as true and accurate record of the meeting.. Unanimous. Carried
26-10/05	**MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS** To **NOTE** any matters arising from the accepted Minutes - The Clerk and Cllr Meads had requested information from Cornwall Councillor Chris Batters about the Cornwall Council owned land in the area and future plans for its development, but received no information to date. - The Village Hall defibrillator had now been installed. - No further update regarding the enforcement process for the fence at Manor Close. - The Clerk confirmed that the removal of debris from the watercourse by the telephone box at the corner of the Green, following vegetation cutting was included in the contractor's specification and advised that a response was awaited from the grass-cutting contractor regarding the acceptance of the amended contract specification. - Members noted that the handrails in the disabled toilet had been replaced.

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	- The response concerning the previously submitted request for clarification of the proposed introduction of 20mph speed limit was noted and discussed further under Clerk's report. - Clerk to chase Cllr Batters regarding the land owned by Cornwall Council
26-10/06	**CORNWALL COUNCILLOR'S REPORT** To **RECEIVE** updates from Cornwall Councillor The Clerk circulated the written update from the Cornwall Councillor. The offer to attend future Parish Council meetings remotely via Microsoft Teams was noted.
19:42	***Cllr Sutton left the room due to the declared interest***
26-10/07	**PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND PRE-APPLICATIONS** To **RECEIVE** information, **DISCUSS** and **RESOLVE** a course of action as appropriate - PA26/06706 Works to trees within Conservation Area - removal of 2 x Ash trees and removal of 1 multi stemmed Sycamore The Old Rectory Blisland Bodmin Cornwall PL30 4JE Members considered the application for the removal of two ash trees and one multi-stemmed sycamore. It was noted that the trees were affected by ash dieback and that the Tree Officer had previously indicated that a Tree Preservation Order would not be needed. It was **proposed** by **Cllr Dickin, seconded** by **Cllr Green** and **RESOLVED by** the Council to support the application. Unanimous. Carried
19:43	***Cllr Sutton rejoined the meeting*** ***Member of the public left the meeting***
26-10/08	**PLANNING DECISIONS** To **RECEIVE** information, **DISCUSS** and **RESOLVE** a course of action as appropriate - **PA26/01061/PREAPP - Exception notice for works to 2 ash and 1 sycamore** The Old Rectory Blisland Bodmin Cornwall PL30 4JE Ref. No: | Validated: Thu 17 Sep 2026 | Status: Decided **Planning Application required 25 Sep 2026** - **PA26/03632** Listed Building Consent for installation of a mechanical ventilation with heat recovery (MVHR) system|Sunday School (Known As Blisland Institute) Blisland Village Green Blisland Bodmin PL30 4JE **Approved with conditions 21 Sep 2026** The above were noted by the Council
26-10/09	**OTHER PLANNING MATTERS** To **NOTE** and **RECIEVE UPDATES** on other planning matters, late Decisions and Urgent Correspondence a) Blisland wetlands Cllr Stansfield provided an update following a recent meeting with Cornwall Council and Natural England. Natural England had presented evidence relating to the removal of Blisland and Bodmin from the Camel catchment area for phosphate mitigation purposes. It was expected that copies of the supporting evidence would be made available by Gemma Dunn. Members were advised that the land acquired by Cornwall Council for the wetlands had been purchased using central government funding restricted to phosphate mitigation. Consequently, the remaining funding could not be redirected towards improving the operation of Blisland sewage treatment works. Instead, the remaining funds were expected to be used to support the replacement of older septic tanks with systems meeting modern requirements through a Local Development Order.

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	It was reported that phosphate levels in the Camel catchment had returned to acceptable levels. Natural England considered it unlikely, although not impossible, that Bodmin and Blisland would be brought back into the catchment area. Members discussed the housing growth figures used in Natural England's modelling up to 2050. The figure of 61 additional homes for Blisland was described as a working assumption which had not yet been derived from an established housing assessment and would be amended as more accurate information became available. Cornwall Council intended to arrange maintenance of the wetlands through Cormac and was exploring whether the Environment Agency or its own environmental team could identify an alternative use for the land. A further meeting would be arranged once the position became clearer. Members also discussed the continued use of tankers at the sewage treatment works, noting that these were still attending on a regular basis, approximately fortnightly b) Water run off at Denham House Members considered the correspondence and supporting documents circulated with the agenda, including the original conditional approval of the planning application and extracts from the Building Regulations. It was explained that the original planning approval included conditions relating to the discharge from the downpipes, with a requirement for the arrangements to be discussed with Building Control. Members remained concerned that water was still being discharged onto the public highway and that the issue had not been resolved. It was noted that Building Control had reportedly attended the site once to inspect the footings, but it was unclear whether the drainage arrangements had subsequently been inspected or approved. Members discussed the respective responsibilities of Building Control, Planning Enforcement and Highways. It was **proposed** by **Cllr Stansfield, seconded** by **Cllr Dickin** and **RESOLVED by** the Council to write to Building Control to bring the outstanding concerns to its attention and seek a resolution. It was also agreed that a copy of the letter should be sent to the owner of the property. Unanimous. Carried
26-09/10	**CLERK'S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE** To **RECEIVE Clerk's Report** and **NOTE** correspondence. a) Report from Clerk and correspondence received before the dispatch of the agenda - The Clerk provided an update on correspondence received. Members noted the response to the Parish Council's comments on the proposed 20mph speed limit. Cornwall Council had acknowledged the concerns about reducing vehicle speeds on the south-eastern approach to the village but indicated that the road did not meet the specific criteria for the current project. The request was unlikely to be taken forward under the scheme, although it could potentially be considered separately if appropriate funding became available. Members discussed the possibility of submitting a further application for road safety measures, including chevrons and signage, when the next funding round was announced. - The Clerk also reported receiving further correspondence from members of the public concerning the condition and maintenance of footpaths. These concerns had been passed to the contractor. It was agreed to cross-reference the contractor's maintenance schedule and review the footpath maintenance arrangements and the contractor's specification at a future meeting b) Urgent correspondence received after dispatch of the agenda - None

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26-10/11	**NEIGHBOURHOOD PRIORITIES STATEMENT** To **RECEIVE** information, **DISCUSS** and **RESOLVE** a course of action as appropriate Members discussed progress with the Let's Talk Cornwall survey, which had been delivered to households throughout the parish. Residents had been encouraged to complete the survey online, with paper copies available for those unable to access the online version. It was noted that a number of completed paper surveys had been returned to the collection box at the shop. Members discussed the importance of encouraging further participation to ensure that the Parish's views were adequately represented. Cornwall Council was expected to analyse the results and provide a parish-level summary following the closing date. Members considered correspondence from Cornwall Council's Planning Policy team advising that the existing Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) no longer benefited from protection because it did not include a site allocated for housing development. Members expressed concern about the potential loss of the protection secured through the adoption of Blisland NDP and referred to previous discussions with Rob Lacey and an understanding reached with Cornwall Council's Planning Policy team concerning the treatment of the allocated site and development boundary. Members considered a draft letter to Rob Lacey, Director of Planning Policy at Cornwall Council, seeking clarification of the Council's position and drawing attention to the previous discussions and agreement. It was **proposed** by **Cllr Dickin, seconded** by **Cllr Green** and **RESOLVED by** the Council to write to Rob Lacey, Director of Planning Policy at Cornwall Council, seeking clarification and drawing attention to the previous discussions and agreement. A copy of the letter would also be sent to the Neighbourhood Planning Team. Unanimous. Carried
26-10/12	**COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMNT** To **RECEIVE** information, **DISCUSS** and **RESOLVE** a course of action as appropriate a) Website update The Clerk reported that the website developer had been provided with the latest amendments and was working on the updated website. The revised version was expected to be available for review shortly. Members discussed the possibility of appointing an alternative designer should the updated website fail to meet the Council's expectations.
26-10/13	**FINANCE** a) To **RECEIVE** and **NOTE** the bank reconciliation as of the 30th September 2026 The bank reconciliation was received and noted. Members discussed the Council's overall bank balances and the level of general and earmarked reserves. It was noted that the reserves should be reviewed to ensure that funds were appropriately allocated and that general reserves remained proportionate to the Council's annual expenditure b) To **RECEIVE** and **APPROVE** October 2026 Payment Schedule The October payment schedule was presented by the Clerk. Members discussed the electricity account for the Temple defibrillator, noting that EDF had recalculated previous charges following receipt of the installation completion certificate and issued the relevant credits. The remaining charge was approximately £7, which was expected to be the final payment relating to the defibrillator supply. The electricity consumption at the Institute was also discussed, including the additional consumption resulting from the hot water being left switched on for an extended period. Members noted that the heating and hot water arrangements should be monitored to avoid unnecessary expenditure. It was **proposed** by **Cllr Dickin, seconded** by **Cllr Stansfield** and **RESOLVED by** the Council to approve the payments as presented. Unanimous. Carried c) To **RECEIVE** and **RESOLVE** as appropriate the budget report

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	The budget monitoring report was considered. Members noted that the budget and reserves would be considered further as part of the preparation of the 2027/28 budget. d) To **CONSIDER** Clark pay rate adjustment as per NJC agreement Members considered the Clerk's pay adjustment in accordance with the NJC agreement. It was **proposed** by **Cllr Sutton, seconded** by **Cllr Kennen** and **RESOLVED by** the Council to**:** increase Clerk's hourly rate of pay in line with the agreed adjustment and backdated to April 2026. Unanimous Carried. e) To **REVIEW** requirements and timescale for 2027/28 Budget preparation Members agreed that a separate budget meeting would be required to allow sufficient time to review the figures and consider future expenditure and projects. A budget meeting was arranged for Monday 16 November 2026 at 3.00pm at Blisland Institute. Members were invited to consider any projects or additional expenditure they wished to put forward for inclusion in the 2027/28 budget.
26-10/14	**ASSETS MANAGEMENT** To **RECEIVE** information, **DISCUSS** and **RESOLVE** a course of action as appropriate a) Water run off at the front of the Institute – to **CONSIDER** the quote Members considered the quotation received for drainage improvements at the front of the Institute. The contractor had advised that simply increasing the size of the existing drain would provide only a short-term solution, given the volume of mud and debris carried by surface water from the road. He suggested installing a larger catchpit, with a connection towards the existing drainage chamber outside Churchgate Cottage. In addition, an agreement from South West Water would be required. It was agreed that a further quotation be obtained using an agreed written specification, to enable the Council to compare the proposed drainage solutions and costs before making a decision. Members also discussed the possibility of applying for grant funding towards the works, noting that this could involve a delay of several months.
26-10/15	**HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS** To **RECEIVE** information, **DISCUSS** and **RESOLVE** a course of action as appropriate**.** a) Any issues related to Highways or footpaths Members discussed concerns raised about trees overhanging the highway near Trewardale. It was noted that responsibility for trees generally rested with the owner of the land on which they were growing. The response concerning the proposed 20mph speed limit was discussed under the Clerk's Report. Members also considered the condition of footpaths, and the complaints received from members of the public about vegetation and maintenance. The contractor had been contacted. Members agreed that the maintenance specification should be reviewed to establish which sections were included in the existing contract and whether additional areas required attention Members discussed the Enhanced Local Maintenance Partnership (LMP) work and asked for an update on the arrangements with Terry Pengelly. It was noted that Terry Pengelly was willing to carry out the work, and members agreed that he should be chased to ensure it could be completed this year, before the weather made the work more difficult. b) Trewardale / Drainage from A30 down The matter had been discussed earlier in the meeting under Public Forum. Members confirmed their agreement to the submission of the letter to Cornwall Council concerning the A30 drainage arrangements and the outstanding investigation

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	c) Footpath between the Waterloo and the Ham Members discussed the condition of the footpath, particularly the muddy sections around Kestle Mill and the old mill building. It was noted that the path was used by local residents and children undertaking school activities, and that the muddy and slippery conditions made it difficult to use at certain times of the year. Possible resurfacing options were discussed, including the use of suitable stone and geotextile material in the wetter sections. Members considered that further technical advice would be required before deciding on the most appropriate approach. It was suggested that Chris Monk be contacted to inspect the path and advise on possible improvements and funding opportunities.
26-10/16	**TRAINING** AND **MEETINGS ATTENDED** To **RECEIVE** information, **DISCUSS** and **RESOLVE** a course of action as appropriate - Cllr Stansfield attended the meeting with Natural England regarding Blisland wetlands
26-10/17	**DIARY DATES:** a) Next Full Council meeting – Blisland Institute – 26th November 2026 7pm b) Next NPS Steering Group meeting – 3rd November, Blisland Institute, 7pm c) Blisland Activities morning – 14th November 2026, Blisland Village Hall, 09:30 -12:30am **d)** Let's Talk about Cornwall Survey until Sunday 1 November**.** e) Blisland Church event – 29th October 2026, 07:30pm f) Cornwall Community Flood Forum Annual Conference Friday 6th November at the Royal Cornwall Showground from 09:30-15:30. g) Community Capacity Fund Celebration Event. Wadebridge Town Hall, 29 October, 5.00pm–6.30pm h) Finance working group meeting – Blisland Institute, 16 November 2026, 3pm-
26-10/18	**TO CLOSE THE MEETING** The meeting closed at 21:35

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