

St. Mellion Parish Council Meeting
Tuesday 11th February 2025 at 7p.m.
St. Mellion Church Hall
Minutes

PRESENT:

Cllr. Bridie Kent (BK) Chair
Cllr. Pam Sambrook (PS) Vice Chair
Cllr. Hilary Gill (HG)
Cllr. Nick Habermehl (NH)
Cllr. Adam Sturtridge (AS)

IN ATTENDANCE:

Parish Clerk Ren Jackaman (RJ).
4 members of the public (2 arrived at 19:25, 3 left at 19:56).

ABSENT:

Cllr. Ben Bryan (BB)

1. Councillor matters

- 1.1. To receive apologies for absences: None*
- 1.2. To receive declarations of pecuniary interests: None*
- 1.3. To receive declarations of non-registrable interests: None*
- 1.4. To approve written requests for dispensations: None*

2. Previous Parish Council meetings

2.1 To approve the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting 14th January 2025:

The minutes of the ordinary meeting of 14th January 2025 were sent as pre-reading and shown onscreen.

It was proposed by AS, seconded by NH and agreed to approve the minutes of the ordinary meeting of 14th January 2025 as a true record of the meeting, all in favour.

2.2 Matters Arising: None.

2.3 Clerk's Report & items actioned since last meeting:

- There is a 'Listening to You' event on 19th February at 1pm in Launceston Town Hall with Cllr Linda Taylor, Leader of Cornwall Council. Linda leads Cornwall Council's Cabinet – which is the group of councillors responsible for making most of the decisions at Cornwall Council. Anyone is welcome to attend and ask her questions.
- TVNL have started a monthly podcast, which will be available on podcast platforms, including Spotify, Amazon Music and Apple. Celebrating the stories and sounds from Tamar Valley National Landscape.
- A Community Connections Spring Forum will take place on Saturday 1st March 2025 at the Tamar Valley Centre, with presentations from a range of community action groups with a sustainable and nature focused approach. This event is geared towards inspiring and engaging communities within the Tamar Valley and on its borders to do more for Nature.
- The Bus Stop Risk Assessment has been updated to include a key to the severity of risk number.

3. Questions from the public & correspondence received:

A member of the public reported that there was an incident on Church Lane in which a lady walking her dog was hit by a Range Rover, she was not seriously hurt but very shaken by the incident. The

matter was reported to the police. PC Pip Davey has visited all parties involved. It was noted that the use of Church Lane by pedestrians is increasing since the Coryton Arms reopened.

HG reported that the recent Callington Gospel Choir concert raised £395 for the Clock Tower Fund.

Congratulations were offered to the Shinn family on the birth of their son Jude.

4. Community & Stakeholders

4.1. Litter Pick

It was determined that the date of the next litter pick will be Saturday 29th March 2025.

4.2. Cherry Feast

The Cherry Feast Organising Committee has asked if the Parish Council can help with 2025 Cherry Feast by encouraging parishioners to engage more in the event.

Suggestions were invited and the history of the event was related. The event is now held at Bush Farm in Pillaton, having moved from St. Mellion because the facilities were better. The origin of the events lies in the Pentillie estate.

The next edition of the Melanus News will contain a piece about this year's event.

RJ is happy to share publicity for the event on social media.

Grant applications can be submitted between 1st April and 31st August 2025 and the Organising Committee would be eligible to apply.

5. Planning matters

5.1. Planning Applications : None

5.2. Enforcement Refusals, Approvals & Appeals:

PA24/03866 St Mellion Estate PL12 6SD

Application for the approval of reserved matters of appearance, landscaping, layout and scale for up to 160 holiday lodges (Phase 2) details following outline consent PA19/10510 dated 28.05.2020

Consultation Expiry Date 13th November 2024.

Planning Officer: George Shirley.

STATUS: Approved

The Planning Officer's response to the five day notice was read out, the application will not be sent to cabinet for review.

PA24/08824 Mr Steven Laity 10 Dunstan Lane, St Mellion, PL12 6UE

Existing timber frame store replaced with new garages complete with EV charging point and store-room.

Consultation Expiry Date: 15th January 2025

Planning Officer: Craig Hewitt

STATUS: Approved with conditions

5.3. Neighbourhood Priority Statement Working Group:

BK reported that Cornwall Council have given feedback on the latest draft of the NPS and have asked for the background to the decision to transfer from NDP to NPS. The St. Mellion NPS is scheduled to form part of the pilot scheme. An NDP group meeting will take place soon (date tbc) to go over the latest draft.

5.4. Planning Policy Consultation:

RJ and AS attended the webinar on the changes to the NPPF and the Local Plan. The main issues were the increase in housing targets and the risk of rendering completed NDPs out of date. The pilot NPS scheme was also discussed.

The Government's new National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) came into force on 12th December 2024. The number of new homes to be built in Cornwall has risen to 4,421 instead of the 2,707. Cornwall Planning have concluded that this is not currently possible under the existing Local Plan which will be considered 'out of date' for decision making. However, where policies remain consistent with the NPPF they can continue to be used for decision making. This is true of the majority of the policies across the Local Plan and Neighbourhood Plans. Cornwall Council have issued the Cornwall Interim Policy Position Statement

All local council clerks have been sent a letter with a link to provide technical comments on suitable sites in their area. The deadline for comments is 19th March, so that a summary can be given to the Cornwall Growth Board on 27th March. Please note that this early opportunity to comment on the deliverability of sites will be followed up by a further invitation for detailed comments on sites as part of the preparation of the new Local Plan.

6. Highways, Rights of Way, Environment & Transport

6.1. Church Lane & Speedwatch update:

Nothing to report.

6.2. Saltash Tunnel Upgrade

From Monday 13th January until the end of February 2025, the eastbound carriageway of the tunnel will be closed on weeknights (8pm to 6am) to enable works in and around the tunnel. At the end of February, the full overnight closures will begin in both directions. Cornwall Cllr. Andrew Long has lobbied successfully for the closures during the busy summer months to be delayed until the first week of September so that holiday traffic is not disrupted. The overnight tunnel closures will continue until at least Winter 2025/2026.

6.3. LMP offer for 2025-2026:

The Local Maintenance Partnership Grant offer of £103.26 to maintain the paths referenced 631/2-5 has been received, (Old Road, Car Boot Track, Vivadon Down and Mud Lane).

The following was noted:

- At least two cuts a year would be needed.
- This offer is made annually with a slight increase each year.
- The amount is not even half of what it is likely to cost to hire a contractor.
- Once entered into, the LMP agreement cannot easily be reverted.

It was proposed by BK, seconded by AS and RESOLVED to decline the LMP offer for 2025-2026, all in favour.

6.4. Any other issues to note: None

7. Council Property & Assets

7.1. Tender specification for maintaining pt9143 to be reviewed and approved.

It was decided that since S&S Garden Services took on the contract midterm in October 2024 that this process be moved to August/September 2025.

7.2. Any issues to note: None.

8. Parish Council Governance

8.1. Review Annual Plan for Year end 2026

The annual plan was shown onscreen and sent as pre-reading. It was noted that the plan contains a lot of useful information for councillors.

8.2. Confirm date of APCM and AEM as Tuesday 13th May 2025

It was confirmed that the proposed date for the APCM and AEM is within the window of 12th May to 25th May 2025 proscribed by the election timetable. BK gave her apologies in advance.

8.3. Government consultation on improving standards and sanctions:

The CALC PowerPoint presentation has been shared to councillors with associated notes. Councillors were strongly encouraged to complete the simple online questionnaire, the deadline is 26th February 2025.

9. Parish Council finances

9.1. To approve monthly payment schedule for February 2025

| REVENUE ACCOUNT | | | | | |
|----------------------------|--------------|-----------|--|------------------|---------------------------|
| Payee | Invoice Date | Invoice # | Description | Amount | Type |
| R Jackaman | n/a | n/a | Clerk Salary and Reimbursements | £593.86 | BACS |
| AG Accountancy Ltd | 03/02/2025 | 4512 | Payroll Service | £14.48 | BACS |
| St. Mellion & Pillaton PCC | 22/11/2024 | 1199 | Reimbursement of woodworm treatment to clock case by DCL under PCA 1957, s.2 | £290.00 | BACS (paid on 15/01/2025) |
| S&S Garden Services | 11/02/2025 | n/a | Jubilee bus stop monthly maintenance | £150.00 | BACS |
| NEST | 09/02/2025 | n/a | Employer + Employee contribution to clerk's pension | £49.49 | DD |
| Unity Trust Bank | 31/01/2025 | n/a | Monthly Service Charge | £6.00 | SO |
| TOTAL | | | | £1,103.83 | |
| | | | | | |
| COMMUNITY ACCOUNT | | | | | |
| Payee | Invoice Date | Invoice # | Description | Amount | Type |
| Unity Trust Bank | 31/01/2025 | n/a | Monthly Service Charge | £6.00 | SO |
| TOTAL | | | | £6.00 | |

It was proposed by PS, seconded by NH and resolved to approve the payment schedule for February 2025, all in favour.

10. Items for next Parish Council meeting agenda:

- Litter Pick planning
- VE Day 2025
- Asset Checks
- Local Sites identification deadline 19th March.

11. Date and time of next meeting 11th March 2025 at 7pm in St. Mellion Church Hall

BK closed the meeting at 20:28.