

LANREATH PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Date of Meeting

19 November 2024 commencing 19.30

Present

Cllr Peter Bartram, Cllr Sue Cave, Cllr Sandie Christiansen, Cllr John Gundry, Cllr David Heard – Vice-Chairman, Cllr Shelley Honeyman, Cllr Peter Seaman – Chairman, Cllr Stephanie Vickery, Mrs R Warren - Clerk

No members of the public.

The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.

1. Apologies

None.

2. Members of the Public are invited to address the Council

PCSO Cocks had emailed a report to the Clerk:

“Please accept my apologies for my non-attendance at this month’s Parish Council meeting.

From 1/10/24 – 31/10/24 there were 2 crimes that of an assault and a malicious communication crime.

Numerous patrols have been conducted around the Parish and all was found to be in order.

If there are any questions or matters arising for my attention then please contact me in the usual manner.”

Cllr Christiansen reminded the meeting that at the October meeting PCSO Cocks had stated that he would attend this evening’s meeting with the Tri-Services Officer from Looe. Clerk will remind him for the January meeting.

3. Disclosure of Interests – None.

4. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 15 October 2024

Cllr Gundry proposed that the minutes be approved. Seconded and agreed. Chairman signed the minutes.

5. County Councillor’s Report – None.

6. Matters Arising

- **Unauthorised building in the Parish – EN23/00589 update**

The Chairman advised the meeting that on 31 October the Principal Planning Officer (Planning Enforcement) had advised that an appeal had been lodged against the enforcement notice. The Planning Inspectorate has yet to confirm that the appeal is valid.

There was a discussion regarding the terms of the enforcement notice (site to be returned to its pre-unauthorised development state) and how the appeal progress can be tracked. Chairman will keep the matter under review and report to the next meeting.

- **Works on lane to Bocaddon by CORSERV – follow up of November 2023 meeting**
Clerk reported that the works are now complete, white lines re-painting having been carried out on the sharp bend junction.
- **PA24/04905 – progress report**
Chairman reported that as of today the application is still awaiting a decision.
- **Reposition of old bench on the Village Green**
Chairman reported that this has been done – one of the benches has been returned to the family that originally dedicated it, the other has been disposed of.
- **Community Garden access rails costings**
Chairman reported that quotes were still awaited for the proposed works. Vice-Chairman proposed that an upper limit for the works be set at £500 and Chairman proceed to obtain quotes, in the hopes that the works could be commissioned and completed before the January meeting – subject to the landowner’s consent. Cllr Cave seconded, and all agreed. Clerk is tasked with seeking the landowner’s permission, and Chairman will obtain quotes, and circulate in due course.
- **Cost of removal of brambles from Community Garden**
Clerk is still awaiting a quote for this; she will follow up and report to the next meeting.
- **Repainting of the defibrillator box at the Millennium Building**
This was kindly taken on by a Parishioner, which is much appreciated. The top coat applied turned out to be permeable to moisture and will require recoating in enamel paint. Chairman proposed that he obtain suitable paint (cost £7.18 plus delivery) for the works to be completed. Cllr Honeyman seconded – unanimously agreed. Chairman asked that the Parish Council’s thanks are extended to the Parishioner and Cllr Bartram for liaising and carrying out the necessary works.
- **Replacement paper towel dispenser at Public Toilets Lanreath**
This has been ordered and fitted by a Parishioner.
- **Road Closure Looe**
With thanks to Cllr Gundry – full details have been posted on the Parish website, and promulgated by Facebook.
- **Overgrown Cornish hedge by St Marnarch’s Church**
Members of the community worked together to clear this.
- **Letter to residents regarding bin placement**
Chairman has circulated a draft letter, he proposed that this be sent out. Seconded and agreed.
- **Possible double yellow lines Grylls Park**
Clerk reported that her research leads her to the conclusion that any information is going to have to be sought via SECCAP. Vice-Chairman will ascertain how highways works requested by communities will be funded. To be considered at a future meeting as to feasibility and community wishes.
- **Village Shop/Toilet windows**

Chairman reported that repairs had been carried out so as to secure the damaged existing frames, and he has replaced the rotten wooden panel above the toilet door. He has proposals regarding replacement windows in the agenda item regarding next year's Budget, later.

7. Correspondence – All correspondence received via email unless otherwise indicated, all circulated by the Clerk, or Chairman, to Councillors.

Cornwall Council

- Weekly planning lists
- Town and Parish Councils Bulletins and Newsletter – 2 November
- Agenda for East Sub-Area Planning Committee 28 October – 16 October
- Minutes for East Sub-Area Planning Committee meeting 28 October – 2 November
- Training Opportunity: How to make the outdoors accessible to everyone – 30 October
- Planning Newsletter – 2 November
- CAP various: 23 October, 5 November
- Precept documentation – 8 November

Other correspondence – any correspondence of community interest has been uploaded to the Parish website/linked to Facebook by Chairman and Cllr Gundry.

- Rural Bulletins and Funding Digests: 13, 15 October and 2, 5, 6 November
- Police and Crime Commissioner's correspondence: 8, 13, 15, 21, 24, 29 October and 2 November
- CALC correspondence, various: 8, 13, 18, 24 October and 2 November
- NHS Cornwall and Isles of Scilly – 25 October
- Message regarding car parking at Lanreath Village Hall – 9 October
- Chairman email to Dan Northcott regarding toilet cleaning – 10 October
- Visit Cornwall New Chair – 21 October

8. Cornwall Council Budget Update Briefing 7 November

Chairman had circulated the slide pack from this update to all Councillors. Council Tax will rise by 5% in Cornwall, following a year in which £19m has been used from reserves to cover deficits. The main areas of overspend this year relate to Children in Care costs, and shortfalls in income from Cornwall Council owned entities. A single child in care costs £500,000 per year. Increases in the Foundation Living Wage, Social Careworker rates, and the increase in Employers' NI will add an additional cost pressure of £62.9m. Grant funding may be reduced or removed entirely. Government grants of £77m currently fund Cornwall Council's Social Care base budget with further grants supporting homelessness and other core services. At the time of the presentation there was no certainty that this grant funding would be maintained.

Cornwall Council has adopted the second homes 100% Council Tax premium allowed for in the Autumn Budget. This is expected to raise an additional £23.9 million for Cornwall Council. It also increases the tax base for individual town and parish councils, depending on the number of second homes in the parish.

How this impacts Lanreath Parish Council Budget/Precept for discussion later in the meeting.

9. Cornwall Council Planning Training event 7 November

Clerk reported that she had circulated the slide pack from this training event and had emailed her brief report regarding her main take away – currently Neighbourhood Plans will remain valid, and Cornwall Council cannot compel their revision. The National Planning Policy Framework is not yet finalised.

10. Online training events .gov.uk – Central Digital and Data Office Domain Helper Service

The intention of these events was to encourage all sectors of local government to adopt .gov.uk as their domain name. The Chairman had prepared and circulated a detailed report following his attendance at this event, and Clerk had nothing to add as the event she attended was similar in content. There was discussion at the meeting regarding the cost and complexity of having a new domain name, and whether it would have to include a change of Councillors' preferred email addresses. It was generally felt that further investigation was desirable and Chairman proposed that the Clerk sign up for an introductory session with the Domain Helper Service, and report to the January meeting. Cllr Honeyman seconded, all agreed. Clerk so tasked.

11. Telecommunication Resilience Planning – community level planning workshop

This item had been added to the Agenda following receipt of an email from the Emergency Management Manager of Cornwall Council. Following the announcement that most landline telephone services will be transitioned to Voice Over Internet Protocol (VOIP), which is dependent on an exterior power supply, unlike the current system, there is a risk that within rural communities in particular a loss of power could impact the ability for residents and businesses to communicate outside their area. Cornwall Council has developed a 'workshop' framework that can be undertaken to develop a community level action plan. The Chairman then briefly went through the accompanying slide pack that had been circulated to Councillors.

Councillors discussed what scenarios this planning would be designed to cover – extreme weather, and prolonged power outages being two. It was felt that greater information would be required in particular with regard to power distribution in Lanreath Parish. Chairman volunteered to look into this further, with Cllr Vickery offering to assist. To be considered further at the January meeting.

12. Housing Allocation – email Lanteglos-by-Fowey Parish Council (LBFPC)

An email and attachments from LBFPC had been circulated to Councillors – it sought support for lobbying of Cornwall Council regarding Housing Allocation in the County. Chairman went through the policy document provided with the email, which was generally felt to be aspirational, and not strategically directed. However, after some discussion it was felt that Cornwall Council could be asked to review their housing allocation policy in line with policy 1.7 of the policy document from LBFPC - leading to local housing for local people. Chairman proposed that he email Cllr Colin Martin, and copy in Housing Portfolio Holder Cllr Olly Monks, supporting the revision of Housing Allocation in the County in line with Policy 1.7 of the document from LBFPC. Cllr Gundry seconded, all agreed.

13. Asset Inspection report

To be circulated to Councillors after the meeting.

14. Village Hall Report

Cllr Vickery informed the meeting that there is an event due to take place at the Village Hall on 30 November. Tickets on the door £1 each for Line Dancing and a Barn Dance, 5pm to 10 pm. There will be a mix of live music and a DJ. Topsy Cow Bar will be open and refreshments will be available. It is a shared fundraising event for the Hall and the Village Shop.

15. Community Area Partnership (CAP) report

Vice-Chairman had nothing to report at this time. The next scheduled meeting is 3 December.

16. Climate Change

Cllr Cave reported that she had attended the South East Cornwall Community Partnership (SECCAP) Climate Change Network group meeting on 14 November. Cornwall Community Energy Plus (CEP) had attended the meeting to give a presentation. The slide pack from this meeting will be made available in due course. CEP has a four-year Lottery funded project to help householders, and organisations, to navigate the vast and often bewildering amount of information in the public domain regarding energy efficiency. They have easy reading information on their website, and details are also on the Parish website. They offer to visit premises to give energy saving advice, discuss improvements, and possible funding. Cllr Cave has asked for a visit to her home with a view to reporting back to Lanreath Parish Council.

Repair Cafes seem to be flourishing in Cornwall, and it was reported that the one in Millbrook has taken off and expanded. Details are being sought of an organisation that provides advice on how to set up a repair café – these will be circulated when available.

There is to be a tree give away supported by Forest for Cornwall in The Old Cattle Market, Liskeard in February 2025. Full details will be posted to the Parish Website in due course.

The Botus Fleming representative gave an impassioned plea for Parishes to encourage wild flower growth on their verges rather than neat and tidy grass borders. Millbrook reported some success with this with the assistance of CORMAC providing a cut and carry service (it is vital that grass cuttings are not left to mulch) and some yellow rattle seed, though a team of volunteers had carried out much of the work.

Cllr Cave reported that there had been as yet no feedback on the responses to the proposed Housing Decarbonisation Strategy.

Chairman reported that he was still awaiting details regarding the Red Bus services.

17. Budget 2025/26 and Precept

Chairman took the meeting through the proposed draft Budget which had been circulated, as well as dealing with year-to-date figures showing that in some areas there had been small overspends, and underspends in others – it is likely that at the end of the Financial Year there will be some £349 in hand, plus reclaimed VAT. Due to an increase in the tax base resulting from second homes in the Parish, the Council Tax calculator for Lanreath Parish shows that the proposed Precept of £18,810 will have no additional impact on the Parish Council part of the Council Tax for Lanreath residents. After some discussion regarding an adjustment upwards of water charges, and a new line entry for £880 to cover cost of replacement windows at the Village Shop and Toilet, (and following a move to Part 2 to discuss the Clerk's salary and expenses), Cllr Christiansen proposed that the draft

Budget be adopted, seconded by Cllr Honeyman, and all agreed. Clerk to complete and submit the Precept request.

18. Financial Report

As per the Agenda the Clerk's requests for approval of payments made under Financial Regulations, anticipated payments before the next scheduled meeting, and inter-account transfers were proposed by Cllr Gundry to be approved. Seconded by Cllr Christiansen, and unanimously agreed.

19. Parish Problems.

Vice-Chairman reported that a lot of debris and mud is coming down Bury Lane onto the B3359 and it is very hazardous to road users. Chairman reminded the meeting that historically the obligation to maintain this lane was unclear, and eventually, after Parish Council intervention over concerns for road safety, Highways had put in an additional gully. It was likely that this now was blocked. Clerk will contact Will Glassup at Highways and report that it is causing a hazard to users on the B3359 and requires urgent attention.

20. Any Other Business.

Clerk will report to the next meeting regarding possible alternative free banking services, following Lloyds Bank's decision to impose monthly charges on the current account from January onwards.

The date for the next meeting is not as stated on the Agenda.

21. Public Participation.

None.

22. Date and Time of next meeting.

Tuesday 21 January 2025 at 7.30 pm. Meeting closed at 9.49 pm.