

**MINUTES OF THE ST NEOT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON  
WEDNESDAY, 3RD SEPTEMBER 2025 AT 7:30PM IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM,  
ST NEOT INSTITUTE, ST NEOT**

**Present:** Councillors T Hooper (Chair), C Smith, M Rowe, H Bunt, G Rogers, T Thrussell and D Glanville.

Cornwall Councillor Sean Smith  
David and Caroline Courtenay-Clark  
Sue Blaxley, Clerk and RFO.

The Chair opened the meeting at 7:30pm and confirmed that no one was recording the meeting.

**Public Participation**

Caroline Courtenay-Clark explained that they live in Draynes and are very concerned about the parking at Golitha Falls. She said that the problem has escalated year on year and she is concerned that there will be an accident. She said that tractors and emergency vehicles cannot use the road when vehicles are parked on the highway outside the car park. She explained that, at one time, bollards were in place, which helped, but they are no longer in situ. She suggested that improved signage might help the situation. The Chair explained that several site meetings have been held as well as parish council discussions and whilst positive proposals have been put forward, accessing the funding is the barrier. She explained that a Traffic Regulation Order is required to assess the problems, risks and solutions which would incur a cost of approximately £4,000 - £7,000. In addition, if works are deemed to be required, the costs of the contractor has to be met. Councillor T Thrussell said that the submission for funding by the parish council through CAP opens in the Autumn.

**1. Apologies**

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors A Tamblyn and N Ball.

**2. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday th June 2025**

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> July 2025, having been previously circulated, were agreed as an accurate record subject to the removal of Councillor H Bunt from the list of councillors present.

**3. Declaration of interest in items on the agenda**

Councillors G Rogers declared an interest in item 15 on the agenda.

**4. To receive a report on any matters arising from the previous meeting**

In respect of the alterations which have been made to land owned by the parish council adjacent to the house under construction at the top of Tripp Hill, Councillor T Hooper said that a letter from the owner had been received stating that he fully

understands the position regarding land ownership and that he has removed the trees and is monitoring the surface water runoff.

Councillor T Hooper said that she would write to PCSO S Edser regarding building evidence to secure funding for a flashing speed sign in the village.

The Chair thanked Councillor N Ball for emptying the bins in the parish. The Clerk reported that Councillor N Ball will continue to empty the bins.

Councillor G Rogers said that one of the residents might cut the overgrown land behind homes on the north side of Loveny Road to install a fire break.

The Chair thanked everyone who was involved in the carnival in August.

Councillor C Smith said that he would obtain further quotations for the felling of the tree on the boundary of Ivy Crag and Goonzion. He said that the overhanging trees on Tripp Hill need cutting and clearing.

Councillor C Smith reported that the new electricity cable into Doorstep Green is now complete. The Chair said that she would write to Clive Waterman and thank him for his work on this project. It was noted that Councillor C Smith has inspected the play equipment but that it needs to be inspected weekly, by Councillor A Tamblyn, as previously agreed.

The Clerk said that the lease agreement with the scouts for use of the Community Hub has now been signed. Councillor C Smith said that the actions of the Fire Risk Assessment are now complete. Councillor T Hooper said that the Village Brew will remain in the Church for the time being. Councillor T Thrussell said that he was making a new toilet donation box.

The Clerk said that she would follow up her previous email to National Grid regarding the vegetation on the roof of the substation on Bush Hill.

## **5. To receive the Chairman's Communications**

The Chair said that PCSO S Edser's monthly report had been circulated to all councillors. She said that she undertook a photo shoot with Cornwall Council in the community hub/shop which will be used in a magazine to publicise the CLUP scheme. The Chair brought councillors' attention to a complaint from a parishioner that garden waste was being thrown over the hedge into the playing field. The Chair said that she would put an item in St Neot News asking parishioners to refrain from this activity.

It was noted that the clothing bank has now been emptied. The Chair said that the faulty lamp by the bungalows in Lampen Lane has finally been repaired. She said that Councillor T Thrussell had circulated two surveys for online completion: Safer Cornwall and Cornwall Fire Service Survey.

The Chair reported that Julie Ball is the first point of contact regarding matters relating to the scouts and their use of the Community Hub. The Clerk said that she

would ask the insurance company about the storage of gas bottles in the scout store so that any necessary action can be taken. The Chair said that she would put an item in St Neot News advising parishioners that the Post Office is now operating from the Community Hub.

Councillor Sean Smith said there is now a Cyber Resilience Centre which offers support for cyber issues. The Chair said that alerts have been circulated regarding Winter Fuel Payment scams and that sports clubs have been the target of theft.

The Chair said that an invitation has been received from St Neot FC to the opening of their new pitch at Mount.

#### **6. To answer any questions from Councillors, previously notified to the Clerk**

Councillor C Smith said that the asset inspection must be undertaken. Councillor G Rogers said that the new 20mph speed limit signs have been erected but the vegetation has not been trimmed around the signs so some are barely visible. In addition, the section of sign saying "Welcome to St Neot - Please Drive Carefully" has not been installed. Cornwall Councillor Sean Smith said that he would follow up this matter.

Councillor G Rogers said that the road sweeper only sweeps half of Liskeard Hill. Also, when works are undertaken to surface dress roads, the 10mph signs are never removed so they blow around the parish.

#### **7. To receive a report from the Clerk**

The Clerk said that the External Auditor has brought to the attention of the parish council that the existing .gov.uk website for the parish council should be replaced with a .org website. She also said that she had been requested to provide details of the relevant sections of the LGA Act 1972 to justify numerous payments made by the parish council.

#### **8. Doorstep Green and Playing Field**

##### **To receive and consider a report on any matters arising relating to Doorstep Green and the Playing Field**

Councillor C Smith said that following the collation of a specification for works needed to the play tower, he had sought 4 quotations and 3 have been provided. He read out the quotations and after some discussion, it was proposed by Councillor T Hooper and seconded by Councillor M Rowe that the quotation from Sean Moyse be accepted as this was the cheapest quotation and based on recent experience working with him, the parish council is satisfied that he provides good quality work and has the experience to undertake the job. All councillors voted in favour of the proposal apart from Councillor C Smith who abstained from voting.

Councillor D Glanville said that he had been asked by a parishioner why, when money was set aside in the precept for the maintenance of Doorstep Green, volunteer labour is still being relied on. Councillor C Smith said that volunteers will

always be used as it is a community garden. He said there was insufficient funds available in the Spring to appoint a contractor and a plan of the works required needs to be formulated to instruct the contractor. It was agreed that a site meeting will be held in Doorstep Green on 11<sup>th</sup> September 2025 at 6:30pm to formulate a plan so that this matter can be progressed.

#### **9. Shop and Community Hub**

##### **To receive and consider a report on any matters arising relating to the shop and community hub**

Councillor C Smith outlined proposals for the heating of the Community Hub. He said that there are several options: German electric radiators x 2 (2.4kw) which will cost approximately £2685 excluding VAT; standard radiators x 2 which will cost approximately £1500 excluding VAT; a wet run system; reverse A/C unit x 1, ceiling mounted which will cost approximately £3,250 excluding VAT. After some discussion, it was proposed by Councillor M Rowe and seconded by Councillor G Rogers that a reverse A/C cassette be installed as the greenest and most practical and efficient method for heating the Community Hub. All councillors voted in favour of the proposal.

#### **10. Cott Yard**

##### **To receive and consider a report on any matters arising relating to Cott Yard**

Councillor C Smith reported that the Historians are making good use of the upstairs suite. He said there has been no interest from prospective tenants to rent the suite. It was proposed by Councillor C Smith and seconded by Councillor T Thrussell that the small office be advertised for rent as a single unit (subject to the Historians still being happy using the larger office as a display space) and that the whole suite (both offices) be advertised for rent at a negotiable rate. All councillors voted in favour of this proposal.

#### **11. Toilets and Car Park**

##### **To receive and consider a report on any matters arising relating to the toilets and car park**

None

#### **12. St Neot Orchard**

##### **To receive and consider a report on any matters arising relating to St Neot Orchard**

The Chair said that she would advertise the availability of free apples in St Neot News.

### **13. Farmer's Market**

**To receive a report from the councillors who attended the farmer's market in July and August 2025 and to appoint a representative to attend the farmer's market on 6<sup>th</sup> September 2025**

Councillor H Bunt attended the market in August 2025 and the following issues were raised: a van is parked in the layby at the junction of the Carnglaze Caverns Road and the A38 which is a danger to highways safety (Councillor T Hooper said that she would refer this to PCSO S Edser); road closed signs were left at the bottom of Liskeard Hill when the road works were completed; part of the pavement is collapsing in Luke's Yeat; there is a car often parked on the pavement in Luke's Yeat and a suggestion that priority islands be installed in Loveny Road to slow down the traffic.

Councillor T Hooper volunteered to attend the market in September 2025 and Councillor M Rowe said that he would attend in October 2025.

### **14. To receive reports from -**

#### **a) Cornwall Councillor**

Cornwall Councillor Sean Smith said that a Cycle Recreation Grants request has been submitted for a possible cycle trail in the parish. He clarified the position regarding the lease with Inky's at Golitha Falls and congratulated the parish council for their entry into St Neot Carnival. He brought councillors' attention to the fact that .org websites are often scammed.

Councillor H Bunt thanked Cornwall Councillor Sean Smith for looking into the receipt of notifications for road closures.

#### **b) Goonzion Commoners**

It was noted that some councillors had met on Goonzion to discuss management options for Goonzion. Councillor T Hooper said the priorities identified were the provision of fire breaks and adequate visibility so that drivers can see the grazing animals. After some discussion, it was proposed by Councillor T Hooper and seconded by Councillor T Thrussell that a budget of £5000 be set aside for the management of Goonzion to include a 2D drone survey in a Jpeg format. All councillors voted in favour of the proposal. Councillor H Bunt said there maybe some funding available from SW Water.

#### **c) SE Cornwall CAP**

Councillor T Thrussell said that the next meeting is the Transport Working Group on 15<sup>th</sup> September 2025.

## **15. To authorise the signing of orders for payment, including –**

Cornwall Pension Fund (Pension for Clerk) - £183.06  
Julie Ball (Toilet cleaning) - £250.79  
Sue Blaxley (3 months salary and expenses) - £2615.81  
Lanhydrock Gardening Services (Grass Cutting x 2) - £638.40  
Richards Builders Merchants (Building Materials) - £59.91  
St Neot News (Newsletter expenses) - £599.00  
EDF (Parish Lighting) - £92.39  
Gary Rogers (PROW strimming and toilet rolls) - £857.19  
Christian Smith (Sign) - £40.76  
St Neot Social Club (Cleaning materials for toilet) - £40.76  
Kent Gossmeier (Planter for Gazebo in Doorstep Green) - £40.00

### **PAID IN AUGUST**

Cornwall Pension Fund (Pension for Clerk) - £183.06  
Julie Ball (Toilet Cleaning – August) - £250.79  
Source for Business ( Water for Toilet) - £185.80  
South West Water (Water for Cott Yard) - £51.42  
Source for Business (Water for Pavilion) - £42.11  
Classic Fire (Fire Risk Assessment) - £384.00  
Andrew Davy Electrical (Repairs to cable in Doorstep Green) - £1,200.00  
Thomas Thrussell (Parish Map) - £211.20  
LJC Bookkeeping Services (Internal Audit) - £225.00  
Cornwall Council (Bin Emptying in Car Park) - £419.70

It was proposed by Councillor M Rowe and seconded by Councillor T Thrussell that the above orders be authorized for payment. All councillors voted in favour of the proposal apart from Councillor G Rogers who abstained from voting.

## **16. Finance Report**

### **To receive a current financial statement of the accounts and to review income and expenditure against budget**

The Clerk reported that the following income has been received: of £622.92 from Country Lane Enterprises for rent for the shop. She said that the bank account balances at £45,640.27.

## **17. Co-option**

### **To consider applications for co-option onto the parish council**

None

## **18. Date of next meeting**

**To confirm the date of the next Parish Council meeting on Wednesday 8th October 2025.**

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2025.

There was no further business and the meeting was closed at 9:40pm.