

**MINUTES OF THE ST NEOT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
WEDNESDAY, 12TH NOVEMBER 2025 AT 7:30PM IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM,
ST NEOT SOCIAL CLUB, ST NEOT**

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

Cornwall Councillor Sean Smith
Sue Blaxley, Clerk and RFO.

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

Public Participation

None

1. Apologies

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillor T Thrussell.

2. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 8th October 2025

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 8th October 2025, having been previously circulated, were agreed as an accurate record.

3. Declaration of interest in items on the agenda

Councillor N Ball declared an interest in item 16 on the agenda.

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

Councillor T Hooper said that she had reminded parishioners in St Neot News that the Post Office is now operating from the community hub as opposed to the social club. She reported that she has spoken to Will Glassop about the location of the new 20mph signs and he responded saying that they have been erected in accordance with the relevant guidance. She said that she will be submitting photographic evidence to Will Glassop demonstrating that there are several residential properties clustered outside the 20mph zone.

The Chair reported that the works to the tree near Ivy Crag have been postponed but the works will need to be undertaken prior to Spring. The Clerk said that she has applied to the Community Chest for a new parasol. Councillor C Smith said that he would fit the new swing seat in due course.

It was noted that there was a good turnout by the community for Remembrance Sunday. The Clerk said that she has contacted SW Lakes Trust regarding the broken fences around Colliford Lake and they are looking into the matter.

It was reported that the salt bins have been filled with salt. It was agreed that the Clerk would report the broken salt bin at the bridge in St Neot to Cornwall Council and ask for it to be replaced. It was agreed that further discussion regarding the salt bins would take place at the next meeting of the parish council.

Councillor T Hooper said that the Youth Room leader has spoken to the teenagers about their conduct in the playing field on a Wednesday evening. It was agreed that members of the parish council may engage with the youth later. It was noted that PCSO S Edser will attend the playing field one Wednesday evening. The Chair said that the broken picnic table has been repaired and that heating has been installed in the community hub. Councillor C Smith said that the faulty lights at the Community Hub have now been replaced. The Clerk reported that the uninsured car in the car park has been moved. Councillor H Bunt said that he has taken measurements of the base of the bin at Lampen and he will supply a new base.

5. To receive the Chairman's Communications

The Chair said that PCSO S Edser's monthly report had been circulated to all councillors. It was noted that Cornwall Councillor Sean Smith had circulated an email appertaining to the Youth Council elections which the Chair has forwarded to the leader of the Youth Group. She said that fly tipping was reported on 30th October 2025 and the items were removed the next day. She said that further fly tipping has taken place at Crowpound which she will report to Cornwall Council. Councillor T Hooper said that Cornwall Council is rolling out a "no cold calling" zone in Cornwall. Councillor H Bunt said that PCSO S Edser has stickers for people to display if they do not want cold callers. It was noted that the man missing from Liskeard has now been located.

The Chair said that Martin Eddy is nominating Neighbours Together for a Kings Award. It was agreed that the Chair would write a letter of support for this nomination. It was noted that Martin Eddy has arranged a wassailing event in January 2026.

The Chair said that the Glynn Valley road will be closed from 17/11/2025 until the 21/11/2025 from 8am until 6pm.

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

Councillor N Ball said that Councillor C Smith had made a unilateral decision to delay the felling of the tree near Ivy Crag. However, as the parish council had agreed to fell the tree soon, Councillor N Ball said that it should have been a parish council decision to defer the works as opposed to an individual one.

Councillor N Ball said that a parishioner was concerned that the parish council did not do anything to commemorate Remembrance Sunday and that the war memorial was not cleaned in advance. Councillor A Tamblyn said that he had placed poppies and a collection box in the London Inn, shop and school. It was noted that Julie Ball cleared the war memorial prior to Remembrance Sunday. Thanks were expressed to Julie Ball, on behalf of the parish council, for undertaking this task. Councillor N Ball said that the scouts would be willing to clean and clear the war memorial in

future and to take on the role of Poppy Appeal co-ordinators. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to the Scout Leader accepting this offer.

7. To receive a report from the Clerk

None

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 A Tamblyn said that he would send the Clerk details of the play equipment inspections. It was noted that the two missing chess pieces have been replaced. Councillor C Smith said that the refurbishment of the play tower has been completed to a high standard and explained that the works had gone over budget due to much rotten wood needing replacing near the slide and behind the coloured panelling.

It was agreed that the parish council is satisfied with the work undertaken by the grass cutting contractor and it was proposed by Councillor C Smith and seconded by Councillor N Ball that the Clerk requests a quotation from Lanhydrock Gardening Servies for the grass cutting contract for 2026/27. All councillors voted in favour of the proposal. It was agreed that the contract for the PROW maintenance be discussed at the next meeting of the parish council.

The Chair thanked Councillor C Smith for undertaking leaf blowing on the bridge into Doorstep Green. It was reported that a parishioner has asked if a picnic table/bench could be re-located adjacent to the table tennis table. It was agreed that the one on the grass outside the shop could be moved to this location. Councillor H Bunt said that there are some picnic benches and tables being advertised on Facebook Market Place and it was agreed that Councillor H Bunt would ask how much it would cost to purchase three of them. Councillor H Bunt asked if the parish council intend to act in respect of some of the negative behaviour in the playing field of the teenagers on the nights that Youth Room is open. It was agreed that the parish council would continue to monitor the situation.

It was agreed that a working party will take place for a winter clean of Doorstep Green on 13th December 2025 between 9am and 12 noon.

9. Shop and Community Hub

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

The Chair reported that the Scout Leader has asked if the scouts can use the kitchen for making hot drinks and washing up on their meeting nights. It was agreed that this would be acceptable but if the scouts want to use the facility for a cookery session, the Scout Leader should inform the Clerk. It was agreed that the Clerk would ask the Scout Leader to ensure that everyone uses the stable door entrance on the winter nights that the scouts meet to enable the heat to be retained. Councillor T Hooper

said that although the tearoom is now closed, the Gentleman's Breakfast Club on the second Friday of the month will still go ahead. The Clerk said that she retains a diary for use of the Community Hub and all users should book through her. Considerable discussion took place as to the responsibility for cleaning the Community Hub and toilet and the current use of the toilet for the storage of chemicals and toilet rolls. It was agreed that an informal meeting would be held with Tina and Katie Laphorne to discuss these matters and to clarify the use of the Community Hub and toilet and its future. Councillor C Smith reported that a rates review is being undertaken by the VOA for the Community Hub and shop.

10. Cott Yard

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

Councillor C Smith reported that a new tenant has been secured for the upstairs suites in Cott Yard for use as a therapy centre from 1st December 2025 for one year. It was proposed by Councillor N Ball and seconded by Councillor M Rowe that the desks and chairs currently being stored in the suites are advertised on Facebook Marketplace for sale. All councillors voted in favour of this proposal. It was noted that Classic Fire will be undertaking their routine testing of the fire alarm and extinguishers in Cott Yard on 18th November 2025.

11. Toilets and Car Park

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

It was proposed by Councillor A Tamblyn and seconded by Councillor G Rogers that Cornwall Council continues to empty the bin in the car park for 2026/27 at a cost of £395.39 plus VAT. All councillors voted in favour of the proposal. Councillor T Thrussell had reported that he will install the new donation box. It was reported that there is a car parked in Loveny Road with a smashed headlight and flat tyre. The Chair said that she would report this matter to PCSO S Edser.

12. St Neot Orchard

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

Councillor T Hooper said that Martin Eddy will undertake wassailing in the orchard in January 2026. Councillor C Smith said that the bank needs cutting and some of the trees require new wooden posts. It was agreed that a Working Party will take place on 10th January 2026 between 10am and 12 noon to undertake these tasks. Councillor C Smith said that he has obtained a rough estimate of the cost of creating a new car parking area adjacent to the orchard, on the land which is in the ownership of the parish council. He said that the works will involve removing the stone wall, removing the soil, laying a membrane and laying 200mm 803 hardcore on the surface. He said that these works will cost approximately £2,000.

13. Charges for Advertising in St Neot News

To receive and consider the policy for charging for advertising in St Neot News

The Chair reported that the current policy for advertising in St Neot News is that businesses and for-profit organisations pay to advertise and everyone else advertises free of charge although donations are requested. It was agreed that if an organisation or individual offers a donation, this should be accepted, irrespective of the amount of money being offered.

14. Farmer's Market

To receive a report from the councillor who attended the farmer's market on 1st November 2025 and to appoint a representative to attend the farmer's market on 6th December 2025

Councillor G Rogers attended the market on 1st November 2025 and the following issues were raised: the lack of a 20mph speed restriction on the road from the orchard to the start of the 20mph zone in Loveny Road, possible painting of the telephone box, the cattle grid at Luna requires cleaning, the gullies from Luna to Trenay need cleaning, the leaves on the roads in the parish need clearing and the Carnglaze Caverns road is often flooded. Cornwall Councillor Sean Smith said that he would follow up the last 4 of these issues with Cornwall Council.

Councillor M Rowe volunteered to attend the market on 6th December 2025.

Councillor A Tamblyn left the meeting.

15. To receive reports from -

a) Cornwall Councillor

Cornwall Councillor Sean Smith reported that he has not received a response from Cornwall Council regarding the 100 Steps footpath. He said that a specific request needs to be submitted to Cornwall Council for changes to the 20mph speed markings. He apologized for not attending the Remembrance Service in St Neot as he had attended the service in Warleggan.

In respect of the overcrowding on the Callywith College bus which goes from Liskeard to Callywith College, he said that Stagecoach has informed him that they sell 100 tickets for a 75-seater bus which Callywith College think is acceptable and a safe way to travel with so many students standing. He said that he is meeting with Callywith College to discuss this matter as will the Portfolio Holder to Transport. He said that he will follow up the matter of the overgrown vegetation at Quarry House and the outstanding planning enforcement cases.

b) Goonzion Commoners

Councillor M Rowe reported that the edges of the roads and the visibility splays have been cut back and that he has cleaned the signs on Goonzion. It was agreed that a

trial area (the football pitch) would be cut using a shovel and mulcher. The Chair said that most parishioners have been complimentary about the works which have taken place so far.

c) SE Cornwall CAP

Councillor T Thrussell had reported that no meeting of SE Cornwall CAP had been held since 7th October 2025. He had reported that EOI are now open for the Community Highways Improvements for 2026-29. The Chair said that the parish council is intending to submit an application for funding to address the traffic management at Golitha Falls. Cornwall Councillor Sean Smith said that he was now part of the Economic Regeneration Group.

16. To authorise the signing of orders for payment, including –

Cornwall Pension Fund (Pension for Clerk) - £411.17
Julie Ball (Toilet cleaning) - £183.13
Sue Blaxley (Poppy Wreath and Donation to British Legion Poppy Appeal) - £49.98
Sue Blaxley (Backpay April – September 2025) - £949.15
Source for Business (Water for Pavilion) - £58.72
St Neot News (Newsletter Expenses) - £627.00
Source for Business (Water for Toilet) - £316.06
Source for Business (Water for Cott Yard) - £55.96
South West Drone Services (Drone Survey of Goonzion) - £320.00
Lanhydrock Gardening Services (Grass Cutting) - £638.40
Sean Moyse (Repairs to Play Tower) - £4006.80
Nicholls Plumbing and Heating (Heating for Community Hub) - £4142.40
Thomas Thrussell (Toilet Donation Box) - £50.98
Christian Smith (Swing Seat) - £143.60
J R Agricultural and Engineering Services (Works on Goonzion) - £960.00

It was proposed by Councillor M Rowe and seconded by Councillor G Rogers that the above orders be authorized for payment. All councillors voted in favour of the proposal, apart from Councillors N Ball and C Smith, who having previously declared an interest, abstained from voting.

17. 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: £622.92 from Country Lane Enterprises for rent for the shop and £1741.21.00 as the LMP grant from Cornwall Council. She said that the bank account balances at £65,089.81 at 31st October 2025.

18. Co-option

To consider applications for co-option onto the parish council

None. It was agreed that the Chair would advertise in St Neot News for candidates for co-option.

PART 2

Members of the press and public are excluded from item 19 on the agenda due to the confidential financial and personal information to be discussed

19. Parish Council Employees

To review the terms and conditions for parish council employees

The Clerk left the meeting during discussions relating to her terms and conditions of employment.

The terms and conditions for both parish council employees were discussed and reviewed and agreed.

20. Date of next meeting

To confirm the date of the next Parish Council meeting on Wednesday 10th December 2025.

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Wednesday 10th December 2025.

There was no further business and the meeting was closed at 9:55pm.

ACTION POINTS

<u>MINUTE NO</u>	<u>ACTION</u>	<u>BY WHOM</u>
4	Fit swing seat	CS
4	Report broken salt bin	SB
4	Make base for bin at Lampen	HB
5	Report fly tipping at Crowpound	TH
5	Write letter of support for NT nomination for Kings Award	TH
6	Write to Julie Ball accepting offer of scouts being Poppy Appeal Coordinators	SB
8	Play equipment inspection reports to Clerk	AT
8	Obtain quote from LHGS	SB

8	Move picnic table near table tennis table	CS
8	Obtain price for 3 new picnic tables/benches	HB
9	Arrange meeting with Kate and Tina Lapthorne	SB
10	Advertise furniture in Cott Yard for sale	HB
11	Report car in Loveny Road to PCSO S Edser	TH
13	Contact Heather Taylor regarding donations for St Neot News	TH
18	Advertise for candidates for co-option in newsletter	TH