

**MINUTES OF THE ST NEOT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 10TH JUNE 2026 AT 7:30PM IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM, ST NEOT SOCIAL CLUB, ST NEOT**

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

Josie Williams, Ross Sanders and Maggie and Clive Elliott.  
Cornwall Councillor Sean Smith and PCSO S Edner

Sue Blaxley, Clerk and RFO.

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

**Public Participation**

Josie Williams said that an oak tree has fallen on the road to the Holy Well which is lying in the river and is dangerous as children are climbing on the tree. Councillor G Rogers said that the tree appears to be on the boundary with the road and the adjacent land.

Josie Williams left the meeting.

**1. Apologies**

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillor N Ball.

**2. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 20th May 2026**

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 20th May 2026, having been previously circulated, were agreed as an accurate record.

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

Councillor H Bunt declared an interest in item 15 on the agenda.

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

Councillor H Bunt said that he has advertised the surplus furniture for sale from Cott Yard. The Chair said that she reported the potholes on the road between Wenmouth Cross and Treverbyn Farm. Councillor C Smith confirmed that he has asked Colin Alford to look at the gate post on the gate onto Lampen Road. The Chair said that she would advertise the availability of the Community Hub for hire in the next newsletter. Councillor G Rogers reported that he and Councillor C Ugalde had visited the orchard and Councillor T Hooper said that she has resolved the matter of the pony on Goonzion with an inverted lip. The Chair explained that she has contacted Volunteer Cornwall regarding insurance cover for volunteers. She said that they are unable to provide insurance for volunteers on behalf of the parish

council and that they cannot supply high visibility vests. She said that the scouts have offered to lend volunteers some of the latter.

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

The Chair said that the monthly report from PCSO S Edner had been circulated to all councillors. In addition, she said that a parishioner has contacted the parish council to thank them for attempting to deal with the weeds without using noxious chemicals. She explained that she has been liaising with a local family who have received a No Fault Eviction Notice, attempting to secure the property in Church View. However, she said that this property has now been let to another person and that Cornwall Housing do not inform the parish council of vacant properties.

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

Councillor G Rogers said that the road to Milltown is subsiding and a fallen oak tree is blocking the river. Cornwall Councillor Sean Smith said that he would follow up this matter. Councillor M Rowe said that he would ascertain who the landowner is on the boundary with the road.

Councillor G Rogers said that the land opposite Quarry Cottage has been adopted by Cornwall Council and he questioned when this will be cut as it is dangerous to visibility on this section of highway. Cornwall Councillor Sean Smith said that he would follow up this matter.

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

The Clerk asked if the September meeting could be moved to late August. It was agreed that the meeting would take place on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> August 2026.

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

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

It was noted that the contractor has attended Doorstep Green and has now finished clearing one section of Doorstep Green. Councillor G Rogers said that he has filled the planters around the gazebo with compost and will plant the bedding plants. Councillor C Smith said that the play equipment will be officially inspected in 2 weeks time and that he will meet the inspectors on site.

#### **8. Shop and Community Hub**

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

None

## **9. Cott Yard**

### **To receive and consider matters arising relating to Cott Yard**

Councillor G Rogers said that the external glass canopy requires cleaning. It was agreed that Councillor G Rogers would ask a window cleaner to attend to this on a Saturday.

## **10. Toilets and Car Park**

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

Councillor G Rogers explained that he has contacted the contractor asking him for a price to re-surface the top section of the car park but has not had a response. Councillor C Smith reported that he is waiting for a quote to paint the toilet block and bus shelter. It was proposed by Councillor C Smith and seconded by Councillor A Tambllyn that Gary Rogers cuts the hedge at the rear of the car park. All councillors voted in favour of the proposal apart from Councillor G Rogers who abstained from voting.

## **11. St Neot Orchard**

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

The Chair said that the orchard requires strimming. It was proposed by Councillor M Rowe and seconded by Councillor T Thrussell that Gary Rogers strims the path in the orchard. All councillors voted in favour of the proposal apart from Councillor G Rogers who abstained from voting.

Councillor G Rogers explained that he and Councillor C Ugalde have visited the orchard to identify a suitable site for the scouts to use for outdoor activities. However, they did not find a suitable site for children to use but will meet the Scout Leader on site to discuss this further.

## **12. Donation Request**

### **To receive and consider a request for a donation from St Neot Produce Market towards advertising costs**

The Clerk said that she has received an email from Jenny Hart who is attempting to get more customers to attend the monthly markets by means of professionally printed roadside signs and A5 flyers for distribution to those who host holiday makers. Jenny Hart anticipates that this will cost approximately £100 - £150 and has asked if the parish council would contribute to these costs. Cornwall Councillor Sean Smith said that he has £100 in the Community Chest which the parish council could apply for for this purpose. It was proposed by Councillor C Smith and seconded by Councillor M Rowe that the Clerk applies to the Community Chest fund for £100 and that if the invoice for the advertising is more than £100 (but no more than £150), the

parish council will pay. All councillors voted in favour of the proposal. PCSO Edner and Cornwall Councillor Sean Smith said that they do attend the market on occasions.

### **13. Audit 2025/26**

#### **To receive and consider the Internal Audit Report**

It was noted that the Internal Audit Report had raised no issues of concern.

#### **To register any conflict of interest with BDOLLP**

There are no conflicts of interest with BDOLLP.

#### **a) To approve the Annual Governance Statement for 2025/26**

It was proposed by Councillor T Hooper and seconded by Councillor G Rogers that the Annual Governance Statement for 2025/26 be approved. All councillors voted in favour of the proposal.

#### **b) To approve the Accounting Statements for 2025/26**

It was proposed by Councillor A Tamblin and seconded by Councillor T Thrussell that the Accounting Statements for 2025/26 be approved. All councillors voted in favour of the proposal.

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

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

Cornwall Councillor Sean Smith said that highways issues must be reported through Cornwall Council's portal. In respect of the parking issues at Golitha Falls, he said that the parish council's views need to be made clear to Will Glassop. The Chair said that the parish council is asking for parking management solutions that will be in keeping with the area, such as boulders on the road edges and raised wooden structures. She explained that Will Glassop cannot say what measures will be used to address the parking issues until the TRO is in place. Councillor T Thrussell said that care must be taken with parking management solutions not to "push the problem further down the road". It was agreed that Cornwall Councillor Sean Smith would arrange a meeting with himself and representatives from both St Neot and St Cleer parish councils. PCSO S Edner said that no reports of vehicle obstructions in the vicinity have been reported to the Police.

Cornwall Councillor Sean Smith said that a meeting was held in Cornwall Council's emergency bunker where they have radio hams. He asked if there were any in the parish that could be contacted in the event of an emergency. Councillor A Tamblin said that EE intend to install battery backups on all their masts nationwide.

He noted that St Neot does not have a Neighbourhood Plan so have no provision for the erection of social housing. He asked if there were any views on the performance

of SWW in terms of not fulfilling their commitments in terms of reservoirs, sewage and water systems. Councillors said that they had not received any communication regarding this matter.

Councillor G Rogers said that he is still waiting for a map from Biffa regarding their street cleaning and that he has not seen the road sweeper in St Neot recently. Regarding the broken fence alongside the path from Loveny Road into Doorstep Green, Cornwall Councillor Sean Smith said that he has been informed by Cornwall Housing that they do not have the money to repair the fence. He said that he will pursue this matter further.

Councillor H Bunt said that he had made himself known to the Highways Manager for the area and that he will be the spokesperson for the drainage issues on the Carnglaze Caverns road.

Councillor G Rogers said that, on occasions, there are underage children riding quad bikes on Goonzion. PCSO S Edner said that if the vehicle carrying the quad bikes is parked at Goonzion, the registration number should be reported to him.

Councillor T Thrussell said that sheep are breaking through the temporary fencing at the junction of the A30 and Colliford Lake.

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

Councillor M Rowe said that he has levelled the parking area at Crowpound. Councillor H Bunt said that the pedestrian gate next to the cattle grid at the top of Tripp Hill is occasionally left open and that walkers need to be reminded to close the gate. Councillor C Smith asked the Clerk to contact JR Agriculture and ask them to cut the gold paths on Goonzion during July.

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

Councillor T Thrussell said that there had not been any meetings.

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

Cornwall Pension Fund (Pension for Clerk) - £260.77  
Julie Ball (Toilet cleaning) - £165.23  
Sue Blaxley (Backpay) - £333.39  
James Hallam Council Guard (Personal Accident Policy) - £483.99  
Mid Cornwall Powder Coating (Powder Coating Gate to War Memorial) - £250.00  
Sue Blaxley (3 months' salary and expenses) - £2998.35  
Source for Business (Water for Toilet) - £343.62  
Source for Business (Water for Pavilion) - £36.70  
South West Water (Water for Cott Yard) - £75.11  
Karen Bunt (Community Hub Cleaning) - £50.44  
JR Agriculture (Works in Doorstep Green) - £645.00  
EDF Energy (Parish Lighting) - £388.55  
Classic Fire (Fire Extinguisher servicing in Cott Yard) - £132.00

Councillor C Smith said that the cost of the water for the toilet seems very high. It was noted that the last two readings were estimated. Councillor H Bunt said that, on occasions, water is constantly running into the toilet bowl. Councillor C Smith said that he would obtain a price for a replacement cistern. It was proposed by Councillor M Rowe and seconded by Councillor T Thrusell that the above orders be authorized for payment. All councillors voted in favour of the proposal, apart from Councillor H Bunt, who having previously declared an interest, abstained from voting.

## **16. Finance Report**

### **To receive a current assessment of the accounts**

The Clerk reported that income in May 2026 comprised: £622.92 from Country Lane Enterprises as rent for the shop, £100 for use of the Community Hub, a VAT refund in the sum of £4607.32 and £675.10 from Heather Taylor as rent for Cott Yard. She said that the accounts balance at £61,701.67.

## **17. Co-option**

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

Ross Sanders said that he was interested in joining the parish council. He spoke briefly about his professional background and the skills that he could bring to the parish council.

It was agreed that Ross Sanders be co-opted onto the parish council.

## **PART 2**

**Under The Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 Sec 1 (2), members of the public and press were be excluded from the following agenda item due to the sensitive commercial information to be discussed**

## **18. Landlord Responsibility**

### **To receive and consider the parish council's responsibility, as landlord, for tenants' commercial businesses**

Some discussion took place regarding the parish council's responsibility, as landlord, for tenants' commercial businesses.

## **19. Date of next meeting**

### **To confirm the date of the next Parish Council meeting on Wednesday 8th July 2026.**

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> July 2026 in the Committee Room, St Neot Social Club, St Neot commencing at 7:30pm.

There was no further business and the meeting was closed at 9:20pm.

