

TRURO CITY COUNCIL



CITY OF TRURO

Town Clerks Department
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MEETING OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE HELD 10 NOVEMBER 2025 AT 1900 IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM, MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS, BOSCAWEN STREET, TRURO, TR1 2NE

PRESENT: Councillors Webb (Chairman), Councillors Stokes (Vice-Chairman), Wells (Mayor), Rich (Deputy Mayor), Carlyon, Knuckey, La Borde, Pascoe, and Swain.

APOLOGIES: Councillors Eathorne-Gibbons [personal] and Sunderhauf [personal].

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Councillors Biscoe and Tann.
David Rodda (Town Clerk), Esther Greig (Deputy Town Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer), Mark Wright (Facilities, Estates, & Compliance Manager) and William Thorpe-Stanley (Committee Clerk).

1 COUNCILLORS IN ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

The apologies were **noted**.

F/25/982

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

F/25/983

4 MINUTES

It was proposed by Councillor Pascoe, seconded by Councillor Stokes, and **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held 20 October 2025 were considered a correct record and signed.

F/25/984

3 OPEN SESSION FOR ELECTORS OF TRURO RELATING TO ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA VERBAL QUESTIONS

A member of the public spoke on a 'Climate Skills through Creativity' course funded by Cornwall Council, it was asked if the council would help promote it to residents and for members to attend themselves

Items were brought forward on the agenda by the Chair.

F/25/985

5 OFFICER REPORTS

a. Responsible Financial Officer Report

The report was **noted**.

F/25/896

8 EXAMPLE BUDGET FOR 2026/27

a. The RFO introduced the example budget as a standstill taking into account inflation, the Real Living Wage, the opening of Boscawen Park Sports Hub, and no adding to reserves. It was reported as requiring a 6.17% rise on the precept.

The committee discussed the example budget and sought clarity on the assumptions used to compile the budget. They also discussed what level of

CHAIRMAN'S
INITIALS

SW

increase might be justifiable and areas within the budget where savings could be made that could either be used to reduce any increase or fund additional activity. There is opportunity for further discussions in the delivery plan and budget workshops.

F/25/987

9 BANK BALANCES AND SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

At 31 October as follows:

Current Account	£86,625.43
Public Sector Deposit	£3,348,576.54
Money Market	Nil
=====	
Total	£3,435,201.97

The schedule of payments for October and bank balances as at 31 October were **noted**.

F/25/988

5 Facilities, Estates, and Compliance Manager Report

b. It was reported that the expression of interest had been submitted for the Municipal Buildings Heritage Refurbishment with the outcome expected in six weeks. Request For Quotes to be sent out by end of week.

The CIL funded tennis court lighting upgrades would be completed in November, and scaffolding had been erected at the Library for rooftop vegetation clearance that was causing water ingress.

The verbal report was **noted**.

F/25/989

6 CHAIRS REPORT

The Chair had nothing to report.

F/25/990

7 CORRESPONDENCE

None.

F/25/991

8 AGENDA ITEMS

b. SERVICE PLANS

The Town Clerk reminded members that these were to give Council an idea, ahead of the budget workshop, of what could be done within departments if current levels of funding are maintained and what could be achieved if additional funding is made available.

i. Events

The Committee discussed the current events programme and their desire to run larger events similar to Newquay and Falmouth Town Councils. The Town Clerk informed members of the regulations involved and the significant costs this comes with, as well as the popularity of Councils current events programme amongst residents. The Lemon Quay events strategy was confirmed as being due by end of the year, results of the Lemon Quay survey making it clear that food markets are most valued by residents and visitors. For comparison the Town Clerk also reported that Falmouth Town Council allocate over £60,000 to events each year whereas Councils current budget is £20,000.

ii. VisitTruro & Communications

The Town Clerk explained the position of VisitTruro with the loss of VisitCornwall. As VisitCornwall will no longer be promoting Cornwall as a destination to UK and overseas visitors, VisitTruro will need to adjust its focus to ensure that Truro remains active in this space. The service plan outlined a range of activities that could achieve this aim as well as the resources required to deal with the communications function of Truro City Council.

iii. Visitor information Centre
The delivery plan was noted.

iv. Parks
A benchmark was being put together by the Town Clerk using data from other Cornish Parish and Town Councils on spending, staffing, and areas managed.

F/25/992

c. ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR OFFICER EXTENSION OF FUNDING

The report on the activities of the Truro Antisocial Behaviour Officer was **noted**.

F/25/993

Members gave their support for the work of the ASB Officer yet raised that they would like to see a tougher response as it was felt being soft on petty crimes gave the impression there was no consequence, potentially encouraging more serious crimes.

It was proposed by Councillor Pascoe, seconded by Councillor Rich and **recommended** that Council sign the three year Service Level Agreement with Cornwall Council for the provision of an Antisocial Behaviour Officer for Truro and that a total of £102,818 is allocated by Truro City Council to Cornwall Council as its contribution to the costs of the services covered by this Service Level Agreement for the period August 2026 to July 2029, and to write to the Police and Crime Commissioner requesting a contribution.

F/25/994

d. HEIGHTENED SECURITY IMPLEMENTATION FOR EVENTS

The report providing further information on the requirement for additional security measures within Truro City Council's own events programme and events held on Truro City Council property/land was **noted**.

F/25/995

Training and awareness sessions being held for staff and volunteers were **noted**.

F/25/996

The Event Officer's engagement with the principal authorities emergency planning teams, Counter Terrorism Security Advisors, and emergency services for additional support and coordination was **noted**.

F/25/997

It was proposed by Councillor Webb, seconded by Councillor La Borde and **recommended** that Council develops and adopts a formal emergency and terrorism response plan for Council managed venues and events.

F/25/998

It was proposed by Councillor Webb, seconded by Councillor La Borde and **RESOLVED** to authorise the Town Clerk and the Events Officer to work with other councils to find a cost-effective method of sharing additional security resources to deliver best value.

F/25/999

It was proposed by Councillor Webb, seconded by Councillor La Borde and **recommended** that Council budget for necessary safety improvements,

F/25/1000

CHAIRMAN'S INITIALS

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such as signage, equipment, or secure access control methods over the next three years.

It was proposed by Councillor Webb, seconded by Councillor La Borde and **recommended** that Council incorporate the necessary Martyn's Law requirements into the terms and conditions for event organisers using Truro City Council owned spaces in addition the processes used for Truro City Council organised events.

F/25/1001

e. **BONFIRE & FIREWORKS EVENT WORKING GROUP**

It was proposed by Councillor Wells, seconded by Councillor Rich and **RESOLVED** to set the membership at seven for the Bonfire & Fireworks Event Working Group.

F/25/1002

It was proposed by Councillor Webb, seconded by Councillor Swain and **RESOLVED** to have the aim of the Bonfire & Fireworks Event Working Group be to answer the question whether it is possible to safely stage a Bonfire Night Firework Display in Truro in 2026, and the Town Clerk be added to the attending officers.

F/25/1003

Members to be appointed at Full Council.

F/25/1004

f. **IT POLICY**

It was proposed by Councillor La Borde, seconded by Councillor Stokes and **recommended** Council adopt the IT Policy.

F/25/1005

g. **STAFF GUIDE TO GDPR, DATA ASSET REGISTER, INFORMATION AUDITING, THE DATA USE & ACCESS ACT 2025, AND TRAINING REQUIREMENTS**

The guide was **noted**.

F/25/1006

h. **2025-26 Q2 INTERNAL CONTROL CHECKS**

The 2025-26 Q2 Internal Control Checks were **noted**.

F/25/1007

10 **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

It was proposed by Councillor Webb, seconded by Councillor Pascoe and **RESOLVED** to exclude the press and public in accordance with s1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, during consideration of the following item by reason of its confidential nature: contracts.

F/25/1008

SALE OF ALL OR PART OF LAND TO A DEVELOPER

The Town Clerk explained that this was an unsolicited approach to purchase the land for a mixed-use development.

[Councillor Wells left the meeting at 21:07.]

Councillors considered factors such as the spaces protection within the TKNDP, the sites function as a SUDS area, and the soon to be implemented new allotments.

It was proposed by Councillor La Borde, seconded by Councillor Pascoe and **RESOLVED** to thank the developer for their enquiry and respond that Truro City Council has no interest in selling the land as it wishes to keep it as "Protected Land" as per the Truro and Kenwyn Neighbourhood Plan.

F/25/1009

T1 **READMITTANCE OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

It was proposed by Councillor Webb, seconded by Councillor Pascoe and **RESOLVED** to readmit the press and public.

F/25/1010

12 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting was **noted** as 12 January 2025.

F/25/1011

13 ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

F/25/1012

The meeting closed at 21:14.

S. Webb

Chairman

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