

# TRURO CITY COUNCIL



**CITY OF TRURO**  
Town Clerk

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**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARKS AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE HELD ON MONDAY 8 SEPTEMBER 2025 AT 7.00 PM IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM, FIRST FLOOR, MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS, BOSCAWEN STREET, TRURO**

- PRESENT:** Councillors La Borde (Chairman), Douglas-Martin, Green, Rabey, Rich (Deputy Mayor), Southcombe, Tann and Tucker. Webb (Chairman of the Finance and General Purposes Committee), and Honorary Freeman Wells (Mayor).
- APOLOGIES:** Councillors Eathorne-Gibbons and Mepham.
- ABSENT:** None.
- ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:** Councillors Biscoe, Mrs Carlyon, and Swain. Richard Budge, Parks and Amenities Officer, Esther Greig, Deputy Town Clerk/RFO, and Cheryl Simpson, Committee Clerk.

1. **COUNCILLORS IN ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES** PK/25/591  
The apologies were **noted**.  
  
[Councillor Tann left the meeting at 19:01. Councillors Southcombe and Wells arrived in the meeting at 19:03.]
2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** PK/25/592  
None.
3. **OPEN SESSION FOR ELECTORS OF TRURO RELATING TO ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA - VERBAL QUESTIONS** PK/25/593  
None.
4. **MINUTES** PK/25/594  
It was proposed by Councillor Rabey, seconded by Councillor Green, and **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Parks and Amenities Committee Meeting held on 8 July 2025 were a correct record and signed.
5. **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT** PK/25/595  
The Chairman reported back on a meeting of local residents from the Newbridge Lane area she had attended with the Parks and Amenities Officer and Community Development Officer. Dogs had been digging holes in the areas of park identified to be used as a football pitch for Grasshoppers Youth Football Teams and a notice had been posted up on site saying that if this continued the area would have to be fenced. A number of local residents expressed concern about the notice and about car parking in the locality. Concerns about the notice were allayed and the dates of football fixtures were shared. The football club would carry out repairs for training and matches with the soil provided by the Parks Department. The Chairman, in

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her role as Cornwall Councillor, was in the process of raising the parking issues with Cornwall Council, the Highways Authority.

6. **CORRESPONDENCE** PK/25/596

- a. Copy of Privy Council Order dated 9 July 2025 closing Kenwyn Parish Church Churchyard  
Noted. PK/25/597
- b. Five emails of appreciation for the Parks Team  
Noted. PK/25/598
- c. Letter dated August 2025 from Cornwall Council regarding Enhanced Local Maintenance Partnership Grant for 2025 – 2026  
The Parks and Amenities Officer reported that footpaths were graded bronze, silver and gold by Cornwall Council and in the past Truro City Council or its contractor maintained the paths in its area. He undertook to carry out a condition survey and report back to a future meeting. PK/25/599

During a wide-ranging discussion issues were highlighted including Chainwalk Drive (hedge in poor condition), footpath from Moresk Road to Treffry Road (fence in poor condition by steep drop) and Tregurra Lane (encroaching gorse). Members' attention was drawn to Cornwall Council's Definitive Map which displayed paths in detail.

It was proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Councillor Tann, and **RESOLVED** that the Parks and Amenities Officer be requested to report to a future Committee meeting on an application for funding after undertaking a condition survey of the paths on Cornwall Council's Definitive Map for footpaths. PK/25/599

[Councillor Tann returned to the meeting at 19:12.]

7. **Q1 EXPENDITURE TO BUDGET SUMMARY 2025-26** PK/25/600

[In a change to the agenda this item as considered before Item 8 Initial Condition Survey of Leats System.]

The Deputy Town Clerk/RFO presented her report and tabled a copy of Premises Repair and Maintenance transactions 01.04.25 to 05.08.25. A number of items miscoded to this budget would be corrected. Questions were asked and answers provided. There would be a report to a future meeting on the use of \$106 funds held for Newbridge Lane. The contents of the report were noted.

It was proposed by Councillor Rabey, seconded by Councillor Tann, and **RECOMMENDED to the Finance and General Purposes Committee and Council** that: PK/25/601

1. \$106 ear-marked reserves are managed as set out (to be considered in the overall Council Investment Strategy):

- Treffry, St. Georges and Beechwood - Invest funds from in CCLA property fund. £268,085.69. Long-term investment – review in 5-years. Dividends to be released towards maintenance costs
- Newbridge Lane - hold funds in CCLA deposit account until a capital spend and maintenance program has been agreed.

2. Boscawen Sports Hub match funding should be balanced to Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) receipts.

It was also **RECOMMENDED to Council** that £30,000 for 2025-26 budget is placed in the vehicles ear-marked reserve.

PK/25/602

[The Deputy Town Clerk/RFO left the meeting at 20:04. Councillor Green left the meeting at 20:04 and returned at 20:06.]

### 8. INITIAL CONDITION SURVEY OF LEATS SYSTEM

[In a change to the Agenda this item was considered after Item 7 Q1 Expenditure to Budget Summary 2025-26.]

The Parks and Amenities Officer presented a condition survey report to the Committee together with a recommended schedule of works with guesstimated costs. It was noted that doing nothing was not an option, action was required to address the complex issues raised in the report. Following a lively discussion during which questions were asked and answers given:

It was proposed by Councillor Rich, seconded by Councillor Tann, and **RECOMMENDED TO FULL COUNCIL** the following schedule of works:

PK/25/603

Section of Leats	Description	Estimated Budget
1	Raise height of catchment tank and make alterations to the grill feeding into the bubble pool. This would require a financial contribution to the Environment Agency to encourage them to carry out the work.	£7,500
2	Option 2 Dry up, dredge out and find out where leaks are coming from. Carry our repairs to the leaks and undertake slurry tanking (waterproofing). (In-house)	£15,500
3	Re-render and de-sludge all manhole covers in the city centre.	£14,500
4	Encourage Cornwall Council to relevel, repoint and to maintain the Leats channels in city centre.	nil

### 9. REVIEW OF EXISTING PLANTING STRATEGY

The Parks and Amenities Officer sought guidance from the Committee in order to undertake an options analysis of different planting strategies for Truro City Council in order to reduce the cost and carbon impact of the planting programme whilst also maintaining the quality of displays. During a lively debate the evolving changes to the Council's planting strategy over the past thirty years were applauded. It was also noted that the initial results of a public consultation on priorities for the Council revealed that the Council's parks, gardens and open spaces were very popular.

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It was proposed by Councillor Rich, seconded by Honorary Freeman Wells, and **RECOMMENDED** that the status quo of the Council's current planting strategy be maintained and continued. **PK/25/604**

**10. REQUEST FOR ST PETROC'S MEMORIAL GARDEN** **PK/25/605**

It was proposed by Councillor Rich, seconded by Councillor Southcombe, and **RESOLVED** that (a) in principle, St Petroc's Charity install a memorial garden at the junction of City Road and Infirmary Hill and (b) the Parks and Amenities Officer discuss the potential location with St Petroc's Charity and report back to a future meeting as necessary.

**11. WORKING GROUP AND SUB-COMMITTEE** **PK/25/606**

**Truro Nature Recovery Forum**

- a. The minutes of the Forum meeting held on 24 July 2025 were **noted**.
- b. The minutes of the Forum meeting held on 4 September 2025 were **noted**.

**12. STANDING ITEMS**

- a. Boscawen Park - Dredging of Swanpool – Update **PK/25/607**  
The update was **noted**.
- b. Towns Fund Deal Boscawen Park Sports Hub Project and Pitch Improvement Works Update **PK/25/608**  
The update report was **noted**.
- c. Swing Bridge Project Update **PK/25/609**  
The Committee **noted** the update report.

**13. INFORMATION ITEMS**

The Parks and Amenities Officer reported that following a tree survey a large Poplar tree suffering Ganoderma and a Copper Beech with Meripilus needed to be removed from Boscawen Park. There would also be a report to a future meeting on the proposed health hub at Boscawen Park. The Parks and Amenities Officer's report was **noted**. **PK/25/610**

It was proposed by Councillor Wells, seconded by Councillor Tucker, and **RESOLVED that** (a) the report be noted and (b) the new bench to be installed by the Council on behalf of Kenwyn Community Association (KCA) at the bus stop in Chainwalk Drive near the junction with Higher Trehaverne be added to the Council's list of maintained benches and further notes that KCA will reimburse the Council for any associated installation and maintenance costs. **PK/25/611**

**14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING** **PK/25/612**  
6 October 2025.

**15. ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS** **PK/25/613**

Kenwyn Hill Playing Field Sublease Report, Padel Tennis report and final pond policy, Parks Department Service Plan, use of S106 funds held for Newbridge Lane, and proposed health hub at Boscawen Park report.

The meeting closed at 21:08.

  
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