

# TRURO CITY COUNCIL



CITY OF TRURO  
Town Clerk

Town Clerk's Department  
Municipal Buildings  
Boscawen Street  
Truro TR1 2NE  
Tel. (01872) 274766  
www.truro.gov.uk  
email: info@truro.gov.uk

**MEETING OF TRURO CITY COUNCIL HELD ON  
MONDAY 24 November 2025 at 7.00 pm  
in the Council Chamber, Municipal Buildings, Boscawen Street, Truro**

**PRESENT:** The Mayor (Honorary Freeman Wells),  
Councillors: Biscoe, Mrs Carlyon, Claxton, Collins, Douglas-Martin, Knuckey, Nolan, Pascoe, Rabey,  
Rich, Southcombe, Stokes, Swain, Tann, Tucker, Webb, and Wetherill.

**APOLOGIES:** Councillors Honorary Freeman Eathorne-Gibbons, Green, Mephram, and Sunderhauf.

**ABSENT:** Griffiths.

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:** David Rodda MBE (Town Clerk), Rev. Andy Boorne (Mayor's Chaplain), Esther Greig (Deputy Town Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer) and William Thorpe-Stanley (Committee Clerk).

## PRAYERS

Prior to the formal business of the Council, the Mayor's Chaplain said prayers.

## 1. COUNCILLORS IN ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

Apologies were **noted**.

**25/1039**

The Mayor conveyed Councillor Eathorne-Gibbons best Christmas wishes to the Council.

## 2. DISCLOSURES OR DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS AND ANY DISPENSATIONS

Councillor Wells - item 10 i, non-pecuniary, to leave the room.

**25/1040**

## 3. MINUTES OF COUNCIL

It was proposed by Councillor Pascoe, seconded by Councillor Swain, and  
**RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 27 October 2025 were  
considered a correct record.

**25/1041**

## 4. OPEN SESSION FOR CORNWALL COUNCILLORS

### Councillor Rich Cornwall Councillor for Tregolls

Councillor Rich reported that he was busy looking at budgets at Cornwall Council, assessing financial challenges with Central Governments indication that Local Government funding will change during the next four years with those areas previously not as well of as others being given more funds. It was hoped Cornwall fell into this category. Savings to be made in the meantime.

It was also reported that in talking to traders in Truro parking was an issue, especially with the Christmas Market. Staff parking in Garras <sup>wharf</sup> ~~W~~arf meant visitors looking to spend money could not do so easily. The Park & Ride should be promoted more to mitigate this.

Councillor Rich also reported on his attendance at the Legal Service stating how excellent it was but lacked representation from Truro City Councillors.

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*[Handwritten initials]*

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**Councillor Nolan, Cornwall Councillor for Boscawen and Redannick**

Councillor Nolan address the sudden withdrawal of First Bus, informing members that Cornwall Council is working hard to resolve and the Park & Ride should continue. The ticket machines to be installed at the Park & Ride sites were to charge those just parking.

The Planning department was beginning to lose appeals owing to weakened planning policy, with government also planning legislation to make it easier for developers.

The Government had opened £5bn for pride of place bids citing Cornwall as doing the right things but was ineligible as it had no Mayor. This was also a barrier to funding from Homes England to fulfil the housing requirements. However, the Government was softening on this issue as it comes to understand local needs.

**Councillor LaBorde, Cornwall Councillor for Gloweth, Malabar, and Shortlanesend**

Reported that Piggy Lane was still blocked and had been reported to enforcement. Efforts were still being made to get it designated as a public right of way.

At Langarth it was 'crunch time' on where to finance the 'Way Forward Plan' to be managed by a single developer that was 98% owned by Cornwall Council and 2% owned by Treveth. The Park & Ride was no longer to be extended owing to budgetary constraints.

**Councillor Webb Cornwall Councillor for Moresk and Trehaverne**

Councillor Webb reported that he had written to the Licensing Portfolio holder asking that Cornwall Council lean on licence holders that should be doing more to mitigate shoplifting of alcohol.

Cornwall Council was now seeing the urgency of a Transport Strategy.

A report on the Pydar Street development masterplan was expected early next year. 25/1042

**5. OPEN SESSION FOR ELECTORS OF TRURO**

None. 25/1043

**6. TOWN CLERK'S REPORT**

The Town Clerk reported that going into budget setting it would be helpful if members could indicate what options they would like tabled at the workshop. The café had been awarded an interim four at its food hygiene retest a significant improvement with only minor changes left to make to get to a five.

The report was **noted**. 25/1044

**7. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR**

The Mayor's report was **noted**. It was proposed by Councillor Wells, seconded by Councillor Biscoe and **RESOLVED** that Council accepts with gratitude the portrait of the late Honorary Freeman Arnold Hodge and delegates the Town Clerk in consultation with the Mayor to identify an appropriate location for it in the Municipal Buildings. 25/1045

**8. VERBAL OR WRITTEN PORTFOLIO REPORTS OF MEETINGS OR CONFERENCES ATTENDED BY MEMBERS**

Councillor Pascoe thanked the Council for its support at the CALC AGM where he was successfully appointed to the executive board. 25/1046

**9. QUESTION TIME PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER NO. 6K – WRITTEN QUESTIONS ONLY**

None. 25/1047

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**10. AGENDA ITEMS**

- a) Minutes of the John Cooper Furniss Charity Meeting held 27 October 2025 were **noted**. 25/1048
- b) Minutes of the Parks and Amenities Committee Meeting held 3 November 2025 were **noted**. 25/1049
- i. **Emails dated 27.10.25 regarding the cost of tennis courts floodlighting.**  
It was proposed by Councillor Webb, seconded by Councillor Rabey and **RESOLVED** that the floodlighting tokens be maintained at current levels. 25/1050

**ii. Condition Survey of Definitive Map Footpaths PK/25/963**

Thanks were given to the those that put the comprehensive report together.

An amendment to change 'seek a review ' to 'insist upon an urgent review' was proposed by Councillor Biscoe, seconded by Councillor Carlyon and carried.

It was proposed by Councillor Webb, seconded by Councillor Biscoe and **RESOLVED** to:

1. apply for Enhanced LMP Grant funding to implement the improvements to footpaths in Truro as outlined below:

Path No.	Repairs Needed	Cost
326/14/1, 326/14/2, 326/14/3, 326/14/4, 326/14/5	Improve footpath signs.	£1,960
326/17/1	Fix the stile and add footpath signage.	£620
326/18/1, 326/18/2	Renew 4 stiles and 1 kissing gate. There are more accessible options but we need to ensure it is livestock proof.	£1,400
326/31/1	Get large tree cleared and waste removed.	£900
326/32/1, 326/32/2	Replace stile.	£700
	Total	£5,580 + VAT

2. make Cornwall Council aware of the other repairs and improvements to public footpaths required using the condition survey by the Assistant Countryside Ranger.
3. to insist upon an urgent review of the Definitive Footpaths by Cornwall Council.
4. to canvas Cornwall Council to seek removal of the gold, silver and bronze categories of footpaths.
5. request Cornwall Council to apply more resources to bring footpaths back up to a suitable standard. 25/1051

**iii. Machinery and Equipment Schedule PK/25/965**

The schedule of machinery, plant, and vehicles was **noted**. 25/1052

**iv. Truro City Council Vehicle Fleet – Use Of Hydrogenated Vegetable Oil (HVO) Fuel PK/25/966**

It was proposed by Councillor Rabey, seconded by Councillor Swain and **RESOLVED**:

1. to continue to use diesel in larger vehicles and plant in order to maintain the validity of current vehicle warranties.
2. that as the fleet is replaced alternative fuel options such as hydrogen or bio-methane should be investigated in addition to electric vehicles. 25/1053

**v. Donkey Field – Licence from Cornwall Council PK/25/967**

It was proposed by Councillor LaBorde, seconded by Councillor Stokes and **RESOLVED**:

1. that the status quo be maintained i.e. the licence from Cornwall Council is not renewed for the Donkey Field and Truro City Council continue to cut the grass and empty the litter bins.
2. to instruct the Parks and Amenities Officer to liaise with Treveth and Cornwall Council over the future of the field post development and bring costed proposals for its

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management back to the Parks and Amenities Committee at a later date if they wish Council to take on its management in the future. **25/1054**

c) Minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee Meeting held 10 November 2025 were **noted**. **25/1055**

**i. Antisocial Behaviour Officer Extension of Funding F/25/994**

It was proposed by Councillor Webb, seconded by Councillor LaBorde and **RESOLVED** to 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. **25/1056**

Members queried why Truro had to pay for this service where Cornwall Council paid for it in other Towns. In addition to this Councillors would like to see more regular reporting.

**ii. Heightened Security Implementation for Events**

It was proposed by Councillor Webb, seconded by Councillor Swain and **RESOLVED** to:

1. F/25/998 - develop and adopt a formal emergency and terrorism response plan for Council managed venues and events.

2. F/25/1000 - budget for necessary safety improvements, such as signage, equipment, or secure access control methods over the next three years.

3. F/25/1001 - 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. **25/1057**

**iii. Bonfire and Fireworks Event Working Group F/25/1004**

The appointment of members to the working group was moved to later in the meeting.

**iv. IT Policy F/25/1005**

It was proposed by Councillor Stokes, seconded by Councillor Swain and **RESOLVED** to adopt the IT Policy. **25/1058**

d) Minutes of the William Yeaman Bennett Charity for the Poor, Incorporating the John White Charity Meeting held 12 November 2025 were **noted**. **25/1059**

e) It was **noted** that the Staffing Committee Meeting held on 17 November 2025 was inquorate. **25/1060**

The Mayor decided to move appointments to committees together within the meeting and voted en-bloc.

f) **John Cooper Furniss Charity - Vacancy**

g) **Staffing Committee – Vacancy**

The members that had submitted expressions of interest for the Bonfire and Fireworks Event Working Group, Staffing Committee, and John Cooper Furniss Charity were nominated by Councillor Wells, seconded by Councillor Webb.

It was proposed by Councillor Swain, seconded by Councillor Tucker and **RESOLVED** to hold a written ballot for the appointment to the Bonfire and Fireworks Event Working Group, Staffing Committee, and John Cooper Furniss Charity. **25/1061**

The result of the ballot was reported as follows;

**John Cooper Furniss Charity**

Councillor Douglas-Martin

**Staffing Committee**

Councillor Stokes.

**Bonfire & Fireworks Working Group**

Councillor Pascoe

Councillor Douglas-Martin

Councillor Knuckey

Councillor Stokes

Councillor Tann

**h) 'To Note' Agenda Items**

It was proposed by Councillor Pascoe, seconded by Councillor Rich that all items on the agenda that are "to note" be referenced together in an appendix to the agenda and noted en-bloc. The mayor shall ask beforehand if any member wishes to discuss any item before they move onto the next agenda item.

Members discussed the potential for confusion but supported the desire to save time for items that required action. The Town Clerk made clear that any decision should not add to the administrative workload of the council.

This motion fell at the vote.

25/1062

[Councillor Wells left the room at 20:51. The Deputy Mayor took the Chair.]

**i) VAT Review for Truro City Council**

- i. The Parkinson Partnership report on Truro City Council's VAT activities was **noted**.

25/1063

- ii. It was proposed by Councillor La Borde, seconded by Councillor Stokes and **RESOLVED:** that as part of the budget setting process that rents within tenancy agreements with the Citizens Advice Bureau and Young People Cornwall are revised to negate the VAT liability.

1. CAB – rent set at nominal/£1 (currently £5,477pa) and annual grant is stopped (currently £5,477.pa)

2. YPC – rent set at nominal/£1 (currently £3,534.pa) and its grant reduced accordingly.

- iii. to refund Young People Cornwall the rent paid to date in 2024-25 (£294.50 pcm) and deduct £3,534 from current year grant (£26,000 - £6,500 paid quarterly).

**25/1064**

[20:58 Councillor Wells re-entered the meeting and resumed the Chair. Councillor Webb left the meeting.]

**j) Renewal of Civility and Respect Pledge**

After hearing the issues faced by some members, the Mayor extended his support to all Councillors stating that he is happy to talk to individuals at any time. It was further said that Councillors sharing their concerns in the open may be beneficial to all.

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- i. It was proposed by Councillor Pascoe, seconded by Councillor Swain and **RESOLVED** to reaffirm and sign the Civility and Respect Pledge – confirming the statements. Councillor Rabey asked that his vote against the motion be recorded. **25/1065**
- ii. It was proposed by Councillor Biscoe seconded by Councillor Carlyon and **RESOLVED** that all Councillors should be recommended to sign the Statement of Assurance. Councillor Rabey asked that his vote against the motion be recorded. Councillors Stokes and Tann asked that their abstentions be recorded. **25/1066**
- iii. It was proposed by Councillor Swain seconded by Councillor Stokes and **RESOLVED** to adopt the Dignity at Work Policy 2025. **25/1067**

#### 11. **CORRESPONDENCE**

The following correspondence was received and **noted**. 25/1068

- a. SLCC | Government Consultation Response – Strengthening the Standards and Conduct Framework for Local Authorities in England
- b. A letter from Kier Mather MP Minister for Aviation, Maritime and Decarbonisation to Leader of Cornwall Council re. Local Authority Civil Enforcement Designation Order.
- c. The Cornwall Council Finance Briefing and Second Homes Council Tax Premium Update.
- d. The CALC News Bulletin 14.11.25.
- e. The briefing note regarding the introduction of parking charges at both Truro Park and Ride sites for non-bus users. Off-street parking order amendment.

#### 12. **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

It was proposed by Councillor Rabey, seconded by Councillor Swain and **RESOLVED** that in accordance with S1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the press and public will be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items by reason of their confidential or special nature: business. **25/1069**

#### 13. **REQUEST TO INSTALL PADEL TENNIS FACILITY**

Members considered the request and were pleased to have the opportunity to support additional, much desired provision but felt there were many factors such as effect on neighbouring residents and harm to wildlife that must be accounted for.

It was proposed by Councillor Stokes, seconded by Councillor Wells and **fell at the vote** to support the request in principle with the condition that mitigation to all members' concerns were presented at a future meeting. Councillor Carlyon requested that her abstention for this vote be recorded.

It was proposed by Councillor Wells, seconded by Councillor Pascoe and **RESOLVED** to extend the meeting until 22:00. **25/1070**

#### 14. **LEMON QUAY**

- i. The contents of the report was **noted**. 25/1071
- ii. It was proposed by Councillor Knuckey, seconded by Councillor Swain and **RESOLVED** to defer decision on the item until the Lemon Quay Events Strategy, Cornwall Council have reported on the plans for the refurbishment and the Town Clerk negotiate the concerns raised during discussion. **25/1072**

#### 15. **READMITTANCE OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

It was proposed by Councillor Wells, seconded by Councillor Rabey and **RESOLVED** that the press and public be permitted to re-join the meeting following the conclusion of the confidential items. **25/1073**

#### 16. **DATE FOR NEXT MEETING AND ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**

26 January 2026.

- i. Standing Order viii. Appointment of any new committees in accordance with Standing Order 5 – March 2026 meeting. 25/1074

17. **COMMON SEAL**

It was proposed by the Mayor, seconded by Councillor Swain, and **RESOLVED** that the Common Seal be affixed to any document or documents necessary to give effect to the resolutions passed by the Council at this Meeting. **25/1075**

The meeting closed at 21:55.

*C. H. Wells*

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MAYOR

*26<sup>th</sup> January 2028*

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