

TRURO CITY COUNCIL

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CITY OF TRURO
Town Clerk

MEETING OF TRURO NATURE RECOVERY FORUM (TNRF) HELD ON TUESDAY 3 FEBRUARY 2026 at 7.00 pm

in the Large Community Room, Second Floor, Truro Public Library, Union Place, Truro

PRESENT: Councillors: Southcombe (Chairman), Honorary Freeman Wells (Mayor) and La Borde.

External Members: Ms Sarah Douglas-Martin (Treffry Residents' Association),

ALSO PRESENT: Forum Advisor Mr Richard Argall (volunteer tree warden), Dr Mike Kent and Ms Kaz Muna.

APOLOGIES: Councillor Tucker, Ms Sue Allen, and Ms Jade Neville (Friends of Coosebean and Cornwall Wildlife Trust)

ABSENT: Councillor Rich (Deputy Mayor) and John Faragher (Friends of Daubuz Moor).

Also in Attendance: Richard Budge, Parks and Amenities Officer, Anna Cormie, Assistant Countryside Ranger and Cheryl Simpson, Committee Clerk.

1. COUNCILLORS IN ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

Noted.

NRF/25/1328

2. DISCLOSURES OR DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

NRF/25/1329

3. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 4 SEPTEMBER 2025

It was proposed by Councillor La Borde, seconded by the Chairman, and **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Truro Nature Recovery Forum Meeting held on 20 October 2025 were signed as a correct record. **NRF/25/1330**

4. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

None.

NRF/25/1331

5. TO APPOINT A NEW MEMBER

Dr Mike Kent noted that he was more involved with St Clement Parish Council and was no longer interested in becoming a member of TNRF but he would attend meetings where possible. **NRF/25/1332**

6. WILD TRURO MONIES

It was **noted** that at its meeting on 3 November 2025 the Parks and Amenities Committee agreed that of the £1295.35 originally allocated to the former Wild Truro project, £295 be allocated to developing mini-projects and £1000.35 be allocated for the development of a nature recovery strategy. **NRF/25/1333**

7. ESTABLISHMENT OF BIOLOGICAL RECORDING GROUP

Dr Mike Kent (in the absence of Mr Matt Stibley) presented a scoping document for the establishment of a biological recording group for the area

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of the parish of the City of Truro. The Forum generally supported the establishment of a recording group but queried whether the Group could stand alone from the City Council (and be more able to apply for potential funding streams) or sit under the Forum. It was also suggested such a group concentrate on City Council owned / managed land in the first instance.

Action: Chairman and Vice-Chairman to discuss with Mr Matt Stibley the potential establishment of a biological recording group for the area of the City of Truro Parish and report back to the next meeting.

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8. **MINI PROJECT AT TREMORVAH PLAYINGFIELD**

The Parks and Amenities Officer presented a scoping document for a mini-project at Tremorvah Playing Field which had been drafted by the Head Countryside Ranger, Chairman and Mr Richard Argall. The Parks and Amenities Officer noted the trees used might be different to those listed in the document. He also suggested material from trees which had fallen in the recent stormy weather might be utilised. Appropriate signage at entry points and on site might cost in the region of £900. The Ranger Team would link-up with Archbishop Benson School on the project. It was suggested a botanic audit be undertaken before and after implementation of the project. The project might need to be implemented in the Autumn in line with tree planting advice. It was noted The Forum did not have the power in its terms of reference to establish projects and authority need to be sought from the City Council. After some discussion:

It was proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Councillor La Borde, and **RECOMMENDED TO THE PARKS AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE** that a mini-project for Tremorvah Playing Field be established.

Action: Ranger Team to contact Mr Matt Stibley to discuss the feasibility of conducting a bioblitz at Tremorvah Playing Field prior to the mini-project.

NRF/25/1335

9. **ACCREDITATION TO NATURE TOWNS AND CITIES**

The Forum considered the accreditation scheme by Nature Towns and Cities and whether to formally seek accreditation. It was noted successful accreditation might lead to potential access to additional funding streams. After some discussion:

It was proposed by Councillor La Borde, seconded by Honorary Freeman Wells, and

RESOLVED that the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Ms Sarah Douglas-Martin to meet after this meeting to discuss in depth the feasibility of the Forum signing up to the Nature Towns and Cities accreditation scheme and report back to the next meeting.

NRF/25/1336

10. **LOVE WHERE YOU ARE FUNDING ROUND**

The Forum was asked to consider if there were any eligible projects.

Action: Committee Clerk to seek further information about this potential funding stream and report back to the next meeting.

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11. DRAFT TRURO NATURE RECOVERY STRATEGY

It was proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Ms Douglas-Martin, and **RECOMMENDED TO THE PARKS AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE** that the Parks and Amenities Officer, Head Countryside Ranger, Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Forum work with the Forum to develop a Nature Recovery Strategy for Truro City Council and report back to the next Forum meeting.

NRF/25/1338

12. FEEDBACK FROM POTENTIAL PARTNERS

An email from Truro School dated 08.01.26 was noted. The Assistant Countryside Ranger noted that they were already working on a coppicing project (harvesting material to refurbish the hedgehog sculptures) with Truro School.

Action:

1. Committee Clerk to ask Truro School if it wishes to be involved in additional future project led by the Countryside Ranger Team, such as data recording.
2. Councillor La Borde to contact Truro Bid and the Friends of Newbridge Lane if they wished to partner the Forum in its work.
3. Report back to the next meeting on actions 1 and 2.

NRF/25/1339

13. IDEAS FOR POTENTIAL EVENT

The Forum had been requested to reflect on their experience and bring forward ideas for a potential event for discussion at this meeting. A botanical/wildlife hunt around the town centre which children could do with their parents was suggested by the Chairman and Vice-Chairman. The Parks and Amenities Officer referred to the Council's Wild Truro publication and the existing Denzil hedgehog trail.

Action: Committee Clerk to arrange meeting for Chairman and Vice-Chairman with the Visit Truro and Digital Communications Manager and Events Officer to discuss ideas and report back to the next meeting.

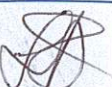
NRF/25/1340

14. CORRESPONDENCE

The items of correspondence had been deferred to this meeting when the meeting became inquorate.

- a. The email dated 17 09.25 regarding the Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Local Nature Partnership Conference was **noted**. The Assistant Countryside Ranger had attended this event reporting that further similar events might be arranged. One outcome was encouragement to organisations to commit themselves to pledge for nature. A new chair of the Cornwall Nature Recovery Forum had also been elected.
- b. The email dated 03.10.25 regarding South West Water's £2 million Nature Recovery Fund was **noted**. It was noted that this funding stream was not relevant to the Forum and the closing deadline had passed.


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15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING
Tuesday 17 March 2026.

NRF/25/1342

The meeting closed at 20:21.


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