

TRURO CITY COUNCIL



CITY OF TRURO
Town Clerk

Town Clerk's Department
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**MEETING OF TRURO CITY COUNCIL HELD ON
MONDAY 26 January 2026 at 7.00 pm
in the Large Community Room, Library Building, Union Place, Truro**

PRESENT: The Mayor (Honorary Freeman Wells),

Councillors: Biscoe, Mrs Carlyon, Claxton, Collins, Douglas-Martin, La Borde, Mepham, Nolan, Pascoe, Rabey, Rich, Southcombe, Sunderhauf, Swain, Tann, Tucker, Webb, and Wetherill.

APOLOGIES: Councillors Honorary Freeman Eathorne-Gibbons, Green, Knuckey and Stokes.

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 Cheryl Simpson (Committee Clerk).

PRAYERS

Prior to the formal business of the Council, Councillors stood for a minute's silence to remember Catherine Williams, Community Development Assistant who had recently passed away. The Mayor's Chaplain then said prayers.

1. COUNCILLORS IN ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

Apologies were **noted**.

25/1221

2. DISCLOSURES OR DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS AND ANY DISPENSATIONS

None.

25/1222

3. MINUTES OF COUNCIL

It was proposed by Councillor Swain, seconded by Councillor Douglas-Martin, and

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 24 November 2025 were considered a correct record subject to the correction of two typographical errors.

25/1223

4. OPEN SESSION FOR CORNWALL COUNCILLORS

Councillor La Borde, Cornwall Councillor for Gloweth, Malabar & Shortlanesend

Councillor La Borde reported following Storm Goretti, residents had been contacting her with various problems. Work had started on Cornwall Council's new Development Plan and she had joined a working group on that subject. A new planning infrastructure bill was expected to introduce radical changes to committees and policies. She undertook to forward on briefings to councillors for information.

Councillor Webb Cornwall Councillor for Moresk and Trehaverne

Councillor Webb reported a new CIL tranche had opened for applications to the value of £100k. Truro Park and Ride was continuing as usual and might consider extending its hours if a new need was proved. Cornwall Councillor Dan Rogerson was meeting Truro Traders next week. He had attended a briefing on the Pydar Street development and there was a new updated plan at a reduced cost. The focus was on developing the site and possibly installing a temporary carpark. Regarding an issue with responsibility for a fence at Treffry Road, he was awaiting an update from Persimmon Homes. Councillors continued to lobby

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Cornwall Council officers regarding the reduced car parking capacity in Truro. Councillors were encouraged to feedback via the latest Cornwall Council car park consultation.

Councillor Nolan, Cornwall Councillor for Boscawen and Redannick

Councillor Nolan reported about 4,000 trees had been lost due to Storm Goretta and fallen branches along Morlaix Avenue were awaiting removal. He also highlighted forthcoming changes to the planning system and the expected presumption of development within a 20-minute walk radius from railway stations. A tourism summit was taking place at the Eden project on 27 January which was welcomed by the tourism sector. He praised the town and parish council sector for their collective response to Storm Goretta which was particularly pertinent given funding for emergency planning was being considered by Cornwall Council. Finally, he commented that this year's Cornwall Council budget setting process was particularly difficult.

Councillor Rich Cornwall Councillor for Tregolls

Councillor Rich reported the Gas Hill car park which was dedicated to Newham Trail users had been abused by local commuters and there was a consultation to introduce a maximum stay of 4 hours which would be enforced. He also highlighted the challenging budget process being faced by Cornwall Council and the £20/30 million budget shortfall. He assured Councillors that Cornwall Councillors were interrogating the budget line by line. He said that the swing bridge project funded by Town Deal funding continued and highlighted rising costs such as inflation on developments including the Langarth Village development.

25/ 224

5. OPEN SESSION FOR ELECTORS OF TRURO

None.

25/ 225

6. TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

The Town Clerk commended City Council officers on their team effort in responding to Storm Goretta, including covering telephone calls, clearing up and providing services as usual. He also corrected a typographical error on page 2 of his report – Under New Life for City Buildings three projects, not two had been completed. He noted a bidding process had begun for the Town of Culture fund (£3M for the winner £250k for the runner -up). He encouraged all councillors to read the relevant guidance in advance of his forthcoming report to the Finance and General Purposes Committee. If the City Council wished to make a bid, he would need to employ a professional bid writer due to capacity issues. The Deputy Town Clerk had attended data protection training the previous week and all councillors were encouraged to attend.

The Town Clerk reported moving the bus station was currently an aspiration. He agreed to find out from Cornwall Council what weighting they gave the on-going gas works in the current Truro traffic monitoring exercise. The management of ground drainage in the Langarth Village development area had been raised. The governance structure of the development would become clear in due course. He noted that a report on the King Street development would be considered by the Regenco Board shortly and it was anticipated that projects would be completed in the 12 months deadline. Once the Regenco Board had made a decision he would report back to Councillors again. Regarding a question about clawback he noted this was a risk, but the Board was committed to delivery of the scheme by March 2028. The report was **noted**.

25/ 226

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

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The Mayor and Town Clerk undertook to discuss the suggestion of moving the portrait of Alderman Dorrington from the Committee Room to the Council Chamber in the Municipal Buildings. The portrait of Councillor Hodge could then be hung in the Committee Room. The Mayor's report was **noted**. 25/1227

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

None. 25/1228

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

The following questions were asked by Councillor Rabey and the answers were provided by the Town Clerk:

Question: Does Councillor Pascoe still have the authority to go in and change stuff on the website?

Answer: As the architect of the site, he does still have log in credentials that would allow him to access the website. However, once we took on the management and maintenance of the site internally, he agreed to not use this access. There is no evidence of any recent login from Cllr Pascoe and the last page edit made by him was to a Moresk Centre page on the 30/04/2024 at 17:51.

Question: Does Councillor Pascoe still have the master login to the website?

Answer: Cllr Pascoe does not have access to the domain registration. His login credentials are still live which would allow him to edit the website in WordPress but as stated above, he has not used this login since the 30th of April 2024.

Question: If yes to either of those questions, why?

Answer: Given that Cllr Pascoe built the current site I deemed it helpful that until new staff became conversant with its operation that he was able to provide technical support in instances where a problem occurred. As staff confidence and knowledge about how the current website was constructed the need for this technical support has diminished to a point where it is no longer required.

With a new site under development, I decided that this was the best opportunity to tidy up access to the Truro City Council website as removing Cllr Pascoe's access from the current site may have unforeseen implications to its operation. As stated above, access to the website is regularly reviewed so if Cllr Pascoe was accessing it, we would know. Therefore, I am confident that Cllr Pascoe is not actively involved in the current website and I can also confirm that he, or any other councillor will not have access to the new one either.

25/1229

10. AGENDA ITEMS

a) Minutes of the Planning and Licensing Committee Meeting held 13 November 2025 were **noted**. 25/1230

(i) Minute P/25/1033 Community Highways Improvement Programme 2023-2029

It was **noted** that the proposed resolution was superseded by Planning and Licensing Committee on 15 January 2026. 25/1231

b) Minutes of the Emergency Committee Meeting held 1 December 2025 were **noted**. 25/1232

(i) Minute E/25/1086 Terms of Reference

It was proposed by Councillor Tann, seconded by Councillor Sunderhauf, and **RESOLVED** that Council adopts the terms of reference for the Emergency Committee.

25/1233

c) Minutes of the Planning and Licensing Committee Meeting held 4 December 2025 were **noted**. 25/1234

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d) Minutes of the Parks and Amenities Committee Meeting held 5 January 2026 were **noted**. 25/1235

(i) Minute PK/25/1127 Email dated 14.12.25 Request from a local resident to establish a memorial and reflection space for people affected by Covid 19

It was proposed by the Mayor, seconded by Councillor Douglas-Martin, and

RESOLVED that a reply be sent presenting options for the requestee and their supporters to choose, then pursue an appropriate action. Further, that the Town Clerk to write on behalf of the Parks and Amenities Committee for a Truro and Cornwall wide memorial at County Hall.

25/1236

e) Minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee Meeting held on 12 January 2026 were **noted**. 25/1237

(i) Minute F/25/1166 Public Conveniences Strategic Review

It was proposed by Councillor Webb, seconded by Councillor Sunderhauf and

RESOLVED that the Accommodation Working Group be amended to Facilities and Properties Working Group.

25/1238

It was also **noted** that the Finance and General Purposes Committee will review the terms of reference for this Working Group. 25/1239

(ii) Minute F/25/1172 Transfer from Reserves

It was proposed by Councillor Webb, seconded by Councillor Sunderhauf, and

RESOLVED to transfer £2800 from the grant ear-marked reserve to cover potential grant awards.

25/1240

f) Minutes of the Planning and Licensing Committee Meeting held 15 January 2026 (meeting postponed from 8 January) were **noted**. 25/1241

(i) Minute P/25/1189 Highways Improvement Scheme

It was proposed by Councillor Wetherill seconded by Councillor Webb, and

RESOLVED that the Bosvigo Road, Chapel Hill improvements as the expression of interest for the Highways Improvement Scheme funding to prevent pavement parking using obstacles and create a crossing over Chapel Hill to Kenwyn Street. Also, to instruct the Town Clerk to write to Cornwall Council about the poor state of the footpaths to and around Rosewin Row requesting an inspection then production of a scheme of repair.

25/1242

g) Minutes of the Staffing Committee Meeting held on 19 January 2026 were **noted**. 25/1243

(i) Minute S/25/1206 Travelling and Subsistence Policy

A motion was proposed by Councillor Biscoe, seconded by Councillor Rich: That the Travelling and Subsistence Policy be approved.

An amendment was proposed by Councillor Sunderhauf, seconded by Councillor Biscoe: The addition of new point 2.3:

"Staff should choose the most sustainable travel option available and practicable, including active travel and public and shared transport. Alternatives to the high carbon option of flying

must be considered, and justification made if it cannot be avoided. The carbon footprint of all travel will be recorded and contributed to Truro City Council's carbon footprint." upon being put to the vote, was won.

RESOLVED that the travelling and subsistence policy be approved with the amendment: **25/1244**

(ii) Minute S/25/1207 Probationary Policy

It was proposed by Councillor Webb, seconded by Councillor Biscoe, and

RESOLVED that the Probationary Policy with minor amendments – that authority is delegated to the Town Clerk and line managers to consult the Council's external HR consultant as necessary – be approved. **25/1245**

(iii) Minute S/25/1208 Secondment Policy

It was proposed by Councillor Biscoe, seconded by Councillor La Borde, and

RESOLVED that the Secondment Policy be approved. **25/1246**

h) Motion – Malabar Estate Waste Bins and Waste Collection

A motion was proposed by Councillor La Borde, seconded by Councillors Claxton, Collins, Green, Mephram, Rabey, Southcombe and Sunderhauf: To fund the supply of 2 waste bins and subsequent waste collection costs on the Malabar Estate following the decision by Cornwall Housing to remove waste bins from their land in that area.

The Town Clerk reported this would cost £2124.33 excluding VAT annually. A lively debate ensued. It was suggested that this cost could be covered by reducing the annual weed treatment by one spray. The positive impact on the local environment and public health by the reduction of litter across the City of Truro was highlighted. Concern was raised that if the City Council supplied the bins and collected waste from this location this could set a precedent for other areas to follow. Members were reminded that Cornwall Council was the waste collection authority; the City Council collected waste from its own land. An alternative approach to mitigate the problem of littering was suggested which was moving waste bins to different locations eg spacing out bins more widely and this approach had already worked elsewhere. It was also noted that the Facilities, Estates and Compliance Manager was reviewing the City Council's waste collection service.

Upon being put to the vote the motion was lost.

[Councillor Mephram left the meeting at 20:35.] 25/1247

i) CCTV Provision

Council thanked the Town Clerk for his hard work on this matter and requested the Town Clerk to write to the Town Clerk of Redruth Town Council thanking them for all their work on this project.

It was proposed by Councillor Biscoe, seconded by Councillor Webb, and

RESOLVED that the funding agreement to accept a £10,000 grant from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for additional CCTV provision in Truro, be signed. **25/1248**

[Councillor Tann left the meeting room at 20:36 and returned at 20:43.]

j) Review of ear marked reserves in order to release funds for emergency tree work and repairs to the Library and Victoria Gardens Lodge

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The Deputy Town Clerk advised by the end of the 2025 financial year it was hoped that the position regarding reserves would be clearer. Storm Goretti had not been taken account of in advance.

The report was **noted**.

It was proposed by Councillor Pascoe, seconded by Councillor Tann, and

RESOLVED that:

1. To reallocate ear-marked reserves allocated to the Leats Toilets, Duck Pond path and Allotments as required to emergency tree works and emergency repairs as required.
2. To release from the community buildings earmarked reserve as required for repairs.

25/1249

k) 2026-27 Draft Budget

(i) Emergency Committee 1 December 2025

Minute E/25/1090 2026/29 2026/27 Budget

It was proposed by Councillor Webb, seconded by Councillor Swain, and

RESOLVED that £250 be included in the draft 2026/27 budget to fund suitable training for volunteers.

25/1250

(ii) Planning and Licensing Committee 4 December 2025

Minute P/25/1118 Truro Transport Strategy Working Group

It was proposed by Councillor Swain, seconded by Councillor Pascoe, and

RESOLVED that £10,000.00 be allocated in the draft 2026/27 budget to progress the transport strategy.

25/1251

(iii) Parks and Amenities Committee 5 January 2026

Minute PK/25/1129 Estimates 2026/27

The motion was amended for clarity and replacement with "that Council approve the new layout of the budget to ensure efficient financial control, and further consideration of capital expenditure requirements.

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It was proposed by the Mayor, seconded by Councillor Pascoe, and

RESOLVED that Council approve the new layout of the budget to ensure efficient financial control, and further consideration of capital expenditure requirements.

25/1252

(iv) Minute PK/25/1130 Schedule of Fees and Charges 2025/26

It was proposed by Councillor Rabey, seconded by Councillor Biscoe, and

RESOLVED that the schedule of fees and charges for Parks and Amenities Committee be approved.

25/1253

(v) Staffing Committee 19 January 2026

Minute S/25/1216 Extra Hours and Grading Review (Included in the 2026-27 Budget Papers

It was proposed by Councillor Biscoe, seconded by Councillor Swain, and

RESOLVED that the grading review included in the 2026-27 budget papers be approved.

25/1254

(vi) Finance and General Purposes Committee 12 January 2026

Minute F/25/1166 Public Conveniences Strategic Review

It was proposed by Councillor Webb, seconded by Councillor Swain, and

RESOLVED that:

1. The allocation of £54,830 in 2026/27 for the ongoing maintenance and essential lifecycle upkeep of existing public conveniences be approved
2. The allocation of £129,983 in 2026/27 to an ear-marked reserve for future refurbishment/replacement public convenience projects be approved.

25/1255

(vii) Minute F/25/ 1168 2026-27 Draft Budget

The budget and precept report 2026-27 was **noted**.

The Mayor thanked all Councillors who had attended the recent budget workshops which were generally felt to be very useful. The Deputy Town Clerk reported that the insurance Company Zurich had provided a quote for the following year's premium and the price increased from £33.8k to £37k due to the increase in the number of vehicles and buildings the Council was responsible for; This would increase the rise in precept from 9.2% (page 20 of the report) to 9.3%. The Town Clerk asked in relation to interpretation of fees and charges if Councillors wished to apply the Truro charity rate to all charities which happened to have a presence in addition to Truro or just charities which had a Truro focus. Council generally considered that all charities should benefit from a charity rate. The Town Clerk noted that this interpretation was expected to reduce Lemon Quay income somewhat.

The third recommendation made by the Finance and General Purposes Committee was amended by the addition of "for Finance and General Purposes Committee" at the end of the recommendation.

It was proposed by Councillor Biscoe, seconded by Councillor Pascoe, and

RESOLVED that the 3-year budget forecast and revised fees and charges for Finance and General Purposes Committee be approved.

[Names recorded vote: For: Biscoe, Claxton, Douglas-Martin, La Borde, Pascoe, Southcombe, Sunderhauf, Swain, Tucker, Webb, Wetherill, Wells and Rich. Against: Carlyon and Rabey. Abstain: Collins, Nolan and Tann.]

25/1256

It was proposed by Councillor Pascoe, seconded by Councillor Swain, and

RESOLVED that £3,527,562 be precepted in 2026-27.

[Councillors Rabey and Carlyon requested that their names be recorded as voting against.]

25/1257

It was proposed by Councillor Biscoe, seconded by Councillor Tann, and

RESOLVED to transfer unspent project balances to ear-marked reserves with the balance on 2026-27 unused budgets to be transferred to general reserve.

25/1258

It was proposed by the Mayor, seconded by Councillor Rabey and

RESOLVED to extend the meeting until 22:00.

25/1259

11. CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence was received and **noted**.

- a. Cornwall Council's consultation on making an amendment to the Off-Street Parking Places Order, and in doing so to make alterations to car park operations and charges. Deadline 04 02 26.

Councillors considered the above consultation. It was queried if this was a genuine consultation or rather Cornwall Council announcing what they are going to do, due to the lack of the word 'consultation' on the information provided on Cornwall Council's website. It was acknowledged that Cornwall Councillors were working hard to improve Truro's parking facilities. Concern was raised at the potential removal of the 2-3 hour parking slot,

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in particular the impact it would have on visitors and local businesses. The availability of the Just Park app to those people who had the appropriate technology was highlighted. All councillors were requested to respond individually to the consultation in addition to the City's Council's response.

It was proposed by Councillor Pascoe, seconded by Councillor Biscoe and **RESOLVED** that:

1. Cornwall Council be informed that Truro City Council does not support any further increases in parking charges and instead they should be kept at the current level.
2. An urgent meeting be requested with Cornwall Council to discuss Cornwall Council's rationale for the proposed changes due to the profound impact on office-based businesses in the City of Truro. Letter to be sent to Cornwall Council's Portfolio-holder for Transport and copied to all Truro City Councillors for information.

25/1260

- b. The email dated 20.01.26 from Cormac updating the Council on improvements to Lemon Quay was **noted**. 25/1261

12. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

It was proposed by the Mayor, seconded by Councillor Rabey 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. 25/1262

13. Town Deal Programme - Grant Funding Agreement Relating to the Boscawen Park Sport and Recreation Hub Project

The Town Clerk highlighted the revised set of indicators set out in the letter of variation.

It was proposed by Councillor Biscoe, seconded by Councillor Tann, and

RESOLVED to sign the letter of variation for the Boscawen Park Sport Hub project which will commit Truro City Council to the revised terms of the Town Deal grant funding agreement. 25/1263

14. READMITTANCE OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

It was proposed by the Mayor, seconded by Councillor Pascoe, and **RESOLVED** that the press and public be permitted to re-join the meeting following the conclusion of the confidential items. 25/1264

15. DATE FOR NEXT MEETING AND ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

23 February 2026. 25/1265

16. COMMON SEAL

It was proposed by the Mayor, seconded by Councillor Carlyon 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. 25/1266

The meeting closed at 21:43



MAYOR

23rd February 2025