

# TRURO CITY COUNCIL



**CITY OF TRURO**  
Town Clerk

Town Clerk's Department  
Municipal Buildings  
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**MEETING OF TRURO CITY COUNCIL HELD ON  
MONDAY 30 March 2026 at 7.00 pm  
in the Council Chamber, Municipal Buildings, Boscawen Street, Truro**

**PRESENT:** The Mayor (Honorary Freeman Wells),  
Councillors: Biscoe, Mrs Carlyon, Claxton, Green, La Borde, Nolan, Pascoe, Rabey, Southcombe,  
Swain, Stokes, Tann, Tucker, and Wetherill.

**APOLOGIES:** Councillors Collins, Douglas-Martin, Honorary Freeman Eathorne-Gibbons, Knuckey,  
Mephram, Rich, Sunderhauf, and Webb,

**ABSENT.** Councillor Griffiths

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:** Ms Jayne Kirkham MP, David Rodda MBE (Town Clerk), Rev. Andy Boorne  
(Mayor's Chaplain), and Cheryl Simpson (Committee Clerk).

## PRAYERS

The Mayor's Chaplain said prayers.

## 1. COUNCILLORS IN ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

Apologies were **noted**.

25/1568

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

None.

25/1569

## 3. MINUTES OF COUNCIL

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

**RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 23 February 2026 were considered a correct record with the correction of a typographical error and insertion of the voting figures for the selection of the Mayor and Deputy Mayor.

25/1570

## 4. OPEN SESSION FOR CORNWALL COUNCILLORS

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

Councillor La Borde reported that the Cornwall Council Pension Fund had made a large investment into affordable homes as part of the Dudman Farm housing development. However, the developer, Wain Homes, was pushing for a reduction in the number of affordable houses. There were also a number of issues including a blocked right of way and the assistance of the MP for Truro and Falmouth had been sought. Regarding the proposed Malabar Community Centre, Cornwall Council's Asset Management Group had begun the transfer of land to Truro City Council with the proviso that SEND provision be allocated to the old school building. However, they were unwilling to divide the land up if this is not received. Parking facilities and access was also required which needs to be agreed with Cornwall Housing. She expressed her exasperation that although a number of potholes had been filled in Newbridge Lane these had been washed out in the recent wet weather; there were plans for resurfacing work when the weather allowed. It was noted if gullies were not cleansed water could move under a road surface and wash out pothole repairs.

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

Councillor Nolan confirmed two carparks in Truro now offered free carparking after 4pm which will be funded by a small increase in hourly charges across all Cornwall Council Car Parks in Truro. It is hoped that this change will attract more people into Truro at the end of the day and help stimulate the nighttime economy. He had also requested a copy of the independent survey report of Moorfield carpark and would chase this up. The need for a carpark to remain on the Moorfield site was underlined. He indicated temporary solutions to the parking situation were being considered by Cornwall Council. He had raised three matters regarding planning enforcement at the Dudman Farm and to date had received no response. He thanked the Community Development Officer for his work in relaunching the Penn An Dre residents' association. He reported another accident had taken place after the staggered gates at the end of the Newham Trail and advocated an urgent review of the current crossing arrangement. A planning application for the latest iteration of the bridge project was expected in the autumn. Following recent new planning legislation, Cornwall Council was expected to reduce the number of planning committees by two and there would be more officer decisions. There were currently 5292 potholes with 300 a day being fixed depending on the weather. Gullies were cleaned out once a year which he considered was insufficient.

**Councillor Rich Cornwall Councillor for Tregolls**

Councillor Rich was not present at the meeting.

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

Councillor Webb was not present at the meeting. Councillors expressed their best wishes to Councillor Webb for a speedy recovery following his recent operation and stay in hospital.

It was proposed by Councillor Biscoe, seconded by Councillor Pascoe, and **RESOLVED** that standing orders be suspended to allow the local MP to speak.

**Ms Jayne Kirkham MP for Falmouth and Truro**

Ms Kirkham explained she had been chairman of Cornwall Council's Pensions Committee when it had taken the decision to invest 7.5% of the pensions fund in affordable housing and renewables, in Cornwall if possible. She agreed to follow up questions about planning enforcement with the developer. She commented that there was separation between the Pension Fund as the investor and the developer and the investor had to communicate with the local electorate according to the new Pensions Act. She was impressed that free parking after 4pm had been achieved for two local carparks.

Standing Orders then resumed for the duration of the meeting. 25/1571

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

None. 25/1572

**6. TOWN CLERK'S REPORT**

The Town Clerk highlighted the Boscawen Park Sports Hub project was progressing, should be completed by the end of June following a brief delay due to the recent wet weather and was on budget. The new City Council website would be launched on 8 April. The new Regenco project manager position was funded by Towns Deal funds, not City Council funds and the part-time appointment would initially be for 12 months and paid a day rate; At this stage he confirmed that Regenco has no plans to borrow money to fund the redevelopment and if it did Council would need to approve any borrowing before it is secured. A procurement process would be undertaken, and the job could be carried out working from home, the City Council Office or another office. He continued to represent

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town and parish councils on a steering group investigating the replacement for Visit Cornwall and Cornwall Council facilitated this partnership. Shared Prosperity Funding ended on 31 March. A seminar had taken place, and a project manager has been recruited to continue the work from 1 April. In order to help understand the visitor economy in Truro. Visit Truro is in the process of commissioning a visitor survey and a reduction in footfall had been noted. It was noted a Cornwall Council Portfolio-holder had tourism as one of their responsibilities and Cornwall Council would allocate some officer time. It was acknowledged that it would take time to develop a local visitor economy partnership. Concern was expressed about the current lack of a Cornwall presence at trade fairs. The report was **noted**. 25/1573

**7. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR**

The Mayor's report was **noted**. 25/1574

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

None. 25/1575

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

None. 25/1576

**10. AGENDA ITEMS**

a) Minutes of the Planning and Licensing Committee Meeting held 19 February 2026 were **noted**. 25/1577

b) Minutes of Parks and Amenities Committee Meeting held 2 March 2026 were **noted**. 25/1578

**(i) Minutes PK/25/1473 & 1474 Truro City Council – Truro Public Cemetery St Clement's Hill, Truro TR1 1NT – Proposed Amendment To Regulations**

It was proposed by Councillor La Borde, seconded by Councillor Rabey, and **RESOLVED** that:

1. Dogs on short leads be allowed on designated pathways in Truro Public Cemetery for a trial period of one year. The Parks and Amenities Committee to review the change in regulation in one year's time.
2. The Truro Public Cemetery Regulations as amended above and including only the interment of human remains be approved.

25/1579

**(ii) Minute PK25/1484 Information Items – Parks and Amenities Officer's Report**

It was proposed by Councillor Rabey, seconded by Councillor Stokes, and **RESOLVED** that the Parks and Amenities Officer vire the £5,000 saving from the weed spraying budget to the play equipment replacement budget. 25/1580

c) Minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee Meeting held 9 February 2026 were **noted**. 25/1581

**(i) Minute F/25/1498 BT Public Payphone Removal Consultation**

It was noted that the relevant Cornwall Councillor, Councillor Rich, had expressed concerns about the proposed removal of the payphone but with only 16 calls over 12 months it was acknowledged that BT was unlikely to retain the payphone.

It was proposed by the Mayor, seconded by Councillor Stokes, and **RESOLVED** that the removal of the public payphone at Upland Crescent be agreed. 25/1582

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### (ii) Minute F25/1505 Lemon Quay Strategy

During a lively discussion concerns were raised regarding the terminology of the report and the lack of entertainment or sport. There was also debate about the definition of complimentary and competing events. The Town Clerk explained competing events were not precluded from taking place and a flexible approach was advocated but the views of local businesses were acknowledged. Two workshops with Councillors, consultations with stakeholders and Truro based traders as well as a user survey had taken place as part of the development of the strategy. He also noted the overall cost covered not just the strategy but an independent review of the process, professionalised internal processes and mentoring the Council's Events Officer. It was also suggested a curated approach appeared to be contradictory to an ad hoc approach. The Town Clerk noted that Lemon Quay would still be cleared to allow for events as necessary. A lack of environmental or sustainable options was suggested also. Of the £50K budget agreed by the Council in April 2024 £5k was allocated for the rollout of the Lemon booking system and £5K for marketing and promotion. 80% of curated events by 2030 was an aspiration; the strategy was a framework to provide balance of activities, and whilst the strategy recommended increased resources in the Truro City Council Events team no extra staff were budgeted for in 2026/27 as it was proposed that any additional resources would be funded from additional income generated. There was one Events Officer who dealt with Lemon Quay bookings as well as all other Council led events and civic events.

A question was asked about the costs of running Lemon Quay and how these are funded. The Town Clerk estimated that waste collection and maintaining the planters cost in the region of £50,000 per annum. The current income generated by Lemon Quay is circa £65,000 and with the addition of the income from the area outside the Market Inn this would increase to £75,000. As the number of events increases this income would also increase. Whilst the running costs do not include staff time the Town Clerk was confident that the total costs of operating Lemon Quay were paid for by income rather than by the precept.

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

**RESOLVED** that the Lemon Quay Strategy be approved.

25/1583

[Councillor Carlyon requested that her name be recorded as having voted against the motion.]

### (iii) Minute F/25/1507 Banking & Investment Strategy

The addition of Truro Regeneration Company as a long-term, non-specified investment in 5.2 of the Strategy was **noted**.

25/1584

During discussion an amendment proposed by Councillor La Borde, seconded by Councillor Wetherill, to investigate the introduction of ethical banking in 2026-2027 for implementation by 2027/2028 was lost upon a vote. The Town Clerk reported he and the Deputy Town Clerk both had a heavy workload and a number of complex matters such as the implementation of a new financial system and changes to VAT charges to deal with so he was not confident that due diligence would be undertaken in 2026-27. However, an assurance was given that it would be progressed as quickly as possible and implemented before the end of the current Council term.

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

**RESOLVED** that the Banking & Investment Strategy 2026-27 be adopted.

25/1585

### (iv) Minutes F/25/1509 to 1512 Civic Procedures, Awards & Events

During discussion a number of matters were raised including a suggestion that nominations for Honorary Freeman should not be limited to the last year of Council, rather an ad hoc approach as currently used. Council would discuss procedural guidance at a separate meeting before the end of the calendar year so that it is in place for 2027. It was suggested some of the procedures were very detailed and perhaps constraining but the flexibility and

helpfulness of such arrangements was also acknowledged. It was generally agreed to change section 18 'Dealing with the Press and Media to 'Communicating with ...' and to amend the first recommendation from "In the last year of every Council cycle" to "for each Council cycle".

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

**RESOLVED that:**

1. For each Council cycle expressions of interest for nominations are taken for Honorary Freeman where they will be considered by full Council at an extraordinary meeting with any conferment made at the next available Mayor Making ceremony; the Town Clerk's office would be able to vary the year of consideration in special circumstances, for example the 150th anniversary of Truro's city status. This four yearly consideration to act as a reminder of Council's ability to make awards and would not be regarded as a quota.
2. The Mayor's Handbook be approved as amended above.

**25/1586**

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

**RESOLVED** that the Freedom of the City be kept open as outlined in the paper. **25/1587**

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

**RESOLVED** that the remainder of the Awards, and Events document be adopted as laid out. **25/1588**

**(v) Minute F/25/1516 Cornwall Council's Proposed Stewardship Arrangements for Langarth**

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

**RESOLVED** that Cornwall Council be advised that Truro City Council had not yet made any endorsement on Cornwall Council's proposed stewardship arrangements for Langarth.

25/1589

**d)** The Minutes of the Planning and Licensing Committee Meeting held 12 March 2026 were **noted**. 25/1590

**e)** The Minutes of the City Emergency Committee Meeting held 23 March 2026 were **noted**. 25/1591

**f) Deminimis value for assets**

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

**RESOLVED** that the deminimis value for assets to be placed on the fixed asset register is £1000.

**25/1592**

**g) Invoice for payment**

Council was requested to approve an invoice for payment because the amount payable exceeded the Council's delegated limit.

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

**RESOLVED** that the invoice dated 12 March 2026 received from Fox Construction Solutions for £340,245.84 be approved for payment. **25/1593**

**h) Municipal Buildings – Hire of Town Hall, Main Offices and Town Clerks Office for 2026/27**

The Town Clerk reported the current arrangement for using the lift, whereby a member of staff from the Hall for Cornwall facilitates access to meetings for the City Council had been inherited by this Council from the last refurbishment but acknowledged this was not an ideal situation. He undertook to report the cost of the lift maintenance costs to a future meeting.

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

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**RESOLVED** to hire the Town Hall and the main offices in the Municipal Buildings to the Hall for Cornwall for the period 1 April 2026 to 31 March 2027 and the Town Clerk's Office to Kier in order to generate income to help cover the operational costs of the building.

25/1594

i) **Upper Threshold of Delegated Authority Within Capital Expenditure Town Deal Budget**

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

**RESOLVED** that the upper threshold of delegated authority within Capital Expenditure Town Deal Budget be increased from £249,999 to £499,999.

25/1595

12. **CORRESPONDENCE**

a. The email dated 03.03.26 from the Cornwall Museum and Art Gallery was noted.

b. The email dated 09.03.26 from Newham Bid Manager regarding a recent accident on the Newham Trail.

There was general concern about the current arrangements for the Newham Trail joining the road at Newham and the disturbing number of accidents reported at this location. A number of potential mitigations were suggested including cutting back vegetation and adding street lighting to improve lines of visibility, the installation of gates and 'Look left or right markers' painted on the road.

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

**RESOLVED** that the Planning and Licensing Committee discuss the matter of the junction of the Newham Trail with Newham Road.

c. The email dated 17.03.26 compliment about Truro Library was noted.

25/1596

13. **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.

25/1597

14. **Parks and Amenities Committee 2 March 2026**

(i) **Minute PK/25/1486 Local Maintenance Partnership 2026 – 27**

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

**RESOLVED** that Cornwall Council's offer for cutting Public Rights of Way in the Parish of the City of Truro set out in their letter dated 30 January 2026 be accepted.

25/1598

15. **Holiday Pay on Overtime**

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

**Resolved** that:

1. Regular overtime be defined as per section 2.4 of the report.

2. To set aside £10k in the staffing ear-marked reserve.

25/1599

16. **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.

25/1600

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17. **DATE FOR NEXT MEETING AND ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**

27 April 2026.

25/1601

18. **COMMON SEAL**

It was proposed by the Mayor, seconded by Councillor Pascoe, 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. **25/1602**

The meeting closed at 21:26.

*C.H. Wells*

MAYOR

*27<sup>th</sup> April 2026*

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