

SITHNEY PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Councillor Mr Philip Martin
Clerk to the Council – Jodie Ellis - clerk@sithney-pc.gov.uk

08/26

Minutes of the Annual Council meeting held at Sithney School on Tuesday 5th May 2026 after the annual parish meeting.

Present: - Cllr P Martin, Cllr L. Penrose, Cllr S Hilditch, Cllr G Richards and Cllr I Bulavs.

Parish Clerk Jodie Ellis, Cornwall Councillor Loveday Jenkin and 7 members of the public

- 1. Election of chairman for the parish year 2026/2027** - It was proposed by Cllr. Penrose seconded by Cllr. Hilditch to nominate Cllr Martin as chairman for the coming year. Cllr Martin accepted.
- 2. To receive the chairman's acceptance of office** – Cllr Martin signed his acceptance of Office.
- 3. To receive any amendments to register of interests forms from Cllrs** – none.
- 4. Election of vice-chairman for parish year 2026/2027** - It was proposed by Cllr. Hilditch seconded by Cllr. Penrose and RESOLVED that Cllr. Tresidder is elected as Vice-Chairman in his absence.
- 5. Apologies for absence** – Cllr Tresidder was absent.
- 6. Declarations of interests for items on this agenda** – Cllr Hilditch in planning PA26/02007 + PA26/02287.
- 7. To confirm the following:**

It was agreed to maintain the Bank Signatories as Cllrs Martin, Hilditch and Penrose.

All Cllr Responsibilities were confirmed and noted to continue with the addition of Cllr Richards to join PAP.

- 8. Acceptance of minutes** – The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on the 31st March 2026 were agreed and signed by the chairman.
- 9. To consider any applications for dispensations under section 33 of the localism act 2011** –None.
- 10. Public participation** - A resident who lives on the road between Crowntown and Nancegollan raised the issue of constant speeding along this piece of road, particularly on the work / school run in the morning and late at night. Highways have advised the residents that speed data was collected recently, and the average speed was 36.6 mph. Residents do not believe this to be accurate. Cllr Hilditch advised she did run the speed watch on this stretch of road but unfortunately had to stop due to lack of volunteers. It was agreed the clerk would contact highways to ask for a speed review of the road.

A member of the Lowertown community group asked if this council would like to donate a grant towards there summer fayre on the 05.07.26 as this year they are having to book music in at a cost. Clerk will email the forms to be completed to request a £200 donation, which will be reviewed at June's meeting.
- 11. Chairman's comments** – Cllr Martin thanked all for his re-election as chairman.
- 12. Councillors' questions and comments** - 24-hour notice in accordance with Standing Orders advisable.
Southwest Water - This Council notes with grave concern the systemic failure of Southwest Water to manage the sewage system in Cornwall. Despite record bills and government intervention, raw sewage continues to impact our environment and public health. Therefore, this Council resolves: To formally declare a Vote of No Confidence in Southwest Water and to sign the collective letter to the Secretary of State demanding the removal of Southwest Water's management through a Special Administration Order.

Crowntown residents would like to see a dog bin installed on the noticeboard as there are a lot of dog walkers in the area. Clerk will bring back to June's meeting.

There is a historic fingerpost by The Grove that would benefit from refurbishment, clerk will ask our LMP contractor if he is able to carry out this work and a cost.

Gypsy Lane caravans are still present – clerk to contact enforcement.
- 13. Cornwall councillor's comments** – Cllr Jenkin advised the SWW vote of no confidence campaign is gathering pace. Septic tanks in Cornwall are another issue being looked into. Wendron Neighbourhood development plan is out for consultation. Speeding in rural areas is a county wide issue. The police need safe recognised areas to be able to carry out speed watch. Helston railway are still working on the new footbridge and have had setbacks due to cost and design issues. Full council backtracked on the public realms project to spray pavements this year and will consult with parish and town councils before any decisions are made.

14. Planning:

Cllr Hilditch left.

PA26/02007 – Chy An Vor Crowtown Helston - proposed Rear Extension – Cllrs discussed the application and the footprint is virtually the same with a bay window being removed. It was RESOLVED to support the application.

PA26/02287 - Windy Ridge Farm Prospidnick Hill Prospidnick Sithney - proposed new Dwelling. Councillors noted that the application is class Q development. It was RESOLVED to support the application.

Cllr Hilditch returned.

Additional Information online - PA26/00308 - Land At Nancegollan Nancegollan Helston TR13 OAR - Erection of an agricultural building and a polytunnel. Cllrs discussed the application and it was RESOLVED to support the application as long as the barn and polytunnel are deemed reasonable for the enterprise and that 1.5 hectares is considered sufficient land for the proposed growth.

PA26/02212 - Land West Of Trevu Nancegollan Helston - Application for Permission in Principle for the construction of up to 9 dwellings (minimum of 5, maximum of 9). Councillors noted that the applicant quoted that Sithney Parish Council had supported PA25/05941 (Land North of Meadowside) but that Cornwall Council had considered it to be an extension into the Countryside. Having taken that on board, Councillors felt that this application would be the same as that quoted and so wouldn't be considered as rounding off. There were also concerns about the access being from the B3303. It was RESOLVED to object to the application.

PA26/02569 - Trelassick Sithney Helston - Non material amendment in relation to decision notice W2/PA07/00407/F dated 03.05.2007 - Alteration to the description of approved development, to 'Alteration and part rebuilding of redundant barns to allow their conversion to residential units and installation of a septic tank' plus the addition of a condition regarding the listed plan drawings that were considered in that approval. Councillors accept that there will need to be some rebuilding because the barns have deteriorated further due to the passage of time. It was felt it would be important to retain these buildings. It was RESOLVED to support the application, as long as the plans are adhered to.

15. Public rights of way – 230/17/1 – The surface of the stile at Lowertown has been reported to the countryside team who have advised that the landowner carried out the alteration to the stile and the only option would be for someone to contact the landowner to ask permission to apply a coating to the wood to reduce slip. Clerk will also ask the LMP contractor if it would be suitable under the enhanced LMP scheme.

16. To agree and adopt the following policies: It was RESOLVED to adopt the following policies.

Standing Orders 2025

Financial Regulations 2025

Sithney Grants Policy

Internal Control Policy

General Reserves Policy

Non-Financial risk assessment

Financial risk assessment

Code of conduct

IT Policy

17. Payments - It was RESOLVED to make the following payments:

Cornwall Pension Fund (LGPS) – Clerk	£159.62
Jodie Ellis – Clerk Salary	£824.33
HMRC – PAYE	£26.60
Mr R Sanders – enhanced LMP 230/15/1 + Plovers Field	£3156.00
CALC / NALC – subscription annual membership	£479.66
Rialtas – 1 year maintenance and support and MTD	£396.00
Zurich Insurance – annual insurance	£474.52
Miss Barbara Goraus – Internal Audit fee	£95.00
	£5611.73

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- 18. Financial report of the clerk** – The Clerk reported that she had invoices to pay totaling £5,611.73 as reported in item 18. The bank balances at the end of April for both accounts, along with the cashbook, bank reconciliation, and budget monitoring reports have been circulated to all Cllrs. It was RESOLVED that the reports be accepted.
- 19. Internal Audit Report** – Clerk has circulated Ms Goraus report, it was RESOLVED to accept the report and pass on our thanks to Ms Goraus for her work.
- 20. Annual Governance Statement** – It was RESOLVED to accept and authorise section 1 of the 2025/2026 annual governance statement. Clerk and the chairman both signed the document.
- 21. Annual Return** – It was RESOLVED to accept and authorise section 2 of the 2025/2026 annual return. Clerk and the chairman both signed the document. The clerk will send the full accounts to BDO LLP for inspection.
- 22. AGAR** – It was RESOLVED that Sithney parish council has no conflict of interest with BDO LLP, the external auditors for the 2025/2026 audit.
- 23. Notice of the public rights and publication of unaudited annual governance & accountability return** – will be the 3rd June 2026 to the 14th July 2026.
- 24. Time and date of the next meeting** – Tuesday 2nd June 2026 at 7.30pm at Sithney School for the ordinary parish council meeting.