

Luxulyan Parish Council **DRAFT** Minutes
Ordinary Meeting, THURSDAY 9 NOVEMBER 2023
6.00 pm, at Luxulyan Memorial Institute

PRESENT:

Cllr Michaela Linfoot (Chair), Cllr Keith Bilston, Cllr Helen Francis, Cllr Michael Grindley, Cllr Francis Payne.

ALSO PRESENT:

Clerk to the Parish, Mrs Christine Wilson, Lockengate Ward Member Cllr Peter Guest, Luxulyan Ward Member Cllr Colin Martin, Charlotte Evans, CC Officer for Luxulyan Valley Partnership and one Member of the Public.

ABSENT:

Cllr Dan Cordy (Vice-chair), Cllr Bob Hatton, Cllr Margaret Higman, Cllr Sarah Kemp, Cllr Carl Tonkin.

ABBREVIATIONS:

Councillors may be abbreviated with their initials; Luxulyan Parish Council (LPC), Cornwall Council (CC), Cornwall Assoc. of Local Councils (CALC), Footpath (FP), Community Land Trust (CLT), *** indicates the Consultee Comments submitted to the Planning Authority; the general points are proposed and decided by LPC; formal submission is delegated to the Clerk.

MINUTES:

The meeting began at 6.00 PM and the Chair welcomed all.

23/96 Apologies

Apologies were received from BH, MH, CT, SK and DC.

23/97 Declarations of interest or requests for dispensation.

None.

23/98 Public Session

A Ward Member Colin Martin is the Chair of the Luxulyan Valley Partnership. He explained the project to make a digital recreation of the historic workings in Luxulyan Valley available to a 'smart' phone via a QR code on the information panels around the Valley. Outside funding has been found for this specific project.

B Cllr Martin also explained the difficulty the Partnership has had with attendance. They are looking for a schedule that can accommodate the members who work and the CC officers who attend. They are looking for facilities to hold hybrid meetings so people can meet face-to-face and online at the same time and few venues have the capacity for hybrid meetings; unfortunately, the Memorial Institute does not have the capability.

C Cllr Martin led the discussion about the new proposal to move the Pontois Mill Turbine Fund to a new entity that can review and decide on applications for the use of that money. The Partnership will decide at its next meeting (Wed, 24th Jan) whether a new entity is feasible with representation from all four beneficiary parishes (Luxulyan, Lanlivery, St Blaise and Tywardreath & Par). Thus far there does not seem to be enough interest in forming a new entity. However, if a separate entity is not formed, the decision about what to do with the Pontois Mill Turbine Fund will "revert to an executive decision". (See 23/102.D for LPC's appointment to the Fund committee.)

*A member of the public left the meeting.
Charlotte Evans, CC Officer for Luxulyan Valley Partnership, arrived.*

D Charlotte Evans explained the initiatives Cornwall Council is taking in the Valley in order to promote and enhance its use by the public throughout the region with grants from Great Western Railway which would like to encourage use of the branch line. A survey for the public about the use of Luxulyan Valley had 20 respondents and the responses have been collated. Most people want little change in the Valley; most want it preserved as it is, in its natural state. Digital visualisation of the Wheel Pit and of the Viaduct is going ahead so that a visitor can scan a QR code to see what the workings looked like whilst in full working order. This digital visualisation can also be used in schools. There will be a new walking and cycling trail from Luxulyan Railway Station to the Valley.

Charlotte Evans, CC Officer for Luxulyan Valley Partnership, left the meeting.

23/99 Meetings and governance

A The council **RESOLVED** that the minutes, as read, of the meeting held on 12 October 2023 are a true and correct record (proposed FP, 2nd HF) and they were duly signed.

23/100 Finance

A Audit Panel. DC and SK completed the internal control check for the 2nd quarter after the last ordinary meeting and reported that all is correct.

B There were no questions about the accounts and it was **RESOLVED** (proposed FP, 2nd MG) to receive the Clerk's reports, *Bank Reconciliation*, *Budget Comparison* and *Cash Flow* to the end of October 2023, as a correct record.

C RESERVES 2024-25. The council noted two types of reserves: (1) ordinary reserves for the maintenance and improvement of the council's assets, including Contingency and Election Reserves, and (2) Ringfenced/Earmarked reserves which include the Bodwen Solar Park Fund, the Special Project Fund, and a Community Chest grant. At the beginning of the 2024-25 fiscal year, and with an estimated starting balance of £57K, the ordinary reserve fund (1) is £19,841 and the ringfenced reserve fund (2) is £37,159.

D BUDGET 2024-25. The council discussed the Budget previously circulated. It noted the predicted underspend of approximately £2K on budget for this fiscal year and took into consideration the current financial pressures on everyone, but also noted the impact of inflation on many things. With all this in mind, the council **RESOLVED** (proposed MG, 2nd HF) a Budget of £32,665 which is £3,425 more than last year.

E PRECEPT 2024-25. The council's Precept, which is the tax demanded of Luxulyan parishioners, is calculated by subtracting the projected receipts for the year from the expected payments(Budget).

The council **RESOLVED** (proposed HF, 2nd FP) to demand a precept of £28,655, which is 7.4% more than last year. Dividing the precept by the taxbase, the annual tax for a Band D property will rise by £3.87, which is an increase of £0.32 per month.

However, there was a reduction of 5.6% to the Precept last year, so the rise from 2022-23 is 1.7%. After the dip in the precept during 2023-24, the annual tax for a Band D property in 2024-25 has now returned to exactly what it was in 2021/22.

F The council **AUTHORISED** payments for November totalling £2,154.40 (proposed KB, 2nd ML).

<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount with VAT</u>	<u>VAT</u>
Clerk's salary and expenses	£1,131.55	-
HMRC payment	93.59	-
Clerk's Pension	45.15	-
Playground inspections	120.00	-
Public Convenience Cleaning Oct23	460.94	-
Public Conveniences, electricity	41.38	1.88
Printer toner x2, envelopes	198.68	76.82
Toilets, water - estimated	63.11	33.12

23/101 Reports

A	Report on Actions. Completed except for the detailed quotes for the toilet refurbishment.
B	Chair's report. Grit bins are being checked and stored grit is being distributed. She is awaiting a meeting with the Highways Manager who is currently on leave.
C	<p>Cornwall Councillor Peter Guest's report to the Parish (Lockengate Ward).</p> <p>October seemed to slip by in no time, we're now in November and most people's thoughts will be turning to Christmas planning and organisation. Now that I've eaten all my 'Trick or treat' sweets and seen the firework displays, my thoughts turn to Remembrance Sunday. As you know, I come from military stock and take great pride in attending the parades and church services. It is a time to reflect, remember and honour those who have gone before us. Lest we forget.</p> <p>Back to my day job. The next Community Area Partnership meeting will be held on the evening of the 4th December. At the meeting, we are hoping to present a couple of projects within the area that are being put forward for funding. There are still grants available for any community projects within the Parish and I'd be happy to talk through the process and eligibility criteria if any Parish Councillors can think of any candidates.</p> <p>I've spoken in the past about my involvement with the Cornwall Youth Council. I never cease to be inspired by the young people involved with this. They operate much in the same way as Cornwall Council in that they have sub committees, develop ideas and motions in conjunction with Councillor mentors. They are currently working on an aspiration to provide Free School Meals for all pupils in Cornwall and if it can be proved to be viable, it will be taken to the full Council by one of my colleagues to be debated and considered. The main reason I mention this is because we are due to hold elections for the next Youth Council, I have written to the Heads of all the secondary schools in the area to try and find some potential candidates. Should you know of any young person between the ages of 11 and 18 who you think may be interested in standing, please ask them to get in touch with me and I can talk them through the process. Traditionally, the voice of the young people has been ignored in political circles and we are trying to change that.</p> <p>If you have nothing better to do on Friday at 11 o'clock [ish] you may want to tune in to B.B.C. Radio Cornwall where I will be doing an interview along with one of the Young people involved in the Youth Council. It will be live and I will do my best not to swear or make a fool of myself!</p> <p>On Monday just gone, I spent the night out with an Officer from our 'Homeless Team' on the Annual Rough Sleeper Count. This is an exercise carried out nationwide and not only provides vital intelligence on the actual numbers of rough sleepers, but also</p>

identifies them in order for us to provide support and help to them. I was impressed with the dedication and knowledge of Debbie [the Officer I was working with] and have arranged to work more closely with her and her team in the future. It was a long, wet and windy night's work, but, I found it invaluable.

Last week, I was pleasantly surprised to bump into a 'Suited and booted' Cllr and Mrs Grindley at New County Hall, who were there for a Citizenship ceremony with the Chair of Cornwall Council and the Deputy Lord Lieutenant. I'd like to congratulate Mrs Grindley on her citizenship award and hope they both enjoyed the cream tea laid on for them after the ceremony. For the record, I DID NOT eat all the cakes!

As you may or may not know, I am the Vice Chair of the Cornwall Adult Education Service. We recently had our OFSTED inspection and I'm pleased to say that our rating was GOOD. That is no mean achievement given the range and diversity of both our Education centres and Students. A common misconception is that we only provide classes in holiday Spanish and crafts. In fact the bulk of our work is in skills training to improve peoples employability and working with disadvantaged groups again to help them improve their life and career choices. I was particularly pleased that we got a GOOD grading within this area. If you would like any more information on the range of training and courses available, please get in touch.

As usual, I've been kept busy with residents casework and sadly, with the winter weather coming in, I don't expect a reduction in my workload. Advocating for and supporting residents is to me, the most important part of my job and takes priority over everything else. If you become aware of any resident who needs help, please let me know.

I started off this report mentioning the 'C' word and I'd like to close on it as well. There will be many fundraising events coming up in the Parish over the Christmas period and I'm keen to support as many of them as possible. Please let me know about them and if diaries permit and I'm able to attend, I will do my best to be there.

Peter | Cllr.peter.guest@cornwall.gov.uk | 07947 826627.

- D Cornwall Councillor Colin Martin's report to the Parish (Luxulyan Ward).
- Explained about the public survey for Homechoice Priorities. The public can respond about how to juggle the priorities for who gets CC funded housing, the priorities mainly being 1) local connection and 2) urgency of need.
 - In the Leveling Up Bill, which was passed a couple weeks ago, there is legislation that will ensure 1) that planning permission is needed for someone to rent out their home or rooms as a holiday let, and 2) that a second home pays double council tax (however, a year's notice must be given). Other legislative steps are needed to enact these new laws, but the process has begun.
 - Cornwall Council is £15 million overspent this year, and Cllr Martin explained some of the reasons this has happened.
 - The Tamar Bridge budget is reaching a deficit and the cost of the crossing will have to be raised again. Cllr Martin thinks the Tamar Bridge should be taken over by the government like other major bridges upcountry.
 - Newquay Airport is owned by Cornwall Council and taxpayers in Cornwall pay £3 million per year to maintain it. CC is hoping to sign a deal this April for a private company to take over the Airport and make it more profitable, thus saving CC and the taxpayer £3 million.
 - The NHS Cornwall is doing a pilot scheme to pay dentists an hourly rate and more

dental access should bring people up to ‘dental fitness’.

- Part of the Langarth Garden City development is a sports complex. The stadium will be home to Truro City Football Club and will have a capacity of 3000 persons. Truro City and other nearby Football Clubs can use it. It appears that CC will not be spending anything on the development but that the money will come from the S.106 funds.

E PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCIES. At the next parliamentary election, Luxulyan Parish will be split between two parliamentary constituencies. The Clerk expressed her disappointment that neither Ward Member replied directly to her query about an issue that affects Luxulyan so directly. Cllr Martin explained that the Boundary Commission was adamant that MP constituencies should follow the Cornwall Council division boundaries, so it was perhaps inevitable that Luxulyan parish, already divided between CC divisions would then be divided between MP constituencies.

Unfortunately, because neither Ward Member replied and the Clerk did not follow-up, Luxulyan was not able to have a proper discussion and reply to the consultation.

Cllr Colin Martin, Ward Member, left the meeting.

23/102 Considerations

A CLT report. Cllr Payne, CLT Secretary, now has access and may make changes to the CLT details online at Companies House. Cllr Payne and Cllr Hatton would like to start a new Luxulyan CLT account so that in the fullness of time the CLT’s funds can be transferred to the new account. The next meeting of the CLT will be 22 November 2023.

B The council **RESOLVED** (proposed MG, 2nd HF) that it would pay for a Christmas Tree and put it up with lights in front of the Institute.
ACTION: ML & FP

C HF volunteered and the council **APPROVED** the appointment of HF to reply to the CC *Playing Pitch Strategy & Sports Facilities Study* to help determine sports provision in Cornwall for the next 15-20 years.

D The council **RESOLVED** (proposed FP, 2nd HF) that Cllr Linfoot represents Luxulyan PC on the newly proposed Pons Mill Turbine Fund committee, which should be formed by the Luxulyan Valley Partnership at its next meeting on 24th January. (see 23/98.B & C)

23/103 Planning

A Of note. There will be online *Local Council Planning Training: 23 Nov 2023 - Part 1: Neighbourhood Plans, Part 2: The Local Plan and call for sites*. HF, FP & MG will attend.

B Correspondence. Planning decisions are reported in Clerk’s Notes.

C Applications for consultee comments.

- i. **PA23/07925 | Construction of a general purpose agricultural building | Savath Farm Savath Lane Lockengate Bugle St Austell Cornwall PL26 8SA**
The council looked at the plans, discussed the application and **RESOLVED** (proposed ML, 2nd FP) to submit the following consultee comments:
*** Luxulyan Parish Council has NO OBJECTION to this application.

23/104 Highways & Flooding

A Charlotte Evans, officer for the Luxulyan Valley Partnership, is communicating with Network Rail about the tree trunk in the leat near Bridges. The clerk in monitoring the conversation and nothing concrete has been decided yet.

B Cllr Martin has requested that Highways check the 'vision splay' at the blind junction to Bodiggo, just north of Luxulyan village and the they repaint the rumble strips.

23/105 Assets – reports and maintenance

A Playing Field. Playing Field inspections for month were received and **NOTED**.

i. The council **RESOLVED** (proposed ML, 2nd HF) to purchase another bin for the Playing Field to match the one in the play area. The clerk reported that the matching bin will cost in the range of £300.

ACTION: Clerk

ii. After discussing two quotes for refill of the play grade mulch under the play equipment, the council **RESOLVED** (proposed ML, 2nd MG) to purchase 12-14 bulk bags of the mulch from Contec at approximately £130 each plus a one-off delivery charge of £80. The delivery will not be possible when the field is very wet, as it is now. The Clerk will coordinate the delivery with a contractor to spread the mulch over the areas where it is needed.

ACTION: Clerk

iii. The play area needs a chain link fence on the road side to go around the granite boulder at a cost estimated by A&A of £1,650. The council **RESOLVED** (proposed MG, 2nd HF) to install the chain link fence.

B Cemetery. The cemetery car park and the path need to be de-mossed. The council **RESOLVED** (proposed FP, 2nd MG) that the Clerk will contract the previous person who used a non-chemical machine which did a good job.

ACTION: Clerk

C Grit Bins. FP will check the levels of each grit bin, whether a CC bin or an LPC bin, and send his survey to the clerk.

ACTION: FP

D Shed. A new shed door is needed, plus the door frame. The clerk will see if A&A can make a new one, or she will find someone who can.

ACTION: Clerk

E Jubilee and Coronation mugs. The clerk reported that none of the extra Jubilee or Coronation mugs have been sold.

F Footpaths. Nothing to report.

G Luxulyan Memorial Institute. ML will call a meeting, especially because a heater in the snooker room is not working.

H Village Toilets. The Clerk reported that CorServ Facilities has revoked the invoices for consumables (not in the PC's contract) but has not yet revoked the invoices for 'specialised hygiene' (also not in the contract).

23/106 Parish Matters – reports

A Luxulyan Parish Community Fund. Nothing to report.

B Luxulyan Valley Partnership. (See 23/98 and 23/102.D)

C Village Hall Committee. Not enough members turn up. Meeting times might be rescheduled.

23/107 Correspondence & Invitations

Nothing to report outside these Minutes and Clerk's Notes.

23/108 Business for the next meeting

No business was requested.

23/109 Dates of next meetings.

A Ordinary Meeting 14 December 2023, 6.00 pm at the Luxulyan Memorial Institute.

B Luxulyan Valley Partnership at 5.30 on Wednesday 24th January, either in person at Chy Trevail, or online.

C An extraordinary meeting may be called by the Chair if needed for planning or other business. An agenda would be posted 3 clear days before.

The meeting closed at 8.30 pm and the Chair thanked everyone for attending.

Mrs C Wilson ~ Parish Clerk ~ 9 January 2024

SIGNED:

THESE ARE DRAFT MINUTES.

Chair: _____ Date: _____