

Luxulyan Parish Council **DRAFT** Minutes
Ordinary Meeting, THURSDAY 14 MARCH 2024
7.00 pm, at Luxulyan Memorial Institute

PRESENT:

Cllr Michaela Linfoot (Chair), Cllr Keith Bilston, Cllr Helen Francis, Cllr Francis Payne, Cllr Carl Tonkin.

ALSO PRESENT:

Clerk to the Parish, Mrs Christine Wilson and seven Members of the Public.

ABSENT:

Cllr Dan Cordy (Vice-chair), Cllr Michael Grindley, Cllr Bob Hatton, Cllr Margaret Higman, Cllr Sarah Kemp, Lockengate Ward Member Cllr Peter Guest, Luxulyan Ward Member Cllr Colin Martin.

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.

NOTE ON NUMBERING:

The prefix will follow the Municipal Year which begins in May. January-April will carry the 23/ prefix. At the May 2024 meeting the first item on the Agenda will be 24/01.

MINUTES:

The meeting began at 7.00 PM and the Chair welcomed all.

23/156 Apologies

Apologies were received from DC, MG, BH, MH, SK, Cllr P Guest, Cllr C Martin.

23/157 Declarations of interest or requests for dispensation.

None.

23/158 Public Session

A Lanivet Preschool has been granted planning permission for a bespoke building on donated land near the Community Centre. Now the Preschool's goal is to raise funds for the build. The Chair of Lanivet Preschool explained that some children from Luxulyan Parish attend the Preschool and asked the parish council whether it would support the project in principle because this support (not financial) would help with funding applications. The council **AGREED** that it supports the new building for the Lanivet Preschool.

One member of the public left the meeting.

B A member of the public came to report the difficulty and danger manoeuvring through a very large pool of water on the road to Rosemelling at PL30 5EQ. The level of the field on the south side of the road has been raised. Water runoff and the pool of water is undermining the hedge which is ready to collapse. The council will report this and members of the public are also encouraged to report this on CC's [Report Something](#).
The clerk will also report a large pool of standing water near Penrose Cottage.

One member of the public left the meeting.

- C The applicants for PA24/00739 came and explained their plans for the renovation of their rented property which will remain rented in future. A neighbour also attended and confirmed that he supported the application.

*The discussion and vote for this application was brought forward. See the decision at 23/163.C.i.
Three members of the public left the meeting.*

- D Two members of the public came to explain PA24/00172/PREAPP. It is in its early stages, but they plan to offer rental properties, some affordable and some market value. The council thanked them for engaging with the council so early in the planning process.

*The discussion about this pre-app was brought forward. See the decision at 23/163.B.i.
Two members of the public left the meeting.*

23/159 Meetings and governance

- A The council **RESOLVED** that the minutes, as read, of the meeting held on 8 February 2024 are a true and correct record (proposed FP, 2nd CT) and they were duly signed.

23/160 Finance

- A There were no questions about the accounts and it was **RESOLVED** (proposed KB, 2nd FP) to receive the Clerk's reports, *Bank Reconciliation, Budget Comparison and Cash Flow* to the end of February 2024, as a correct record.

- B The council **AUTHORISED** payments for March 2024 totalling £2,941.49 (proposed KB, 2nd HF).

<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount with VAT</u>	<u>VAT</u>
Clerk's salary and expenses	£1,158.64	-
HMRC payment	121.91	-
Clerk's Pension	50.05	-
Playground inspections	120.00	-
Public Convenience Cleaning Feb24	460.93	£76.82
Public Conveniences, electricity	36.07	1.71
Public Conveniences outside light fixed	105.89	-
Removal 3 large ash trees	480.00	80.00
CLT membership & insurance 2024-25	390.00	-
Quarterly bank fee	18.00	-

23/161 Reports

- A Report on Actions. The Clerk reported that the ground is not yet hard enough to deliver play-grade wood chippings to the Play Area.

- B Chair's report. The Chair gave a verbal report of a meeting held on 4th March by a group of people wishing to get the leats working again throughout the parish.

- C Cornwall Councillor Peter Guest's report to the Parish (Lockengate Ward).
Despite the half term holiday, February was a pretty busy month. Full Council was the main event and the headline topic was the debate on the Budget. Despite a lot of grandstanding and Party Political Broadcasting from certain members of the opposition, not one constructive suggestion for an alternative to the raising of Council Tax by 4.99% was put forward. This was not a decision taken lightly; but given the rising costs

especially in Adult Social Care and the Children & Families Directorate, we felt that we had no choice but to increase next year's rate. You will have seen reports of how we as an administration are lobbying strongly to Westminster for a better financial settlement for Cornwall, in fact the Secretary of State Michael Gove visited last week, and I know that David Harris the Deputy Leader had a good long chat with him and will keep on chatting until we will hopefully see a bigger settlement in the future. Times are hard here in Cornwall, but in comparison to many local authorities, our finances may be tight but are in a far stronger position than them. A lot of credit must go to David and the team for their stewardship of our finances.

We also debated the raising of the toll charges for the Tamar crossings, again, talks are underway with the Government, but what we can't do in the meantime is sit on our hands and do nothing. To do so would run the real risk of having to make a larger increase in the toll later on should we not reach a settlement with Westminster.

I'm just giving you the headlines in this report, but, as always, if you would like to discuss these and any other matters in more detail, I'd be happy to do so.

As you probably know, I've got a fair bit of 'Previous' when it comes to sport, especially football. As a member of the Strategic Planning Committee, I was pleased to support and pass the planning application for Truro City F.C.s new stadium at the Langarth Garden Village site. This will not only deliver a 3,000 capacity stadium (with the ability to increase to 4,000) which is of National League standard, but also the complimentary facilities and in my opinion most importantly a new 3g pitch for use by the local community and nearby football clubs.

While we are on the subject of major projects within the Duchy, I was at a briefing a couple of Fridays ago with National Highways, their aspiration is to have the work on the A30 completed by June. Given the number of weather events that we have experienced over the last few months which have massively impacted on their schedule, I think they should be congratulated.

On March 4th, I was up in Exeter with the Police & Crime Commissioner Alison Hernandez at the launch of the 'Criminal Justice For You' project which is aimed at support and advice for victims and witnesses. I will go into more detail on this initiative in next month's report.

Later on that evening, I attended the Youth Council celebration event in Truro where the election results were announced. Having helped out at the count, I was amazed to find that over 10,000 votes were cast Countywide and I find it heartening to see so many young people interested and engaging in politics and local issues. I will be mentoring one of the committees (it was SEND and Mental Health last year) and I really enjoy working with these young people and making sure their voice is heard in the main Council.

Moving nearer to home, I recently met up in Bugle with Sophie Hosking and Emma Trethewey. They are both Directors within Cornwall Council and we discussed a project that is currently going through the process of getting a grant through the Community Capacity Fund. If successful, this will greatly benefit the residents of the whole of the Division providing mobile outreach services. We also managed to squeeze in a visit to Minorca Lane and met with some of the site owners and residents to discuss the myriad of issues that we have there.

British Lithium held a Roadshow at Roche Victory Hall two weeks ago. This was well attended and the residents who came along found it very informative. The Lithium

people are holding one in Bugle on the 25th March. Again, I will be there to support them and deflect any hard ‘Science’ questions on to the experts!

In next month’s thrilling instalment, I’ll be reporting back on the Adult Education Service which is being devolved to Cornwall Council and I’m currently involved in this process. As well as anything else that affects our area.

As well as my residents’ casework, I keep in touch with the Clerk and the Chair on a regular basis, but, if something does crop up, please don’t wait for the next meeting, either drop me a line or give me a call at the time.

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

D Cornwall Councillor Colin Martin’s report to the Parish (Luxulyan Ward). None.

23/162 Considerations

A The Clerk reported on a government initiative for parish councils to use the Gov.UK domain for their websites. The council requested that the Clerk report on the cost of moving to a Gov.UK website and, if that is done, whether gov.uk email addresses are required for all councillors.

B The council **RESOLVED** (proposed ML, 2nd KB) that the Clerk will order a free official portrait of His Majesty King Charles offered by the government to hang in the Institute.

C FP reported that the new bank account for Luxulyan CLT Ltd is almost up and running. The council **RESOLVED** (proposed ML, 2nd CT) that, if the CLT bank account was not yet ready, the parish council (as Constitutional Custodian of the Luxulyan CLT) would pay the fees (£390) for insurance and CLT Network membership until the CLT account is ready and this can be paid back.

D The council **RESOLVED** (proposed CT, 2nd ML) that the Clerk should sign the Grass Cutting Agreement 2024-25 with Cornwall Council for the cutting of the verges. It grants £749.12 to the parish council, which does not cover all the costs, but the verges look much better when our local contractor cuts them.

E The council **DEFERRED** the decision about dog waste bins (for church hill and the quarry road) because the clerk has not yet had a response from CC about the annual charge for waste removal for two dog bins.

F The council **RESOLVED** (proposed ML, 2nd HF) that the council would pay to right the Cornish Cross at Lockengate now because Highways said they could allocate the work for “next winter”. The Clerk will contact A&A who have quoted about £100.

G It was **AGREED** that the Chair would attend a “celebration event” for the completion of the StARR Project on 4th April. The Clerk will send her the information.

23/163 Planning

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

i. The Clerk explained that it would be more difficult in future to extend the consultation period for the parish council because the government has reduced the time available to the planning authority for planning decisions. Instead of being granted an extension until the next ordinary meeting, the parish council might need more extraordinary meetings to decide consultee comments.

B Pre-apps. Comments on pre-applications may be submitted to the case officer but the council is not a consultee.

i. **PA24/00172/PREAPP | Pre-application advice for proposed housing development**

to include a mix of affordable and open market rental properties. | Land South Of Bodwithgie Manor Bodwen Bugle Cornwall.

The council discussed the pre-application which is in its very early stages. The council was encouraged to see that it might go a long way toward solving some of the affordable housing shortage in the parish and will also be designed for the elderly and mobility-impaired. The council **RESOLVED** (proposed ML, 2nd KB) to submit the following comments to the case officer:

*** Luxulyan Parish Council hopes the planning authority will work with the applicants to make this a viable investment and, without prejudice, the council looks forward to seeing the full application.

C Applications for consultee comments.

i. **PA24/00739 | Proposed rear extension and alterations | The Lodge South Barn Luxulyan Bodmin Cornwall PL30 5DR.**

The council was able to discuss the application with the owner and ask questions. The council **RESOLVED** (proposed ML, 2nd FP) to submit the following consultee comments:

*** Luxulyan Parish Council has NO OBJECTION to this application. It is in-keeping, will be an improvement, and will not affect other properties.

ii. **PA24/00925 | Certificate of lawfulness for existing use of a dwelling in breach of planning | The Stables Conce Bugle St Austell Cornwall PL26 8RT.**

The council discussed the application and **RESOLVED** (proposed ML, 2nd HF) to submit the following consultee comments:

*** Luxulyan Parish Council SUPPORTS this application.

23/164 Highways & Flooding

See the Public Session, Minute 23/158.B.

23/165 Assets – reports and maintenance

A Playing Field. Playing Field inspections for February 2024 were received and **NOTED**.

B Cemetery. In November (23/105.B), the council approved the contractor that removes the moss with a machine; however, he was difficult to get hold of and the moss was removed by other contractors. The council **AGREED** to have the ‘moss machine’ do the work this winter before Christmas because the machine does not use chemicals.

ACTION: Clerk

C Footpaths. Behind houses in Beswetherick a fence blew down onto the footpath. The footpath is completely blocked. FP will speak to the owner to see what can be done.

D Luxulyan Memorial Institute. Nothing to report.

E Village Toilets.

i. The council **RESOLVED** (proposed ML, 2nd HF) (FP requested a recorded vote: ML, KB, HF, CT in favour, FP against) to renovate the toilet block room by room, starting with the Disabled Toilet as soon as possible. ML, DC and the Clerk will get a specification together to get quotes.

ii. The council **RESOLVED**, in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, to close the meeting to the press and public for the duration of the following item because it discusses confidential business interests.

iii. The council considered three quotes for the cleaning of the public toilets, four times

a week, for the 2024-25 fiscal year. It was **RESOLVED** (proposed KB, 2nd FP) to accept the quote from Fresh Start of £7,020 + consumables for the year. They have a flexible trained team of cleaners and will procure the consumables. They have accepted the Cleaning Specification drawn up by the Clerk which can be reviewed after a couple months. They have agreed to be in direct contact with the Clerk should any problems occur.

23/166 Parish Matters – reports

- A Luxulyan Parish Community Fund. HF reported that there is approximately £33K in the fund, with a couple applications in process. The Panel now meets as and when as soon as possible after they receive an application.
- B Luxulyan Valley Partnership. The next meeting is 24th April.
- C Village Hall Committee. No report.

23/167 Correspondence & Invitations (complete list in Clerk’s Notes)

The Clerk reported that there will be an Eden Fun Ride organised by the St Austell Bay Equestrian Club on Sunday 24th March, which will use the bridleways through the parish.

23/168 Business for the next meeting

Year End accounts.

23/169 Dates of next meetings.

- A Ordinary Meeting 11 April 2024, 6.00 pm at the Luxulyan Memorial Institute.
- B Audit Panel meeting at 5.30 before the ordinary meeting on 11th April.
- 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 8.47 pm and the Chair thanked everyone for attending.

Mrs C Wilson ~ Parish Clerk ~ 21 March 2024

SIGNED:

THESE ARE DRAFT MINUTES.

Chair: _____ Date: _____