

Luxulyan Parish Council **DRAFT** Minutes
Ordinary Meeting, THURSDAY 12 DECEMBER 2024
6.00 pm, at Luxulyan Memorial Institute

PRESENT:

Cllr Dan Cordy (Vice-chair), Cllr Helen Francis, Cllr Michael Grindley, Cllr Bob Hatton, Cllr Francis Payne, Cllr Carl Tonkin.

ALSO PRESENT:

Clerk to the Parish, Mrs Christine Wilson and no Members of the Public.

ABSENT:

Cllr Michaela Linfoot (Chair), Cllr Keith Bilston, Cllr Margaret Higman, Cllr Sarah Kemp, Luxulyan Ward Member Cllr Colin Martin, Lockengate Ward Member Peter Guest.

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 Vice-chair took the chair. The meeting began at 6.02 PM and the Chair welcomed all.

24/112 Apologies

Apologies were received from ML, KB, MH and Lockengate Ward Member Cllr Peter Guest.

24/113 Declarations of interest or requests for dispensation.

None.

24/114 Public Session

None.

24/115 Meetings and governance

A The council **RESOLVED** that the minutes, as read, of the meeting held on 14 November 2024 are a true and correct record (proposed BH, 2nd FP) and they were duly signed.

B The council's Standing Orders were ratified as without change (proposed CT, 2nd HF). The document approved at the November meeting had been uploaded to the website as a draft and will now be there as the approved policy. Standing Orders will be reviewed next December.

C The council's Financial Regulations were ratified as without change (proposed CT, 2nd HF). The document approved at the November meeting had been uploaded to the website as a draft and will now be there as the approved policy. Financial Regulations will be reviewed next December.

24/116 Finance

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

B RESERVES 2025-26. The council noted two types of reserves: (1) ordinary reserves for

	<p>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 2025-26 fiscal year, and with an estimated starting balance of £52K, the council AGREED that the ordinary reserve fund (1) is £15,241 and the ringfenced reserve fund (2) is £36,759.</p>																																			
C	<p>BUDGET 2025-26. The council discussed the Budget previously circulated. It 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 £37,745.</p>																																			
D	<p>PRECEPT 2025-26. The council’s Precept, which is the tax demanded of Luxulyan parish-ioners, is calculated by subtracting the projected receipts for the year from the expected payments (Budget). The council RESOLVED (proposed CT, 2nd FP) to demand a precept of £33,890. For a Band D property this will mean a rise of £0.60 per month. The itemised 2025-26 Budget/Precept will be placed on the council’s website.</p>																																			
E	<p>The council AUTHORISED payments for December 2024 totalling £2,734.61 (proposed BH, 2nd MG).</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Description</th> <th>Amount with VAT</th> <th>VAT</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Clerk's salary and expenses</td> <td>£1,213.29</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HMRC payment</td> <td>136.21</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Clerk's Pension</td> <td>53.08</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Playground inspections</td> <td>120.00</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Public Conveniences, electricity</td> <td>22.06</td> <td>1.50</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Public Convenience Cleaning Nov24</td> <td>688.50</td> <td>114.75</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Granite Towers postage Dec/Jan</td> <td>49.60</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Staples</td> <td>2.99</td> <td>0.50</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Maintenance of lights in public toilets</td> <td>397.88</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Monthly bank service charge</td> <td>6.00</td> <td>-</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			Description	Amount with VAT	VAT	Clerk's salary and expenses	£1,213.29	-	HMRC payment	136.21	-	Clerk's Pension	53.08	-	Playground inspections	120.00	-	Public Conveniences, electricity	22.06	1.50	Public Convenience Cleaning Nov24	688.50	114.75	Granite Towers postage Dec/Jan	49.60	-	Staples	2.99	0.50	Maintenance of lights in public toilets	397.88	-	Monthly bank service charge	6.00	-
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24/117 Reports

A	<p>Report on Actions. The trees that fell into the field below the cemetery have not been removed. The clerk will get quotes for the work.</p>
B	<p>Chair’s report. None.</p>
C	<p>Cornwall Councillor Peter Guest’s report to the Parish (Lockengate Ward)</p> <p>Firstly, please accept my apologies as I will be unable to join you this evening. You will know that I’ve been a bit under the weather recently, I’m on the mend and just about firing on all cylinders, but it has meant that I’ve fallen behind on my casework. I’m ploughing my way through it now and should be back up to speed by the end of next week. Residents’ issues always take priority with me, but I also thought you may be interested in what has been going on in Truro.</p> <p>I spent a long day in County Hall 2 weeks ago sitting on the Strategic Planning Committee hearing 2 contentious applications that attracted quite a lot of local and press interest. The first was a large solar farm application near Trispen that attracted about 70 demonstrators protesting against it. Morally, they had a very good case given the proliferation of solar farms popping up all over the County; however, from a legal standpoint given both previous case histories and the Government’s current stance on renewable energy, they were on thin ice. Also, the fact that the farmer in question stated that he had no intention of farming the land, and that the main reason for objection was loss of food production, I genuinely felt that any</p>

decision to reject this application would result in the developers lodging a successful appeal and costs being awarded against Cornwall Council. I was the lone voice and the application was rejected by a vote of 8-1. I do have concerns about the number of solar applications coming before us, but to avoid accusations of predetermination, I have to treat each application on its own merits. Some opponents will have stronger arguments than others. I am watching the development of the application near us in St Stephen Parish at the moment. This one in particular is attracting a lot of local opposition and I am keeping a close eye on all the comments being submitted.

The second application was nearly as feisty! It was for a new Holiday Park in Newquay. We had a lot of objections regarding visual impact, traffic, environmental concerns and oversaturation of the tourist market, but weighed against this was the support of Newquay Town Council and the main point that swung it for me to support the application was the creation of 97 full time, 113 part time and 111 seasonal jobs all paying above the National Living Wage rate. Despite opposition from the local Parish Council and our local M.P. We got the application approved. It was a long day and I think I've been removed from a couple of people's Christmas Card lists, but I'm quite comfortable with my stance on both applications as I was firstly trying to save Cornish taxpayers from a hefty legal bill and secondly, I will always support economic growth and job creation for our residents.

The main topic this week has been Car Parks. I was part of a lengthy 'scrutiny' debate about this on Tuesday and we put forward a recommendation to proceed with this plan although there were a couple of caveats. It was widely reported in the press, but, if you would like some more information or background, drop me a line.

As you may know, I am the Vice Chairman of the Cornwall Adult Education Services Board of Governors. There is currently a public consultation running on the proposed closure of some of our centres and I am currently working with and talking to students and more importantly the staff potentially affected by these changes. One centre currently under threat is the St Austell site in Robartes Place, however, if you read beyond the headlines, you will see that the proposal recommends running courses out of Cornwall College approximately half a mile away. It is currently a consultation and all responses to it will be considered. I'd be happy to discuss this in more detail with anyone interested.

Last Saturday, I had the pleasure of attending the launch of the Mockingbird initiative at the Eden Project. Mockingbird is a collection of Foster Carers who combine to provide an extended family for the children in their care and provide support, advice and mentoring for the carers. Although I was there in an official capacity, I could relate to the issues and challenges Foster Carers face. I managed to get my ugly mug on the television helping to promote Mockingbird and if you would like to know more about fostering, I'd be happy to have a conversation with you.

A couple of Tuesdays ago, I was at Full Council in Truro. The main item on the agenda was our support for Farmers protesting about the proposed changes to Inheritance Tax. The motion attracted cross party support and apart from the 3 Labour Councillors abstaining and the Green Member and 2 Independent's voting against, it was carried with a hefty majority. I hope that our local M.P.s and Government take note of the amount of disquiet and concern that is out there and reconsider their decision.

Another motion called for us to reinstate a Community led housing early stage feasibility fund, which until we left the E.U. was paid for by Brussels. This opposition motion asked us to take £208k out of our reserves, an action that in the opinion of our Finance Officer would leave our levels of reserves at risk. No suggestion of how this money will be replaced has been given and what they actually want to do with the money is extremely vague. It was patently obvious that this hadn't been thought through and I wasn't surprised when it was thrown out.

I think that is enough 'Politics' for one report and I will now move on to other matters.

Locally, I attended [remotely] our quarterly C.A.P. meeting. Comms were slightly challenging, but I got the main gist of the meeting and I will be having a de-brief on it with Roger [our C.L.O.]

before our P.C. meeting, just in case it is discussed in more depth tonight.

We are rapidly approaching the festive season and with that in mind, I'm looking forward to attending as many Christmas fayres and functions as possible. It's the time of the year when communities come together, which is always enjoyable and raises much needed funds that the various community groups require to keep running throughout the year. I will do my best to attend and support as many as possible and I would encourage you to do the same. You never know, you might win a raffle prize or be inspired to take up a new hobby or join a group!

Although the festive season is a time of celebration and fun, I'm mindful that for some people it can be a very difficult time of the year. There is support out there and I would be more than happy to point residents in the right direction should you hear of anyone who needs a bit of help.

As always, please do not wait for our regular meetings to raise an issue with me. Feel free to contact me at any time.

I'd like to close by thanking you all for the work that you have put in over the last year and the support that you have given me in our efforts to support our residents. I hope you and yours have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Put your feet up, enjoy the break and we'll catch up soon.

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

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

24/118 Considerations

A The CLT has no meeting planned at the moment. Later in December FP will be meeting on MS Teams with Cornwall Council.

CT left the room for the duration of the discussion and vote on the next item.

B The council **RESOLVED** (proposed DC, 2nd BH) that more quotes are not needed for the weed spray around Luxulyan village. The council is happy with the service provided by A1 Tree Surgery and their quote was the most competitive.

C The council **RESOLVED** (proposed BH, 2nd FP) to accept the 2025-26 Local Maintenance Partnership for cutting the footpaths with an increase of 1/1%.

D The council **RESOLVED** (proposed MG, 2nd HF) to accept the 2025-26 Agency Agreement for cutting the verges.

E The clerk has not yet received a second quote for the woodwork on the toilets.

F The clerk could not open the quotes for the maintenance of the play equipment because of the poor internet in the Institute.

24/119 Planning

A Planning decisions are reported in Clerk's Notes.

B Applications for consultee comments.

i. **PA24/07338 | The proposals are for a first floor link, above the existing ground floor link between the two buildings. An elevator to replace the stairwell in the building to the west of the site, with a new external fire escape stairwell as shown. | Penmount Grange Lanivet Bodmin PL30 5JE.**

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

*** Luxulyan Parish Council has NO OBJECTION to this application.

Cllr Hatton left the meeting.

24/120 Highways & Flooding

Nothing to report that hasn't already been reported directly to CC.

24/121 Assets – reports and maintenance

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

B Cemetery. See 24/117.A.

C Footpaths. The identifying signpost at the north end of FP 12/1 has fallen down.
W3w: maple.wept.sprinter. The clerk will inform Cornwall Council.

D Luxulyan Memorial Institute. Nothing to report.

E Village Toilets. The lights in the Ladies have been replaced and the wiring fixed.

24/122 Parish Matters – reports

A Luxulyan Parish Community Fund. The Fund Panel met earlier in the week and granted funds to LEGGS and to the Institute for new heaters. The Preschool will get a 'drip fund' of £1500 annually, reviewed annually.

B Luxulyan Valley Partnership. Nothing to report.

C Village Hall Committee. Nothing to report.

24/123 Correspondence & Invitations (complete list in Clerk's Notes)

A Notification was received from Bell Geospace about a survey they are conducting. "Residents can expect to see low flying aircraft in the area in December. ...the process is entirely passive and nothing is coming out of the aircraft." More information can be found here: https://info.bellgeo.com/cornwall_faq.

24/124 Business for the next meeting

No business was requested.

24/125 Dates of next meetings.

A Audit Panel Meeting 9 January 2025, 5.30 pm at the Luxulyan Memorial Institute.

B Ordinary Meeting 9 January 2025, 6.00 pm at the Luxulyan Memorial Institute.

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 7.44 pm and the Chair thanked everyone for attending.

Mrs C Wilson ~ Parish Clerk ~ 14 December 2024

SIGNED:

THESE ARE DRAFT MINUTES.

Chair: _____ Date: _____