

**St. Mellion Parish Council Meeting
Tuesday 12th May 2026 at 7:00 p.m.
St. Mellion Church Hall
Minutes**

PRESENT:

Cllr. Bridie Kent (BK) Chair
Cllr. Hilary Gill (HG) Vice Chair
Cllr. Angela Perrett (AP)
Cllr. Adam Sturtridge (AS)
Cllr. Nick Habermehl (NH)
Cllr. Ben Bryan (BB)

IN ATTENDANCE:

Ren Jackaman – Clerk & RFO
Jim Gale – Ward Councillor for Lynher
Four members of the public (two left at 19:59)

1. Councillor matters

- 1.1. *To receive apologies for absences:* None
- 1.2. *To receive declarations of pecuniary interests:* None
- 1.3. *To receive declarations of non-registrable interests:* None
- 1.4. *To approve written requests for dispensations:* None

2. Previous Parish Council meetings

- 2.1 *To approve the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of 14th April 2026*
The minutes were sent as pre-reading.

It was proposed by HG, seconded by BB and agreed to approve the minutes of the ordinary meeting on 14th April 2026 as a true record of the meeting, all in favour.

- 2.2 *Matters Arising:* None

2.3 *Clerk's Report & items actioned since last meeting:*

- A query was received from Cornwall Hospice about having a stall at local fairs. RJ has passed this on to the Cherry Feast team.
- Cornwall Council have given formal notice of intent to commence the preparation of a new Local Plan.
- A. Copson is seeking to retire as compiler of the Melanus News but will produce one more copy for this summer. A new editor will be sought.

3. Questions from the public & correspondence received

The council has received an invitation to take part in the Civic Gala on 25th June 2026 at 7pm, there is a buffet and the Portreeve will be sworn in.

A member of the public has asked for additional; grit bin to be placed near the junction by the tree at Amytree.

ACTION: RJ to enquire with CORMAC for feasibility of placing a grit bin at Amytree.

4. Report of County Councillor for Lynher - Jim Gale:

- The Glyphosate debacle caused a motion at full council to delay this programme so that more consultation can take place. 61 councillors voted for consultation. Anna Gelbard MP put a video on social media which presented the issue as solved, which is misleading.

- Homechoice waiting list for housing has 25K people listed, so oversubscribed. There are 900 homeless people in Cornwall on the register, many are being put up in temporary accommodation which costs £12 million per annum. There is a lack of a forward path from this situation.
- New legislation for provision of 4000+ houses per year, being a 68% increase on the previous target, Cornwall has approved 26K properties for building. There should be some method for getting those houses up and running quickly, with consequences for enforcing the provision of social housing.
- The new landlord legislation has come into effect which address issues around the eviction of sitting tenants. This is aimed to address the use of Section 21 eviction notices and the consequent increase in homelessness. Rents are likely to be adversely increased as a result.
- Planning has been approved for two fire station extensions, West Looe and Bude. It had to come to committee because though owned by Cornwall Council, both buildings are under a PFI contract. To date it has cost £364 billion in costs to maintain the buildings because of these contracts. As PFI contracts come up for renewal, Cornwall Council will take over those contracts to reduce these costs. Bude has 18 firefighters but only one toilet, shower and social room, so the extensions will give 3-4 toilets, showers and a drying room.
- A Planning in Principal application was at committee recently and JG and three others refused to approve it.
- The General Wolf pub in St. Austell costs Cornwall Council £1 Million and was recently sold for £250K.
- Health & Wellbeing Committee has raised issues relating to bus provision, which issue will be carried forward to Tamar to Moor and South East CAP, There is an aim to push community buses to fill the gap.
- Road markings are in need of renewal, the budget for the whole of Cornwall was £40K but Dan Rogerson has managed to raise this to £225K so the issue will be addressed in the coming months.

HG asked JG if there is a seasonal fluctuation in homelessness with people coming into the county for the summer. JG responded that anyone moving between authorities needs to re-register with the new authority to access services, which can take weeks.

5. Community & Stakeholders

5.1. Community Emergency Planning - update:

AP attended the Community Emergency Planning workshop and provided detailed notes, which were sent as pre-reading,

Parishes are encouraged to have an emergency planning policy, the concern being that if there is an emergency in an area that there will be a shortage of resources. Therefore, the aim is for parishes to pool resources in the event of an emergency.

An emergency plan should include identification of the vulnerable and risk assessing potential emergencies of all kinds.

The impression was expressed that this is another way of forcing devolved services onto local parish councils who have not the resources or jurisdiction to undertake the tasks involved.

ACTION: Further work to be undertaken over the course of the year to develop a risk assessment model and work with smaller parishes to create a combined plan.

5.2. Litter Pick:

The amount of litter to be picked in the parish is minimal and the vegetation is very long at the moment. It was decided to wait until the first cut of the verges has happened.

6. Planning matters

6.1. Planning Applications: None

6.2. Enforcement Refusals, Approvals & Appeals

[PA25/00001/NDP](#) Callington and Kelly Bray Neighbourhood Development Plan

STATUS: Awaiting Decision

6.3. *Neighbourhood Priority Statement Working Group:*

The NPS is very nearly ready to be launched. BK is meeting up with the Chair of Landulph council to advise them on how the NPS process works.

7. Highway & Transport

7.1. *Church Lane & Speedwatch:*

A session of Speedwatch monitoring will be scheduled soon.

7.2. *County Highway Fund and Improvement Programme applications update:*

Nothing to report.

7.3. *Dunstan Lane road repairs update:*

This issue has been resolved.

7.4. *Public Realm Improvement and Re-introduction of Weed Treatment update:*

Cornwall Council has issued an apology for the mishandling of this issue and have voted to put the proposed programme on hold so that better consultation can happen. CALC will be meeting with senior officers at Cornwall Council to agree clearer and more meaningful protocols for future engagement, information-sharing and consultation between the principal authority and the local council sector. The apology letter makes no mention of the jeopardy to democratic process which the actions of Cornwall Council manifested.

7.5. *Clapper Bridge:*

Repairs were scheduled for the early part of 2026; we are now nearly into the middle of the year. Some repairs were completed in Spring 2025, and the coping stones have been retrieved from the riverbed, but it is unclear where these have been stored. A corner coping stone has been dislodged since that time, and some granite stones on the chicane approach unfortunately only lasted a week in position after the work. One of the upstream bridge stanchions is damaged and requires assessment and repair. JG has raised the issue with Cornwall Council from the Parish Councils of St. Mellion, Pillaton and Quethiock.

7.6. *Any other issues to note:* None.

8. Council Property & Assets

8.1. *Purchase of a new projector conformation:*

Following research by BB, a Philips Propix has been purchased from Currys, RJ has set up a business account with Currys to facilitate this.

8.2. *Any issues to report:* None.

9. Parish Council Finances

9.1. *To approve monthly payment schedule for May 2026*

St. Mellion Parish Council Payment Schedules

DATE: May 2026

REVENUE ACCOUNT

Payee	Invoice Date	Invoice #	Description	Amount
R Jackaman	n/a	n/a	Clerk Salary and Reimbursements	£775.94
AG Accountancy Ltd	05/05/2026	4836	Payroll Service	£15.62
S&S Garden Services	12/05/2026	n/a	Monthly maintenance of Jubilee bus shelter	£150.00
Dawe, Hawken & Dodd	11/05/2026	8928	Internal Audit fee	£540.00

SMPC/YE2027/17

Western Web Ltd	01/05/2026	25486	Webspace and content management Licence	£96.00
Zurich Insurance	05/05/2026	n/a	Insurance Premium Renewal	£1,136.22
Currys	06/05/2026	26613297	Philips ProPix 650 HD Projector	£284.04
NEST	09/05/2026	n/a	Employer + Employee contribution to clerk's pension	£55.84
HMRC	n/a	n/a	Backdated NI contributions for Year 25/26 & April 2026	£380.14
Unity Trust Bank	31/05/2026	n/a	Monthly Service Charge	£7.00
TOTAL				£3440.80
COMMUNITY ACCOUNT				
Payee	Invoice Date	Invoice #	Description	Amount
Unity Trust Bank	31/05/2026	n/a	Monthly Service Charge	£7.00
TOTAL				£7.00

Balances as of 30th April 2026
 Revenue Account: £16600.16
 Community Account: £16802.72

It was proposed by BB, seconded by HG and resolved to approve the payment schedules for May 2026, all in favour.

10. Parish Council Governance: None**11. Items for next Parish Council meeting agenda:**

- Standing Order update
- Quarterly review
- Asset Checks
- Mellanus News

12. Date and time of next meeting 9th June 2026

BK closed the meeting at 20:11