

Altarnun Parish Council

DRAFT Minutes of Altarnun Parish Council (APC) meeting held at Altarnun Village Hall, Wednesday 1st October 2025, which commenced at 7.30 pm. **APC members present** Cllr Branch (Chair), Cllr Wendon, Cllr Smith, Cllr Masters, Cllr Pannell, Cllr Halls, Cllr Vickery & Cllr Pooley
Cllr Wendon., **Also present:** Mr R Turner (APC clerk) and two members of the public.

147/25 Apologies for absence: Cornwall Cllr Parsons. APC Cllrs Dowler, Kendall & Bloomfield.

148/25 Members declaration of interests and requests for dispensations. Members declaration of gifts and hospitality. No declarations of interests or gifts were made.

149/25 Invitation for members of the public and Cornwall Cllr Adrian Parsons to address the meeting.

A representative of the local Methodist Circuit spoke to clarify that the Chapel in Rose Hill is no longer owned by them, being sold into private ownership a number of years ago.

Cllrs Pannell & Halls joined the meeting and did not declare any interests or gifts.

Cllr Parsons submitted a written report as follows: -

- Cornwall Council will become one of the first local authorities in the country to introduce automatic enrolment for free school meals, helping thousands of children and putting up to £3 million back into family budgets and Cornwall's schools each year.

-At last month's full council meeting the motion I submitted to prevent the "wholesale sell off of our Cornwall Council farms", disappointingly, wasn't debated or voted on and will now be referred to Cabinet. Where I suspect there will be a review of the farms strategy and not much will change. Likewise, the motion to debate the 6% increase in car parking charges wasn't tabled, I think this increase by the administration is poorly thought through and will add further pressure on the vitality of our towns and high streets.

-Cornwall's recycling rate has increased by more than 20% since the new residential recycling collection service was rolled out. Within this, residents have already recycled around 20,000 tonnes of leftovers, peelings, teabags and more.

-Dogs are welcome back on many beaches in Cornwall from October 1st. Privately owned beaches may still have their own restrictions in force.

-At the Strategic Planning meeting 25.9.2025 the application for a Geothermal well and power station at Slaughtersbridge was refused.

-Cornwall Council needs to make savings between £45m and £70m to reach a balanced budget in 2026/27. The central government budget is not presented until 26.11.2025 and therefore makes planning at county level challenging because the local government finance settlement will be delayed, and in turn it's likely the draft budget for Cornwall to be presented in December will be based on funding assumptions rather than firm allocations. It is expected that there will be no significant increase in central government funding, leaving Cornwall with no choice but to increase council tax once again by the maximum allowable, 4.99%, review the capital expenditure programme and drive efficiencies with partners for better outcomes focusing on prevention and ensuring services are priced to reflect their true cost. At present there is generally a good level of financial performance in Cornwall within the very tight 2025/26 budget, but, with the exception of children's services which have seen spiralling demand and costs, despite endeavours to limit them.

150/25 To approve the minutes of the Altarnun Parish Council meeting held 3rd September 2025. It was proposed by Cllr Pooley and seconded by Cllr Vickery, then unanimously **resolved** that the minutes of the APC Meeting held on 3rd September 2025 were correctly recorded and that they be signed by the Chair. Cllr Branch signed the minutes.

151/25 Matters arising from minutes of APC meeting 3rd September 2025 and not included in this agenda.

Further to minute 141/25 the clerk reported that an enhanced LMP grant in the sum of £925 was applied for and agreed for the purpose of the repair and replacement of missing items and signage on the Altarnun parish footpath network.

152/25 Finance Matters: The Responsible Finance Officer (RFO) reported: -

-Microsoft 365 direct debit was not collected as advised in September meeting as not an option Microsoft provides. Payment therefore to be made by cheque and included in October accounts payable.

- Local Government Services pay agreement 2025/2026 advised clerks salary as rising from £17.29/hr to £17.85p/hr with effect 1.4.2025. Backpay £84 (6mths-150hrs x £0.56) included in October salary payment. Cornwall Assn Local Councils have advised that the clerk working from home allowance be increased to £25pm. It has, with effect from 1.10.2025.

-Funds received £9750, 8.9.2025 Cornwall Council precept 2025/26B.

-Funds received £16.48, 30.9.2025 bank interest.

-APC funds and reserves reflected in the bank balance as at 30.9.2025, being, £28007.85 credit.

The RFO advised accounts payable as follows:

-£84.99 Microsoft 365 annual subscription. Chq 1530

-£3 Smart Brothers re underpayment of August invoice paid at September meeting. Chq 1531

-£342.76 Cornwall Council. Election 2025 recharge. Chq 1532 (From reserve)

-£449.25 Clerk salary October 23025, including back pay from 1.4.2025 re annual pay award. Chq 1533

-£1182 Smart Brothers – work completed September 2025. Maintenance £386, Grass cuts £208, Bolventor cemetery £304, Toilet cleaning £234 & Penpont View grass cut £40. Chq 1534.

Cllr Pooley proposed to approve the payments, Cllr Masters seconded, and it was unanimously **resolved** to pay these accounts. Cllr Branch signed the schedule of payments being made.

153/25 Planning Applications: None submitted to APC for comment.

154/25 Planning Decisions: The following applications were reported as approved: PA25/05684, PA25/05683, PA25/04824, PA25/04937, PA25/04938 and the following application was reported as being refused: PA25/03928.

For more details about any planning decision, note the reference number and go to the Cornwall Council website <http://planning.cornwall.gov.uk/online-applications/>

155/25 Pre-Application Planning:

The following application was reported for information only: PA25/00928PREAPP.

For more details about any pre application planning case, note the reference number and go to the Cornwall Council website <http://planning.cornwall.gov.uk/online-applications/>

156/25 Methodist Chapel, Rose Hill.

Further to minute no.129/25 the clerk advised that Cornwall Council have confirmed they are not restricting access for maintenance but are stating that those that do enter the site, do so at their own risk and should not do so during adverse weather conditions. The clerk undertook to follow up with the owner to obtain a permission for a contractor to maintain the burial ground from time to time.

157/25 Altarnun Village Green. The clerk reported that HMLR registration of the green remains outstanding, but a title number has been allocated and recorded in the asset register. Also, APC has been advised that unauthorised parking, on and around the green has become a problem from time to time, and that investigations are underway to try and mitigate any future problems.

158/25 Highways.

The clerk reported that the Cornwall Council Plusha/A30 safety upgrade project team will hold an online working group meeting 22.10.2025. Cllr Halls gave commitment to attend on behalf of APC. Cornwall Council have advised that site and traffic surveys are taking place and landowners in the vicinity of Plusha/A3057 junction have been contacted by letter to be fully advised of this intention.

159/25 Tregunnon K6 Phone Box.

The clerk advised that no suggestions from residents in the vicinity of this phone box have been presented as yet, with regard to its future use. After discussion no decision or action was deemed necessary at this time.

160/25 Migration to gov.uk domain name and email addresses.

Further to minute 144/25 and discussion amongst councillors it was proposed by Cllr Branch that migration should be undertaken as soon as possible, as directed by the 2024/25 external audit report delivered to APC by BDO LLP, and that the clerk proceed to make arrangements with an approved registrar listed on the Gov.uk website ([.gov.uk Registrars – Registrar Resources](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/register-a-domain-name)), with a maximum budget of £450. Cllr Masters seconded, and it was **resolved** to proceed as proposed.

161/25 Correspondence – for information only.

- Member of the public regarding the placement of a charity collection bin on parish council land.
- Cornwall Council Planning relating to clerks absence 15.10.2025 until 8.11.2025
- Stoke Climsland Parish Council retrofit energy saving scheme.
- Member of the public regarding excess speed of commercial vehicles through Altarnun.
- 20mph roll out – Public consultation to commence in October.
- Peninsula Transport SBT team advising grant scheme for applications up to £50k for rural transport schemes.

162/25 Advise venue, date & time of next council meeting expected to be at Altarnun Village Hall, Wednesday 12th November 2025 at 7.30pm.

These details were confirmed Cllr Branch closed the meeting at 8.35pm