

CROWAN PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT CROWAN PARISH ROOMS
ON THURSDAY 14 NOVEMBER 2024 AT 7.15pm



PRESENT: Councillors L Jenkin, J Thould, C Parnell, S Mock, K Allen, D Smith and C Merton.	
CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME: The Chair welcomed councillors, two members of the public and the clerk.	
ITEM	
24-11/01	Apologies None received.
24-11/02	Public Forum A member of the public spoke about traffic on the crossroads in Praze. Another spoke in opposition to planning application PA24/04800 (item 24-11/07(a)).
24-11/03	Member's Declarations None made.
24-11/04	Requests For Dispensation None received.
24-11/05	Previous Minutes Council RESOLVED that the minutes of the Council meeting held on 10 October 2024, be approved as a true and accurate record of proceedings.
24-11/06	Cornwall Councillor's Report Cornwall Councillor Jenkin reported on efforts being made to ensure a balanced budget in 2025-6 - significant service cuts are likely. She spoke of the likely effects on the Highways budget and how this might impact on the roads in the parish. Councillor Jenkin expressed disappointment at the absence of a Crowan Parish Council representative at the last West Planning Sub-Committee meeting and said that a lack of parish council representation mitigated against a good decision being made. She recommended that either the parish council Chair or named representative attends sub-committee meetings.
24-11/07 (a)	Planning – Applications PA24/02607 The parish council is concerned about being unable to view the business plan and access the land agent report. The council shares the concerns of residents who have contacted it that the proposed business may not prosper. The parish council does not accept that this small site in a highly sensitive location in the World Heritage Site is appropriate for this proposed development. An industrial site would be more fitting for a hydroponic unit than this rural setting, and the apparently small scale of the project would suggest that it will not be successful. The council notes that there is no sign of agricultural activity and the barn for which permission was given some time ago has not been erected, further undermining the council's confidence in the project. The parish council believes firmly that the development will mean significant light pollution in a sensitive location, and that the structures will be a consequential detriment in the WHS. Consequently, Crowan Parish Council OBJECTS to the proposal and would wish for it to be called to committee if the officer is minded to approve it. Planning – Decisions The two decisions made by Cornwall Council listed on the agenda were noted.
24-11/08	2025-26 Budget The Clerk reported on a meeting he had with the Chair and Vice Chair and presented figures showing their calculations. They propose a small percentage rise in the precept to meet the council's increasing costs and to make further improvements in council commissioned services. The Clerk also advised that the precept needed to address the effects of having no or very low increases in the precept in recent years. The Clerk will meet again with the Chair and Vice Chair and will present his budget proposal for 2024-5 at the December meeting.

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24-11/09	Clerk's Pay The Clerk advised council that a national pay increase for council staff had been agreed, and that this year's settlement meant a 62p rise per hour for the Clerk. Council RESOLVED to accept the national uplift, backdating the rise to 1st April 2024.
24-11/10	Administration And Finance The Clerk presented the Payments List totalling £28,504.46 including £4,182.30 VAT. The list included the funded and one-off payment to Planet A for carrying out the energy efficiency analyses. He showed a bank reconciliation for 31 October showing £103,138.87 in the Unity bank Account and Scribe system. He asked council to approve a request from Cornwall Council that the parish council agrees to extend the period by which the parish council has to spend committed CIL funds for two more years. Council RESOLVED to approve the Payments Schedule. RESOLVED to authorise the Chair to sign the bank reconciliation. RESOLVED to agree with Cornwall Council to extend the period by which CIL funds have to be spent for a further two years. The October 2024 accounts were noted.
24-11/11	Public Rights of Way The Chair of the Amenities and Environment Committee asked council to approve a proposal from the committee that the budget for PROW clearance be increased by £2,000 to further improve the PROW. Council RESOLVED to increase the PROW clearance budget by a further £2,000.
24-11/12	Wheal Treasure The Chair of the Amenities and Environment Committee asked council to approve a proposal from the committee that an earmarked reserve of £1,000 be created for improvements to the park. Council RESOLVED to create an ear-marked budget of £1,000 for the improvement of Wheal Treasure.
24-11/13	Amenities and Environment Committee The Chair of the Amenities and Environment Committee asked council to approve a proposal from the committee that the parish council commits recently received funds from the CIL and Section 106 receipts totalling £12,783.07 to the replacement of the play equipment at Nancegollan. Council had previously been advised that £11,178.07 will remain with Cornwall Council until the parish council presents invoices showing that it has been spent. Council RESOLVED that the CIL payment of £1,605.62 be added to the ear-marked reserve for the replacement of the play equipment at Nancegollan; and that the Section 106 receipts of £11,047.96 be committed for the same purpose.
24-11/14	Grant Application Following a briefing from the Clerk, Council RESOLVED to grant £250 to Camborne and Pool Memory Café.
24-11/15	Grant Application Following a briefing from the Clerk, Council RESOLVED to grant £200 to Cornwall Air Ambulance Trust.
24-11/16	Youth Worker Following a briefing from the Clerk, Council RESOLVED to grant £600 to donate to the Camborne Cluster of Churches for a youth worker in Praze request from an ear-marked reserve.

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24-11/17	Removal Of Dying Ash Tree The Clerk reported that Cornwall Council has granted permission for the removal of the dying tree on The Plan, Praze, specifying that the work be carried out within two years and the tree replaced with a hornbeam. He asked for authorisation to seek a contractor and to have the works carried out. Council RESOLVED that the Clerk should commission the removal of the dying ash tree on The Plan, Praze, including its replacement with a hornbeam, the work to cost no more than £500.
24-11/18	Energy Efficiency Project The Clerk reported that the analyses have been sent to the Chairs of the respective village hall committees, one of which had expressed concern about being able to fund the proposed work. There are funds to which the committees could apply to offset or cover the costs. Council RESOLVED that a meeting be held in January to which the village hall committees, Planet A and parish councillors be invited, the Clerk to make the arrangements.
24-11/19	Engaging With The Public Council decided that a series of roadshows will be held in early summer 2025 with a session held in each of the five main settlements in the parish.
24-11/20	Clerk's Update And Brief Reports For The Meeting The parish clerk's printer has become inoperable. Council agreed that it is more than ten years old and that a new replacement should be bought. The clerk went through the list of actions since the last meeting and reported all were complete except • Quotes to be sought for repainting the telephone kiosks (clerk) • Research benches for Wheal Treasure (Councillor Mann) • Attend NDP training and report to council (councillors Smith and Parnell) • Contact Chair of Sancreed PC for advice on VAS (Councillor Merton) • Ask contractor for price of erecting and moving VAS (Clerk)
24-11/21	External Organisations The CAP met recently and focused its attention on housing in the area. Cornwall Council will update the Local Plan but is awaiting guidance from government. In future, Neighbourhood Development Plans will be lighter touch and developed more quickly and there will be increased attention paid to design and the natural environment. Village boundaries will be discouraged to encourage more housing. It was noted that there is an acute need for affordable housing in the parish. Praze Playing Field trust will meet again on 12th December. The Chair met with the Praze Cricket Club and discussed a need for a lease between the parties. The Trust aims to develop a plan for the whole site. Praze Institute committee is reportedly delighted that a youth club will be held in the building which will also hold a Christmas Market.
24-11/22	Items For Future Meetings Review of the management of signs.
24-11/23	Exclusion Of The Press And Public Council RESOLVED that in accordance with s.1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the Press and Public be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following business owing to its confidential nature.

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24-11/24	Clerk's Pension Council RESOLVED that the Staffing Committee, Chair and Vice Chair of the Council should meet with the Clerk to discuss the employer contribution to the clerk pension, and report back no later than the December council meeting with a proposal.
24-11/24	DATES OF MEETINGS Full Council – 12 December 2024 at 7.15pm in the Parish Rooms, Crowan. Staffing Committee – 20 November 2024 at 4.00pm in the Parish Rooms, Crowan. Amenities and Environment Committee – 23 January 2025 at 7.15pm in the Parish Rooms, Crowan.
	MEETING CLOSED @ 21.55.

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Actions Arising From The November 2024 Council Meeting

Action	Responsible
Commission the removal of the dying ash tree on The Plan, Praze, including its replacement with a hornbeam,	Clerk
Arrange Energy Efficiency Meeting	Clerk
Replace parish clerk printer	Clerk
Seek quotes for repainting telephone kiosks	Clerk
Contact Chair of Sancreed PC for advice on VAS	Cllr Merton
Ask contractor for price of erecting and moving VAS	Clerk