St. John Parish Council

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council meeting held at Freathy Community Hall on Thursday 10th September 2026 at 7pm.

MINUTES

Present: Cllr Derek Richards (Chairman)
Cllr Roy Hoskin (Vice-Chairman)
Cllr Bill Honey
Cllr John Tanner
Cllr Derek Jones

In Attendance: Toni Baker (Clerk and RFO), Cllr Kate Ewert and one member of the public.

Cllr Richards opened the meeting at 7pm

25.26 Apologies for absence
None

26.26 Declarations of Interest relating to items on the agenda
Cllr Tanner and Cllr Hoskin declared their connection to the Antony school and would abstain from voting on the funding request from the Antony School Association.

Cllr Honey declared an interest as he rents a garage from the local landowner who owns land and potential PROW (public rights of way).

27.26 County Councillor's report
Cllr Kate Ewert reported a public meeting, regarding the Military Road, is being arranged and will be attended by a cabinet member.

Tests are being carried out on the fault on the Military Road, at the Tregantle end. The tests will ascertain the extent of the repairs over the geological fault with the results expected in a few weeks, after which further action will be decided.

The upcoming closure of the Military Road (14/09 – 02/10) for the water main connection means no buses will be able to get through. However, it is anticipated that access for buses and emergency vehicles will become available during the second week of the works. Cllr Ewert requested a shuttle bus service but South West Water rejected this; Cllr Ewert will continue to push for this.

The drainage works in St John have been rescheduled to start on the 19th October. Cllr Ewert will contact surrounding parishes recommending drivers use alternative routes for the duration of the works.

An interim Deputy Chief Executive has been appointed at Cornwall Council.

Cllr Richards asked if there has been any update on the planning application for Edystone Café; there has been no update.

The discharge of water from hot tubs on the cliff was discussed. Cllr Ewert has raised this with the Environment Agency and will follow up on this.

Cllr Ewert reported that the Environment Agency had carried out an investigation on Millbrook lake after concerns were raised of possible sewage contamination. Their investigations showed no sewage contamination. Millbrook Parish Council have shared the report on social media.

Lastly, Cllr Ewert reported that a meeting to discuss the Neighbourhood Priorities Statement is being arranged with a parish that has already completed the process. It is hoped the meeting will be attended by the parishes on the Rame.

Cllr Ewert left the meeting at 7.22pm

28.26 Public Forum

None

29.26 Minutes of the Parish Council meeting (21st May 2026) and the Extraordinary meeting (25th June 2026)

The Council resolved that the minutes of the previous Parish Council meetings held on the 21st May and 25th June are an accurate record. Proposer: Cllr Hoskin, Seconder: Cllr Honey.

30.26 Matters Arising

a. Enforcement issues

(previous minutes: 9.26a, 54.25a, 41.25a, 26.25a, 7.25a, 64.24a)

No update

b. Public rights of way (PROW) / Coastal footpath improvements

(previous minutes: 9.26b, 54.25b, 41.25b, 26.25c, 67.24a, 48.24b, 36.24b, 24.24b, 8.24)

Cllr Honey reported that the PROW is now with Cornwall Council to work with the landowner. It is hoped that a dedication will be signed to establish the right of way. A decision is expected by the end of October.

Cllr Honey reported no update with the coastal footpath.

c. Dog waste bin provision
(previous minutes: 9.26c, 54.25c, 41.25d, 25.25e, 15.25)
No update

d. Military Road subsidence / Inter-parish meeting
(previous minutes: 9.26d, 54.25d, 41.25f, 25.25h, 10.25)
Cllr Ewert provided an update in her report (see minute 27.26)

e. St. John potholes
(previous minutes: 9.26e, 51.25)
No update

31.26 Planning Applications 2026/2027

a. The Council reviewed planning application PA26/05621, Longfield, St. John and agreed to support it. Proposed: Cllr Richards, Seconded: Cllr Tanner. Clerk to submit comment to the planning portal.

Planning Applications	2026/27	Area	Validated	Application outcome (from Cornwall Council)
PA26/00080	The view	Freathy	07/01/2026	Prior approval not req'd(PA/AF/TEL/DEM/)
PA26/02326	Tregonhawke farm	Freathy	19/05/2026	Approved
PA26/03608	Eddystone Beach Café, Tregonhawke Cliff	Freathy	27/05/2026	Awaiting decision
PA26/04131	Marigold, Tregonhawke Cliff	Freathy	02/07/2026	Approved
PA26/05621	Longfield, St. John	St John	12/08/2026	

32.26 Policies for review:

The council suggested some edits to the two policies. Clerk to update and bring back to the next meeting.

a. Complaints Policy
b. Privacy Notice

33.26 Training

The council noted that Cllr Jones had attended the Code of Conduct training course.

34.26 Correspondence

a. Dowr Glan Campaign and the response from South West Water
The Council discussed this at length and considered the various views expressed by each councillor. The overall decision was not to sign a vote of no confidence.

b. Grant Application from Cornwall Air Ambulance Trust
The Council agreed to make a donation of £150. Proposed: Cllr Richards, Seconded: Cllr Hoskin

c. Request from Antony School Association for financial support of new playground equipment
The Council deferred this for consideration at the next solar meeting.

35.26 Finance reports 2026/2027

The following finance reports were reviewed and approved unanimously by the Parish Council.

a. Payments to be approved

Payments to be approved June - Sept 26		Incl Vat	Vat	Excl Vat
Banking charge (30/06/26)		£7.00		£7.00
Toni Baker Clerking July 2026	300101	£290.09		£290.09
Banking charge (31/07/26)		£7.00		£7.00
Green Thumb	300102	£30.50	£5.08	£25.42
Toni Baker Clerking August 2026	300103	£279.29		£279.29
CALC - Code of Conduct course (Cllr Jones)		£33.00	£5.50	£27.50
Banking charge (31/08/26)		£7.00		£7.00
Total		**£646.88**	**£10.58**	**£636.30**

CCC housing survey £241.48
Clerking costs subject to invoice Sept - Dec 26
Bank charge £7 pm
Green thumb subject to invoice
Rent for hall subject to invoice.
Code of Conduct training for new councillor
Training subject to invoice

b. Income received

Name	Date	Precept	Interest	Solar Payment	VAT	TOTAL
Cornwall Council	09/04/2026	£4,500.00				£4,500.00
Income tax refund	24/04/2026				£77.02	£77.02
Bank Interest	30/06/2026		£38.48			£38.48
						£0.00
						£0.00
		£4,500.00	**£38.48**	**£0.00**	**£77.02**	**£4,615.50**

c. Solar Benefit Fund

Date	Name	Income	Payments	St John	Freathy	TOTAL
2025						
21/01/2025	British Renewables Community Fund	£3,083				£0
14/03/2025	St John village hall trust		£1,193	£1,193		£1,193
14/03/2025	Freathy youth and social community		£1,542		£1,542	£1,542
10/01/2025	Fire eq box Freathy		£348		£348	£348
2026						
16/02/2026	British Renewables Community Fund	£3,083				£0
20/03/2026	St John village hall trust		£1,890	£1,890		£1,890
20/03/2026	Freathy youth and social community		£1,194		£1,194	£1,194
	Total	**£6,166**	**£6,167**	**£3,083**	**£3,084**	**£6,167**

Amount unspent 31/08/2026	**£0**

(next payment anticipated February 2027)

d. Bank Statement Reconciliation 2026/2027

Date on bank statement	BANK RECONCILIATION 2026/27 Payee and details	Cheque	Payments Dr	Receipts Cr	Combined bank balance
	Funds bfwd 31/3/2026				£12,901.18
	Remaining from 2025/2026				
16/04/2026	Freathy sports & social community solar	300087	£1,194.00		
17/06/2026	St John village trust solar	300086	£1,890.00		
08/04/2026	Green thumb	300082	£30.50		
15/04/2026	Calc	300085	£42.00		
01/04/2026	C Allen Postage and stationery	300088	£46.04		
	Start of 2026/2027				
09/04/2026	Precept Cornwall Council			£4,500.00	£17,401.18
15/05/2026	Zurich Municipal Insurance	300089	£395.30		£17,005.88
15/05/2026	Calc annual membership	300090	£291.92		£16,713.96
30/04/2026	C Allen Clerking exp	300091	£491.61		£16,222.35
06/05/2026	HMRC	300092	£35.40		£16,186.95
30/04/2026	Bank charge (30/04/26)		£7.00		£16,179.95
29/05/2026	R Hancock Audit	300093	£80.00		£16,099.95
06/05/2026	Laptop for clerk	300094	£379.00		£15,720.95
06/05/2026	Laptop bag	300094	£11.49		£15,709.46
24/04/2026	Hmrc refund			£77.02	£15,786.48
27/06/2026	A Baker Clerking exp	300096	£361.86		£15,424.62
26/05/2026	C Allen Clerking exp	300095	£306.18		£15,118.44
31/05/2026	Bank charge (31/05/26)		£7.00		£15,111.44

12/06/2026	Derek Richards - Reimbursement using chairman's fund	300097	£100.00		£15,011.44
12/06/2026	Derek Richards - Reimbursement using chairman's fund	300097	£45.00		£14,966.44
18/06/2026	HMRC - Employers NI (Apr-May)	300098	£2.63		£14,963.81
03/07/2026	Green Thumb	300099	£30.50		£14,933.31
29/06/2026	Toni Baker Clerking June 2026	300100	£352.42		£14,580.89
30/06/2026	Bank Interest			£38.48	£14,619.37
30/06/2026	Bank charge (30/06/26)		£7.00		£14,612.37
30/07/2026	Toni Baker Clerking July 2026	300101	£290.09		£14,322.28
31/07/2026	Bank charge (31/07/26)		£7.00		£14,315.28
	Green Thumb	300102	£30.50		£14,284.78
28/08/2026	Toni Baker Clerking Aug 2026	300103	£279.29		£14,005.49
31/08/2026	Bank charge (31/08/26)		£7.00		£13,998.49

TOTAL	**£3,518.19**	**£4,615.50**

Unity bank current statement 31/08/26	**Current**	**6,075.31**
Unity bank savings statement 31/08/26	**Savings**	**£7,953.68**
Uncleared cheques/ Income received		**-£30.50**
TOTAL FUNDS 31/08/2026		**£13,998.49**
Solar benefit funds available 31/08/2026		**£0.00**
PARISH COUNCIL FUNDS 31/08/2026 (Excluding Solar Community benefit fund)		**£13,998.49**

e. Asset Register

No changes

f. 2026/2027 Management report

St John Parish Council Financial Management Report 31/08/2026 Including Community Benefit Funding	2026/27 Actual	Draft Budget 2026/2027
RECEIPTS	**£**	**£**
Brought Forward Reserves	£12,901	£12,901
Precept	£4,500	£9,000
Interest	£38	£65
Grant bus shelter/bench	£0	£0
VAT refund	£77	£250
Community Benefit funding	£0	£3,083
TOTAL RECEIPTS	**£4,616**	**£12,398**
PAYMENTS	**£**	**£**
VAT	£140	£250
Clerk Salary	£1,730	£3,750
Clerking expenses	£274	£425
Subscriptions CPD	£248	£500
Grass control/ Footpaths	£51	£1,250
Community benefit projects	£0	£3,083
Hall Rent	£0	£200
Misc wreath Xmas tree NDP	£145	£600
Election	£0	£0
Chairmans discretionary fund	£0	£250
Website and new email accounts	£71	£300
Audit fee	£80	£100
Computer and printer	£325	£125
Section 137	£0	£250
Insurance	£395	£350
Printing Postage and Stationery	£60	£150
TOTAL PAYMENTS	**£3,518**	**£11,583**
Profit/ (Loss)	**£1,097**	**£815**
Cfwd	**£13,998**	**£13,716**

Toni Baker - Responsible Financial Officer

36.26 Unity Bank Account

The Council authorised the named administrator of the accounts as Antonia (Toni) Baker, clerk of St John Parish Council.

37.26 HMRC milage rates for 2026/2027

The Council noted the updated milage rates from 45p/mile to 55p/mile.

38.26 Revised NALC Local Government Service Pay Agreement 2026/2027

The Council noted the new pay agreement.

39.26 Registering with the Information Commissioner's Office

The Council agreed to register with the Information Commissioner Office. Clerk to set up the payment.

40.26 Councillor vacancy and co-option

The Council agreed to co-opt John Betts. John signed the declaration of acceptance.

41.26 Items to Note

Cllr Hoskin reported that the realtime passenger information board had not yet been installed in the bus stop in Freathy. Clerk to investigate.

42.26 Dates of next St John Parish Council meetings

Thursday 19th November 2026 (St John Village Hall)
Thursday 18th February 2027 (St John Village Hall)

Cllr Richards closed the meeting at 8.44pm