

MINUTES of the MEETING of the ST BLAISE TOWN COUNCIL
Held at St Blazey Community Rooms, St Blazey, on Monday 2nd February 2026
postponed from Thursday 29th January 2026

Present

Deputy Mayor – Anthony Billings

Councillors

T Chapman-Gunner, S Fitzpatrick, C Parrock, A Pearce, R Taylor & C Williams.

In attendance: Town Clerk
Warden
H Toms
B West

Before the meeting began, Barry West addressed his concerns regarding Par Moor Road to the Council.

He said it is very clear that the demolition work, the development work, excavations the creation of a heightened barrier near the roadside and the felling of trees so far has without doubt made a bad situation worse forcing additional water onto the highway and increases the likelihood of an accident on that road. This includes a risk to life to pedestrians and cyclists.

He told the Council that he would be asking Cornwall Council for information about developments using the Freedom of Information Act and asked St Blaise Town Councillors to arrange a site visit.

The Clerk told the Council that she had contacted Cornwall Council and been told. The Par Moor Road area is in an area susceptible to ground water and surface water flooding, and therefore it is not unusual for parts of the road to experience flooding at times of significant or prolonged rainfall. There are permanent flood warning signs in place along the road due to the nature of the environment in this area and to advise road users of the potential hazard in the road ahead accordingly.

After the significant rainfall experienced in recent weeks, a lot of land is saturated and consequently our drainage ditches are full of water as the water table is high. However, we intend to carry out jetting of the highway drainage system along Par Moor Road which is due to be completed in January.

The Clerk drove along par Moor Road to look at the flooding and reported two drains that were spilling onto the highway to Southwest Water.

The Clerk was asked to report the river behind Trailblazer to Cornwall Council to have the rubbish and sediment removed.

2601/01 TO ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors T Nethercott, S Burt & K Simms.

2601/02 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of 27th November 2025 were confirmed as being correct and later signed by the Chairperson.

2601/03 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

2601/04 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MEETING HELD ON 27th November 2025

2510/12 The Carol Concert went well.

2601/05 COMMUNITY WARDEN'S REPORT

All work is up to date despite the additional work conducted due to recent severe weather. The Christmas trees were erected on December 1st and taken down on 5th and 6th January. We have cleaned out all the flower beds of begonias ready for the daffodils that are starting to shoot.

We filled all the salt bins in the beginning of December however after Christmas they all needed filling again however we were unable to get salt until 23rd January when all bins were replenished.

We have had to deal with a lot of storm damage especially on the LMP footpaths, the damage that we have been unable to do has been reported to the LMP however we did manage to clear two trees from the footpath behind Biscovey School.

Councillor Billings thanked the Wardens for all their work during the long power cuts caused by storm Goretta and suggested a generator be bought so the Council could support those affected in one of the Community Building even if we were also caught out. The Warden agreed. Councillor Billings proposed a generator be purchased, Councillor Pearce seconded the proposal, all the Councillors agreed and so it was RESOLVED.

Councillor Billings also thanked the Wardens for their work during the flooding caused by Storm Chandra.

2601/06 REPORT FROM CORNWALL COUNCILLOR PAULINE GILES

Apologies for tonight, sadly due to the date change, I already had a meeting in my diary.

I have been in contact with SW Ambulance Service to request help to create a map of locations of defibrillators in PL24. I have also asked if they would be interested in running a drop in to allow our residents to go through the process of locating,

obtaining and using a defibrillator, to allay fears and expand awareness in its use. I have had positive feedback from SWAS, and they will be in contact with me in due course. I hope the Town Council will be generous enough to allow them to use one of its halls for the drop in, as the more informed our residents are, the better they can help someone in an emergency.

I had a meeting last week with regards to the lift bridge at Par Station, whilst there is a small budget shortfall, the date for completion of the bridge is December 2027, which I am sure you will agree is very exciting. This will open a world of opportunities for our residents with mobility issues, young families with pushchairs and baby paraphernalia and hopefully increase the use of the trains.

Last Saturday I went up to Middleway cemetery to help plant eight fruit trees. Despite the inclement weather, we got the trees in without getting too wet! What was disappointing was the lack of community engagement. Even though I had shared the event, and members of Resilient Orchards CIC (who supplied the trees) posting flyers through local doors, NO ONE came to give a hand, I am disappointed.

I went up to Trenovissick to look at the potholes near the shop, which were causing concern, I reported them in but wish to inform residents that they too can report potholes! My lone voice does not get things done at speed, if you have potholes near you, google **Report a pothole Cornwall Council** and it will take you to a page to report it. Many people reporting will likely get the job done a lot quicker.

After the planned walkabout on Wednesday, I will be joined by Cllr Wilson, Cornwall Councillor for Tywardreath and Par, our CLO and a footpath officer to explore the opportunity of surfacing the footpath from the Fountain to the road leading to Snowlands. There is a possibility of funding to help with this, and even if we cannot get it all done in one go, it will open the footpath to families and cyclists wanting to go to Spit Beach by foot.

At our CAP meeting last week, I was pleased to hear that St Blazey/Par/St Austell were to have a new neighbourhood beat manager. Hopefully, we shall see an increased Police presence around our area and assist in the reduction of the ASB.

Please see the link below, it is a helpful tool to find out what is on in our area for children. You can filter by location, date and type of activity so you can access something that your children/grandchildren might be interested in <https://www.activecornwall.org/activity-finder>

And finally, with the dreadful weather we have had recently, it was great to see how quickly the tree from King Edward gardens was handled. Well done to all involved.

2601/07 **HELEN TOMS-COMMUNITY SAFETY OFFICER TO SPEAK ABOUT LOCAL ISSUES**

Helen Toms told the Council that during 2024 there had been 32 complaints of unsociable behaviour which increased to 45 in 2025. Helen said that the 101 phone

number had been improved and you are now more likely to be answered quickly. Helen emphasized the need to report.

Helen had a leaflet with all the numbers you might need with your concerns and gave these to the Clerk to distribute as necessary. Crimestoppers was also a useful tool and should be used.

Helen also said that Annabelle Lamy is the ASB caseworker for this area and can be very helpful.

2601/08 **IMPLICATIONS OF CORNWALL COUNCIL CUTS AND LOCALISM**

No updates from Cornwall Council. The Wardens had to do much work in the aftermath of Storm Goretti and Storm Chandra when Cornwall Council were noticeably absent.

2601/09 **SBTC PROPOSED PRIORITIES from 2026 to 2030**

Councillor Billings had attended the CAP meeting in December where the Cornwall Council priorities were high-lighted as seen in November's minutes. Councillor Billings said that our priorities would have to fit with theirs. We are to be contacted by Cornwall Council regarding a Neighbourhood Priority Statement and so we will await to hear from Cornwall Council.

2601/10 **TO CONSIDER A YOUTH COUNCIL**

Councillor Pearce will go and speak to Fowey School students. Councillor Williams will assist.

2601/11 **OVERVIEW OF CAROL CONCERT**

It was agreed that the Carol Concert went well and would go ahead for December 13th 2026, the Clerk will make the bookings.

2601/12 **CIL FUNDING**

The Clerk has looked at Rundles Walk but as we do not own the land, we will not be able to spend the money on it. Consideration was given to the possibility of having it devolved but would be too expensive for the people of the Town.

The Clerk will investigate ownership as no work has been conducted on the surface of the footpath since Sustrans (now WalkWheel Cycle Trust) laid the cycle track over 20 years ago.

2601/13 **PROJECT LIST**

Community Event

No progress since last meeting.

Councillors Surgery.

Councillor Billings and Nethercott hosted on December 6th. Councillors Chapman-Gunner and Parrock will host on January 3rd. No attendees at either surgery. It was agreed to keep the meeting at both locations for February. Councillors Fitzpatrick and Williams will host on February 7th.

2601/14 **TOWN CLERKS REPORT**

The Clerk attended Assertion 10 training on Tuesday December 2nd. Assertion 10 is a new requirement in the 2025/26 Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) for smaller authorities (parish/town councils) in the UK, focusing on digital and data compliance. It requires councils to formally confirm they manage data lawfully (UK GDPR), use official .gov.uk domains, maintain website accessibility (WCAG 2.2 AA), and have robust IT policies.

Key requirements for Assertion 10 compliance include:

Digital Infrastructure: Use of council-owned domain names (preferably .gov.uk) for all official websites and email accounts.

Data Protection & Security: Compliance with UK GDPR and the Data Protection Act 2018, ensuring personal data is stored, handled, and disposed of safely.

Website Accessibility: Meeting WCAG 2.2 AA accessibility regulations, including having an up-to-date accessibility statement.

Policy & Training: Implementing clear, adopted IT policies and providing regular data protection training for staff and councillors.

Steps for Compliance:

Councils are advised to conduct data mapping to understand where personal data is stored, review their IT policies, and ensure all staff use official email accounts rather than personal ones. We were advised that we should allow an amount of money in the precept for additional web-site costs however due to this having to be done before March 31st this is not possible. The Clerk has had the web-site amendments completed.

The Clerk will work on the IT Policy, a data protection roadmap and privacy notice.

The Clerk attended the Cornwall Society of Local Council Clerks on Thursday 18th December. Discussion took place Regarding the removal of Litter bins and was told that Cornwall Housing, owned by Cornwall Council, are not doing these anymore. We do not have any Cornwall Housing in our area so does not affect us. However, the general opinion is that CC will stop emptying rubbish bins but not dog waste and since all our bins are dual purpose we do not need to worry YET!!

We had a presentation by Peninsular updating us about the Employments Rights Bill. The Employment Rights Bill is now the Employment Rights Act 2025. It became law on 18 December 2025. The Act will introduce additions and amendments to existing legislation, including the Employment Rights Act 1996. The employment law changes

included in the Act will take place over a period of 2 years. Most changes will happen in 2026 and 2027.

Preparing for the changes

Employers should consider the impact of these changes on their organisation and so the Clerk if she could contact Peninsular if necessary, when updating our policies.

The Speed camera in Station Road recorded that 66.33 % of incoming vehicles, down from 71.15% were above the speed limit through December and January and 79.94% down from 81.43 % of outgoing vehicles are above the speed limit for the same period.

The Clerk told the Councillors that although the assistant warden usually has a break from January, this has not been possible due to tree working and flooding.

A resident has asked for a grit bin to be placed in Mountside Road but is having difficult finding a place due to the narrow pavements.

The Air Cadets have asked for permission to use King Edward Gardens for sports and outdoor training. The Clerk has given this permission.

A resident of bridge street has asked for a disable parking bay, they have been referred to Highways.

The Clerk read a letter from Fowey River Practice regarding the closure of Polruan Surgery.

Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 S.14: Temporary Prohibition of Traffic

Location: Harbour Road & Par Moor Road

Timing: 3rd December 2025 to 5th December 2025 (24 hours) e/m 5/12.

Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 S.16A

Event – St Blaise Feast

3rd February 2026

Times – 18:00 to 19.00

Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 S.14: Temporary Prohibition of Traffic

Location: Cornhill Road, St Blazey

Timing: 11th December 2025 (10:00 to 16:00 hours) e/m 12/12.

Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 S.14: Temporary Prohibition of Traffic

Location: Middleway, St Blazey

Timing: 27th April 2026 to 1st May 2026 (24 hours)

Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 S.14: Temporary Prohibition of Traffic

Location: Station Road, St Blazey

Timing: 16th February 2026 to 17th February 2026 (09:30 to 16:00)

2601/15 **PLANNING MATTERS**

There has been five Planning Applications received and it was RESOLVED to not object to any of them.

PA25/07541 Consent to display an advertisement of 1 illuminated fascia sign 9.1m (w) x 0.8 (H)
Biscovey Garage
St Austell Road
St Blazey Gate

PA25/07541 Advertisement consent for signage to match existing.
Biscovey Garage
St Austell Road
St Blazey Gate

PA25/09118 Proposed Raising of roof to form first floor accommodation for Annexe including rear extension and replacement of side conservatory with single storey entrance porch.
Aysgarth
The Mount
St Blazey

PA25/09153 Proposed two storey extension to dwelling and associated works.
154 Old Roselyon Road
St Blazey

PA25/07045 Works to trees subject to a TPO, works include two Sessile Oak Trees, No 1 in front gardens to remove epicormic regrowth from major stems to clear house roofs and 360-degree crown lift branches to 8 metres. No 2 in back garden 360 crown lift to 8 meters and 20% crown lift.
49 Treryn Close
St Blazey

Results Received

PA25/07541 Consent to display an advertisement of 1 illuminated fascia sign 9.1m (w) x 0.8 (H)
Biscovey Garage
St Austell Road

St Blazey Gate
APPROVED

PA25/07541 Advertisement consent for signage to match existing.
Biscovey Garage
St Austell Road
St Blazey Gate
APPROVED

PA25/09118 Proposed Raising of roof to form first floor accommodation for
Annexe including rear extension and replacement of side
conservatory with single storey entrance porch.
Aysgarth
The Mount
St Blazey
APPROVED

2601/16 REPORTS ON COUNCIL BUILDINGS

St Blazey Public Toilets -

Cleaned daily. The wardens have replaced the lock on the Gents toilet.

June Anderson Hall

The gutters have been cleaned and the wardens had to repair the lock on the main door. The car park flooded again and a drainage company was called. They could not find where the water flows to and we believe it is due to a blocked pipe or a soakaway both due to the attenuation tank.

St Blazey Community Rooms

We have had to repair the slates on the roof due to winds and cleaned the gutters.

Alexander Hall

A plumber had to come and fix another leak but fortunately this was in the lobby. The wardens have repaired the gutters and repaired the boxing around the leak.

Burrows Centre

The Clerk continues to work on the new lease.

2601/17 PLAY AREA UPDATES

Deeble Drive – The table has been removed due to rust and has been replaced with a seat.

Penarwyn Green – All maintenance is up to date.

Polgover Way – All maintenance is up to date.

King Edward Gardens - All maintenance is up to date. We had one major tree come down that damaged another two. The wardens have worked with the contractors to remove all the debris.

Trailblazer Park - All maintenance is up to date. Due to wet ground the park was closed on January 23rd until January 26th.

2601/18 **ACCOUNTS**

December

Payments Received

Hall Hire AH	922.50
Interest	29.76
High Deposit Int	143.86
JA Hire	427.50
LMP	11,236.30
CR Hire	84.00

Expenditure

Clerks Sal	2171.11
Wardens Wages	2649.43
Broadband	41.91
UK Fuels	107.36
Insurance	354.72
HMRC	1618.31
CC (Pen)	767.12
Warden Equi	74.43
Fountain Electric	70.26
Bank charges	8.09
Carol Concert	109.25
Members All	1171.00
Website	205.00
Polgover	60.00
Penarwyn	60.00
Deeble	170.00
Trailblazer	95.00
MCB	300.00
St Blazey Clock	234.00
Van Tax	345.00
Van MOT & Srv	258.13
<u>AH</u>	
Water	107.50
Chubb (parts)	19.12
Electric	89.91
Cleaners Wage	47.86
Leak Repair	351.72
Mat	34.88
<u>PC</u>	
Locking	50.00
Electric	38.37
<u>Community Rooms</u>	
Electricity	212.68
Business Rates	112.00
<u>JA Hall</u>	
Electricity	121.44
Electrical Cert	1,065.00

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12,843.92

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13,120.60

January 2026**Payments Received**

Hall Hire AH	270.00
Interest	31.82
High Deposit Int	142.51
JA Hire	592.20
J Foye	100.00

Expenditure

Clerks Sal	2171.31
Wardens Wages	2674.41
Broadband	41.91
UK Fuels	58.80
Insurance	354.72
HMRC	1724.81
CC (Pen)	767.12
Warden Equi	184.56
Fountain Electric	73.12
Bank charges	7.90
Website	675.00
Scribe	921.60
R Heyward	1300.00
Xmas	17.98
<u>AH</u>	
Water	107.50
Chubb (parts)	19.10
Electric	84.84
Cleaners Wage	21.50
Leak Repair	86.00
Gas	238.48
B & Q refund	-12.00
Cleaning Mats	8.00
<u>PC</u>	
Locking	50.00
Electric	38.37
<u>Community Rooms</u>	
Electricity	137.92
Water	
Business Rates	112.00
<u>JA Hall</u>	
Electricity	164.04
Cleaning	32.00

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1,136.53

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12,060.99

All the Councillors RESOLVED to accept the accounts submitted.

The Councillors RESOLVED to appoint Aalgarrd Renshaw as Internal Auditors for 2025/26 Accounts.

2601/19 TOWN BUSINESS

Councillor Billings attended the CAP meeting on 3rd December 2025; Councillor Nethercott attended a CAP meeting on Wednesday 28th January.

2601/20 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be on 26th February 2026 at 7.30pm at St Blazey Community Rooms.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.22 pm.