

**MINUTES of the MEETING of the ST BLAISE TOWN COUNCIL
Held at St Blazey Community Rooms, St Blazey, on Thursday 30th April 2026**

Present

Deputy Mayor – Anthony Billings

Councillors

T Chapman-Gunner, S Fitzpatrick, C Parrock, A Pearce, K Simms, R Taylor
and C Williams.

In attendance: Town Clerk
Assistant Warden
P Prynn

Before the meeting began Mr Prynn who has bought a piece of land at the Mount asked if the Wardens could cut the area with a ride on lawnmower and he would pay for the service. The Councillors would ask Mike and respond.

Mr Prynn also asked about cars parking on pavements and he was told that this was a Highways issue and should be dealt with by Cornwall Council.

2604/01 **TO ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Councillors T Nethercott and S Burt.

2604/02 **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting of 26th March 2026 were confirmed as being correct and later signed by the Chairperson.

2604/03 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

2604/04 **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MEETING HELD ON 26th MARCH 2026**

2603/10 PL24 Community Association held a consultation event at Roselyon Crescent on Sunday 26th April regarding the installation of benches on the green. There was mixed feedback with dog-walkers and pedestrians in favour but with immediate neighbours against and therefore it has been decided not to proceed.

PL24 are still willing to install benches so the Council will decide in the near future the best place for them.

2604/05 **COMMUNITY WARDEN'S REPORT**

All work is up to date.

The War Memorial has been weeded and new wood chippings laid, the pathway approaching has also been cut. The fountain has had another clean. One of the potholes in the Town Car Park has been re-tarmaced. Piggy Alley has been cut and de-weeded.

The Wardens have started servicing all the mechanical equipment. The flower bed at the entrance to Station Road Car Park has been re-built again and the LMP work has begun. The earth has been prepared for new planting at both the welcome stones and all the other planters.

2604/06 **REPORT FROM CORNWALL COUNCILLOR PAULINE GILES**

Councillor Giles sent her apologies as she has been signed off from attending face to face meetings but sent the following report.

The Renters Right Act comes into force tomorrow (1 May), bringing new rights in the private rented sector for landlords and tenants. There is quite a lot to digest, for both the renter and landlord, so Cornwall Council has put together an informative document which I urge both to read to help keep themselves protected under the new Act. You can find the information at www.cornwall.gov.uk/housing/private-housing/renters-rights-act-2025/

At last week's full council meeting the current state of dentistry in Cornwall was discussed, it was unanimously agreed that the present situation was dire and not working. I took the opportunity to discuss this with my own dentist who said he was shocked at the terrible state of many of the children's teeth that he sees. The Leader of the Council announced that a summit will be held in the Summer including all stakeholders to try to come up with a plan for improvement going forward.

Whilst the service is woefully inadequate, parents need to be more pro-active and accountable for the health and welfare of their children, it only takes a few minutes after breakfast and before bed to supervise their children on good oral health and would save the anxiety for their children when they lose their baby teeth far too early.

The great weed treatment debate was also on the Full Council agenda with members agreeing that there was too little consultation and what was undertaken, did not give Town and Parish Councils enough time to discuss and respond appropriately. There was a great deal of public complaints, many of whom put questions to the Council and turned up at County Hall to register their objection for the scheme. A proposal to pause the decision was carried with a vote of 61 for and 7 against. Further consultation will now be undertaken and again debated at the next Full Council in May. There is a possibility that Town and Parish Councils will be given the option to enter an opt out arrangement.

This afternoon I attended a Teams meeting on 20s plenty and the implementation of 20 mph speeds throughout St Blazey. I was pleased to see that Station Road and Par Lane (from the entrance of Old Roselyon down) were on the list, however, Trenovissick and Middleway were not! I did argue the case, stating that I have more complaints from those areas about speeding than any others, but the Council has a

new monitoring process now which tracks speeds from as close as yesterday. I was shown recent data, and there was a very low percentage of speeding!

A consultation will start in June/July when residents will be able to look at the proposals on maps and input their opinions. The link will be shared as soon as the consultation goes live. The 20 mph limits will go live in Feb/March 2027. Residents who are not happy with the proposals are urged to fill in the consultation as this is the only way to be heard, complaining to me will not help.

Anyone wishing to contact me regarding any of the above or any other issue which falls under the Councils remit, please email me cllr.pauline.giles@cornwall.gov.uk

2604/07 **IMPLICATIONS OF CORNWALL COUNCIL CUTS AND LOCALISM**

Cornwall Council updates have mostly been regarding the Public Realm Improvement and Re-introduction of Weed Treatment that the authority wrote to us about on March 31st. Since then, Cornwall Council have apologised for the lack of engagement. With the involvement of Town and Parish Councils they are looking to introduce a wider approach.

2604/08 **EOY ACCOUNTS**

The Council all agreed and approved: -

The Council have prepared its accounting statements in accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations.

The Council made proper arrangements and accepted responsibility for safeguarding the public money and resources in its charge.

The Council has only done what it has the legal power to do and has complied with proper practices in doing so.

The Council has during the year given all persons interested the opportunity to inspect and ask questions about this authority's accounts.

The Council has considered and documented the financial and other risks it faces and dealt with them properly.

The Council has arranged for a competent person, independent of the financial controls and procedures, to give an objective view on whether internal controls meet the needs of this authority.

The Council has responded to matters brought to its attention by internal and external audit.

The Council has disclosed everything it should have about its business activity during the year including events taking place after the year-end if relevant.

The Council has made suitable arrangements for its IT and data management and has complied with proper practices in doing so.

The Town Clerk presented the accounts for 2025/26 to the Council. Councillor A Billings proposed that they be accepted, Councillor S Fitzpatrick seconded, all the council agreed, and it was RESOLVED.

The Council will carry £230,615 into the new financial year. £700 belongs to Emergency/Flood Group. The reserves will be apportioned as follows: -

Our actual balance is £229,915.

Council running costs (in case of emergency) –	66,000.00
To build up Reserves	- 163,915.00

Reserves to be used for new play equipment and improvements to the Town Car Park.

Algaard Renshaw the internal auditors reported.

Having undertaken a comprehensive Internal Audit of St Blaise Town Council's accounting records and system of internal control, we conclude that, based on our inspection, the Town Council has made clear efforts to comply with the core principles of sound management and financial reporting for the 2025/26 accounting period.

The Clerk/RFO is to be commended not only for the successful implementation of the majority of the requirements under Assertion 10, but also for her evident competence and her sterling contribution to the effective day-to-day running of the Town Council. Her professionalism and diligence continue to underpin the Council's ability to operate efficiently and maintain robust governance arrangements.

One outstanding matter remains: all Members should ensure they are using appropriate, Council-approved email addresses. This should be addressed as a priority in the early part of the next municipal year.

The Clerk asked the councillors if any of them needed to declare an interest with BDO LLP. No interest was declared.

2604/09 **EMERGENCY PLAN UPDATE**

All the Councillors looked had previously looked at the Emergency Plan and agreed it was fit for purpose. Councillor Pearce said that CC Emergency Management should be consulted.

Councillor Billings told the Councillors about a phone that can be purchased for £299 plus £4 per month stand by which will work when telephone and mobile data is not available. We may be able to get a grant for the purchase from Cornwall Community Flood Forum.

The Clerk asked if the Emergency Generator should now be purchased, this was agreed and will be arranged. Councillor Billings agreed to house it.

2604/10 **HELP SCOUT EXPLORERS REACH THE WORLD DANISH JAMBOURIE**

A fourteen-year-old local resident has requested funding for the Scout Explorers

World Danish Jamboree. The Councillors discussed the scheme, Councillor Pearce proposed a donation of £100 which was seconded by Councillor Fitzpatrick, 5 other Councillors agreed with abstention and so it was RESOLVED.

If the Jamboree does not raise enough money and the excursion does not take place the money must be returned.

2604/11 **PROJECT LIST**

Community Event

It was agreed that the clerk would write a small poster inviting local organisation, groups and crafters to have a stall at the event on August 23rd which Councillor Parrock will adapt and put on Facebook.

Councillors Surgery.

The next Surgery will be on May 2nd and will be hosted by Councillor Billings and Fitzpatrick.

2604/12 **TOWN CLERKS REPORT**

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

Location: Middleway, St Blazey

Timing: 27th April to 1st May 2026 (24 hours) e/m 13/4

The Speed camera in Station Road recorded that 67.08 % of incoming vehicles, down from 76.52 % were above the speed limit through April and 77.51 % down from 79.61 % of outgoing vehicles are above the speed limit for the same period.

The Clerk also attended the Teams meeting on 20s plenty and the implementation of 20 mph speeds throughout St Blazey. Middleway is not on the list and the reason given was that the traffic is naturally constrained with data proving the average speed is 27 MPH and the area does not qualify. St Blazey Road will remain at 30 but Harbour Road is being reduced to 20 MPH if the consultation is successful.

Cornwall Council will be holding Community Engagements across Cornwall for the Local Plan. The event for St Blaise will be at Alexander Hall on Tuesday 27th October from 5pm to 7pm.

After writing to our MP supporting Extreme Climate and weather Events, we have received a reply telling us that consultation is underway. The Clerk asked if we should complete this and the Council agreed. Councillor Pearce will assist the Clerk.

Since the winding up of the Burrows Centre Ltd and all assets being given to the Town Council, the contents of the computer room were donated to M Power. The Clerk has received a letter of thanks to the Town Council.

The Clerk will be meeting Peninsular, HR Support for Businesses on 11th May as she feels this is important due to the Employment Rights Act 2025, which became law in December 2025.

2604/13 PLANNING MATTERS

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

PA26/02129 Works to a Tree Preservation Order (TPO), works include T1-Oak. Remove the stem nearest and overhanging their garden removed.
45 Hillside Avenue
St Blazey

PA26/02278 Change of use from former guest house (C1) to dwelling (C3)
With no operational development.
Penarth
St Austell Road
St Blazey Gate

PA26/02129 Works to a Tree Preservation Order (TPO), T3- Oak.- Quercus Spp. Requesting permission for reduction as canopy is large and overhanging the highway significantly.
Oak Dene, The Mount
St Blazey

PA26/02597 Removal of existing entrance porch and construction of a new bay window and relocation of principle entrance door.
21 Edgcumbe Terrace
St Blazey Gate

Results Received

PA26/02129 Works to a Tree Preservation Order (TPO), T3- Oak.- Quercus Spp. Requesting permission for reduction as canopy is large and overhanging the highway significantly.
Oak Dene, The Mount
St Blazey
WITHDRAWN

2604/14 REPORTS ON COUNCIL BUILDINGS

St Blazey Public Toilets –

Cleaned daily. The wardens have had to make a couple of repairs due to vandalism.

June Anderson Hall

Bookings continue. The Fire doors repair will be carried out shortly.

St Blazey Community Rooms

The wardens Met the police on-site on Tuesday 14th April, the hand-back to us has been completed. A new key code lock has been fitted to allow only our use. A shelving unit has been fitted. All Connections have repaired the lighting.

The wardens would like the windows changed to a door to allow easy access for their machinery. A quote has been received for £2,2398 + vat. Councillor Billings proposed the quote be accepted which was seconded by Councillor Pearce, all the Councillors agreed and so it was RESOLVED.

Alexander Hall

The leak found has been repaired, the Wardens dug out the floor and removed the boxing for the plumber and re-fitted after.

Hartnell Taylor Cook have reduced the proposed rent to £4,500 and we await a further lease.

The Fire Alarm needs upgrading and the Clerk was given permission for the work once the new lease is in place.

Burrows Centre

The lease with Bright Eyes was completed on April 1st. The Clerk and the Wardens cleared out the office and computer room ready for Bright Eyes Nursery. The Wardens arranged disposal of all unwanted items.

2604/15 PLAY AREA UPDATES

Deeble Drive – All maintenance is up to date. The grass has been cut and the area de-weeded.

Penarwyn Green – All maintenance is up to date. The grass has been cut and the area de-weeded.

Polgover Way – All maintenance is up to date. The sensory garden has been weeded. All the footpaths have been cut and the weeds removed.

King Edward Gardens - All maintenance is up to date. Work on the damaged wall has been complete. The Wardens have had to clear up broken glass on several occasions.

Trailblazer Park - All maintenance is up to date. The grass has been cut and the area de-weeded.

2604/16 ACCOUNTS

Payments Received

Hall Hire AH	720.00
Interest	26.55
High Deposit Int	142.11
JA Hire	112.50
Rent	2,000.00
Precept	66,000.00
Vat	10,075.29
Bright Eyes	588.56
CR Hire	108.00

Expenditure

Clerks Sal	2214.10
Wardens Wages	2269.74
Broadband	38.95
UK Fuels	94.49
Insurance	611.42
HMRC	1515.16
CC (Pen)	767.12
Marcus Ankers	5955.00
Fountain Electric	67.80
Wardens Equip	347.99
Bank charges	6.99
Hawthorne Web	54.00
CALC	2604.58
AAlgard Ren	420.00
Burrows Centre	448.42
<u>AH</u>	
Water	107.50
Chubb (parts)	19.98
Intruder Alarm	196.20
Electric	86.65
Cleaners Wage	27.03
Gas (BG)	106.72
Cleaning Mats	252.42
<u>PC</u>	
Locking	46.00
Electric	35.65
<u>Community Rooms</u>	
Electricity	117.94
Water	
Business Rates	101.20
Shelving	39.99
All Connections	107.40
<u>JA Hall</u>	
Electricity	107.82
Cleaning Mats	45.76

=====
79,773.01

=====
18,814.02

All the Councillors RESOLVED to accept the accounts submitted.

2604/17 TOWN BUSINESS

Councillor Chapman – Gunner has been asked by Mabyn Kernow if we could support A Formal Vote of No Confidence in Southwest Water (SWW) and Petition for Special Administration.

The Councillor agreed to write individually but not as a Council.

2604/18 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be on 28th May 2026 at 7.00pm at St Blazey Community Rooms.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.10 pm.