

Public meeting of Menheniot Parish Council was held at The Old School Menheniot at 19.00 on Thursday 26th March 2026.

Councillors present

Cllr Adrian Cole, Chair, Cllr Steve Roberts, Vice Chair, Cllrs Sean Smith, Pat Cade, Eve Easterbrook, Keith Goldsmith, Jerry Tucker.

In attendance;

7 members of the public

Minutes taken by Cllr Steve Roberts

112/25 Apologies for absence

Apologies received from Cllrs Peter Luck and Elliot Harrison.

113/25 Members declaration of interest

None

114/25 Chair's welcome and opening remarks

The Chair welcomed all to the meeting.

115/25 Public Participation

- (i) Noted that Will Sneyd in attendance to respond to any questions relating to Planning Application PA26/01030
- (ii) Sue Margiotta was invited to present the outcomes of her invitation to the community to give feedback on the current bus service in our area. The findings were outlined which highlighted the lack of a regular reliable and timely bus service creating hardship and isolation for many.

A written summary was presented to Cllrs together with suggested solutions of how the issue could be addressed and funded with the preferred provision being a Community Bus. (See attached papers).

Cllrs including Cllr Smith as Divisional Councillor, sought clarification of the level of support likely for volunteers and for forming a project group. Cllr Smith also explained his role in the present County Council discussions regarding rural bus services and that he would be supportive of the proposals. The Chair made reference to his discussion with Volunteer Cornwall Transport group. The Chair

proposed he discuss with Sue next steps to form a Community Working Group to consider options and develop an action plan and report back to the next meeting.

(iii) Cllr Smith presented his report as follows:

- 1 Council tax increase 4.99% Cllr Smith did not attend vote but would have voted against.
- 2 Factory Cottages – Will Glassop confirmed that the chevron sign will be installed and that MPC had supported this.
- 3 A390 – Due to the increased usage have raised serious concerns regarding drain covers and road banks between St Ive and Merrymeet.
- 4 Callywith College bus. Cllr Smith has raised serious concerns and up dated on progress on talks, including with Stagecoach. His name has been put forward to be on an all-party transport bus working group/committee.
- 5 Tamar Crossing. Proposed increase on Tag fees deferred for consultation on various matters including free passage.
- 6 Reminder that the Community Emergency Plan needs to reviewed in light of CC review.
- 7 Cap applications ref school area re parking being considered.
Also suggesting opening visibility at cross roads at Merrymeet. They have one land owner's permission to adapt hedge but waiting for other persons agreement if not I suggest we get one side done
- 8 Update on Defib another council had them free through the British heart foundation / also they take on maintenance for 10 years. Parish Council urged to enquire about this.
- 9 Tencreek development commercial site suggest we keep a close on the development of this site.

General

Is there an application for RHS this year?

Siblyback lake issues open meeting 14th June

Community chest fund closed this year open to applications for next year

116/25 Minutes of meeting

Mr R Diamond sought reassurance that the letter of agreement in Minute Ref: 108/25.D. would now be provided. Assurance was given by the Chair that it would be.

Confirmation of minutes from 19th February 2026.

Proposed Cllr Cole

Seconded Cllr Tucker

All Agreed

117/25

Planning

A To agree the Parish Council's response to Cornwall Council's consultations on the following applications;

PA25/09495: It was agreed to support the application though the Planning officer's attention be drawn to the importance of noting the Highways report re parking and that the amenity space was limited.

Proposed Cllr Cole Seconded Cllr E Easterbrook All Agreed

PA26/00732: The application was considered and Cllrs felt they were not in a position to reach a decision as to whether or not to support without further information as to whether a condition the annex remained as part of the adjacent dwelling and not used as a separate dwelling.

Other concerns included;

1. The impact of the potential increase of occupants on the available parking on site and in the area.
2. The lack of compliance with conditions imposed under previous consents eg the retention of the granite gate post at the entrance to the site which has been removed from site.
3. Whilst no adverse comment on the site remediation works is made by Environmental Protection having now been given a "completion certificate", other works identified in the Remediation strategy remain to be carried out.
4. Councillors, because of the incremental way the decontamination work has been carried out and then applications in retrospect have been received have concerns that insufficient regard has been given to matters such as waste not being disposed of correctly and the incorporation of radon protection when the work to date has not received the benefit of enforcement by Building Control.

Proposed Cllr Cole Seconded Cllr Goldsmith All agreed

PA26/00860: Application presented by applicant and Cllrs agreed to support the application. The Planning Officer to be requested to condition the use of the building to agriculture as the site has a dual use.

Proposed Cllr Smith Seconded Cllr Cole All agreed

PA26/01030: Application presented by Mr W Sneyd who explained this modest array is intended to support the carbon neutral objectives of the business and provide power to the house and office. There will be no feed into the grid. Councillors were advised that the location would mean it is not visible from beyond the site. Cllrs agreed to support the application.

Proposed Cllr Easterbrook Seconded Cllr Tucker All agreed

118/25 Finance.**A Accounts Payable**

Attention was drawn to the amount shown in the schedule for payment in the agenda to the Old School arising from an incorrect invoice being received. We now have a revised invoice for the sum of £128.

Accounts Payable Schedule

DATE	PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
05/02/2026	Kayleigh Newbould	Salary	£244.25
05/02/2026	HMRC	PAYE	£61.00
03/2026	SAS Trewartha's	Asbestos Test	£120.00
16/11/2025	Steve Roberts	Printer Ink - P Tamblyn	22.16
21/03/2026	Steve Roberts	26/27 Grant Directory	£147.25
21/03/2026	Menheniot Old School	Room Hire	£128
TOTAL			722.66

Proposed Cllr Smith Seconded Cllr Tucker All agreed

119/25 A request was received from ACE-ARB the Councils Ground Maintenance contractor to change the payment mechanism under the contract to 12 regular standing orders of £774.41 (annual contract sum revised to £9292.92 to include additions agreed)

Proposed Cllr Smith Seconded Cllr Tucker All agreed

B Small Grants

Emma Grange presented an application for a small grant for the Painted Poppies project at the last meeting at which Cllrs agreed in principle a small grant up to £100 but we have yet to received detailed costings

Chair to write requesting information.

120/25 Cllr Goldsmith sought confirmation that the annual contribution to planting at the Trelawny Garden of £200 be made for this year.

Proposed Cllr Cole Seconded Cllr Tucker All agreed

121/25 Chairs Report**A. Clerk /RFO Recruitment**

There was little response to the advert and consequently the advert was placed

again on the CALC website with some layout changes. In addition an advert was placed on the Indeed recruitment agency.

The closing date was 12.00 noon on the 26th March.

11 Expressions of interest were received

6 Applications of which, 3 to be invited for interview on the 7th April.

B. Volunteer Group This item was deferred to enable time for Cllrs to receive and read the detailed paper that Cllr Roberts has prepared and will circulate to all.

C. Community Development Project Group Awaiting outcome of CIL bid due by 31/3/26.

D. Litter Bins This item was deferred as discussions are still in progress with Cornwall Council Waste team.

Discussions have been held with the CC Dog Warden to provide official signage regarding fouling and dogs off leads to be placed by litter/dog bins. Amanda, Head at Menheniot Primary has provided new posters produced by some of her pupils. It is intended that the Dog warden to arrange for official signs to be installed and the pupils posters be placed around the Parish to further raise awareness.

E. Community Garden and The Green Maintenance. Cllr Goldsmith said he was writing a Parish Magazine article seeking volunteers and asked for confirmation of £200 to support for materials. See Minute 120/25. Cllr Goldsmith also advised that Chris James had volunteered to maintain the grass in the Willow Garden and that he was seeking from MPC. Detail to be discussed at April Meeting.

The Chair thanked Cllr Goldsmith for his hard work and invited him to raise any additional support he may need.

122/25

Councillors reports

- i. **A38 Improvements and Safety** Cllr Tucker advised he had been unable to attend the meeting of A38 meeting and provided a copy of the minutes and added the comment that there seems little real progress. Minutes to be circulated to all.
- ii. **MPC Bankers (Lloyds)** Cllr Easterbrook explained that having spent many hours on the phone and repeated attempts to make changes to the name of Councillors on the system has now resorted to going to the Branch in St Austell has now made some progress. The Chair thanked Cllr Easterbrook.

With the closure of the last bank branch in Liskeard the Chair proposed that the PC supports the initiative led by LTC to set up a Banking Hub in the town and to ask for business accounts also be included. Cllr Roberts cautioned that the hubs are run by the Post Office for personal banking. Branch Post offices provide services and that there will be an article in the Parish Magazine highlighting what services are available in the Menheniot Post Office.

123/25 Clerks Report

- A Vacancies** see minute 121/25 A Previously reported.
- B Supplies storage** Janitorial supplies for WC cleaning have until now been stored by the Clerk. Cllr Roberts offered for a small tool store to be placed at the side of his bungalow to be near and easily accessible. Cllr Roberts to investigate cost.
- C Councillor Training** Cllr Roberts to look at dates and circulate to all. He is working on the induction and conduct training needed for Cllr Harrison.

124/25 Actions Agreed outstanding

ACTIONS:

PERSON	SUBJECT	DEADLINE
SR	Chase DCP Neighbourhood Team for response re parking issues around school entrance/junctions.	Update next meeting
ALL	Offer suggested input on behalf of MPC for the Church Magazine.	15th of each month
SR	Email presentation to Councillors for the concept of Menheniot Parish Volunteer Group	Update next meeting
FGP WG (AC/SR/ EE)	Proceed with interviews for Parish Clerk/RFO	Update to follow
AC	Discuss viability of a community transport group, and offer assistance to progress, with Sue Margiotta	Update next meeting
SR	Liase with SS re Defibrillator package obtained	Update next meeting
EE/PC	Set up and approve March payments	Month end
EE	Continue to progress work with Lloyds Bank to amend the Council's banking mandate.	Update next meeting
W/GROUP	Review Community Emergency Plan	Update May meeting
AC	Send letter of agreement to Rob Diamond	Update next meeting
AC	Seek clarification of Grant requirements from Emma Grange.	Update next meeting
JT	Share A38 meeting minutes with all Councillors	20/04/26
SR	Obtain price to supply store for WC's	Update next meeting
SR	Investigate Councillor training inc. induction for EH	Update by email

125/25 Diary Date Public Meeting 23rd April 2026**126/25 End of Meeting 9.45pm**