

Public meeting of Menheniot Parish Council was held at The Old School Menheniot at 19.00 on Thursday 23rd April 2026.

Councillors present, Cllr Adrian Cole, Chair, Cllr Steve Roberts, Vice Chair, Cllrs Sean Smith, Pat Cade, Keith Goldsmith, Eliot Harrison, Peter Luck.

In attendance; Kat Harrison, Vanessa Pinhey

Minutes taken by Cllr Steve Roberts

127/25 Apologies for absence

Apologies received from Cllr Eve Easterbrook.

128/25 Members declaration of interest

Cllr Harrison regarding the Grant Applications for the Cherry Fayre and Little Owls.

129/25 Chair's welcome and opening remarks

The Chair welcomed all to the meeting and reminded those present of recent passing of former Councillor Lilian Hooper and asked that it is minuted that our sympathies and condolences are with the family. Cllr Goldsmith recalled working with Lilian on major projects and Cllr Cade expressed sadness at the loss of a great friend. It was noted how highly respected Lilian was with a kind tribute from Cllr Easterbrook reminding us of the work of Lilian not only as a Councillor but also within the community and Church.

The Finance and General Purposes Working Group proposed that having interviewed candidates as requested, Vanessa Pinhey be offered the post of Clerk and RFO on a permanent basis.

Proposed Cllr Cole Seconded Cllr Smith All agreed.

The Chair proposed that the later items under Community Grant (Agenda Item 133/25

b) The Cherry Fayre and c) Little Owls) be brought forward on the agenda.

Kat Harrison gave a brief presentation on the role Little Owls play in support of the parents of younger children in the parish.

Proposed Cllr Roberts Seconded Cllr Luck All agreed.

Kat explained the financial risks involved with the Cherry Fayre and other associated events in the event of severe weather affecting income against the fixed costs and the need for insurance. Therefore, the Parish Council were asked to cover the insurance costs.

130/25 Public Participation

- (i) Cllr Smith presented his report as follows;

1. Highways Grant (CAP – School Safety)

The highways grant application for CAP was discussed at the recent meeting and will now progress to the next stage, with a focus on school safety improvements.

2. Weed Treatment (Glyphosate)

A detailed discussion took place regarding the use of glyphosate for weed control. I raised a question and sought views from parish representatives.

The general view supported short-term use while developing a longer-term alternative; however, this proposal was not carried. It was agreed that further options will be explored, and implementation will be delayed.

3. Community Chest Fund

The Community Chest Fund is now open for applications.

4. Factory Signage

Confirmation has been received from Cornwall Council (Will Glassop) that the chevron sign will be installed. I have requested clarification on the installation timeframe following a resident enquiry and have responded accordingly.

5. Road Signage and Speed Monitoring

- The 50 mph signs at Merrymeet are worn and replacements have been ordered.
- Speed indicator devices experienced two faults; the unit at the Liskeard end has now been repaired.

6. Tamar Crossing Consultation

I attended the consultation event in Liskeard. Attendance at that session was low; however, over 5,000 responses have been received overall.

7. Community Bus (St Cleer)

There was discussion regarding potential collaboration with St Cleer on community bus provision to avoid duplication of services. Initial enquiries have been made.

8. Community Emergency Plan

Members are reminded that the Community Emergency Plan requires review in light of Cornwall Council's recent updates.

9. Merrymeet Application

The application will not proceed as a required response regarding access was not received from a resident, resulting in a missed deadline.

10. Defibrillators

It was noted that another council has obtained defibrillators free of charge via the British Heart Foundation, including a 10-year maintenance package. This option may be worth exploring.

11. Butterdown Mill Bungalow

Concerns have been raised that units are being offered for sale rather than rent, contrary to the applicant's original indication. This matter is being investigated.

12. Tremerr Application

Residents have expressed concerns regarding this application. The planning officer is reviewing the case, and I am also examining the details further.

13. RHS Application

Clarification is sought on whether an RHS application will be submitted this year.

The Chair suggested that FGP with Cllr Smith look at whether the offer regarding one of the units at Butterdown Mill be pursued and that he and Keith meet with Julie to explore any opportunity to encourage support from the community for planting out planters etc.

- (ii) Cllr Roberts took the opportunity to give feedback in the absence of Sue Margiotta. He had spoken with Sue regarding taking this forward as a Community Project. She is arranging a public meeting to set up a working group which MPC would facilitate with room hire and publicity. Cllr Luck and Harrison agreed to represent the council on the WG. Cllr Roberts to speak further with Sue. Cllr Smith asked if CC had formally decided on withdrawing of funding.

131/25 Minutes of meeting - Confirmation of minutes from 26th March 2026.

Proposed Cllr Smith Seconded Cllr Goldsmith All Agreed

132/25 Planning

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

PA26/0215 Overhead cables at Merrymeet

There is very little information submitted but the initial view was to support it was suggested Cllrs to be consulted by email and that outcome be referred to Planning by Chair in order to meet consultation deadline.

Proposed Cllr Cole Seconded Cllr Smith All agreed.

PA25/07800 Land East of Lower Clicker Close. Permission in principle for 1 dwelling.

Notification of an appeal was given to be dealt with by written representations. The previous representations have been forwarded to the Planning Inspectorate.

Discussion on previous applications:

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 the annex remained as part of the adjacent dwelling and not used as a separate dwelling. This was conveyed to the Planning Officer.

As the PC had not commented being against the application it was determined that the 5-day Protocol did not apply and an approval be issued. Cllr Smith as Divisional Member had taken the matter up but was unable to alter the position.

The Chair advised that he had also spoken with the Planning Officer and noted that whilst more information from the applicant had now been submitted to give information on where waste was disposed of and how the remediation work was carried out, there was no further consultation with Cllrs following our request for detailed information. Both the Chair and Cllr Smith further raised the issue of the property now doubled in size in the context of parking and amenity space.

The Chair also drew attention to the B Regs completion certificate issued for the barn to regularise the work. There is no information as to whether the remediation reports recommendations for radon gas had been met when the floor was laid originally.

It was proposed that the additional information be circulated for Cllrs to comment further and that an email is sent to the Planning Officer seeking from colleagues in Environmental Protection as agreed over the phone that they confirm they have considered all the further information submitted and in particular the radon gas protection to residential buildings.

Proposed Cllr Cole Seconded Cllr Roberts Agreed all

Lark View. Discussions continue securing compliance with the signed S106 agreement. Awaiting Wain Homes response to objections to their financial assessment and offer.

133/25 Finance.

A Accounts Payable

DATE	PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
MARCH 2026	Kayleigh Newbould	Salary	£224.25
MARCH 2026	HMRC	Paye	£61.00
MARCH 2026	Weldspray	Railings outside Spar	£300.00
MARCH 2026	Tartendown Nursery	Trees for life	£128.00
MARCH 2026	Prydis	Services	£132.00
MARCH 2026	Peter Rowe	Annual Allotment Rental	£80.00
MARCH 2026	CALC	Subscription/Services	£814.23
TOTAL			£1759.48

Proposed Cllr Cole Seconded Cllr Smith All Agreed.

B Small Grants

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

Vice Chair to write requesting information.

C Community Grants

An application was received from The Church for a grant towards the upkeep of the Church yard. Cllrs considered the request and agreed that a contribution should be made of £1200. Cllr Goldsmith raised concern at the condition of the information boards outside the Church which are MPC responsibility need to be replaced, and an additional similar board considered for the Holy Well. Cllr Goldsmith to investigate costs etc and report back.

Proposed Cllr Cole Seconded Cllr Roberts All agreed.

134/25 Chairs Report

A Clerk /RFO Recruitment See minute 129/25 above

B Volunteer Group Cllr Roberts has prepared and circulated to all an outline of a strategic plan to build and incorporate community engagement into our work plans.

Cllr Goldsmith reminded the meeting of the opening of the revamped willow garden on the 4th May a project supported by MPC and groups in the community.

C Community Development Project Group

The expression of interest didn't progress for funding to take forward appointment of architect and valuer to progress the project. It was noted that MPC is likely over this year to benefit from further allocation of CIL monies with the first instalment of £54166 paid.

The Chair proposed that FGP W G look at Reserves Policy and suggest what could commit to the Community Development Project and ringfence a sum. FGP to report back at meeting in June.

Proposed Cllr Cole Seconded Cllr Roberts All agreed

D Litter Bins This item was deferred as discussions are still in progress with Cornwall Council Waste team. Cllr Smith offered to intercede.

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. Cllr Cole to request the Dog warden to arrange for official signs to be installed and the pupil's posters be placed around the Parish to further raise awareness.

E Weeding contract The proposed changes by CC have been deferred pending discussions on use of glyphosate. See item too in Cllr Smiths report above.

F Reserves The Reserve Policy has been circulated and accepted for adoption. This will inform the considerations of the FGP

G Janitorial supplies. Village Hall Committee to be approached to agree the use of storage there.

135/25 Councillors reports

- (i) **A38 Improvements and Safety** No update given.
- (ii) **MPC Bankers (Lloyds)** Not resolved despite contacts with the bank.
- (iii) **Speed Watch** Additional item. Cllr Luck advised that two recent sessions in the village 7.30 to 8.30 resulted in day 1 65 vehicles logged with 8 speeding with 32mph the highest, and day 2 62 logged with **26 speeding** with 36mph the highest. Agreed Cllr Luck to provide wording for article in the Parish Magazine asap.
- (iv) **Councillors Vacancies** All to follow up on item in Parish Magazine to recruitment.
- (v) **Public WCs East Rd** See 134/25 G above.
- (vi) **Councillor Training** Cllr Cole would chase CALC in and work with the Clerk to arrange.
- (vii) **Dog fouling posters** See 134/25 D above

136/25 Actions Agreed outstanding

137/25 Diary Date Opening of Willow Garden 4th May 2026

Public Meeting and AGM 21st May 2026

138/25 End of Meeting 9.35pm