

Menheniot Parish Council

Minutes of Menheniot Parish Council Meeting 16th July 2026 at Old School Hall, Menheniot.

Present Councillors:

Cllr Adrian Cole (Chairperson), Cllr Elliot Harrison, Cllr Peter Luck, Cllr Eve Easterbrook, Cllr Jeremy Tucker, Cllr Sean Smith, Cllr Pat Cade, Cllr Keith Goldsmith

Apologies: None

Also present: Public x 5, Cornwall Councillor Sean Smith, Parish Clerk

031/26 Chairs welcome

Chair acknowledged and welcomed attendance by members of the public.

032/26 Apologies for absence

All in attendance

033/26 Members Declarations

No declarations made.

034/26 Councillor Smith update

Report provided by Cornwall Councillor Sean Smith for July 2026.

Please see attached report provided by Cllr Smith.

Highways verge cutting - Discussions held regarding Cornwall Council highways responsibilities for maintaining overgrown verges and roadside areas within the parish and ongoing communications with them and consideration of extending the current contract with our provider.

Community Chest - This is now open and available for community groups to apply for help towards projects in the parish.

Tencreek changes to 106 agreement – see separate report on work undertaken by Cllr Smith

Cllr Goldsmith asked Cllr Smith to investigate Cornwall Council responsibility towards helping maintain a property which is overgrown and causing concern to neighbours.

Cllr Smith gave a short tribute to former MP Ann Widdecombe, acknowledging her service and sending his sincere condolences to her family following her tragic murder.

This is an active police investigation taken over by Counter Terrorism; therefore, Cornwall Council have advised all councillors to be vigilant within their public roles.

The Parish Council wished for their condolences and thoughts for her family and all those affected to be noted.

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035/26 Public Participation

Member of the public raised concerns regarding changes to sewerage route at Park an Keres Pearce Fine Homes development and the impact upon the front gardens of neighbouring properties. Clerk and Cllr Smith provided contact information to residents to enable them to contact them direct so they could help investigate the situation with the developers and planning department.

Members of the Public raised concerns regarding the poor maintenance of the pavements, general weed control, and overgrown hedges across the village and how these are a safety issue. Issues discussed regarding the visit to maintain areas by Highways arriving at 7am for a total of 15 minutes. Cllr Smith advised he and Cllr Cole would continue ongoing communications with Cornwall Council.

Other concerns about green spaces raised were the responsibility of the Parish Council. Cllr Cole advised he was already speaking with contractor about specifications of the contract which runs for 3 years and consideration to additional costs with a view to better maintenance for areas where volunteers and Councillors used to contribute but unfortunately are currently unable to due to changes in their circumstances.

036/26 Signing of previous meeting minutes.

Minutes of the meeting held on 18th June 2026 – all approved.

The Chairperson signed the minutes.

037/26 Planning

New applications:

1. PA26/03911 - Change of use from garage to additional accommodation including removal of garage door and replacement with window, rear single storey extension, and internal alterations
All councillors agreed to support the application.
2. St Ive and Pensilva NDP
All Councillors asked to read and respond to Clerk prior to deadline of the 10th of August 2026 with any comments.
3. PA26/03492 - Full planning for the erection of 202 dwellings and associated works with variation of Condition 2 of decision notice PA22/03642 dated 26/07/2024.
This variation to the application has been called to committee, Cllr Smith met with the Chief of Planning and the Legal department, a request for MPC chair to attend was refused. Cllr Smith is awaiting a response to his queries regarding local need percentage and priority for Liskeard / Menheniot parishioners, before cascading to nearby parishes in Cornwall or nationally. Housing associations may make available rentals and if so, Cllr Smith has again requested local need is met first.

Applications received after agenda finalised:

4. For information - PA26/00648/PREAPP - Pre application advice for conversion of church into single dwelling

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Planning decisions made by Cornwall Council:

- 01/07/2026 - PA25/07670 Pearce Fine Homes Land South of Park An Kres Park An Keres Menheniot Liskeard Cornwall PL14 3FT Erection of 12 Dwellings (3 affordable) including new vehicular/pedestrian access, landscaping, and other associated works. **APPROVED**
- 03/07/2026 - PA26/02955 Mr P Bellamy Treggill Farm Holiday Cottages Menheniot Liskeard Cornwall PL14 3PL Removal of window and installation of door **APPROVED**
- 06/07/2026 - PA25/09495 Mr Roy Brimblecombe Methodist Church East Road Menheniot Liskeard Cornwall PL14 3RR Subdivision and conversion of building to create two dwellings and new vehicular access **APPROVED.**
- 02/07/2026 - PA26/03361 Mr J Peacock Butterdon Mill Barn Merrymeet Liskeard Cornwall PL14 3LS Application for discharge of planning obligation dated 28.08.1996 pursuant to decision 95/01105/F as the approved development was not implemented and has now expired - **DECISION S52/S106 and discharge of condition apps.**

038/26 Chair report

a) Community Bus

Clerk read out the report kindly provided by Sue Glassock regarding the progress to date on establishing a community bus.

- b) Cllr Smith requested that the business plan to be shared with him.
 - c) Clerk to contact neighbouring parish councils to establish whether there are any community bus projects in progress.
1. Update following attendance at SE CAP meeting.
Cllr Cole provided an update on the planning changes coming into effect.
 2. Safer A38 highways
Cllr Cole, Cllr Smith, and Cllr Tucker all contributed to updates on the proposals discussed regarding improvements to the A38. All shared their concerns at the ideas that were presented, reducing speeds, traffic light, pushing traffic through narrow county lanes and levels of fatalities and lack of investment in the A38.
 3. Trelawney Gardens improvements
Cllr Goldsmith raised his concerns at the level of supervision required for the contractors to be able to maintain the gardens to the same exacting standards that volunteers used to do. Additional volunteers are needed but unless this is forthcoming the additional costs will need to be considered for the contractors to provide basic management.
 4. Glassmoon event update
Event happened with no issues raised, area cleaned up well and parking managed thanks to the support of the Cricket club.

039/26 Working Groups updates.

1. Councillors to provide updates and discuss their individual roles within each group.
Cllr Luck advised that he has stepped down from his position on the Community Speed Watch team and he will provide a write up to the Clerk to advertise for a replacement volunteers.
All Working Groups reviewed and adjustments made to each working group. Clerk to amend the document and redistribute.

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Cllr Goldsmith left the meeting.

2. Suggestions for additional /amendments to working groups as per document issued prior to meeting.
Cllr Easterbrook advised that she had looked through and felt there had been some measure of success in the affordable homes area.
Cllr Smith felt that we could do better if we want to achieve greater things.
General acknowledgement that additional Councillors would be of benefit to the Parish Council to help share the workload and bring different skill sets to the table.
Suggestions were made that the working programme would need to become more focused onto 3 or 4 key areas and for all Councillors to commit to their roles within the document moving forward.
Proposed Cllr Cole, Seconded Cllr Easterbrook – All Agreed.
3. Menheniot Playing Field Working Group update following meeting held on 14th July.
Cllr Cole, Cllr Easterbrook, and Cllr Luck provided an update following the meeting they attended on 14th July. Following clarification from CALC the Council can now appoint a valuer for the Merrymeet land to get the process started. Further discussions will follow regarding the design plans for both spaces.
4. Menheniot NDP expiry - discussions concluded the Planning and Community Development Working group to consider options available and provide a report to the September meeting.
Further report to be provided by working group in September.
5. Update from FPG on banking progress, signatories, and Clerk access.
Access to the Lloyds account to enable the Clerk to undertake these tasks still not set up.
It was agreed for the Clerk to continue with the Unity bank application and for Councillors to provide the necessary information required to enable the Clerk in this task.

040/26 Finance

1. Members to consider the payment schedule and agree payments accordingly
Payment schedule attached.
All confirmed they had read the document provided and agreed payments.
2. Provision of current bank funds/expenditure to date
Bank reconciliation provided to all, confirming the closure of the account with the £5 in as transferred into the current account.
3. Proposal to allocate funds towards the repaint of Menheniot village post-box.
Cllr Cole advised he would contact Royal Mail regarding the repainting of the post box in the first instance.
4. Proposal to identify signposts needing repairs within the parish and allocated funds accordingly.
Cllr Cole requested that the signpost toward Factory, Lower Clicker needed replacing however due to length of this meeting, this item will move to the September agenda.

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Cllr Smith advised he would forward information regarding QR codes for footpaths to Clerk.

041/26 Clerk updates

1. Defibrillators
Clerk advised that both defibrillators were now under the guardianship of Duchy Defibs, they have undertaken initial visits and will transfer them across to them on the Circuit and both require new batteries.
All agreed for Clerk to contact them to purchase and install these as soon as possible.
2. Charity commission.
Clerk confirmed that she now has access and would be focussing upon completing the out-of-date return from 2024/25. Councillors to provide Clerk their personal information to be set up as trustees.
3. Island Shop Road
Further to Clerk communicating with residents at Island Shop the road has been reported to Highways and they have agreed that works are needed - W262181108.
4. Councillor vacancy progress
Clerk advised that the Parish Council are now able to co-opt into the recent councillor vacancy.

Cllr Tucker – left the meeting.

042/26 Allotments

1. Update on action points from previous meeting
Waiting list reviewed and vacant plots agreed. Discussions regarding the vacant plots requiring strimming and the pathways needing maintenance.
All agreed for a one-off total of £500 +vat to be allocated towards maintenance of allotments.
2. Current allocation of plots
Clarification provided that an individual can only hold a maximum of two allotment plots.
3. Maintaining vacant areas in the future. Resolve to pay £120 +vat for managing vacant plots.
This matter carried forward as part of the working group reviewing the allotments annual costs and charges.
Clerk to contact non-payment plots to establish tenancy for 2026.
4. Annual costs
Consideration given to deposits and increase of the annual rental along with the use of weed suppressants on vacant plots, this item carried forward to the working group to consider.

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043/26 Dowr Glan – Vote of no confidence in Southwest Water

1. "This Council notes with grave concern the systemic failure of Southwest Water to manage the sewage system in Cornwall. Despite record bills and government intervention, raw sewage continues to impact our environment and public health. Therefore, this Council resolves:
2. To formally declare a Vote of No Confidence in Southwest Water.
3. To sign the collective letter to the Secretary of State demanding the removal of Southwest Water's management through a Special Administration Order.

The Parish Council all agreed to submit a vote of no confidence.

044/26 Next meeting scheduled for 17th September 2026.

045/26 Meeting Closed at 22:10hrs

DRAFT