

MINUTES OF THE ST SAMPSON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, 24TH MARCH 2026 AT 7PM IN GOLANT VILLAGE HALL, GOLANT

Present: Councillors C Taylor, N Smith, P Meredith, D Bonsall, C Gabb and S Hubner.

Fayre Hardy, Richard Gabb
Sue Blaxley (Parish Clerk/RFO)
Cornwall Councillor Ian Wilson

Public Participation

Fayre Hardy said that the topic of resurfacing Church Hill and School Hill has been mentioned numerous times in the parish council minutes. She commented that many people may be thinking that the detritus left for weeks on Chapel Corner might be advance warning of action in 2026/2027. In addition, she said that the detritus comprising signs look most unsightly. Fayre Hardy said that the schedule for resurfacing and road enhancements on the Cornwall Council portal do not list Golant for the next financial year. She said that the road is very steep and gritty and it is easy to slide on the surface when walking up or down. As a result, older people who do not wish to drive to Church are prevented in their attending worship. Cornwall Councillor Ian Wilson said that he would follow up this matter.

Fayre Hardy also said that there seems some discrepancy as to the naming, erroneously, of the road from Chapel Corner on Water Lane to Fore Street. She said that it has been called School Hill but is an unnamed road and calling it this causes delivery drivers no end of confusion. If anything, historically it was called "Cowshit Lane". Councillor D Bonsall said that the road requires a Definitive Map Modification.

1. Apologies

None

2. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 24th February 2026

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 24th February 2026, having previously been circulated, were agreed as an accurate record.

3. Declaration of interest in items on the agenda

Councillors P Meredith declared an interest in item 9 on the agenda, Councillor C Taylor declared an interest in items 20 and 22 on the agenda and Councillors S Hubner and D Bonsall declared an interest in item 14 on the agenda. It was agreed that, whilst some councillors are trustees of the Village Hall, they did not have a prejudicial interest in item 14 on the agenda where it relates to parking permits for Boatwatch.

4. Matters arising from the previous meeting

To receive and consider reports on the action points from the previous meeting

- Councillor N Smith reported that Andrew van den Broek has not yet provided a quotation for works to improve the parking area on the village green.
- Councillor S Hubner said that he has not yet arranged a site meeting for councillors to agree the problems at Torfrey Crossroads.
- It was noted that Councillor D Bonsall has not yet included the emergency numbers provided by Cornwall Council in the Emergency Plan
- Councillor N Smith reported that he had circulated the findings regarding the legal status of the village green.
- Councillor P Meredith said that he is in the process of setting up an account with Walter Bailey and will then purchase the grit/salt
- Councillor S Hubner said that he continues to chase the non-payers of the kayak storage facility
- Councillor C Taylor said that he has contacted the landowner regarding the waterfall onto Water Lane but has not had a response
- Councillor N Smith said that he has asked the village hall for an invoice for the Broadband
- Councillor S Hubner said that he is in the process of opening a deposit account
- The Clerk said that she has obtained advice from CALC regarding having a purchasing debit card and has been informed that a card would only be for the Clerk's use. Furthermore, they advised that councillors should not be using their personal cards for purchases in excess of £250.

- The Clerk confirmed that a Quickbooks upgrade has been installed on the computer.
- Councillor N Smith said that he would examine the content of the website.
- The Clerk reported that she has written a letter appointing the Internal Auditor.
- The Chairman said that he has sent out a Maurie Mail reminding parishioners to apply for parking permits and that he had informed Alliance Parking that the 2025/26 parking permits are still valid.
- The Chairman said that he has identified sites on the Downs for replacement benches

To receive and consider reports on any other matters arising from the previous meeting

The Chairman thanked all councillors for the tasks undertaken since the last meeting.

5. To receive the Chairman's Communications

To receive and consider matters of particular concern raised by parishioners and which are not included as agenda items

The Chairman reported that he had received a communication from a parishioner who is having an extension built and that she has said that she will attempt to minimise disruption to the traffic whilst the works are taking place. The Chairman said that he has received a request from the landlord of the Fisherman's Inn to erect an advertising sign on the village green. In addition, he said that the landlord has said that he will replace the marquee at the pub at his own expense.

6. To answer any questions from Councillors, previously notified to the Clerk

None

7. To receive a report from the Clerk

None

8. To receive a report from the Cornwall Councillor

Cornwall Councillor Ian Wilson reported as follows: “The public consultation regarding the new proposed winter parking charges has concluded with an overwhelming majority of 85% opposing the move but I am disappointed to report, that despite me fighting this move, the Cabinet have decided to overwhelmingly approve the implementation of the winter charging and full charging to previously free car parks which will affect car parks in Fowey and Par. I have received numerous complaints about the quality of pothole repairs around our division. I am aware of this, and it is part of a wider problem across Cornwall, which I am currently investigating.”

9. To authorise the signing of orders for payment, including -

Mrs S Blaxley (Salary and Expenses) - £394.66
Cornwall Pension Fund (Pension Contributions) - £78.20
Source for Business (Water for Toilet) - £34.43
Flowbird Smart City (Car Parking Machine) - £22.18
Western Web (Website Hosting) - £96.00
Andrew van den Broek (Toilet Refurbishment) - £1944.30
Paul Meredith (Toilet Refurbishment) - £111.19

It was proposed by Councillor C Taylor and seconded by Councillor S Hubner that the above orders be authorised for payment. All councillors voted in favour of the proposal, except for Councillor P Meredith, who having previously declared an interest, abstained from voting. The proposal was, therefore, carried.

DIRECT DEBITS – FEBRUARY 2026

British Telecom (Car parking Machine) - £96.23
AIBMS (Car Parking Machine) - £29.66
Intuit Ltd (Quickbooks) - £19.20
British Gas (Electricity for Toilet) - £33.16
Unity Trust Bank (Bank Charges) - £6.00

10. Finance

To receive and consider the current statement of accounts

The Clerk reported that, as at, 28th February 2026, the bank account balanced at £15,911.94 with income having been received as follows: £265.35 from the car parking machine and £40.00 from the kayak store.

11. Policies

To receive and consider the following policies:

Document Storage Policy

Councillor D Bonsall had circulated this policy to all councillors prior to the meeting. It was agreed that the policy reflects the guidance except for electronic communication where the guidance is devoid of information. It was proposed by Councillor N Smith and seconded by Councillor C Gabb that this policy be adopted and that Councillor D Bonsall sets up a document storage facility using IONOS at a cost of £20/month plus VAT. All councillors voted in favour of the proposal. The proposal was, therefore, carried.

Financial Risk Assessment 2026/27

Councillor N Smith had circulated this policy to all councillors prior to the meeting. It was proposed by Councillor S Hubner and seconded by Councillor D Bonsall that this policy be adopted. All councillors voted in favour of the proposal. The proposal was, therefore, carried.

Health and Safety Risk Assessment 2026/27

It was agreed that Councillor D Bonsall would circulate this policy to all councillors prior to the next meeting.

It was agreed that the Boatwatch Hut should be listed as a Community Asset.

12. Website

To consider the content of the website

Councillor S Hubner asked the Clerk to ask Western Web for an example of their FAQ page. Councillor S Hubner said that the website, especially the homepage, is rarely updated. Councillor N Smith said that the content management on the website is very limited. It was agreed that Councillors N Smith and S Hubner would look at the content of the website.

13. Donation Request

To receive and consider a request from Golant Village Hall for a donation towards the broadband and telephone costs

The Clerk reported that the Village Hall has requested the sum of £470.91 for the broadband and telephone costs for this year. It was agreed that the Village Hall is listed as a place of safety in the event of an emergency and that the broadband enables parish council meetings where councillors and the public can access the internet. In addition, it was agreed that the facility is of benefit to all users in the community. Councillor D Bonsall said that the broadband requires a backup via UPS and that he would obtain a price for this facility. It was proposed by Councillor P Meredith and seconded by Councillor S Hubner that a donation of £470.91 be made to the Village Hall for the broadband and telephone costs. All councillors voted in favour of the proposal. The proposal was, therefore, carried.

14. Golant Car Park

Councillors D Bonsall and S Hubner, having previously declared an interest, left the meeting during discussion of the following matter.

To receive and consider a request from Boatwatch for two free car parking permits

Councillor P Meredith said that the days of patrolling the boats have been superseded by the installation of CCTV and that only 1 permit should be required by Boatwatch. Councillor N Smith said that, in the interests of procedural transparency, Boatwatch should purchase their permit(s) and then request a donation towards the permit(s) from the parish council. Councillor C Gabb said that the CCTV also improves safety in the car park. It was proposed by Councillor C Taylor and seconded by Councillor P Meredith that Boatwatch purchase their permit(s) and then request a donation towards the permits from the parish council. All councillors voted in favour of this proposal. The proposal was, therefore, carried.

Councillors D Bonsall and S Hubner returned to the meeting.

To receive and consider any other matters arising relating to the car park

Councillor D Bonsall reported that the income from the car park is on a par with last year except for February when income in 2025/26 was £253 compared to £402 in 2024/25. It was agreed that this was due to the inclement weather in February 2026.

15. Public Toilet

To receive and consider the cleaning contract for 2026/27

Councillor P Meredith said that the current contractor has still not provided a quotation for 2026/27. It was noted that Councillor P Meredith had circulated a draft cleaning contract to all councillors prior to the meeting. He said that the proposed contractor has adequate public liability insurance and that the contract will require the toilet to be cleaned three times a week from 01/04/2026 – 30/09/2026 and once a week from 01/10/2026 – 31/03/2026. He said that the contractor will invoice the parish council on a monthly basis. It was proposed by Councillor C Taylor and seconded by Councillor C Gabb that this contract be adopted for commencement on 1st April 2026. All councillors voted in favour of the proposal. The proposal was, therefore, carried.

Councillor P Meredith said that he will inform APS Construction that their services are no longer required from 01/04/2026.

To receive and consider any other matters arising relating to the public toilet

Councillor P Meredith said that refurbishment of the public toilet is nearly completed.

The Chairman thanked Councillor P Meredith, on behalf of the parish council, for organising the refurbishment of the public toilet.

16. Kayak Storage Facility

To receive and consider any matters arising relating to the kayak storage facility

It was agreed that Councillors P Meredith and S Hubner will number the kayak racks. It was noted that there are 3 non-payers which Councillor S Hubner will pursue. He said that three people are on the waiting list

for spaces and it was agreed that Councillor S Hubner will obtain a quotation for the provision of racking to the rear of the store.

20. Village Green and Playground

To receive and consider the legal status of the village green

The legality of giving parishioners permission to park on the village green, by issuing permits, was discussed. It was noted that the car parking area and the village green are registered as a village green which is for recreational purposes. After considerable discussion, it was proposed by Councillor C Gabb and seconded by Councillor S Hubner that those parishioners who currently have village green permits are notified that they are no longer valid and that the “car parking” area is for access only and any parking of vehicles on the area is done at the owners’ own risk. All councillors voted in favour of the proposal. The proposal was, therefore, carried.

Councillor C Taylor, having previously declared an interest, left the meeting during discussion of the following matter.

To receive and consider the grass cutting contract for 2026/27

It was noted that Councillor N Smith had circulated the draft contract to all councillors prior to the meeting. He said that he had contacted several contractors to provide a quotation but the only response was from Cornwall Landscaping. It was proposed by Councillor S Hubner and seconded by Councillor P Meredith that the contract be approved. All councillors voted in favour of the proposal. The proposal was, therefore, carried.

Councillor C Taylor returned to the meeting.

To receive and consider requests to use the village green for parish events

The Clerk reported that she had received requests to use the village green on 3rd and 5th April 2026 for an easter egg hunt and on 21st June 2026 for the “Midsummer Picnic on the Green”. These requests were approved.

To receive and consider any other matters arising relating to the village green and playground

Councillor C Taylor said that the grass has been cut. He thanked Councillor P Meredith, on behalf of the parish council, for tidying the sundial area. Councillor D Bonsall said there is a wish amongst parishioners to renovate the human sundial in the long term. It was agreed that this matter would be discussed at the next meeting of the parish council.

21. Highways

To receive and consider any matters arising relating to highways in the parish

It was noted that Councillor C Taylor will liaise with Cornwall Councillor Ian Wilson regarding the re-surfacing of Church Hill and School Hill.

Councillor C Taylor, having previously declared an interest, left the meeting during discussion of the following matter.

22. Footpaths and Benches

To receive and consider any matters arising relating to footpaths and benches in the parish

Councillor D Bonsall said that the works on the Upper Downs Path, supported by the extended LMP grant, was now complete and that an excellent job has been done. He said that extra work to trees had been required in addition to the original quotation as a result of storm Gorette. The Clerk confirmed that she has submitted the claim for the extended LMP grant to Cornwall Council. The parish council would like to extend their thanks to Dave Jenkinson and the team at Cornwall Landscaping for their excellent work. The parish council would also like to thank Mike Paul for allowing access across his land, making the logistics of the work considerably easier.

Councillor C Taylor returned to the meeting.

Councillor S Hubner said that he and Councillor D Bonsall have erected the new Saints Way signage.

23. Golant Pil

To consider the content of the Chairman's report for the Golant Pil

It was agreed that the Chairman would report on the following matters in Golant Pil: toilet refurbishment; the Saints Way signage and an explanation regarding the rise in the precept for 2026/27.

24. Co-option

To receive and consider applications for co-option onto the parish council

None

25. Date of next meeting

To confirm the date and venue of the next meeting on Tuesday 28th April 2026 commencing at 7pm in Golant Village Hall.

The date and venue of the next meeting was confirmed as Tuesday 28th April 2026 commencing at 7pm in Golant Village Hall.

The meeting was closed at 8:58pm.

ST SAMPSON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

24th March 2026

ACTION POINTS

<u>Minute Number</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>by Whom</u>
4	AVB to provide quotation for works to improve parking on village green	NS
4	Arrange councillors site meeting to discuss Torfrey Crossroads	SH
4	Include emergency numbers provided by	

	Cornwall Council in Emergency Plan	DB
4	Purchase grit/salt	PM
4	Chase non-payers of kayak storage facility	SH
4	Examine content of website	NS/SH
11	Set up document storage	DB
12	Ask Western Web for an example of their FAQ page	SB
13	Obtain quotation for battery backup for VH broadband	DB
15	Inform APS that their services are no longer required	PM
16	Number the kayak racks	PM/SH
16	Obtain quotation for additional kayak racks	SH
20	Notify holders of VG parking permits that they are no longer valid	SB
21	Liaise with Cornwall Councillor Ian Wilson regarding the re-surfacing of Church Hill and School Hill	CT