

MINUTES OF THE ST SAMPSON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, 26TH MAY 2026 AT 7PM IN GOLANT VILLAGE HALL, GOLANT

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

Sue Blaxley (Parish Clerk/RFO)
Cornwall Councillor Ian Wilson

Public Participation

None

1. Apologies

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillor S Hubner.

2. Election of Chairman

It was proposed by Councillor D Bonsall and seconded by Councillor P Meredith that Councillor C Taylor be elected as Chairman. There were no other nominations. The proposal was, therefore, carried.

3. Election of Vice Chairman

It was proposed by Councillor C Taylor and seconded by Councillor N Smith that Councillor S Hubner be elected as Vice Chairman. There were no other nominations. The proposal was, therefore, carried.

4. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 28th April 2026

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 28th April 2026, having previously been circulated, were agreed as an accurate record.

5. Declaration of interest in items on the agenda

Councillor C Taylor declared an interest in item 11 on the agenda and Councillor D Bonsall declared an interest in item 16 on the agenda.

6. Matters arising from the previous meeting

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

- Councillor P Meredith reported that he has not purchased the grit/salt as it is not yet in stock
- In the absence of Councillor S Hubner, it was not known whether his action points have been completed.
- Councillor P Meredith reported that he has terminated the cleaning contract with APS
- The Clerk reported that she has provided data to all councillors regarding the income generated from car parking permits in 2025 and 2026
- Councillor D Bonsall reported that he has informed Alliance Parking of the new design for the parking permits. He said that the official name of the car park is Golant Halt.
- Councillor C Taylor said that he has not yet identified sites on the Downs for replacement benches

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

None

7. 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 any communications he has received will be reported under the relevant agenda items.

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

None

9. To receive a report from the Clerk

None

10. To receive a report from the Cornwall Councillor

Cornwall Councillor Ian Wilson reported as follows: “As the tourist season begins for this year, and the weather improves the only issue of general importance this month is the following: Cornwall Council have announced plans to withdraw the cash payment option from some of their car parks. In our division, this is planned to be Par Beach and Fowey Main Car Park. I am opposed to this measure, because although it may theoretically save money on fee collection (although the saving would be minimal in the grand scheme), it removes choice from our residents and penalises those who for whatever reason prefer to use cash. Currently, the latest figures show 10% of payments are still made by cash which shows that despite Government pressure to remove cash from the system, there is still significant demand for a cash option. I may object, but I have no doubt that like the introduction of Winter Parking Charges this year, my objections will simply be ignored.”

11. To authorise the signing of orders for payment, including –

Cornwall Pension Fund (Pension Contributions) - £135.59
Western Web (Accessibility Audit of Website) - £54.00
ROSPA Playsafety (Play Equipment Inspection) - £118.80
LJC Bookeeping Services (Internal Audit) - £125.00
Source for Business (Water for Toilet) - £41.73
Cynthia Tabb (Toilet Cleaning) – £208.00
Flowbird Smart City (Car Parking Machine) - £50.40
Chris Taylor (Grass Cutting) - £180.00
Sue Blaxley (Salary and Expenses) - £661.42

DIRECT DEBITS – APRIL 2026

British Telecom (Car parking Machine) - £99.83
AIBMS (Car Parking Machine) - £29.53
Intuit Ltd (Quickbooks) - £67.20
British Gas (Electricity for Toilet) - £14.85
HMRC (PAYE) - £165.80
Unity Trust Bank (Bank Charges) - £7.00

It was proposed by Councillor D Bonsall and seconded by Councillor P Meredith that the above orders be authorised for payment. All councillors voted in favour of the proposal, except for Councillor C Taylor, who having previously declared an interest, abstained from voting. The proposal was, therefore, carried. Councillor N Smith reminded Cornwall Landscaping that the grass cutting contract requires signing.

12. Finance

To receive and consider the current statement of accounts

The Clerk reported that income in the sum of £1136.92 had been received from the car parking machine, £330 from income generated by parking permits, £3812.50 from Cornwall Council as the first half of the precept, £12,663.20 from Cornwall Council as the Enhanced LMP payment, a VAT refund from HMRC in the sum of £111.12 and £599.04 from Fairhomes for the internet for Oakenhurst. She said that the accounts balance at £15,867.43. Councillor N Smith asked the Clerk if, in future, she could provide details of how much of the bank balance is held as reserves.

Councillor P Meredith explained that the parish council's insurance policy is due for renewal on 1st June 2026. He explained that he has researched the market and Zurich, Clear Councils and Gallaghers are the companies who provide parish council insurance. He said that Zurich are the easiest company to deal with and will provide cover for one year for £927.00 and £873.76 for 3 years' cover. It was proposed by Councillor P Meredith and seconded by Councillor N Smith that the quotation from Zurich Insurance be accepted on a 3-year plan. All councillors voted in favour of the proposal. The proposal was, therefore, carried. The Chairman thanked Councillor P Meredith, on behalf of the parish council, for his work in respect of this matter.

13. Policies

To receive and consider the following policies:

Health and Safety Risk Assessment and Policy

Councillor D Bonsall said that he had circulated these documents to councillors prior to the meeting. He questioned whether there should be an alarm installed in the public toilet. It was agreed that an alarm was not necessary as the public toilet is not an accessible toilet. It was confirmed that Councillor P Meredith and S Hubner will inspect the grit bins on an annual basis and that Councillor C Taylor observes if any of the benches that are not in the playground require repair or replacement. It was proposed by Councillor C Taylor and seconded by Councillor N

Smith that the Health and Safety Risk Assessment and Policy be approved, subject to the above amendments. All councillors voted in favour of the policy. The proposal was, therefore, carried.

Councillor N Smith reported that the IT Policy is still being drafted and that he will draft a GDPR Policy in due course. It was agreed that the IT Policy will be discussed at the next meeting of the parish council.

The Chairman thanked Councillors D Bonsall and N Smith, on behalf of the parish council, for their work in drafting these policies.

14. Village Hall

To receive and consider purchasing some equipment for use in the event of a power failure

Councillor D Bonsall reported that, in the event of a power failure, a backup for the router and telephone can be purchased for approximately £150. It was proposed by Councillor N Smith and seconded by Councillor C Gabb that this item be purchased. All councillors voted in favour of the proposal. The proposal was, therefore, carried.

15. Neighbourhood Plan

To receive and consider matters arising relating to the Neighbourhood Development Plan

Councillor D Bonsall said that the current Neighbourhood Development Plan is considered irrelevant by Cornwall Council as it is only taken into account, when considering planning applications, where the Neighbourhood Plan relates to housing requirement. Cornwall Councillor Ian Wilson and Councillor D Bonsall said that they would ascertain if there is a housing requirement for the parish.

Councillor D Bonsall, having previously declared an interest, left the meeting during discussion of the following item.

16. Donation Request

To receive and consider a request from Boatwatch for a contribution towards their parking permits

It was noted that Councillor D Bonsall has purchased two parking permits for Boatwatch in the sum of £140. Some discussion took place as to whether two permits is excessive. It was agreed that with the CCTV system in operation, boat patrols are no longer required. It was acknowledged that Councillors D Bonsall and S Hubner do carry out maintenance work on the car parking machine. It was suggested that one permit could be issued to Boatwatch and one to councillors. The Clerk advised against the latter, saying it was a dangerous precedent to issue free parking permits to councillors. It was proposed by Councillor N Smith and seconded by Councillor C Gabb that a donation of £70 be made to Boatwatch to cover the cost of one permit. All councillors voted in favour of this proposal. The proposal was, therefore, carried.

Councillor D Bonsall returned to the meeting.

17. Golant Car Park

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

Councillor D Bonsall reported that income from the car parking machine was in line with last year. It was noted that the signs in the car park which were erected by Alliance Parking are illegible.

18. Public Toilet

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

None

19. Kayak Storage Facility

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

Councillor N Smith reported that a rowing boat is being stored on the outside rack with the outriggers blocking access to the rear of the toilet. He said that the rack requires cutting back to prevent this from being possible. Councillor P Meredith said that he would follow up this matter.

20. Village Green and Playground

To receive and consider any matters relating to the Village Green

Councillor C Taylor reported that the grass will be cut this week. Councillor N Smith said that the ROSPA report reported that the bench covering the rabbit hole was broken. Councillor C Taylor said that he would remove the bench.

21. Highways

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

Councillor C Taylor reiterated that Cornwall Council has confirmed that School Hill/Church Lane will not be resurfaced in this financial year and cannot give a timeline as to when these works will be undertaken. Councillor N Smith said that Cornwall Council has funded a scheme in which most areas with a 30mph speed limit will be reduced to 20mph and that he and Councillor S Hubner and Cornwall Councillor Ian Wilson met with a Cornwall Council representative to discuss this matter. He said that the proposal will be modified in that the 30mph sign will be moved back to where the footpath begins and the existing 20mph sign will also be moved. He said that the proposal will come forward for public consultation.

It was noted that the sycamore trees on Water Lane have been inspected and are deemed to be safe. Some discussion took place regarding the water falling onto Water Lane from the adjacent land. Councillor C Taylor said that he would speak to Cornwall Council about this matter.

22. Footpaths and Benches

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

Councillor C Taylor said that the footpaths, including the criss cross path, will be strimmed next week.

Some discussion took place regarding the establishment of a community project to widen the criss cross path and to improve the river crossing on the Upper Downs path.

23. 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 23rd June 2026 commencing at 7pm in Golant Village Hall.

The date and venue of the next meeting was confirmed as Tuesday 23rd June 2026 commencing at 7pm in Golant Village Hall.

The meeting was closed at 8:55pm.

ST SAMPSON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

26th June 2026

ACTION POINTS

<u>Minute Number</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>by Whom</u>
6	Purchase grit/salt	PM
6	Chase non-payers of kayak storage facility	SH
6	Number kayak racks	SH
6	Provide additional kayak racks	SH
6	Identify sites on Downs for replacement Benches	CT

15	Ascertain if there is a housing requirement for the parish	DB
19	Follow up issue regarding rowing boat stored on outside rack	PM
20	Remove broken bench from Village Green	CT
21	Speak to Cornwall Council about water fall onto Water Lane	CT