LANREATH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF LANREATH PARISH COUNCIL Tuesday 20 October 2026 commencing 6.30 pm Lanreath Village Hall

Present

Cllr David Heard (Chairman), Cllr John Gundry (Vice-Chairman), Cllrs Irvine, Roberts and Vickery, Mrs Rebecca Warren (Clerk), and County Cllr Sarah Preece.

1. Public Participation

No members of the public were present. An email from PCSO Cocks had been circulated in his absence. It recorded one crime of criminal damage to a vehicle in an isolated rural location during the period 1–30 September 2026.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr Honeyman due to continuing mobility issues. The apologies were accepted.

3. Declarations of Interest

No conflicts of interest were declared.

4. Minutes of Previous Meeting

It was proposed, seconded and unanimously agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 15 September 2026 be approved. The Chairman signed the minutes.

5. Toilet Cleaning Contractor Appointment

The Chairman reported that a candidate had been interviewed earlier in the evening and proposed that the contract be awarded to that applicant. The proposal was seconded and unanimously agreed. The Clerk was tasked with sending the signed contract to the applicant and advising her of the Council's decision. The contract is to commence forthwith.

6. County Councillor's Report

The County Councillor gave her report and emphasised the importance of Neighbourhood Priority Statements (NPSs). New delegated planning powers were due to come into force on 31 October, tilting the balance towards approving planning applications. Councillors discussed the amount of work required to prepare an NPS and the current lack of Councillors to assist, with four vacant seats. Concerns were also expressed about what was perceived as a further downgrading of Parish Council input as consultees on planning applications. The County Councillor responded to questions and stayed until the end of the meeting.

7. Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported on the following matters:

DRAFT

- Notice of Councillor Vacancies – It was proposed, seconded and agreed that, apart from keeping details of the four vacancies on the Parish website, the Clerk would not engage in active recruitment strategies.
- Broken brick circles on Grylls Park – The meeting considered correspondence between a resident, the Chairman and the County Councillor. Some residents had been paying for the grass verge to be cut, and one had offered to repair the broken brick circle. Cornwall Council maintained that the verges were not its responsibility. It may be possible to add the areas to CORMAC's grass-cutting schedule. The Chairman asked the County Councillor to pass all correspondence to him so that he could take the matter further and report to the next meeting.
- Shop footpath light and area near the shop – The Shop Manager confirmed that the footpath light installed by the owner of the Punch Bowl Inn was still not working. He again raised concerns about the lack of a fence beside the parking area, removed after being damaged by a car about a year earlier, and the uneven, unsafe area near the shop entrance on Punch Bowl Inn car park land. It was proposed, seconded and unanimously agreed that the Chairman speak to the Punch Bowl Inn owner to seek permission for the Parish Council to connect the light or fit a suitable bulkhead lamp to the Millennium Building. The Chairman would also contact the Shop Committee Chairman about the missing fence and unsafe area, making clear that these were on land owned by the Punch Bowl Inn and that the Council hoped pressure could be brought to bear on the owner to resolve these long-standing issues. The Clerk would establish the cost of connecting the light or supplying and fitting a bulkhead light, not to exceed £120. The Clerk would also find out how the old street light could be removed and the cost, and report to the November meeting.
- Herodsfoot signage – The Chairman had followed up with Cornwall Council, which had lost his original email report. He may need to resubmit it with photographs while the originals are traced. He had a new report number to follow up. Cllr Irvine reported that one of the Lanreath village signs might need attention and would send photographs to the Chairman.
- New website – The Clerk was still familiarising herself with adding and removing information. It was proposed and seconded that she replace the old Parish Council logo with the new one. This was unanimously approved.
- Policies and notices – The reviewed Recording of Meetings and Safeguarding Policies had been uploaded to the website. Temporary road closure notices had also been added.
- Village fireworks donation – The £200 donation had been paid, and thanks had been received from Sandra Pipe on behalf of the organisers.
- Unauthorised building in the Parish – A photograph had been sent to the Clerk and Chairman showing a change at the site subject to an Enforcement Notice. The site entrance appeared less barricaded and more open, which might indicate that the owner was beginning to comply with the Enforcement Order.
- Councillor WhatsApp group – The Clerk asked all Councillors to check that they had accepted the invitation to join and to acknowledge receipt of messages in future.

DRAFT

- Register of Interests – Only one form remained outstanding. The Clerk would remind the Councillor in due course.
- Annual Sanitary Waste Transfer Notice – It was proposed, seconded and unanimously agreed that the Clerk sign the Notice and scan a copy to South West Hygiene, as requested.

8. Significant Items of Correspondence

The Chairman had received an email from a parishioner on 28 September regarding overgrown weeds and brambles at the Play Area. The Chairman had dealt with the brambles and weeds following the report.

9. Water Leak

The Chairman had lodged a complaint with South West Water but had received no response. On personal inspection, he noted that the leak was ongoing. He had made a further report and received a reference number, and would continue efforts to resolve the matter.

10. Cornwall Council Planning Event

The Vice-Chairman's report had been circulated and he had nothing further to add. No questions were raised.

11. Community Preparedness/Emergency Planning

The Vice-Chairman was still awaiting responses from the Village Hall and Church regarding risk assessments required for the Emergency Plan (page 25). To facilitate an early conclusion to this long-standing matter, it was proposed and seconded that the Church be removed as a possible back-up place of safety, given the building's unsuitability and lack of toilet and kitchen facilities, leaving the Village Hall as the main and only refuge. This was unanimously agreed. The Chairman or Clerk would write to the Village Hall Chairman to ask whether a risk assessment was available to share. In the meantime, the Clerk would liaise with an external risk assessor and endeavour to complete a suitable assessment so that the Parish Council Emergency Plan could proceed.

12. Lanreath Playing Field Land

The Chairman had received and passed on to the Football Club advice from a solicitor regarding the Club's legal position. The matter would be considered further if and when the Football Club contacted the Parish Council.

13. Public Rights of Way

It was proposed and seconded that the Clerk approach the local Ramblers Group (Caradon) to ask whether members would be willing to walk the Parish rights of way and report on their accessibility.

14. Farm Buildings Landscaping – PA26/04330

Councillors and residents had raised concerns about what appeared to be unauthorised works at the site of planning application PA26/04330. The Chairman showed photographs of extensive groundwork, including large raised embankments of hardcore and earth, a very wide access lane, close to the B3359, together with a further very wide access way straight off the B3359.

DRAFT

The Clerk reminded the meeting that consultee comments submitted in July 2026 had expressed concern about the location of the proposed agricultural buildings and access ways created by removing Cornish hedges, including an access onto the main road that could be unsafe on a 60 mph highway. The County Councillor would investigate, and the Chairman would pursue his report to Planning. The matter would be reviewed at the November meeting.

15. Policies and Procedures

It was proposed and seconded that the amended Risk Assessment and IT Policy be approved and, subject to being further circulated by the Clerk, be uploaded to the website. This was unanimously agreed.

16. Asset Inspection

Cllr Vickery had carried out weekly Play Area inspections and had nothing further to report in the absence of Cllr Honeyman. It was proposed and seconded that permission be given for a flower/shrub border on the Millennium Green, subject to the Village Gardening Group using its own resources to maintain it and to Cllr Irvine circulating a drawing to Councillors before work commenced. This was unanimously agreed. It was resolved that the Clerk endeavour to secure up to £600 from one of the local Turbine Funds for a replacement canopied seat for the Community Garden, with the old, rotten seat to be removed.

17. Play Area

Following discussion about the lack of community interest in possible replacement or renewal of the Play Area, it was proposed, seconded and unanimously agreed that the matter not be pursued further. If residents wished to pursue it, the Clerk had details of possible funding sources and suppliers.

18. Village Hall

Cllr Vickery reported that a car boot sale would take place the following Sunday and a Christmas Fayre on 21 November. Raffle prizes for the Christmas Fayre could be left at the Tipsy Cow and, two weeks beforehand, at the village shop. The Chairman had cut the grass around the Village Hall; this had been made more difficult by wood left there for many months and only recently removed. The Clerk had asked the Parish Council's grass-cutting contractor about cutting the area. He indicated that he could do so for £50 per cut, twice a month during the growing season. Cllr Vickery would report this to the Village Hall Committee for consideration.

19. Community Area Partnership (CAP)

The Chairman had attended a meeting at Port Eliot on 6 October. Various matters were discussed and he gave a brief report. The Clerk had circulated any action notes received after the meeting.

20. Climate Change

No matters were raised.

DRAFT

21. Appointment of Internal Auditors and Declaration of No Conflict of Interest with BDO

The Clerk confirmed Aalgaard Renshaw's willingness to continue as Internal Auditors. It was proposed, seconded and unanimously agreed that they continue in that role for Lanreath Parish Council. It was also confirmed that there was no conflict of interest with BDO, the external auditors. It was proposed, seconded and agreed that the Clerk could record this as a resolution should external auditors need to be used for the 2026/27 AGAR, although this was considered unlikely.

22. Draft Budget for 2027/28

Clerk suggested that she draft a Budget for consideration at the November meeting – she will liaise with Cllr Roberts and the Chairman when drafting the Budget, as in previous years. This was proposed, seconded, and agreed by the meeting.

23. Financial Report

The bank reconciliations were approved and signed by Cllr Roberts. Having considered the financial information provided by the Clerk, Councillors proposed, seconded and unanimously agreed that the requests for authority under the Financial Regulations, payments due before the next meeting, and an inter-account transfer of £1,600 be approved.

24. Items for Next Meeting

No items were recorded.

25. Public Participation

No matters were raised.

26. Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday 17 November 2026 at 6.30 pm.

The meeting ended at 8.15 pm.

Signed ..... Chairman

Date .....

DRAFT