

## MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING POUNDSTOCK PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 15-JANUARY 2025

An Ordinary Meeting of Poundstock Parish Council was held on Wednesday 15-January 2025 at 7.00 p.m. in the Beach House, Widemouth Bay.

1. To note persons present and receive any apologies for absence with reason: 001/25

In attendance were Cllrs. Stephen Blake in the Chair and Cllrs. Michelle Carter, Eric Harris, Pamela Idelson and Graeme Swatton.

**RESOLVED** to accept apologies with reasons for absence given by Cllr. Steve Haynes, Max Faulkner, Tom O'Sullivan and John Worth

2. To receive declarations of registered and non-registered disclosable pecuniary interests and non-registerable interests: 002/25

Cllr. Michelle Carter PA24/09515.

3. Council to consider requests for Dispensations from Members concerning items on the agenda: 003/25

None received.

4. Public Open Session - Matters raised by members of the public on an agenda item: None. 004/25

5. To resolve that the Minutes of the previous Full Council Meeting are an accurate record:

(a) Minutes of Full Council:

**RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 18-December 2024 were a true and accurate record and were signed by the Chair.

005/25

(b) No matters arising.

006/25

6. Correspondence to discuss and resolve a course of action with any associated expenditure: 007/25

Correspondence schedule was reviewed and **NOTED**.

7. Planning Matters:

(a) Planning Applications to discuss and make a consultee comment:

**PA24/09497** Proposal: Non-Material Amendment in relation to Decision Notice PA24/06403 dated 27.09.24: amendments to fenestration Location: 4 Atlantic Close Widemouth Bay Bude EX23 0AP. It was **NOTED** a decision has been made. 008/25

**PA24/09306** Proposal: Extension with external and internal alterations Location: Sea Reach Marine, Drive Widemouth Bay Bude Cornwall EX23 0AQ. **Following discussions it was unanimously RESOLVED to make no objections.** 009/25

\* Cllr. Michelle Carter declared an interest.

**PA24/09515** Proposal: Proposed new dwelling without compliance of conditions 2, 4 and 5 of decision notice PA24/05010 dated 22/10/2024 Location: Portelli House Vicarage Lane Poundstock Bude EX23 0AU. **Following discussion it was unanimously RESOLVED to make no objections.** 010/25

\* Cllr. Michelle Carter re-joined the meeting.

**PA24/08871** Proposal: Demolition of garage/greenhouse and erection of detached outbuilding Location: Mount Pleasant Cottage Poundstock Bude Cornwall EX23 0DD. **Following discussion it was unanimously RESOLVED to make no objections.** 011/25

**PA25/00134** Proposal: Erect two detached dwellings with associated car parking and access Location: Land North of Crowshire Poundstock Bude Cornwall EX23 0DW. **Following discussion it was RESOLVED to make no objections (1abs).** 012/25

- (b) To note any applications received from Cornwall Council by the time of the meeting: None. 013/25
- (c) Planning Decisions – **NOTED** <https://www.poundstock-pc.gov.uk/planning-applications> 014/25
- 8. Finance to discuss and resolve a course of action with associated expenditure:**
- (a) To note income, banking and investment statements **NOTED.** 015/25
- (b) To resolve to approve payment of outstanding accounts as per schedule.  
**RESOLVED unanimously, to make payments as scheduled.** 016/25
- (c) To agree the budget for 2025/2026. **Following discussion it was unanimously RESOLVED to agree the 2025/2026 budget.** 017/25
- (d) To set the precept for 2025/2026. **Following discussion it was unanimously RESOLVED to set the 2025/26 precept at £39,185.00.** 018/25
- 9. Agenda items to discuss and resolve a course of action and associated expenditure:**
- (a) To receive an update and consider next steps for a new hall for Poundstock:  
The Chair provided an update on the progress of the new hall. Due to the Christmas period, there has been no further progress. However, an article has been submitted to the Poundstock Packet, encouraging interested individuals to apply for a position on the Steering Group. Additionally, the architects remain on schedule to submit the planning application before the end of January. 019/25
- (b) To receive an update and consider next steps for the public toilets in Widemouth Bay:  
The Chair provided the next report on the public toilets. It was noted that the survey of the electrical supply is ongoing and will include provisions for lighting sensors and the ability to provide broadband. Additionally, the Council is still awaiting a response from the RNLI to its most recent communication. Suitable options for CCTV that are not susceptible to vandalism are also being researched. 020/25
- (c) To approve the payment for a disbursement for planning fees to Cornwall Council for the new hall to Laurence Associates:  
The Chair reported on the upcoming planning application and associated fees for the new hall. It was noted that the lower-rate planning fees for the submission of a full planning application have been identified at £2,960.00 (inc. vat). To meet the terms of the grant, the application must be submitted by the deadline of 31-January 2025. **Following discussions, it was unanimously RESOLVED that Laurence Associates will submit the application, and the Council will make the payment of £2,960.00 on demand.** 021/25
- 10. To receive written reports and authorise any action:** 022/25
- (a) Poundstock Ward Member's Report:  
Cllr. Nicky Chopak provided updated on several key issues:  
**Car Park Review:** There are currently 28 car parks under review, with a public consultation held over the Christmas and New Year period. The consultation received a mixed review.  
**Adult Education Centres:** Cornwall Council has undertaken a consultation on the proposed closure of the adult education centres. It was noted that Bude is not included in the proposed closures, but Launceston is. Cllr. Chopak highlighted that the Scrutiny Committee did not support these closures, and the matter has been referred back to the Cabinet for further consideration.  
**Education Funding:** The educational budget for children requiring additional support is currently under scrutiny. Further updates on these matters will be provided as they progress.  
**Emergency Plans:** In light of the recent storms across the county, which caused significant disruption to homes and businesses, leaving some without electricity and water for several days - Cllr. Chopak highlighted the importance of Parish Council Emergency Plans noting many Councils have identified that their current plans are lacking, and she encouraged Councils to revise and update them where necessary.  
**Highway Issues:** A few highway matters were raised with Cllr. Chopak. Storm Eowyn brought severe flooding on the coast road below the Coppalthorne junction, a recurring issue that has been previously reported. Despite

efforts to address the problem, the issue remains unresolved and is currently being readdressed. Concerns were also raised about speed restriction signs that have been rotated 180- degrees, displaying incorrect speed limits. Additionally, the white lines at the Treskinnick Cross junction and the degrading road surface were mentioned again. All matters are currently in hand.

**Police and Crime Commission:** Cllr. Chopak shared her concerns regarding the Police and Crime Commissioner. She highlighted that two Chief Constables have been suspended, the Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner has resigned, and the budget is currently facing a shortfall of approximately £300,000. It was noted that 85% of the Police and Crime budget is allocated to staffing costs. Additionally, the Police and Crime Commissioner has been formally asked to resign. There is significant concern among County Councillors about the potential financial impact and the amount of additional funding that may be requested to address the situation.

**Code of Conduct Review:** The Code of Conduct is currently under review, and it has been confirmed that any changes will be made from October, new provisions will come into effect, allowing Councillors to be banned or suspended for inappropriate behaviour.

Additionally, she informed the Council that there are still funds available in the Community Chest Fund and encouraged the Council to submit an application if there are any suitable projects.

(b) Chair's Report:

The Chair expressed concerns regarding mobile phone masts, highlighting the need for legislation to ensure battery backup systems are in place and for further measures to improve coverage in dead spots across the county. Additionally, the Chair acknowledged that Cllr. O'Sullivan in his capacity as a Councillors for Marhamchurch Parish Council and the Clerk of that Council, were instrumental in securing a significant grant for the purchase of the Hele Valley Trail for the benefit of Marhamchurch parishioners and the wider area.

(c) Clerk's Report:

The Clerk reported the new accounting software has been successfully implemented, and quarterly analyses of the budget are now readily available. This enhancement allows for better tracking and reporting of the parish's financial situation. Thanks were extended to the Chair for their oversight of the accounts and assistance in the preparation of the budget, establishing a strong foundation for the upcoming financial year. Lastly, a request was made to explore online training events related to the management and running of a parish cemetery. This will be beneficial in enhancing knowledge and ensuring the effective operation of the cemetery moving forward.

11. NDP Steering Group to receive reports and authorise any action and expenditure: **023/25**

The Chair gave the NDP report, noting that Cornwall Council has confirmed they will provide feedback on the Draft Neighbourhood Plan between mid to late February.

12. Councils Representatives to receive reports from Outside Bodies: No reports. **024/25**

13. Portfolio Reports to receive written reports and authorise any action and expenditure: **025/25**

(a) Police Advocate, Cllr. Graeme Swatton presented the report from the Police and Crime Commissioner, noting that the draft budget for the next financial year will be presented to the Devon and Cornwall Police and Crime Panel later this month, with expectations of additional funds from second homes. The 2025-29 Police and Crime Plan outlines four strategic priorities: theft, drugs and alcohol, serious violence, and antisocial behaviour, tailored to specific locations. In towns and city centres, the focus will be on tackling theft, shoplifting, and alcohol-related issues, alongside efforts to reduce violence against women and girls. In rural and coastal areas, there will be renewed emphasis on preventing livestock and equipment theft, introducing measures to protect farmers and rural businesses and ensure all thefts are investigated. On the roads, a zero-tolerance approach to drink and drug driving will continue, aiming to reduce fatalities and serious injuries. All efforts will focus on creating a safer spaces through visible policing.

14. Items for Information - None. **026/25**

15. Notification of meeting and suggested items for the agenda: **027/25**

Date of next meeting Wednesday 05-February 2025 and following meeting 19-February 2025.

16. Casual Vacancy - None.

**028/25**

17. PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) Act 1960

During the meeting it may arise that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential or special nature of the business to be transacted and the press and public will be instructed to withdraw. When this arises, the Chair will recommend to consider passing the following resolution; “to resolve that in view of the confidential or special nature of the business to be discussed, the public are excluded and instructed to withdraw - None.

**029/25**

18. Close the Meeting - Meeting Closed at 20:43

**030/25**

## FINANCE SCHEDULE 15-JANUARY 2025

### BANKING AND INVESTMENT STATEMENTS

CCLA	Statement 31/12/2024	£89,258.23
Call Account	Statement 31/12/2024	£306,885.26
Current Account	Statement 20/12/2024	£100,144.58
Reserve Account	Statement 20/12/2024	£51,797.88

### INCOME

Barclays Bank UK	Interest Earned 02-Sep to 01-Dec 2024	£210.19
Jacquett	Cemetery Memorial Fee	£60.00
	<b>TOTAL INCOME 15/01/2025</b>	<b>£270.19</b>

### EXPENDITURE

Source for Business	Inv. 5088414103 Cemetery Water Supply 04-Sep to 19-Dec 24 (BACS)	£32.08
Source for Business	Inv. 5088433078 Public Toilets Supply 04-Sep to 27-Dec 24 (BACS)	£361.46
Laurence Associates	Invoice 39512 Architects Services for New Hall 31-Dec 24 (BACS)	£1,954.80
British Gas Business	Inv. 802056458 Public Toilets Electricity 02-Dec to 01-Jan 25 (BACS)	£145.74
Starboard Systems Ltd	Inv. 8051 (DD) 01-Jan 25	£50.40
T.J. Davies Ltd	Inv. 073 Cleaning Public Toilets - January (BACS)	£1,200.00
Staff Costs	Mth 10 (BACS)	£856.92
HMRC/PAYE	PAYE/NIC Mth 10 (BACS)	£231.46
	<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE 15/01/2025</b>	<b>£4,832.86</b>