MINUTES OF MEETING of Mawnan Parish Council on Tuesday 15th September 2026 at 7.00pm in The Mawnan Memorial Hall.

Present: Cllrs Potter, Shepherd, Biggin, Head, Moyle, Whibley, Stabbins and Clerk.

MINUTES

2627.96	**TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES** Cllrs Whibley, Holloway, Morris Cllr Whibley attended the meeting at the last minute.
2627.97	**MEMBERS TO DECLARE ANY INTERESTS IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA OR REQUEST DISPENSATIONS** None
2627.98	**PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA ONLY** Terry Damer and Dennis McQuillian, chairman and secretary of the NDP spoke about the NPS. They cannot be part of the working group but they will be on hand to offer any advice and help where they can. The chairman thanked them for their offer. The two emphasised that due to presumed planning for sustainable development the priority statement must detail protected areas, sustainability, economic and infrastructure needs etc to support current residents and new development. It must reflect the community's concerns and ideas. This must also incorporate sites for potential development within the parish. The NPS must be produced within about 9 months. Clerk agrees to check this date but agrees it is around 9-12 months from now. Cllr Potter addressed the vacancy left by Cllr Mason's resignation. Due to strict election rules the three people who wish to stand for co-option can't stand this month. Cornwall Council must be informed and the parish have the opportunity to call a full election. If this is not done within 14 days of the announcement the council are free to co-opt a new councillor.
2627.99	**TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE 18th AUGUST 2026** Cllr Moyle objected to the resolution in item 2627.85, claiming he did not abstain on the resolution but he voted against it. Cllr Moyle also objected to how item 2627.88 had been minuted, stating what he said was that due to the burials committee being only two people, they cannot make decisions and any decision should come to full parish council. He referred to a specific example where the committee, prior to Cllr Mason's resignation, were making a decision about a non parishioner having a cremation plot in the burial ground by email. He requested the entire paragraph be taken out. **PROPOSED Cllr Potter, SECONDED Cllr Shepherd, RESOLVED to accept the minutes with the above amendments. All in favour.**

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	N.B Clerk has since checked the recording and can confirmed Cllr Moyle asked to be written down as a named abstention. N.B Clerk has since listened to the recording and can confirm the majority of the discussion was about a non parishioner asking to have a relative's ashes, with strong ties to the community, interred in the graveyard. Cllr Moyle believed the matter should be dealt with by the burials committee at a meeting and not via email. Cllr states that the committee is now only two people, due to his resignation from the committee and Cllr Masons resignation from the Council, and he has concerns that this means the committee cannot make decisions and this particular issue needs to be dealt with properly at a full council meeting. Cllr Potter agrees it needs to be dealt with correctly but reminds him these matters are for the burials committee and not full council. The clerk is more than happy to provide the recording and corresponding timecodes to the meeting to Cllrs upon request.
2627.100	**REPORT FROM CORNWALL COUNCIL WARD MEMBER** Anna Thomason- Kenyon Cllr Thomason Kenyon stated she was looking into the issue of dredging at Falmouth Docks. It is not something within her division so she is looking into it further with planning and via the MMO. She will report back to Cllrs once she has gained a fuller understanding- especially concerning the technicalities around the method of dredging using heavy duty silt curtains and whether they plan to use closed buckets when dredging which could cut down pollutants potentially released when dredging. Cllr Thomason Kenyon apologised for not making it to the BioBltiz, she had issues with her vision that day and couldn't see. She also mentioned the redundancies at the university; she is aware of them but as it is not in her division feels she is limited in what she can do. Cllr TK also mentioned that she had received correspondence about issues with parking outside Rosenannon on Carwinion Road. She is now working on this issue and is in contact with Highways and the portfolio holder. A member of the public brought up that cars should not be parked within 14 metres of a junction but no one takes any notice of this. Another MoP stated that recently an ambulance couldn't get into the cul de sac where Rosenannon is and they had to park at the top and get out and carry their equipment down to the property. Cllr TK asked her to contact her directly. Cllr TK read out her support for a motion that was passed at full council that day regarding parish and town councils not getting sufficient time to make decisions nor being included on consultations effecting them and residents. This can be read in full at the end of these minutes. Cllr Shepherd stated that there are so many issues with road, highways and crossings in the parish he asked if there was any merit in getting an expert in to write a report on the issues that can be presented to Highways and create a formal record of what is wrong. Cllr Potter re-stated his concern that everything seems to pass through one person at Highways. Cllr Thomason Kenton states this is something she can look into. A MoP thanked Cllr TK for her recent help with the issue of the surface of the lane leading to Higher Penpol.

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2627.101	**CONSIDER CLERK'S UPDATE AND ANY MATTERS ARISING FROM PAST MINUTES NOT ON THE CURRENT AGENDA** Cllr Shepherd asked who had taken the decision to push the deadline for the bids for Mawnan Park back to 23rd October. Clerk confirmed she has taken that decision based on advice from the consultant as the holidays had interfered with how quickly people can respond. Cllrs discussed the clerks suggestion to swap October's Office and Finance meeting with November's Trusts meeting because the tender for the redevelopment of Mawnan Park finishes on the 23rd October which, when the meetings are swapped gives the O&F committee 2 weeks to review the bids and speak to the consultant before meeting to make a decision. If the meetings are not swapped the O&F will be meeting before the tender is closed. **PROPOSED Cllr Potter, SECONDED Cllr Shepherd, RESOLVED to swap the Office and Finance meeting and the Trusts meeting meaning the O&F will be on 9th November and the Trusts meeting will be 13th October (or an alternative date). All in favour.** Cllr Moyle asked if the topping up project at the graveyard, voted on in previous meetings and due to start imminently, had gone to tender. The clerk confirmed it had not as it was being undertaken by the current graveyard contractor which was the council's preference at the time of voting for it. Cllrs discussed the advice from the tree surgeon currently undertaking the work at the graveyard and burial ground. Rather than dead wooding an ash tree as previously requested and then quoted for the contractor has advised, on closer inspection, that the entire tree should come down. Cllr Holloway went to meet with the contractor and agrees with this advice. The quote for dead wooding the tree was £625 but the cost for removal is an additional £1600 making the total cost £2225. **PROPOSED Cllr Moyle, SECONDED Cllr Shepherd, RESOLVED to get two other quotes for the chopping down of the Ash tree in the burial ground. All in favour.** Cllr Shepherd asked when the high interest bank account would be available to use. Clerk replied Cllr Potter needs to sign the documentation which is promises to do. **ACTION: Clerk to put tree work out to different contractors to get quotes.**
2627.102	**TO CONSIDER PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED FROM CORNWALL COUNCIL BY DATE OF THIS MEETING** 1. **PA26/04985 Apartment 7 Arvor West Bay** Change of use from holiday accommodation to unfettered residential dwelling (Class C3) **PROPOSED Cllr Moyle, SECONDED Cllr Whibley, RESOLVED to support the application. All in favour.** 2. **PA26/06002 Bream House Maenporth Road** Change of Use from Managers Accommodation to Unfettered Dwelling (No Operational Development)

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	Cllrs discussed this application and raised a lot of questions regarding access and ownership. There is so much that is unclear and that Cllrs don't know as information hasn't been made available. This property is currently on the open market. It has always belonged to and was built by the Meudon Hotel. There is planning permission for this property already granted as part of the hotel expansion project which won the support of the Inspectorate. However this planning permission is not mentioned anywhere. The application seems to indicate the house has changed hands which is confusing. According to the application form, Mr Chapman is the sole owner of the property, yet previously it was owned by the hotel. Has a sale taken place in which Mr Chapman bought the property from the hotel company? Cllrs understood it was Meudon Hotel selling the property, not an individual. This needs clarifying. Although ownership isn't a planning consideration, existing planning permissions are- which means the question of ownership and why the existing planning permission isn't being referred to is valid in this instance. Regarding issues around the change of use; staff accommodation is a huge issue locally and this application removes staff accommodation from a business set in a location where there is little to no seasonal staff accommodation available. There are also concerns around access which is shared with the hotel entrance. How will this be separated? The access for the property is not suitable for a property which is not connected to the hotel. How can this be managed? Cllrs feel very uncomfortable with this application as it also sets a precedent for other properties within the hotel grounds and Meudon Valley to submit applications for change of use- as all of the 'holiday units' (incorrectly advertised as homes) are structured to be privately owned once built. **PROPOSED Cllr Moyle, SECONDED Cllr Head, RESOLVED they cannot support the application with the information provided. All in favour apart from Cllr Shepherd who voted against the motion.**
2627.103	**TO RECEIVE A LIST OF PLANNING DECISIONS MADE TO DATE BY CORNWALL COUNCIL** 1. **PA26/00904/PRE Playing Field Carwinion Road** Do I Need enquiry for proposed wildlife pond. **Closed - advice given.**
2627.104	**UPDATE ON THE FINANCIAL POSITION AND APPROVAL OF THE LIST OF PAYMENTS FOR SEPTEMBER** 1. **Review** and **agree** monthly figures, payments and bank reconciliation **PROPOSED Cllr Potter, SECONDED Cllr Shepherd, RESOLVED to accept and approve the monthly figures, reconciliation and payments. All in favour.**
2627.105	**PATH FROM SHUTE HILL TO MAWNAN PARK** 1. **Review** advice from the solicitor and **decide** course of action Cllrs reviewed the solicitors advice which states two price brackets: a) for registering the part of the path gifted to the parish council and for which there is documentation and b) for registering the entire path, for which there is only documentation for half of it as described

	above. The other part of the path would have to be registered via adverse possession which means there is the potential for increased costs. The advice is to register the part of the path there is documentation for and then register the entire path as a PROW. The advice also stated the parish council do not need to own the path to apply to have it registered as a PROW. The clerk informed Cllrs that title deeds for the Shute Hill estate all have detailed a right of way from one end of the estate down to Mawnan Park which essentially incorporates the path in question. One member of the public stated it has always been a footpath, questioning the need for the parish council to own and register it as such. It was asked what material difference it makes. Cllrs raised that one reason for registering the path is if the Bowling Club ever sold their land it is important to have the part gifted to the parish council registered to avoid any issues at a point of sale. The clerk also pressed that it is good housekeeping to register any land owned by the parish council through official channels. **PROPOSED Cllr Moyle, SECONDED Cllr Head, RESOLVED to defer the decision on which action to take regarding the registering of the ownership of the path to next months meeting. All in favour.** **PROPOSED Cllr Stabbins, SECONDED Cllr Whibley, RESOLVED to seek registration of the whole path as a PROW immediately. All in favour.** **ACTION: Clerk to start process of registering path as a PROW**
2627.106	**ESTABLISH NPS WORKING GROUP** 1. **Vote** to create an NPS working group and minimum of 2 Cllrs to represent Parish Council on it. Cllr Shepherd asked for a vote on whether to establish the group or not. Clerk found and confirmed the minutes of May 26, 2627.34 where the council voted to commit to create an NPS. **PROPOSED Cllr Potter, SECONDED Cllr Stabbins, RESOLVED to create a working group for the production of the NPS. All in favour apart from Cllr Shepherd who voted against.** Cllr Shepherd stated that he wanted it recorded that he believes the council have not properly debated producing an NPS. **PROPOSED Cllr Moyle, SECONDED Cllr Potter, RESOLVED to defer the decision as to which Cllrs would join the NPS working group to next months meeting as there was no one willing to come forward in the current meeting. All in favour.** 2. **Ask** members of public if there is anyone in attendance who would like to join Two members of the public came forward who would like to join the NPS working group; Caroline Toland and Davina Hayden.
2627.107	**GRANT FOR XMAS LIGHTS** 1. **Decide** on whether to award contribution

	The Xmas lights committee have asked if the council could consider an early grant as decisions aren't made until December which is too late for the event. **PROPOSED Cllr Potter, SECONDED Cllr Biggin, RESOLVED to award the Xmas lights Committee a £200 grant towards the 2026 Xmas lights. All in favour.** **ACTION: Clerk to inform Xmas lights committee**
2627.108	**CLEANING FINGER POSTS** 1. **Approve** payment towards materials **PROPOSED Cllr Potter, SECONDED Cllr Stabbins, RESOLVED to pay for the materials needed for the cleaning of the finger posts. All in favour.** **ACTION: Let Mr Tremayne know he can go ahead**
2627.109	**NEW BATTERY FOR MEMORIAL HALL DEFIBRILLATOR** 1. **Discuss** and **approve** purchase of battery **PROPOSED Cllr Potter, SECONDED Cllr Whibley, RESOLVED that the parish council will pay for the new battery and pads needed for the defibrillator at the Memorial Hall. All in favour.** **ACTION: Clerk to let MMH know**
2627.110	**RECEIVE RECOMMENDATIONS FROM BURIALS COMMITTEE** **The meeting was not quorate due to Cllr Mason's resignation from the parish council and Cllr Moyle's resignation from the committee.** **Receive and note the minutes and adopt the recommendations from the committee meeting.** ***MINUTES*** ***PROPOSED Cllr Morris, SECONDED Cllr Holloway to recommend to full parish council to accept the minutes of 8th June with small amendments made in pen to the signed copy.*** ***RISK ASSESSMENT*** *Cllrs reviewed the risk assessment provided by Mr Lugg.* ***PROPOSED Cllr Holloway, SECONDED Cllr Morris to recommend to full parish council to accept risk assessment provided by Mr Lugg.*** ***AGREEMENTS FOR MEMORIAL BENCHES*** *Cllrs discussed the need for some additions to the regulations regarding bench donations; maintenance, wood specification to withstand weather, right for council to remove the bench if it falls into disrepair.*

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	There is currently no more room in the burial field for any benches but there are more potential areas in the old churchyard. Cllrs also discussed that there could be possible locations outside of the graveyard, within the parish, that could be potential locations for memorial benches; green spaces, Mawnan Park, Carwinion Playing Field. ***PROPOSED Cllr Morris, SECONDED Cllr Holloway to recommend to full parish council to make amendments to the burial regulations stating that a) the parish council are not currently able to accept requests for memorial benches within the community burial field, however there is room within the old graveyard and potentially other green spaces within the parish which could potentially be suitable and anyone interested should contact the clerk upon which the request would need to be discussed at full parish council meeting and b) any benches donated need to be out of hardwood- iroko or teak and c) the council is not responsible for the maintenance of the bench and reserves the right to remove it if it falls into disrepair.*** ***NEW ITEM*** *The clerk informed the committee that Jonathan Thornton has reported finding quite a lot of dog poo in the wildflower meadow and has requested a new sign to say dogs must be kept on leads and any fouling must be cleared up.* ***PROPOSED Cllr Morris, SECONDED Cllr Holloway to recommend to full parish council to delegate powers to the clerk to buy a sign for burial ground asking people to keep their dogs on leads and clear up after them.*** Cllr Moyle stated that he had not resigned but had stated he wouldn't attend any more meetings. The clerk questioned this as the other members of the committee had thought he'd resigned too. When questioned by the chair Cllr Moyle stated that because certain issues were being dealt with he has no issue with going back on the committee. Cllr Moyle expressed concern about the burial meeting not being quorate. Cllr Moyle also expressed concerns scything in the wildflower meadow needing to be done asap because of how wet the grass is. **PROPOSED Cllr Potter, SECONDED Cllr Moyle, RESOLVED to accept the recommendations from the inquorate burials committee with the amendment of adding a reminder to take any dog poo home to the sign for the burial ground. All in favour.** **ACTION:** **Clerk to get sign made up** **Clerk to change burial regs**
2627.111	**CONSIDER REVISED QUOTE FOR TREE WORKS AT GRAVEYARD** Considered in 2526.101
2627.112	**VACANCIES FOR CO-OPTION** Unable to co-opt due to rules when a Cllr resigns.
2627.113	**ANY URGENT BUSINESS THAT HAS COME IN SINCE THE AGENDA WENT OUT** None

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2627.114	**TO AGREE RESPONSES REQUIRED TO ANY CORRESPONDANCE** Cllrs had a brief discussion about the location of Bareppa and issues any of them have observed around the area in question. **PROPOSED Cllr Moyle, SECONDED Cllr Potter, RESOLVED to defer a definitive response to the correspondence until next months meeting and in the meantime reply to the email informing the resident that Cllrs are investigating the matter to determine a way forward. All in favour.** County Cllr TK spoke about how she has been speaking to Esther Richmond at CAP and Highways to look at what further signage could be installed to address speeding in the parish. She also mentioned the possibility of her putting in a CIL request for funding for extra measures (the council and County Cllr TK both get an application each). **ACTION: clerk to respond to resident in question**
2627.115	**TO RECEIVE INFORMATION AND MAKE DECISIONS ON ANY NOTED ENVIRONMENT ISSUES INCLUDING TRAFFIC, ROADS, FOOTPATHS & COUNTRYSIDE** 1. Any CAP, HMVC updates Cllr Biggin informed Cllrs herself and the clerk will be doing a presentation at the CAP meeting on September 29th about the two CCF grants the parish council have had for the Mawnan Park consultation and the Carwinion Playing Field Masterplan. There was a brief discussion about the public inquiry into the granting of PROW status to Admiralty Road (aka the Tank Track). Cllr Shepherd has spoken to the person at Cornwall Council managing the inquiry to see if there is anything else to be done at this stage. But apart from submitting some representations to the inquiry and showing up for the duration of it there is little that can be done atm. Cllr Stabbins reminded people to make comments on the Dredge Falmouth application to the Strategic Planning Committee so they can consider comments when they discuss it. It is currently not on an agenda so don't know when it will be discussed.
2627.116	**MATTERS OF COMMUNITY CONCERN** A MoP expressed concern that all the issues raised around traffic and speeding issues could result in the roads being made thinner.
2627.117	**ITEMS FOR INCLUSION AT THE NEXT MEETING** Registering of path- solicitor advice Cllrs to be on NPS working group Cllr to join burials committee Email about bareppa- Cllrs investigate in the meantime Traffic and highways issues report in the village
2627.118	**DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING 20th October at 7pm in the Memorial Hall**

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X

cllr Manice Stabbins
Vice Chair

Date

ITEM list

1	Minutes of meeting 18th August 2026
2	Bank Reconciliation
3	Renewed quote from Tree Contractor

Current bank balances as at 8th September (31th August)

- Nationwide £50,039.67
- Current account £65,500.27 (£7,926.94)
- Deposit account £104,584.11 (£104,584.11)
- CPFT £5,959.06 (£5,883.31)
- JPFT £11,622.14 (£10,959.91)

Spending August

Item	Cost Centre	Supplier	What	VAT £	Total £	Paid?
93	Toilets- Utility Charges	WaterPlus	July Water charges		107.39	Y
94	Toilets Electric	YU Energy	July invoice	0.55	11.63	Y
97	IT support	Objective IT services	July support	27.44	164.64	Y
105	Bank charges	Lloyds	Account charges		4.25	Y
101	Phone and Internet	BT	Phone and internet August	7.72	46.34	Y
99	Toilet Cleaning	Passmore	July Charge	65.00	390.00	Y
108	Office Admin	Adobe	Acrobat Pro	3.33	19.97	Y
95	Green spaces	R Sanders	July cuts	160.00	960.00	Y
104	Clerk Salary	Melissa Mercer	Wages July hours		1296.88	Y
102	Clerk and PC Pension contribution	NEST	Clerk £59.02 PC contribution £103.28		162.30	Y

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103	Clerk PAYE and NI	HMRC	PAYE and NI		278.37	Y
96	Toilet Maintenance	Blue Flame	Leak in disabled toilet repair	20.86	125.14	Y
98	Office Supplies	MS Electrical	PAT testing in office	15.00	90.00	Y
100	Mawnan Park Inspections	The Play Inspection Company	Annual Inspection of Mawnan Park	29.00	174.00	Y
91	Office Admin	Land Registry	Searches		77.00	Y
92	Mawnan Park	Cornwall Council	Do I need planning permission? Application	99.33	596.00	Y
106	Office Admin	Land Registry	Searches		7.00	Y
107	Carwinion Playing Field	The Printing Chambers	2 x bound copies of masterplan		52.40	Y
109	Junior Playing Field Crowdfunder	Cornwall Wood Treatment	Wood to repair benches	21.51	129.09	Y
110	Solar Farm Grant	Truro Portable Buildings	Bench for community garden	49.17	295.00	Y
			Total	**£498.91**	**£4987.40**	

Receipts August/ September

Item	Cost Centre	Supplier	What	VAT £	Total £
R18	Burial Fees	Penrose	E Houldsworth Interment		150
R19	Memorial/ Headstone Fee	Rogers & Son	Cope mem stone		100
R20	Interest in deposit acc	Lloyds	August Interest		57.61
R21	Memorial/ Headstone Fee	Rogers & Son	Ann Nash Headstone		100
R22	Memorial/ Headstone Fee	Penrose	E Houldsworth mem stone		100
R23	Precept	Cornwall Council	Precept pt 2		57490.00
			Total	**£0**	**£57,997.61**

Payments/ To approve for September

Item	Cost Centre	Supplier	What	VAT £	Total £	Paid?
112	JPF inspection	SWPSi	August and May MP inspection	18	108.00	N
111	Toilets- Utility Charges	WaterPlus	August Water charges		116.67	N
116	Toilets Electric	YU Energy	August invoice	0.81	17.10	Y
117	IT support	Objective IT services	August support	27.44	164.64	N
TBC	Bank charges	Lloyds	Account charges		4.25	N
119	Phone and Internet	BT	Phone and internet Sept	7.72	46.34	N

115	Toilet Cleaning	Passmore	August Charge	65.00	390.00	N
TBC	Office Admin	Adobe	Acrobat Pro	3.33	19.97	N
114	Green spaces	R Sanders	August cuts	130.00	955.00	N
122	Clerk Salary	Melissa Mercer	Wages August hours		1296.88	N
123	Clerk and PC Pension contribution	NEST	Clerk £59.02 PC contribution £103.28		162.30	Y
124	Clerk PAYE and NI	HMRC	PAYE and NI		278.37	N
TBC	Graveyard Maintenance	Robbie's Garden Services	Aug and Sept maintenance New contract cost/ 12		1241.66	N
113	Mawnan Park Redevelopment	Sports Play Consulting	Tender phase		3000	Y
118	Repairs	Sean Ahearne	Toilet repair Bus shelter drain pipe repair		114.84	N
120	Graveyard	Bridge House Restoration	Flagstone repair		730	N
121	MP Crowdfunder	Budding Nature	BioBlitz payment pt 2		400	N
			Total	**£252.30**	**£9046.02**	

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*Division: Constantine, Mabe & **Mawnan***

Introduction

Chair, Councillors and Residents,

Before providing my report, I would like to thank everyone for their understanding, patience and support during my recent period of absence.

I am aware that some residents may still be awaiting a response to correspondence sent during that time. If this applies to you, please accept my apologies. Any delay was solely due to my temporary leave of absence, and I am working through outstanding matters as I return to my duties.

My absence also meant that I was unfortunately unable to attend a number of community events, projects and local initiatives to which I had been kindly invited. I was disappointed to miss these opportunities and would like to thank organisers, volunteers and residents for their understanding.

Local Council Updates

Cornwall Council Meetings attended:

- Falmouth and Penryn Community Area Partnership Members' Meeting.
- Planning Member Development Training.
- Highways Training.
- Highways Planning and Design Meeting.
- Chief Officers Employment Committee Meeting

Current Cornwall Council Appointments and Responsibilities

- Vice-Chair, Falmouth and Penryn Community Area Partnership (CAP)
- Chief Officers Employment Committee (Substitute)
- Constitution and Governance Committee (Substitute)
- Corporate Finance and Performance Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Substitute)
- Miscellaneous Licensing Committee
- Standards Committee
- Urgent Driver/Operator/Vehicle Sub Committee
- West Sub-Area Planning Committee

Local Issues and Resident Concerns:

Highways – Parking and Pedestrian Safety (Mawnan)

I continue to receive correspondence from residents regarding parking and pedestrian safety concerns near the junction of Rosenannon and Carwinion Road. The matter has been raised with Cornwall Council Highways, the relevant Portfolio Holder and the local Neighbourhood Policing Team. I am also exploring potential funding opportunities through the Community Area Partnership (CAP) Officer and will continue to monitor and pursue the issue as further information becomes available.

Carwinion Playing Field

Following concerns raised by the Parish Clerk on behalf of Mawnan Parish Council regarding the lack of progress on the proposed expansion of Carwinion Playing Field, I wrote to Cornwall Council Property Services seeking clarification on the current position and next steps. In doing so, I highlighted the significant time, effort and resources invested by Mawnan Parish Council in progressing the project and requested an update on the options under consideration and the process moving forward. At the time of writing, I have not yet received a response and will continue to pursue the matter on behalf of Mawnan Parish Council.

University Redundancies – Penryn Campus

As members will be aware, the University is currently consulting on proposed staffing reductions and changes to academic provision at Penryn. Cornwall Council does not determine the University's staffing structure, programme provision or corporate decisions. However, any significant reduction in student numbers or university activity could have wider implications for local communities, housing, local businesses and the wider Cornish economy. I will continue to monitor developments and engage with the relevant organisations as further information becomes available.

Sources reviewed: University of Exeter Annual Financial Statements; Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) Student Statistics 2024/25; University of Exeter statements regarding Penryn Campus academic provision and staffing consultation; University and College Union (UCU) statements; and published reporting concerning the restructuring proposals.

Falmouth Docks Redevelopment and Dredging

Following concerns being raised by a parish councillor regarding the Falmouth Docks redevelopment and its potential impact on the Fal Estuary, I immediately began seeking further information from the relevant organisations. This included enquiries to the Fal and Helford Estuary Team regarding the proposal, consultation arrangements and opportunities for public engagement, together with enquiries to Councillor Loic Rich, Portfolio Holder for Environment and Climate Change, seeking further information. I was advised that the proposal is being considered through the Cornwall Council planning process and the separate Marine Management Organisation (MMO) licensing process.

Whilst the proposed works fall outside my electoral division, through my research and the enquiries I have undertaken, I understand why concerns have been raised regarding the potential disturbance of silt and contaminated sediments within the Fal Estuary, and any resulting impact on oyster beds and the wider estuarine environment.

At the time of writing, I have requested further information from Cornwall Council's Planning Service, particularly in relation to the technical aspects of the proposal and whether any additional mitigation measures or environmental protections are being considered. I am currently awaiting a response and will provide further updates as information becomes available.

Resident Casework and Enquiries

During this reporting period, I have continued to assist residents with a range of enquiries and casework matters, including planning, enforcement and service-related issues. Much of this work takes place behind the scenes through liaison with Cornwall Council officers and other organisations. While it would not be appropriate to comment on individual cases in a public report, supporting residents and helping them navigate services remains a significant part of my role as your local Cornwall Councillor.

Cornwall Council Information and Updates

Planning Policy and Process Changes from 31 October (see attachment)

A recent presentation suggested that a Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP), which took four years to prepare, now appears redundant due to increased national housing targets and that councils are expected to produce Neighbourhood Priority Statements (NPSs) instead.

Having looked into this further, I believe the position is more nuanced.

Following revisions to the National Planning Policy Framework, Cornwall's annual housing requirement has increased from approximately 2,625 homes per year under the adopted Local Plan to approximately 4,424 homes per year under the Government's revised Standard Method. Cornwall Council's most recent monitoring information records 2,232 net additional dwellings delivered in the year ending 31 March 2025 and a 3.9-year housing land supply.

Whilst this may affect the weight given to some housing policies in certain circumstances, adopted Neighbourhood Development Plans remain part of the planning framework and are not automatically cancelled or replaced. Planning guidance and member training material indicate that not all neighbourhood plan policies become out of date and that neighbourhood plans continue to have a role within the planning system.

It is important to recognise that Neighbourhood Priority Statements (NPSs) are intended to help communities influence the preparation of Cornwall's future Local Plan. They do not contain planning policies or site allocations and are therefore not a like-for-like replacement for an adopted Neighbourhood Development Plan.

Members should also be aware that maintaining an adopted Neighbourhood Development Plan may have implications for the neighbourhood share of Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) receipts. Current Government guidance provides for areas with a neighbourhood plan in force to receive 25% of the neighbourhood share of CIL receipts without the usual cap, compared with 15%, subject to a cap, where no neighbourhood plan is in force.

Given the infrastructure needs already identified within the parish, I felt it was important to highlight both the planning and financial implications before any conclusions are reached regarding the future role of the NDP and any potential NPS.

Sources Consulted

- Member Modular Planning Training - Highways Planning and Design, including planning policy briefing by Robert Lacey.
- Link 20260528 NPS - DM Guidance.
- Planning and Housing Staff News 20250130.
- Planning and Housing Staff News 20241219.
- Cornwall Monitoring Report and Five Year Housing Land Supply information.
- Published reporting of Cornwall annual housing delivery figures based on Cornwall Council monitoring data.
- Housing and economic needs assessment guidance and December 2024 National Planning Policy Framework changes.

Healthy Under 5s Initiative

Cornwall Council has launched a new Healthy Under 5s Framework to support early years settings in promoting children's health and wellbeing. Further information is available through the Cornwall Early Years service.

Cornwall Council Car Park Payment Changes

Payment methods now vary between Cornwall Council car parks. Residents are encouraged to check the Cornwall Council website for the latest information, including details of the JustPark Wallet scheme.

Useful links:

• View Cornwall Council's latest information on car park payment options [cornwall.gov.uk]

• Find out more about the Cornwall Council JustPark Wallet [cornwall.gov.uk]

Transport Update

September marks *"Catch the Bus Month 2026."* Further information on local bus services, fares, journey planning and the Cornwall Bus Conference can be found through the links below.

Useful Link:

- Transport for Cornwall [September...bus trave | Viva Engage], [transportf...wall.co.uk]

Future Priorities

My focus for the coming month includes:

- Monitoring planning and enforcement matters affecting the parish and wider division.
- Continuing to support residents with enquiries, casework and service-related concerns.
- Working with parish councils, Cornwall Council officers and partner organisations to help progress local issues raised by residents.
- Keeping residents informed of information, opportunities and service updates that may benefit local communities.

Message to Residents

Thank you to everyone who has contacted me during this reporting period. Your feedback helps me represent our communities and raise local concerns with the appropriate services. Please do continue to get in touch if there is an issue affecting you or your community.

Useful Links

- Cornwall Council Planning Portal
- Roads and Transport Information
- Waste and Recycling Services

Contact Details

If you'd like to get in touch, please contact me at cllr.anna.thomason-kenyon@cornwall.gov.uk or by phone on 01872 322222 (say my name).

Neighbourhood Priorities Statement (NPS) vs Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP)

A practical comparison of purpose, planning weight, site allocation and protection of local character

At a glance

An NPS is a non-statutory statement of local priorities intended to influence preparation of Cornwall's future Local Plan. An NDP, once made, can contain planning policies and forms part of the statutory development plan used in planning decisions. They are complementary tools, but they are not like-for-like substitutes.

Question	NPS	NDP
Purpose	Records community priorities for growth, change and investment, and informs the new Local Plan.	Creates locally specific planning policies for the neighbourhood area.
Status	Non-statutory and optional.	Statutory once made and part of the development plan.
Planning policies	No. It does not itself contain planning policies.	Yes. It can contain locally specific planning policies.
Site allocation	No. It may identify preferred or inappropriate locations, but it does not allocate sites.	Potentially yes. It may assess and allocate sites, subject to legal and policy requirements.
Planning decisions	Can be considered as evidence of community priorities, but does not itself operate as a development-plan policy.	Its relevant policies are used when planning applications are determined, subject to national policy, consistency, age and other material considerations.
Design and appearance	Can state priorities for design, materials and local character, mainly to influence the Local Plan and emerging proposals.	Can set detailed, locally specific design policies and expectations, provided they meet the required tests.
Protection of local character	Provides an evidence-based expression of what the community wants protected, but does not itself create policy protection.	Can provide stronger policy-based influence over landscape, heritage, character, settlement form and design.
Examination and referendum	No independent examination or referendum.	Requires independent examination and a local referendum before it is made.
Time and resources	Designed to be shorter, simpler and less resource intensive.	More detailed and resource intensive because evidence, consultation, examination and referendum are required.
Relationship to future Local Plan	Specifically intended to feed local priorities into its preparation.	Must operate within the wider planning framework; an existing or updated NDP can add neighbourhood-level policy detail.
Community Infrastructure Levy	An NPS alone is not identified in the reviewed guidance as triggering the higher neighbourhood CIL share.	A neighbourhood plan in force may qualify the area for the higher neighbourhood CIL share, subject to the applicable CIL rules.

What does this mean for a Cornish village?

influence	Best suited to: quickly recording a community's priorities and feeding them into preparation of the future Cornwall Local Plan.	Limit: it cannot itself create planning policies or alloca
d place-shaping	Best suited to: creating neighbourhood-level planning policies on matters such as design, character, landscape, heritage and potentially site allocation.	Limit: it takes more time and resources and cannot ov or prevent required housing development.

Protection: the practical question

If the parish wants to...	NPS contribution	NDP contribution
State where growth may be appropriate or inappropriate	Records the community position for consideration in plan-making.	Can express this through policies and, where justified, site allocations.
Influence housing type, design and materials	States priorities and aspirations.	Can establish locally specific policy requirements and design expectations.
Protect landscape, heritage and village character	Identifies what the community values and wants taken into account.	Can translate evidence into policies used in planning decisions.
Have direct policy weight in individual applications	No direct development-plan policy weight.	Yes, through relevant made NDP policies, subject to the wider planning framework.

Questions a parish council should ask before choosing its approach

- Do we only need a concise statement of priorities now, or do we need enforceable neighbourhood-level planning policies?
- Do we want to identify preferred areas for growth, or formally assess and potentially allocate sites?
- Which existing NDP policies remain useful, and which need updating in light of national and local planning changes?
- What protection or policy influence could be lost if we rely solely on an NPS?
- What are the implications for the neighbourhood share of Community Infrastructure Levy?

Bottom line

An NPS may be the quicker route for expressing community priorities. An NDP is the stronger mechanism where the objective is to create planning policy, shape design, potentially allocate sites and provide policy-based protection for local character. Neither gives a parish complete control, and the best choice may be to use the two tools together rather than treat them as substitutes.

Sources: Sources reviewed to 13 September 2026: Cornwall Council NPS - DM Guidance (May 2026); Planning and Housing Staff News (December 2024 and January 2025); Local Council training NPS Intro and Overview (September 2025); Planning Policy Update (August 2026); member planning training; and government neighbourhood-planning guidance. Planning weight is case-specific and may be affected by national policy and other material considerations. This briefing is not legal advice.

Falmouth and Penryn Community Area Partnership

Action Notes

Meeting	Falmouth and Penryn Community Area Partnership (CAP) and AGM
Date and time	23rd June 2026 (6.30-8.30pm)
Location	Morvah Studio, Pendennis Community Centre, Castle Drive, Falmouth, TR11 4NG
Attendance and apologies	See attendance list attached

Item	Notes
1.	**Introduction and Welcome** Esther Richmond, Community Link Officer welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained she would lead the meeting until a new Chair was elected.
2.	**Apologies for absence and late arrival** See apologies on the attendance list below.
3.	**Declaration Of Interests** No interests were declared.
4.	**Annual General Meeting** **(i) Election of Chair and Vice Chair** Cllr John Bastin was nominated for Chair and Cllr Anna Thomason-Kenyon was nominated as Vice Chair (proposed by Cllr Dean Evans; seconded by Cllr Anna Thomason-Kenyon CC). CAP Members unanimously AGREED that Cllr John Bastin be elected as Chair and Cllr Anna-Thomason-Kenyon CC for Vice Chair of the Falmouth and Penryn Community Area Partnership for the Annual General Meeting and 2026/27. **(ii) Appointment of Sub-Groups** The CAP AGREED to continue with the following working groups and membership: • CAP Funding Panel – agreed to support. • Highways & Connectivity – agreed to support • Young people group – agreed to support and include Cllrs Jackie Walkden & Sinead Hanks to represent their councils. **Action**: Funding Panel - 2 x additional Parish Council representatives to be asked to join, when there is the opportunity for further funds. **Action:** Young People - Add Cllrs Sinead Hanks and Jackie Walkden to the working group. **(iii) Appointment/Invitation of Co-opted Members** ER reminded the meeting of the role of co-opted members and arrangements for ensuring their voice was heard. The meeting supported the proposals for co-opted members: - Dracaena Centre, Kate Springfield/Richard May - University of Exeter, Catriona Taylor - University of Falmouth, Anna Brown - Falmouth ad Penryn Walking and Cycling Group, David Ronchetti - Community Speedwatch, Stuart Douglas There was an additional request that Pendennis Community Centre would like to be a co-opted member. There was a further request from Healthy Cornwall that they are added as a co-opted member. Both proposals were agreed at the meeting. **Action:** ER to add Pendennis Community Centre and Healthy Cornwall as co-opted members and include on the distribution list for future meetings.

Falmouth and Penryn Community Area Partnership

	(iv) Calendar of Meetings The following schedule of meetings was AGREED: • Tuesday 29th September 2026 • Tuesday 19th January 2027 • Tuesday 23rd March 2027 The CAP agreed that it would generally hold its winter meetings (September and January) on-line and the summer/autumn meetings (June and March) in person with the hybrid option. ER explained that meeting styles had a degree of flexibility and that firm options could be agreed nearer to the meeting date. Annual General Meeting Closed.
5.	**Action Notes** (i) The notes of the meeting held on 24th March 2026 were agreed and approved. (ii) There were no matters arising.
6.	**Public Participation** There was no public participation in the meeting and no representations had been received.
7.	**Reflections from the previous year** ER referred to the previously circulated 'Priorities summary' document and asked the meeting if they would like to continue with these priorities: • Health & Wellbeing • Climate & Environment • Young People Cross-cutting themes: • Transport and Connectivity • Planning and Housing ER highlighted that the meeting could then focus on working on these elements in more depth and detail. Cllr Jackie Walkden proposed to support the continuation of the priorities and Cllr David Saunby seconded. The meeting supported this proposal.
8.	**Cornwall Community Gateway & Outreach/ Falmouth Day Centre** ER explained that this item had to be postponed at short notice. The meeting supported the item coming to a future meeting. **Action:** ER to confirm the arrangements with Lucy Downing.
9.	**Partner Updates** **<u>Transport & Connectivity Working Group</u>** Cllr Dean Evans CC gave an update on the above working group, outlining the attendees and that they meet quarterly. Terms of Reference have been agreed and the Action Plan is regularly reviewed. The working group are mapping highway issues across the CAP area and recording these on a spreadsheet. Matters discussed: Electric Vehicle (EV) Strategy; how to obtain average traffic speeds; sustainable universities travel plan; Beryl bikes and e-scooters; condition of the footpath network / links; considering expansion of the walking/cycling plan and Speedwatch groups. Community Highways Improvement Programme (CHIP) schemes are being costed by Cormac and presented back to Members.

Falmouth and Penryn Community Area Partnership

Healthy Cornwall

Sue Collings-Smith highlighted Active Swim at Carn Brea Leisure Centre and explained that it had space for 50 people. It appeared that approx. 50% of the attendees were from the Falmouth area and coming for the swim and a weigh-in.
2 pilots on a Pregnancy Swimming Lessons and Parent & Baby Swimming session trials are starting this month – attendance appeared low and this was thought to be transport/cost related. A request for help and thoughts on possible solutions. Further information was shared about other Healthy Cornwall activities in the area.
Action: All to consider opportunities for transport solutions to support session take-up.

Falmouth & Penryn Integrated Neighbourhood Team (INT)

James Harris gave and update on the work of the Falmouth & Penryn INT, focus. He referred to an upcoming metabolic community assessment day and the opportunity for the VCSE partners to become involved.

The focus is on 3 initial priorities around Frailty improving outcomes enabling people to stay at home longer; Children & Young People and Governance.
Reference was also made to the social prescriber work taking place in secondary schools and work on the themes of green spaces and travel. There is an aim to engage with the Youth Council and James reminded the meeting of his email and requested people to reach out to him as needed.

Policing update

Insp Milburn provided a presentation at the meeting on current policing trends. 3 current areas of focus: Youth ASB at Gylly beach; Violence against Women and Girls (VAWG) and ASB in the Town Centre.

He mentioned 'hook-ups'- the idea of young people arranging to meet up to cause mischief and that these can be in excess of 100 people. Gylly Beach is a focus with the Police Youth Intervention Officer working on prevention as a result.

Slides provide further detail and information (attached with notes). Insp Milburn explained the definition of stalking in the context as domestic related incidence as opposed to what people might think of as stalking.

Question: The Chair asked about lighting hours reductions and the likely impact on safety and crime – Insp Millburn responded by explaining that he is working on a paper on this. In particular, Gyllyngvase gardens and beach are a particular area of concern.
Action: The Chair asked to arrange to meet Insp Millburn to discuss this matter in more detail.
Action: Insp Millburn to forward presentation to ER to circulate.

Cllr Saunby asked about staffing levels and whether the Insp has enough resources and a follow up question relating to money laundering in a specific town location. Insp Millburn explained that the level of resources was a subjective point, but he would always like to have more resources to re-assure the public and have visibility.
Money laundering: whilst there was local press coverage, no reporting has been received, despite police engagement and information sharing on modern slavery etc.

	Cllr Evans thanked the police and agencies for work in the closure notice issued in Penryn and invited collaboration opportunities on the Speedwatch activities. **Young people related updates** Penryn TC - Penryn school have been supportive in setting up the Penryn Youth Council. Falmouth TC – a smartphone meeting held in Falmouth received good attendance from the majority of schools. It was felt this initiative was being well supported. Family Hub - Details of the hook-ups and the 'Bystander' training in schools may pick up on some of the issues that have been raised. CC Youth Council - 18 elected members with peer mentor support in place. Right On Survey - 13.5K young people responded: accessibility, inclusion and increasing voice were the top issues raised. A transport access working group has been established and the freedom to travel with post 16 travel (cost) being particular concerns. Work to seek low cost / free activities to engage in and asked people to flag anything suitable activities, e.g. rock pooling referred to earlier in the meeting. Mental health support and well-being is an area that young people are finding it increasingly hard to access support on. Further details on the campaigns can be found via Cornwall Youth Council | Let's Talk Cornwall along with other current consultations. **Cornwall Council update – Marie Kerr** Upcoming Cabinet and full Council meetings details can be found via this link Browse Meetings, 2026 - Cornwall Council. 'Get Involved' work in local Neighbourhood Priority Statements – further details can be found April Neighbourhood Planning newsletter. Community Resilience and Emergency preparedness – CC produces a newsletter on how communities can be prepared for emergencies and incidents, such as storms, floods and power outages. Further details can be found in the Resilience newsletter march-2026-newsletter.pdf **Emergency briefing film** Cllr Evans explained the work to host session in June and July to share the film and outlined an offer of assisting any parishes or groups in showing the People's Emergency Briefing Film https://www.nebriefing.org/the-film. Anyone who would like to host a briefing, please contact Cllr Dean Evans Cllr.Dean.Evans@cornwall.gov.uk
10.	**Any Other Urgent Business** There was no other urgent business.
11.	**Date of next meeting** Tuesday 29th September 2026 - ER tested the idea of the meeting being held at the new Chi Aberfala building in September. Cllrs Saunby and Evans supported this and were impressed with the work and facilities. **Action:** ER to explore hosting the next meeting in September at the Chi Aberfala building and whether there is scope for a tour.

Falmouth and Penryn Community Area Partnership

Falmouth & Penryn Community Area Partnership - Attendance List[1]

Representatives		
Cornwall Councillor	**Electoral Division**	**Record of Attendance**
Cllr Anna Thomason-Kenyon CC	Constantine, Mabe and Mawnan	Present
Cllr Alan Rowe	Falmouth Penwerris	Absent
Cllr David Saunby CC	Falmouth Trescobeas & Budock	Present
Cllr Laurie Magowan CC	Falmouth Arwenack	Apologies
Cllr Debra Clegg CC	Falmouth Boslowick	Apologies
Cllr Ruth Gripper CC	Mylor, Perranarworthal and Ponsanooth	Present
Cllr Dean Evans CC	Penryn	Present
Town & Parish Councillor	**Parish / Town Council** (NR = Named representative)	
John Bastin	Budock Parish Council (NR)	Apologies
Alan Jewell	Falmouth Town Council	Absent
Jackie Walkden	Falmouth Town Council (NR)	Present
Bea Galke	Mabe Parish Council (NR)	Absent
Rachel Killick	Mylor Parish Council (NR)	Apologies
John Symons	Mylor Parish Council	Absent
Manice Stabbins	Mawnan Parish Council (NR)	Present
Ashley Bridges	Perranarworthal Parish Council (NR)	Absent
Allison Mcgee-Harrison	Ponsanooth Parish Council (NR)	Absent
Sinead Hanks	Penryn Town Council (NR)	Present
Mael Garrec	Penryn Town Council	Absent
Eiluned Morgan	Constantine Parish Council (NR)	Apologies
Nikki Drewett	Constantine Parish Clerk	Apologies
Representatives from other Organisations/Members of the Public		
Stuart Douglas	Perranwell Community Speedwatch	Absent
Anna Brown	Falmouth University	Absent
Catriona Taylor	University of Exeter	Apologies
David Ronchetti	Walking and Cycling Group	Absent
James Harris	Falmouth & Penryn INT	Present
Kate Springfield & Richard May	Dracaena Centre	Apologies
Matthew Thomson	Pendennis Leisure	Apologies
Inspector Rick Milburn	Devon & Cornwall Police	Present
Kirstie Edwards	Voluntary Sector Forum	Absent
Marcus Kay/Donna Rowe	Integrated Care Board	Absent
Lucy Downing	Cornwall Community Gateway & Outreach/ Falmouth Day Centre	Apologies
Miranda	Youth Council	Absent
Cornwall Council Officers		
Esther Richmond	Community Link Officer	Present
Scott Sharples	Devolution Manager	Present
Eveleen Riordan	Service Director, Education and Community Health	Apologies
Marie Kerr	Chief People Officer	Present
Sue Collings-Smith	CC Wellbeing and Public Health	Present
Winton Hill	Children's Rights Participation Officer	Present
Zoe Woods	Area Family Hub Co-ordinator	Present
Olly Bayliss	Safer Cornwall	Absent

[1] Attendance record based on register signed by representatives at the meeting or apologies sent.

HELFORD MARINE CONSERVATION
Advisory Section Quarterly Meeting
Minutes
Wednesday 15th July 2026 1.30pm
Gweek village hall
Chaired by Louise Walder

Present	Apologies
Sue Scott (SS) - HMC Coordinator and CC Estuary Officer **Louise Walder (LW) Vice Chair HMC Gweek Boatyard** **Jonathan Thornton (JT)– HMC Membership secretary, Mawnan Churchyard. Helford Research Trust.** **Ian Tolchard (IT)– Helford River Moorings** **Pete Boxall (PB)– Helford River Moorings** **Georgena Morris – (GM) Mawnan Parish Council** **Chris Sharpe (CS) - Falmouth Marine Conservation Group – Pacific Oysters.** **Wendy Lethbridge (WL)– Marine Management Organisation** **Ellie Green (EG) - Marine Management Organisation** **Steve Green (SG) – Clean Ocean Sailing**	**Esther Hughes – Natural England** **Carol Hurst – Chair HMC and One Bag Beach** **Lily Parsons -Environment Agency** **Manice Stabbins (MS) Mawnan Parish Council** **Robin Bradley (RB) – Cornwall Bass Investigations** **Amanda Ayliffe AA - Fal and Helford SAC**

1. **Introductions**

2. **Date of Next Meeting** – Wednesday 14th October 2026, Gweek Village Hall, 13:30pm ACTION SS to book.

3. **Report for April and Matters Arising. –** None. Any arisings to be dealt with later in agenda.

4. **Pacific Oyster update. (CS)** We have significant reefs of non-native oyster at both Calamansac and Port Navas creek. It would be good to get both sailing clubs involved in keeping their respective areas as clear as possible from them. There will be some training coming up for those who would like to run their own surveys.

5. **Organisations – Brief Reports on Activities**

A) **Clean Ocean Sailing - SG –** COS have taken nine wrecks out of Anna Maria Creek. The way things are it is just making room to bring in more wrecks! However, Cornwall council have agreed to fund a feasibility study for the Helford in wreck removal. Funded for a coordinator 2 days per week over two years. The project is a pilot, potential to be extended to other unregulated areas in the Fal if effective and funds allow. There will be a stakeholder meeting held in the Autumn.

B) **Mawnan PC – GM–** Recent planning applications have been for Tree removal and these have mostly been approved. The Small Grants will be open in the Autumn.

C) Marine Management Organisation-WL Octopus have been proving to be a challenge for inshore fisheries. There are many more than last year inshore on the South coast, Scilly and North coast. Brown crab have been in short supply due to the Octopus bloom. The Blue Fin Tuna fishery opened on Monday (13th July) with licenses granted for boats as far away as the Hebrides and North East coast with boats coming down to fish in the SW. Permits for recreational catch and release have doubled from last year. Crawfish season opened on the 1st June.

D) **Helford River Moorings** – IT- Ian introduced Pete Boxall who will be working with him on the river this season. The start of the season has had difficult moments due to frequent Easterly winds. They have moved the no anchor signs west of Helford Passage a little to allow some more room for free anchoring. A bit further west which they hope will help with compliance.

E) **Gweek boatyard – LW** – The crane has broken which is most unfortunate in the busy period for getting boats in the water. Still some repairs from Storm Goretti ongoing. The café is doing very well and is busy. They now have a hair and nail salon in the boat yard!

F) **Mawnan Churchyard Project**–**JT-**The wildlife recording app is going really well with 185 species now recorded. Mawnan School held their ecology day there and swept the wildflower meadow for insects.

G) **Helford Research Trust-JT-** The Oyster Depot. Plans and costings are drawn up for the reconstruction of the Oyster depot into a research facility. If

all comes together then the Winter of 2027 would be the earliest time to start construction. The materials would all have to come in and out by barge. They whole building will have to be raised 4ft to prevent flooding.

A) **Cornwall Wildlife Trust (not present)** Dan Barios O'Neil sent us an email regarding a new project that will include the Helford. *The project is Mor Nature, a three-year initiative funded through Natural England's Species Recovery Programme, running to March 2029. We're delivering it in partnership with the Ocean Conservation Trust, and it focuses on restoring native oysters and seagrass across the Fal and Helford Special Area of Conservation — species that were once abundant in Cornwall's estuaries and now need active help to recover. On the oyster side, the plan is to establish a series of broodstock nurseries. We're starting with a pilot nursery in Falmouth Harbour to test and refine the approach, and — importantly for the Helford group — we're then looking to establish our first Helford nursery on the back of what we learn there. That would be the first native oyster nursery in the Helford, and a real milestone for the estuary. Alongside the nurseries, the wider project includes cultch (shell) deployment to rebuild reef habitat, monitoring, and citizen science and community stewardship, so there'll be plenty of scope for the Helford group to be involved as things develop. We've also recently recruited a full-time Marine Restoration Assistant dedicated to this work, so there's real capacity behind it. I'd be glad to come and speak to the group in person at a future meeting once the Falmouth pilot is under way — do keep me posted on your dates. In the meantime, please pass on my thanks to everyone for their interest and support.*

6. **Financial –** We have applied to Cornwall Council Fal and Helford SAC fund to pay part of the servicing costs for the VNAZ.
7. **HMC Membership Events and Activities SS and JT**– JT is working his way through the unpaid membership list. Recruiting corporate members. IT and SG offered to send the new membership leaflet PDF to their mailing lists. We have had some super informative talks and events thanks to our Chair Carol Hurst who works hard setting them up. The Environmental Connections Between Forest and Oceans - Sam Manning. Dawn chorus walk on International dawn chorus day with Cornwall Birds. Traditional Oyster Fishing on the Fal Talk with Jason Pascoe and Tom Collinson. Helford Citizen Science Water Testing Kayak Trip with Koru Kayaking. Rockpool Ramble – at Durgan with Cornwall Wildlife Trust. Blue Meadows: Falmouth's Seagrass Story Eden Stevens October 21st 7 pm at Mawnan Village Hall.

8. **Field Observations – IT- '**Sammy' the Seal has been using one of the moorings on Helford Passage to rest up again this summer. Moorings officers and ferry

men have been helping to keep him/her peaceful by asking the public to keep their distance.

AOB – SS If the group think it is a good thing we have been invited to join a new collaborative initiative to bring together and share effort to conserve and bring back into good health our rivers and estuaries across the Southwest. We have an email from Dr Julia Latham of Friends of the Dart who have secured funding from the Postcode Green Trust and the National Lottery Community Fund to spend six months exploring whether closer collaboration between community-led river and coastal groups across Devon and Cornwall.
We will explore collaboration opportunities, such as running in-person shared learning workshops and piloting simple shared tools, however this will be decided together. We'll end the phase with a gathering to reflect on what we've learned together and to decide whether ongoing collaboration makes sense, and if so, agree on options for what a collaborative model might look like. Our aim through this work is to reach all community groups across Devon and Cornwall - from smaller groups or those in their infancy to more established ones - and co-design potential approaches for cross-catchment collaboration based on what the groups find useful and supportive. ***Would your group be interested in joining this project?*** *I am currently trying to identify and contact as many river and coastal groups as possible in Devon and Cornwall, so please do share any details you might have of such groups.* **SS** to continue to engage with this project.