



PUBLIC MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

Wednesday 28th January 2026

Present: Councillor Edwards (Chair)

Councillors Ellis, Robinson, Smith, Venables, Walton, White.

Also in attendance:

Christopher Cook - Parish Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer.

Members of the public: **2**

Members of the public were permitted to speak on each Agenda item for a period of 3 minutes. This meeting was advertised as a public meeting and as such could be filmed or recorded by broadcasters, the media, and members of the public. The public were advised that whilst every effort is taken to ensure that members of the public would not be filmed, it could not be guaranteed.

Minutes 28th January 2026

1651/2026 Chair's Welcome & Announcements

Cllr Edwards (Chairman) welcomed residents to the Public Meeting of the Parish Council and delivered Health and Safety housekeeping rules.

Social distancing and Covid-19 measures were observed, such as ventilation.

No one recorded the meeting.

1652 Public participation

A resident acting as the Tree Warden for the Parish Council reported as follows concerning the St. Mary's churchyard yew tree -

Residents may have noticed that hazard bollards and a barrier have been placed by the War Memorial and entrance to St Mary's churchyard. This is because there are several large holes and cracks along the boundary wall next to the ancient yew tree at the entrance.

The churchyard is a "closed churchyard," meaning that no further interments may take place there. As such, Cornwall Council are responsible for its maintenance, and it is they who have placed the hazard signs there.

Responding to several residents' concerns about the preservation of the yew tree, and as Parish Tree Warden, I contacted Cormac. I spoke to the Environmental Steward, Tim



Hopwood. He informed me that the preservation of the yew tree is a priority providing this does not compromise public safety. Cormac's engineers are working on a plan to reinforce the wall and possible build a buttress to provide further strength and stability to the structure. Any proposals would be shared with the Truro Diocese before any final decision.

Cormac carry out a safety inspection every two weeks.

Malcolm Fletcher, Tree Warden. 21/01/2026.

Councillors noted that the St. Mary's church PCC Chairman was aware of the Yew Tree situation and that Tim Hopwood would initially submit his report to the church PCC Chairman.

Councillors **resolved** to note this report and action points.

1653 To receive Apologies for Absence and approve the reasons given

Cornwall Cllr Paul Cador (work commitments). Cllr Willey (Vice Chair) on holiday.

Councillors **resolved** to note.

1654 Declarations of Interest

Councillors **resolved** that no Councillors declared pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests.

Councillors **resolved** that no Councillors were liable for written Dispensations or Gifts.

1655 Minutes of the Public Meeting 26th November 2025

Draft Minutes 26th Nov 2025 – Proposed Cllr Walton, Seconded Cllr Robinson. 6 agreed with 1 abstention.

Councillors **resolved** to approve the draft Minutes.

1656 Matters arising from the draft Minutes for report purposes only.

None.

1657 A Report from Cornwall Councillor Paul Cador

The following report was provided to the Parish Clerk -

Hi all, I hope you all had a good New Year. For me it was a busy one, helping to clear the up the mess from Storm Goretti, now it is onwards and upwards.



One of my caseworks that affects us all is the new Car Parking Charges being levied on us from the council. In particular is Kit Hill. Although it is not near us, residents still use this space for dog walking, for walking and getting out and also to help our health and wellbeing. I have sent letter to the Leader to see if this decision can be reversed and I am awaiting his decision. Another one is The Tamar Bridge Joint Committee's decision to hold the price of the Admin Charge to £0.80p until after a public consultation.

Tamar Crossings Joint Committee to commence public consultation on Tamar Tag admin fee The Tamar Crossings Joint Committee met on Monday 12 January for an Extraordinary Meeting to consider proposals relating to the Tamar Tag monthly account administration fee. Members agreed that a public consultation and engagement exercise will be undertaken before any decision is made on changing the fee. During this period, the monthly admin fee will remain at 80 pence.

This is a good win for Cornwall Resident, and I would like to thank those who attended, put questions through. those whose hard work has been utilised to help in getting this decision put through. there is still a long way to go, and I urge residents to email the Local MP Anna Geldard, to get more help from her and to get this raised in PMQ's.

Cornwall Councillors/Town & Parish Councils - South East Cornwall Community Area Partnership

Dear All,

As discussed at the South East Cornwall CAP meeting, please see below and attached information in relation to the Community Highways Improvement Programme.

Also attached is guidance in relation to the Expression of Interest online form and here is a link direct to the form: [Community Highways Improvement Programme \(CHIP\) Expression of Interest](#)

The deadline for submission of the Expression of Interest is **27th February 2026**.

Councillors **resolved** to note this report.

1658 Finance

A Accounts for Payment January 2026

Cllr Edwards (Chairman) proposed, Cllr Smith seconded the approval of the Accounts for payment. All agreed.

Cllr Edwards (Chairman) mentioned the damage occasioned to the Botus Fleming notice board during Storm Goretti, and it being necessary to order a replacement. An improved aluminium noticeboard with glass frontage has been ordered to replace the old wooden and broken version.

The Parish Clerk confirmed that an all-risk insurance claim had been logged with Zurich and the notice board replacement cost of £2,894.49 (plus Vat) had been submitted to Insurers. A small Policy Excess applies to all-risk claims, but the Council expects that most of the expenditure will be included under insurance cover.

Councillors **resolved** to approve the accounts for payment.



B Direct bank Payments & Receipts for information

Receipts Account1 2025/2026 **£24,526.76**.

Receipts Account2 2025/2026 **£550.00**

Total Receipts all Accounts 2025/2026 **£25,076.76**

Councillors resolved to note.

C Bank reconciliation and Earmarked Funds (EMF)

The General Account balance was reported as **£12,963** and the Earmarked Funds as **£10,418**. Total Funds **£23,381**.

D Monthly budget monitoring balances report

Refer to Finance report at www.botusfleming.org.uk

Councillors resolved to note items 1658 (B) (C) & (D).

E Public Works Loan Board Statement January 2026

Councillors resolved to note the Loan amount outstanding **£46,840.09**

1659 Planning <http://planning.cornwall.gov.uk/online-applications>

Planning Application NEW – None received

Planning Application Decisions – Two received

**PA25/03258 – Tamar Holdings Ltd
Barn North-East of Fanns Cottage Botus Fleming
Conversion of Existing Barn to form dwelling house
Refused 9th December 2025**

**PA25/07292
Land East of Villaton Court Hatt
General Agricultural building
Approved 19th December 2025**

Planning Application for Information – None received

Planning Application received after Agenda issue – To be advised

Councillors resolved to note all planning matters.



1660 Recreation Field

Cllr Edwards (Chairman) confirmed that during the recent Storm Goretti, the Football Team (SUJFC) at the Recreation Field lost their wooden storage unit during the storm. The unit will be replaced with a metal storage unit.

Some of the play equipment requires lubrication and the lubricant as recommended by Kompan, providers of the play equipment, will be ordered. Kompan will provide instruction as to how to carry out the lubrication exercise.

Councillors will consider moving the next play equipment inspection, due around this summer, from Play Safety to Kompan. The price for the inspection report differs little between either company.

Councillors **resolved** to note.

1661 (i) Asset Maintenance Audit

Cllr White remarked that the bench situated at Moditonham Quay requires a clean and repaint.

Cllr White noted the action being taken to replace the Botus Fleming crossroads notice board, and that the Council may consider a similar replacement for Hatt. The noticeboard at Hatt is showing signs of deterioration.

Three of the four Grit Bins in the Parish require replenishing. The Council have already received their 'once-a-year' free of charge grit top-up, therefore there will be a charge to receive extra grit. Any extra cost would be met from the current maintenance budget.

ACTION - The Clerk to make those arrangements with CORMAC.

Councillors **resolved** to note this report actions.

Item 1661 (i) can be viewed under 'Reports' at www.botusfleming.org.uk

1661 (ii) Other Councillor reports - Defibrillator

Cllr Walton advised Councillors regarding the Memorandum of Understanding between Botus Fleming Parish Council and South-Western Ambulance Service Trust (SWAST), the suppliers of the defibrillator package.

The renewal package amounts to £2,800 plus vat renewable from 21st December 2026. This amount is budgeted for within the 2026 / 27 precept.

SWAST also offer a training session for residents within the Parish.

A training date to be advertised on HCBB Facebook with training possibly coinciding with the Easter egg hunt in March / April 2026. All Councillors agreed with these Action points.

ACTION Cllr Walton to advise SWAST for defibrillator coverage from December 2026.

Councillors **resolved** to note this report.



1661 (iii) Litter pick

Cllr Smith advised that a litter pick date had been arranged for the 7th February 2026 and a team were being gathered to carry out the litter pick.

Councillors **resolved** to note this action.

1662 Clerk's items – National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)

The Parish Clerk circulated the latest draft version of the (NPPF) to all Councillors. An update on the draft proposals is expected around March 2026.

Councillors **resolved** to note.

1663 Correspondence – RPM Bike Trials Display Show.

Councillors noted the correspondence regarding the RPM Bicycle Stunt Show and The Slackline School attraction and associated activities but did not wish to progress the offer further.

1664 Date of next meeting

The next Meeting of the Council will be the **Public Meeting on Wednesday 25th February 2026 at 7:30pm at the St Mary's Church Hall (covid safe).**

The Parish Council would continue to follow any instructions from CALC concerning the COVID -19 situation in connection with forthcoming Public Meetings. The choice to meet face to face was now an option with safety guidelines applying.

Please refer to www.botusfleming.org.uk for further details.

1665 End of meeting 20:13

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Signed
(Chairman)

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Date