

Minutes of the Annual Parish Assembly of the Parish Council held in Lanlivery Church on Wednesday 23rd April 2025 at 7.00pm

Present Cllrs Paterson, Haley, Hemmings, Sinkins and Wright.

In attendance The Parish Clerk, Mrs Sally Vincent
PCSO Alison Relf, PCSO Cameron Mallatratt
9 members of the public.

24/158 Apologies Cllr Turner, PC Husband

24/159 Declarations of Interest

- i. **Pecuniary** – None
- ii. **Non Registerable** – None
- iii. **Dispensations** - None

24/160 Minutes of the Annual Parish Assembly held on 1st May 2024

The minutes had been approved for accuracy on 5th June 2024. It was proposed by Cllr Sinkins, seconded Cllr Hemmings and **RESOLVED** that the minutes be signed and adopted.

24/161 Matters Arising

None.

24/162 To receive the Chairmans Report

Cllr Paterson gave his annual report

Good Evening everyone and welcome to Lanlivery Annual Parish Meeting 2025.

As usual it is a pleasure to see so many of our regular members of the public who consistently attend our packed monthly meetings. For those of you who do manage to find the time to attend our meetings you know without doubt our primary focus as a Parish Council is to ensure that numerous factors which affect our daily lives in and around our Parish are discussed, investigated and, where deemed necessary, reported to the relevant Authorities for further investigation.

Since taking on the role of Chairperson of Lanlivery Parish Council in April 2023, I must thank Sally Vincent our Parish Clerk who has kept us all professionally informed on various aspects of rules and regulations concerning Parish Council protocol. As many of you know Sally handles several other local parishes and is well versed in Law Court proceedings in her role as Justice of the Peace. Without her guidance and frequent intervention our parish would flounder.

Allow me to quickly go through a few of the issues we as a Parish Council encountered over the last 12 months. They are not in order of importance.

Redmoor School

As most of you are aware, Laura, the previous Redmoor School Principal, moved on and her role was taken over by Ashley; he and/or several of his Redmoor representatives routinely attend our Parish meetings. In the past considerable traffic problems existed at drop off times and pick up times at the school adjacent to the car parking zone but that specific aspect has

dramatically improved with several personnel from Redmoor on duty at those busy times. Taxi flow in and out of the school premises has most definitely improved in recent months. Ensuring that parking has ceased adjacent to where the local shop was has really helped traffic flow, especially when agricultural machines and large delivery trucks with fuel etc. use that section of road. Unfortunately, this did not happen over the last few days and cars were inappropriately parked.

We all know that an increase in pupil headcount is expected this coming year, but it is our understanding this will not occur until a significant increase in staff vehicle parking has been completed later this year following substantial earth works adjacent to the current existing car park area.

We have seen various containment measures introduced in recent months at the school, with an increase in wire fencing and higher roller gates etc. and Redmoor personnel give us regular updates on improvements.

Finally, many of us are aware of several instances where disturbances have occurred due to boisterous youngsters. I am pleased to report that Ashley and his Team are improving their response to ensure such instances are dealt with quickly and efficiently and they will hopefully be limited in occurrence soon.

Elections

Most of us are aware that Cornwall Council have elections pending shortly and we sincerely hope we have a replacement for Colin Martin who was our Cornwall Council representative. Unfortunately, he has not attended our monthly meetings for several months due to his personal relocation. It is imperative we have a newly elected Cornwall Councillor representing Lanlivery Parish on board soonest, as several issues are still outstanding after several months. For example, potholes, traffic signs and enforcement issues.

Forest Field

This is the woodland area adjacent to the Playing Field which now has the newly installed play equipment in place. Mid 2024 it became apparent that several tall ash trees growing in the Forest Field had been badly infected by Ash Die Back. Those tall Ash trees were close to the wooden building used by the school, and they were in danger of blowing over in the frequent high winds. They could also have fallen into the playing field or onto the newly installed play equipment in the playing field. As a matter of urgency relating to Health & Safety concerns, quotes were obtained for felling the infected trees in the Forest Field, in addition to cutting back the long strip of laurel and a large tree/bush in the corner of the field, which was totally overgrown. A local tree surgeon, Tyler Bell, was chosen and he did a fantastic job over two days with his chipper and several volunteers helped move the larger limbs to the far corner of the playing field and the forest field. The extensive overgrown laurel was cut back and removed from site as the cuttings are poisonous. A most professional job was done by Tyler. We must also thank Mike and Cathy Haley, Robert Hemmings and Jill Paterson, who all volunteered over several days to cut up with chain saws and move to one side the many tree branches and limbs plus brambles and general wood rubbish to ensure the area was clear and safe so the children could have good access to the wooded area.

Playing Field

In the early 2020's numerous monthly Health & Safety inspections of the play equipment continually brought to our attention a variety of problems. It was decided in 2023 that the complete removal of the play equipment and black matting had to be done and new equipment purchased and installed. Again, various quotes were obtained and finally a company called Kompan was chosen to supply the new equipment. Funding to completely take down the old existing play equipment and replace with new was discussed over several months and due to a shortage of funding it was decided to replace the new play equipment in two stages. Only when more funding is obtained will the second stage commence. For your information the cost of replacing the new equipment and replacing the safety matting came to approximately £ 27,500. I must thank Robert Hemmings and Mike Haley for volunteering to remove most of the old and extremely heavy black matting.

In due course Kompan arrived and removed the metal work and proceeded over several weeks/months to erect/install the current new play equipment. Once that phase was completed a sub contractor of Kompan came and over a couple of weeks poured the new black matting. However, a gap was left between the new black matting and the existing grass area. This left several feet of concrete around the actual play area. For weeks running into months Sally Vincent sent numerous emails to Kompan requesting more black matting was laid. However, that apparently was at odds with the original quote/contract and somewhere in the region of £4,700 was required to pour more black matting. In addition, parents from the school were getting more impatient by the week due to the fact that, although the new play equipment was physically in position, the children were unable to use it. Due to the danger of children falling onto the bare concrete the sports field had to be locked on a Health & Safety basis. With no extra funding available we decided to put earth and eventually turf onto the existing concrete. At this stage I must mention Matt and Talyn Truscott and Robert Hemmings (who provided the soil) plus several other volunteers, including Mike and Cathy, who worked to cover the concrete. At this stage a sigh of relief could be heard around the Parish as we awaited the all clear from our Health & Safety Inspector to give us the go ahead to finally open the gates to allow the school children and the public to use the new expensive equipment. No such luck. On his next inspection the Health & Safety officer found several issues relating to loose bolts/screws on the supports and framework of the new equipment which required tightening. The work to correct those problems had to be completed by the installer of the equipment to comply with the warranty. Sally worked tirelessly on numerous occasions via telephone and email to get Kompan to rectify the situation, and she has only very recently got Kompan to finally accept it is up to them to come and fix their problems. From the outside I can quite understand the frustration of parents who wonder what is going on. However, for those who did ultimately come to several Parish Meetings they heard how our hands were tied throughout this debacle. When we have sufficient funding for the second phase of the additional play equipment, we will hopefully have all the I's dotted and the T's crossed, so we do not suffer the same delays in the future. Hindsight is a great virtue.

Councillors

Finally, as most of you know, Lorraine Wright is stepping down as a Parish Councillor in May. Also, Sue Turner after many, many years as a Parish

Councillor has decided that time to relax has arrived. Nigel Challis resigned from the Council earlier in the year for personal reasons.

Nominations for new Parish and Cornwall Councillors opened on 14th March 2025, with a deadline for submission of 2nd April. The statement of persons nominated was published on 3rd April and for us this resulted in 6 people legally named. These were Cllr Haley, Cllr Hemmings, Cllr Sinkins and myself and 2 new candidates, Dave Wright and Meg Green. This means that there will not be a contested election and we will be able to co-opt to fill the vacant seat in due course. The 6 new Councillors will make their Declaration of Acceptance of Office and take their seats at the Annual Meeting on 14th May 2025.

I thank you all for your attendance tonight. Hopefully in the very near future we shall meet our new Cornwall Councillor and he/she will work with us and rectify several outstanding issues pertaining to Lanlivery.

24/163 To receive the report of the Cornwall Councillor

No report

24/164 To receive the Police Report

PCSO Relf presented the report prepared by PC Dom Husband
The St Austell and St Blazey Neighbourhood Team currently comprises of 1 Police Sargeant (PS) known as a Neighbourhood Team Leader (NTL) 5 Police Officers known as Neighbourhood Beat Managers (NBM), 4 Police Community Support Officers (PCSO) and 2 Tri-Service Safety Officers (TSSO). The Neighbourhood Inspector responsible for the St Austell and St Blazey area is currently Inspector Simon Andrews. PC Dom Husband and PCSO Graham Wade are the neighbourhood officers responsible for the St Blazey policing area which includes the Lanlivery Parish. They are assisted by TSSO Josh Harmon currently operating from Lostwithiel Fire Station. There have been a number of changes to the neighbourhood team over the past 12 months. PS Ian Chambers, the former NTL, was successful in being promoted to Inspector. His replacement PS Martin Easter has recently joined the team following 5 years as a Custody Sargent based in Newquay. Prior to this Martin was a patrol officer based out of St Austell and St Blazey for 9 years. The team had 3 new PCSO's start in early April and are currently undergoing a period of tutorship prior to being deployed into the community. There is the intention that one of the PCSO's will be deployed to the St Blazey policing area. We are currently waiting for information from the Police and Crime Commissioner in regards to funding for additional NBM'S. The team also works closely with Cornwall Council Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) Team and the ASB and housing teams working for the various social housing associations with housing stock in the area to deal with ASB and low level crime. Lanlivery crime and ASB information from March 2024 to February 2025 A total of 20 crimes were reported during this period broken down as below; Criminal damage 6, Thefts 2, Public order offences 1, Violence and sexual offences 11. There were 2 ASB incidents reported during this period. Cllr Paterson queried if the police used What3Words. This was confirmed.

24/165 To receive the report from the Tree Warden

Cllr Paterson gave his annual report

My main role is to keep an eye on the state of the hedgerows / overgrown branches and potentially dangerous trees etc. within the Parish.

Telephone lines and even electricity cables have been dramatically affected in the recent storms, however as we have all recently experienced even healthy trees and branches have fallen over and caused considerable damage. It is up to each of us in the parish to monitor such overhanging branches etc. and either speak to the landowner or bring it to my attention and I will endeavour to bring it to the attention of the relevant landowner. I will not tell the landowner who gave me the information.

Over the last two years I have to admit, the majority of roads and lanes within the Parish are reasonably kept under control by landowners. In the early part of the year, owners of hedges and banks with growing vegetation etc. are restricted by Law governing the protection of birds and wildlife during the breeding hatch season, Equally this is when the general growth of hedgerows is underway and that is when numerous branches brambles etc. stick into roads. As we should all be aware wing mirrors on cars and delivery vans can easily be damaged. The cost of replacing those mirrors or repairing scratches on the vehicles then falls on the landowner should an insurance claim be pursued. The cost of modern wing mirrors can be extremely expensive as most are controlled remotely by the driver as opposed to the old system of winding down the window and physically pulling the mirror in.

Finally, we have all experienced the increase of cyclists on our roads these days and bear in mind that should someone suffer injury due to your poor maintenance of overhanging vegetation into the road, you might be in for a substantial claim for such injury. I have read recently that scams are on the increase with cyclists claiming an insurance injury claim which they suffered according to them due to overhanging vegetation on your property but was caused by some other circumstance.

Solution: be aware - take note – and get out with the clippers.

In addition, it is part of my role to advise Cornwall Council of serious potholes which we all encounter across our daily lives within our Parish. I normally use the Fix My Street App (which by the way is available to anyone who uses a modern mobile phone) so you can also report serious potholes to the Council. When you report a pothole via the App it asks you to take a photo, and it also guides you exactly on your phone to where the location of that pothole is. You then click on that grid reference position showing on your phone, attach the photo and within several minutes you will receive an acknowledgment from the Council that your report has been received, and they will let you know the progress of that complaint in a couple of weeks' time. In the old days a couple of weeks meant two weeks. Don't hold your breath.

Potholes I am sure that due to budget restraints our Cornwall Council will have its hands full. We have seen over the past couple of years that whatever type of tar or road fill used by the Council to fill in potholes the substance is gone within 4 – 6 months. Remember if you suffer damage to your vehicle via a pothole you may be able to claim against the Council. When it rains as seen occasionally in our Parish the main danger is water filled potholes which then looks like pure water so you then you cycle or drive over it but into a deep pothole which can cause damage or injury.

It is up to each of us to report such problems to the Authorities and hopefully once a NEW Councillor representing Lanlivery is in situ we can obtain some feedback on what on earth is happening in our roads etc. We have two schools in the village, and we do have several hundred vehicles including delivery vans passing through each day.

Monitoring safe hedges and reporting potholes is a TEAM effort. Remember there is no I in TEAM.

24/166 To receive the report from the Friends of the Luxulyan Valley

Cllr Turner had supplied the following report

I am responsible for the footpath booklets which are sold in the parish church. The money is then collected and handed to the Parish Clerk. There are only two booklets left and will return them plus the £10 owing for the last ones sold. I have also asked for the footpath sign to be replaced next to the Crown Inn and opposite to the church steps. The footpath which leads from the village towards Luxulyan has been trimmed.

24/167 To receive the report from the CALC representative

No report

24/168 To receive the Thomas Bullock Report

Cllr Wright gave the annual report.

I am a trustee of the Thomas Bullock Charity representing Lanlivery Parish Council. There are five Trustees, 2 from Lanlivery Parish Council, 2 from Lostwithiel Town Council and 1 co-opted Trustee.

We had a meeting in December, and £375 was donated to 25 beneficiaries.

We also donated £100 to Lanlivery Church.

Thomas Bullock lived in Lanlivery many years ago, when he died he donated money to widows and orphans of the parish. His wishes in his will still continue today.

24/169 To receive the report from the Luxulyan Valley Partnership

Cllr Sinkins gave the annual report.

The Partnership consists of the landowners who are CC and CHT along with other interested parties such as The Friends of Luxulyan Valley along with the 4 Parish & Town Councils within the site. It is worth pointing out that although it is called the Luxulyan Valley, over half of the 200 acres or so of the Valley is within the Parish of Lanlivery.

This year the final stages of the capital project have been finished, with some new benches being added and a replacement penstock or sluice gate to the Charlestown Leat north of the viaduct to help control problems with excess water within the main part of the Valley.

The Cormac ranger continues to carry out regular inspections to ensure the leats are repaired and paths kept clear of fallen trees. Jenny also runs regular volunteer days to clear weeds etc. and if anyone is interested then details can be found on the FOLV website

A recent feasibility study has concluded that for the time being it is not viable to undertake a new hydro power project and that the old turbine cannot be economically repaired, but this will be monitored as the technology changes.

24/170 To receive the report from the Community Area Partnership

No report

24/171 Public Questions

A member of the public noted that the FixMyStreet app also allows you to report blocked storm drains and there was also a facility on the CC website.

A member of the public reported that the road was falling away down by Eden Valley; she had reported this to CC Highways.

A member of the public reported that Loving Lane was in a terrible state. Cllr Sinkins confirmed that this was on the list for resurfacing but it was not a priority.

Cllr Paterson recorded that he hoped that the new Cornwall Councillor would be proactive in dealing with potholes and other road issues in the parish.

A member of the public queried if she could help to get the new play equipment opened up; the local children and the school needed to be able to use both the equipment and the playing field. It was agreed that she would contact Kompan as a representative of the parents. It was suggested that a solicitors letter could be sent to Kompan if the situation continued.

The school had been in touch asking if they could use the playing field for PE and sports. It was proposed by Cllr Paterson, seconded Cllr Sinkins and RESOLVED that this should be permitted on a supervised basis only and with the proviso that the new play equipment was not to be used.

A member of the public asked if the minutes could be put on the notice board as had been the practice in the past. The Parish Clerk responded that it was often difficult to fit the minutes on to the board as there was insufficient space but that they were always available online.

It was confirmed that the Church was responsible for the glebe land in the parish.

The Chairman invited all present to join the Council for light refreshments following the meeting.

Meeting Closed 7.55 pm