SENNEN PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Cllr Alice Burt **Clerk: clerk@sennen-pc.gov.uk**

12/26

Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting of Sennen parish council at Sennen Churchtown Hall held on Wednesday 14th October 2026.

Cllr A Burt (chairman), Cllr A Collins (vice-chairman), Cllr G Patterson-Beedle, Cllr K Shannon, Cllr J Nicholas and Cllr J George.

Clerk Jodie Ellis, Cornwall Cllr B Clemens and two members of the public.

1. **Apologies for absence –** Apologies were received from Cllr R Puddiphatt and Cllr K Hann.
2. **Acceptance of minutes –** The minutes of the meeting held on the 9th September were unanimously agreed and signed by the chairman.
3. **Declarations of interest for items on this agenda –** Cllrs Burt and Nicholas in item 9 planning PA26/06036. Cllrs Shannon and Burt in item 16 Sennen Beach toilets.
4. **To consider any applications for dispensations under section 33 of the localism act 2011** - none received.
   Cllr Burt and Nicholas left.
5. **Public participation** – The applicant's daughter of PA26/06036 advised the application is in her Father's name as he is the owner but if planning is successful then they will be living in the house with their young family and hope to be able to use Sennen school for their children. The couple have local connections to the area and moved here in 2023 to start a family and would love to convert the building into their home.
   Cllr Burt and Nicholas returned.
6. **Chairman's comments -** Cllr Burt had nothing to add.
7. **Councillors' questions and comments -** 24-hour notice in accordance with Standing Orders advisable.
   The bus routes for children in the parish were discussed, and the issues families are facing if they do not choose their catchment school of Cape and wish to send their children to one of the Penzance schools. Families acknowledge that transport costs would need to be contributed to by the families, but the current route can take up to 1.45 hours on the way home due to the number of stops. Recent discussions between the link officer and the bus provider has resulted in a change to start times for busses of 10 minutes which is a great help. It was agreed the parish council would write to Transport for Cornwall and Dan Rogerson to highlight the issues and ask for a review to ensure no children are disadvantaged as to which school they choose to attend due to transport constraints. The service 1 bus also has issues as it is being diverted through Paul, this will also be included in the letter.
8. **Cornwall councillor's comments** – Cllr. Brian Clemens gave the following report:' Good evening, I recently attended the Bus Conference at County Hall to discuss possible changes to the way in which busses are run in the County, we have recently secured funding from central Government to look at options for the Council to either enter a bus franchising arrangement or we could choose to set up an EPA enhanced partnership arrangement with the operators we currently use to provide the service including the home to school contracts. It is never going to be perfect, whichever arrangement is chosen but would give the Council more control and hopefully provide a more efficient service, but only if more funding is a part of any long-term agreement, the EPA route was favoured by many as a more realistic and achievable solution to the current issues. Hopefully you will all have received the post from the Council regarding the announcement that another 14000 children are entitled to free school meals since we introduced auto enrolment at schools for those eligible as opposed to having to manually register, this will have a positive effect not only for the children but the pupil premium paid to schools will rise as one of the calculations used is the number of children eligible for free school meals. The Fire Service have started the next round of recruitment for both whole time and retained crews, I appreciate that some of you will be too far from the stations to make it feasible but would ask that you encourage anyone interested to attend one of the taster sessions, at St Just we are lucky that two young men have been attending drill nights to get a feel for the job and hopefully they will go on to be part of the crew. I recently had a ride out with a response officer from Penzance Police on a Friday evening shift, starting at 3pm it was an eye opener to say the least, something I shall not forget in a hurry, I won't go into too much detail now as I have been asked to speak at the next Police Liasson meeting about my experience and the way it has made me look at the situation differently when speaking at scrutiny meetings now that I have seen first-hand the problems they have to deal with on a daily basis. Budget setting is something all clerks will be looking at closely in the coming weeks as will we at the Council with a deficit to

manage there will no doubt have to be savings made across the Council, but I am confident we will present a balanced budget for scrutiny within the timeframe.

Cllr Burt and Nicholas left.

9. **Planning:**

PA26/06036 - Communication Centre Sennen Penzance - Change of use of a building to a permanently occupied dwellinghouse and associated changes to fenestration. Cllrs discussed the application and agreed the outside of the building will not be changing, and the application will support a local young family being able to live and go to school in the parish. It was RESOLVED to support the application.

Cllr Burt and Nicholas returned.

10. **Cemetery** – Cllr Patterson-Beedle confirmed he had inspected the cemetery and there were no issues to report.
11. **Public rights of way** –

118/33/3 – A hole has opened up on the path where it is crossing the stream, which has been reported to the countryside team, and a sandbag and cone have been placed over the hazard.

SNAG – volunteers have confirmed there are no dates scheduled at present. The Forest for Cornwall free trees were discussed, and it was agreed Cllrs along with the school and parents would plant eight trees on site, clearing an area first to ensure easy planting on the school field. It was also agreed to order two trees to go either side of the planter at Sea View bus stop ensuring that they are planted far enough back not to have visibility issues in years to come.

Pavement Weeds – Thanks to Cllr J Nicholas for his efforts and hard work in weeding sections of the pavement, which have made a real difference and improved the area. The quote from Cormac to clear the pavements was discussed and Cllrs agreed that we receive several complaints relating to the weeds and condition of the parish and this would be a good use of parish funds. Cllrs all agreed that it would make a real difference to the appearance of the parish. It was RESOLVED to accept Cormac's quote and ask for the work to be completed as soon as possible.

Stone chair lane – Cormac were unable to inspect the works carried out as it was not their works. Cllrs agreed that it would be money well spent to have the original contractor attend and deal with the weeds at cost of £372.00 and keep on top of the issue rather than let it escalate into a much more costly project.

The hedges on the A30 have been trimmed which has made a real difference.

Cllr Shannon kindly agreed to clean the notice boards.

12. **Clerks Report**

Neighbourhood priorities statements – some planning agents believe that there is more weight in the Neighbourhood design guide and as Cllr Hann has already put a lot of work into this it may be beneficial to complete this instead of an NPS. Item carried forward to November's agenda for discussion.

Telescope removal – the telescope will be removed early December and taken away for refurbishment to be returned in March before Easter.

Newsletter – An email has been sent to local groups asking for confirmation of contact details for the back page and also an update for their group to be included in the newsletter. Amendments have been asked for by mid-November. Cllr Burt is happy to compile the newsletter.

Citizen of the year – The clerk will arrange for a poster to be sent to the school and on the website asking for nominations by Mid November.

Christmas Tree – costs were discussed from three suppliers, and it was RESOLVED to order one from Keskeys at a cost of £220 for a 15ft Nordmann to be delivered to the school around the 27.11.26. There will be a festival of trees in the church and Cllr Shannon kindly agreed to liaise to see if the parish council could have a tree.

Remembrance Service – is 11am on the 11th November, at the Cenotaph. It was agreed to order 10 crosses as there is a wreath and 10 crosses in the store already. Cllr Clemens kindly agreed to collect. It was RESOLVED that the parish council will make a £150 donation at November's meeting.

Sennen School – One Goal post on the school field has been broken and has been reported to the school who are looking into funding to replace it. If the school are unable to, they will report back to the P.C.

13. **Payments –** It was RESOLVED to authorise the following October payments from the Unity account.

BDO LLP – External Audit fees for 2025/2026	£504.00
Crystal Clear – Toilet cleaning 22/08/26-18/09/26	£1935.31
ICT – Connect – monthly website cost	£12.00

Ian Watling – attend Sennen beach toilets and supply and fix valve and button	£101.00
T P Tree Services – Cemetery grass cutting September + Parish Grass cutting September	£684.00
Southwest Loos – Portaloo hire less deposit	£1764.00
HMRC – PAYE Month 6	£275.95
Jodie Ellis - Clerk Salary – Month 6	£1008.97
Source for Business – Toilet water and sewerage – 04.08.26-01.10.26	£1405.14
Total	**£7690.37**

14. **Financial report of the clerk –** It was RESOLVED to Approve the financial reports including Budget monitoring report from Rialtas circulated to members.
15. **Items for next month's agenda –** Newsletter, Citizen of the year, Emergency plan, Portaloo booking 2027.
16. **Amenities Sennen Beach Toilets –** Clerk advised there was no update from Cornwall Council's internal meeting. It was noted that the approved planning will expire in February 2028. Cllr Collins advised that Praa Sands toilets are now a CIC group and renovated the toilets through local businesses helping free of charge and donations. It is understood the toilets make around £5000 profit a year from donations.
17. **Time and date of the next meeting –** Wednesday 11th November 2026 at 7.00pm for the ordinary parish council meeting at Sennen Churchtown Hall.