



Redruth Civic Centre, Alma Place, Redruth, Cornwall TR15 2AT
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Town Mayor: Cllr A Biscoe

Town Clerk: C Williams

Minutes of a Meeting of the Redruth Town Council held at Redruth Civic Centre, Alma Place, Redruth on Monday 27th April 2026

Present:

Cllr A Biscoe

Cllr P Broad

Cllr E Allen

Cllr S Barnes

Cllr H Biscoe

Cllr K Cunningham

Cllr B Ellenbroek

Cllr R Jolly

Cllr A Mays

Cllr J Morrison

Cllr D Reeve

Cllr M Selwood

Cllr I Thomas

Cllr W Tremayne

Chair

In attendance:

Mrs C Williams

Mrs H Bardle

Mrs J Cockerham-Harris

Ms S Bolton

Ms C Welsh

Mr J Molloy

Town Clerk

Responsible Finance Officer (RFO)/Deputy Town Clerk(DTC)

Minute Taker

Deputy Library Officer

Strategic Projects Officer

Asset Manager

Cornwall Cllr C Donnithorne

Cornwall Cllr R Tarrant

Three CAD Heritage Architects.

There were 4 members of the public in attendance

PART I – PUBLIC SESSION

Cllr A Biscoe read the two statements from Redruth Town Council regarding respectful conduct and audio recording of the meeting for minute taking purposes. Cllr Allen and Redruth Town Council declared they were audio recording the meeting.

- 1662.1 To receive apologies for absence**
Apologies were received from Cornwall Cllr Harrison.
- 1662.2 Members to declare any disclosable pecuniary interests or non-registerable interests (including details thereof) in respect of any item(s) on this Agenda**
Cllr Jolly declared an interest in item 13 on the agenda.
- 1662.3 Public participation session – to enable members of the public to put questions to the Council relating to any items on the agenda.**
- 1662.3.1 The Town Clerk read aloud various letters from residents. The first was from Ms S. Burns, asking for the Cllrs to consider implementing an accessible changing places toilet provision in the town. The second and third letters were regarding the recent party change by Cornwall Cllr Tarrant and their concerns over this change.
- 1662.3.2 Ms C. Schuoler asked the Cllrs to consider a discussion regarding toilet accessibility for residents with disabilities and various needs. She spoke of her own experiences and difficulties, asking the Cllrs to consider this need. Cllr Tremayne gave an update regarding Gwealan Tops, clarifying the changing facilities there were private to those using the site.
- 1662.4 To receive a report from the Town Mayor and Deputy Town Mayor.**
Cllr A Biscoe and Cllr Broad gave a summary of their reports, with a comment to the YMCA housing advice services available to people of all ages.
- 1662.5 To receive a report from the divisional Cornwall Councillors.**
- 1662.5.1 Cllr Tarrant stated his recent support of projects through his community chest fund and clarified his views on his recent party change from Reform to Restore Britain. Cllr Thomas asked who would be covering Cornwall Cllr Harrison's ward in the interim of her absence, and Cllr Tarrant answered he would find out but was certain it would be covered. Cllr Barnes asked for an update regarding the works on North Street and Cllr Tarrant stated he would investigate further.
- 1662.5.2 Cllr Donnithorne summarised his report with a commendation of the recent Glyphosate petition success, and Cllr Allen commended the level of detail in the report.
- 1662.6 To confirm the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Council held on 30th March 2026 and the Extraordinary Meeting held on 13th April 2026.**
- 1662.6.1 Unanimously RESOLVED that the minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Council held on the 30th March 2026 are received and approved [Proposed by Cllr Barnes; Seconded by Cllr Broad].
- 1662.6.2 RESOLVED by Majority that the minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting held on 13th April 2026 are received and approved [Proposed by Cllr A Biscoe; Seconded by Cllr Morrison] Cllr Ellenbroek abstained.

1662.7 To receive the Minutes as reports of the following committee meetings, and to accept and approve the Recommendations and Resolutions contained within the meetings of the:

1662.7.1 Planning Committee – 13th April 2026

RESOLVED by Majority that the minutes of the Planning Committee on the 13th April 2026 are received and approved [Proposed by Cllr Thomas; Seconded by Cllr Barnes] Cllrs Allen, Morrison, and Jolly abstained.

1662.8 To consider the Town Clerk's report.

1662.8.1 The Town Clerk clarified the current situation vis devolution of the parks. Cllr Tremayne raised concerns over unknown mining complications, with the point that the Council did not have the capital to cover any unforeseen risks. Cllr Cunningham stated the parks would be an asset for food resilience and she would be willing to liaise with local organisations. The Town Clerk advised that more research could be undertaken into funding avenues and the likely demands that result from this. Cllr A Biscoe asked if a mining survey could be included in the deal, and the Town Clerk answered that all the legal conveyancing would cover all this through full due diligence before any site(s) handover. Cllr Ellenbroek stated that there were previous problems with flooding in Treskerby park, and proposed that they revisit this offer in September, once the deal had been costed and evaluated fully.

1662.8.2 RESOLVED by Majority to revisit the decision in September once all financial and responsibility implications had been evaluated, with a clear statement from Cornwall Council for plans of all sites even if the deal is refused. [Proposed Cllr Ellenbroek; Seconded Cllr H Biscoe] Cllr Thomas abstained.

1662.8.3 Cllr Ellenbroek and the Town Clerk explained the history of the previous Changing Places funding which had been awarded to the Council and had since been given back by the former Town Clerk.

1662.8.4 Unanimously RESOLVED to support investigations into provision of Changing Places provision in the town centre. [Proposed by Cllr Ellenbroek; Seconded by Cllr Broad].

1662.8.5 Unanimously RESOLVED to Support the open letter to MP's on resilience to extreme weather [Proposed by Cllr Ellenbroek; Seconded by Cllr Allen].

1662.8.6 Cllr Allen voiced her concerns over the Local Heroes awards joined with the Annual Town meeting and the Town Clerk addressed these concerns. Cllr Ellenbroek stated her community safety concerns over the Cornwall Council streetlight switch-off plan with Cllrs Allen and Thomas agreeing.

1662.8.7 The rest of the report was noted.

1662.9 To consider a report on the proposed new Grants scheme from the RFO/Deputy Town Clerk.

Cllr Allen raised concerns over the total capacity vs the amount distributed, and for the youth grants not to be applicable to the general grants in order to keep it fair,

with the addition of each group not being able to apply twice within a certain timeframe. Cllr Broad believed there should be an option for a lesser amount than asked for to be accepted, with a maximum given once a year. Cllrs Thomas and Morrison agreed with the recommendation for full funding or no funding to be given to groups, in order to promote positive engagement. Cllr Reeve asked for clarification regarding the tiered system and the DTC/RFO clarified, with a suggestion to make the system easier to understand through its marketing.

1662.9.1 Unanimously RESOLVED for the DTC/RFO to take on board comments and bring a report back to a future meeting of the Finance Committee meeting [Proposed Cllr H Biscoe; Seconded Cllr Barnes].

1662.10 To consider a report on the CCTV operation from the RFO/DTC

Cllr Allen asked for clarification regarding the division of the expenses within the budget and if the legal contracts were included in future years budgeting. The Town Clerk clarified that the contacts were a one off cost.

1662.10.1 RESOLVED by Majority to note the report [Proposed Cllr Barnes; Seconded Cllr H Biscoe] Cllr Thomas abstained.

1662.11 Youth Council update.

1662.11.1 Unanimously RESOLVED to note the report [Proposed Cllr Broad; Seconded Cllr H Biscoe].

1662.12 To receive brief verbal updates from Members as representatives on outside bodies.

Cllr Reeve stated that the Real Del Monte Twinning Association were co-hosting a talk at the Wesley building to talk about Little Cornwall in Mexico, and that anyone was welcome to attend and bring historical artefacts and ask questions. Cllr Allen stated that Rise-Up Redruth were also hosting a talk which anyone was welcome to attend.

1662.13 To consider and approve the schedule of payments.

RESOLVED by Majority that the schedule of payments are received and approved [Proposed Cllr H Biscoe; Seconded Cllr Barnes] Cllr Jolly abstained.

1662.14 To consider the following motion;

Proposer: Cllr Kim Cunningham. Seconder: Cllr Barbara Ellenbroek. Date 19th April

2026.

Motion Title: South West Water latest failures in Redruth.

- 1. "This Council notes with grave concern the systematic failure of South West Water to manage the sewage system in Cornwall. Despite record bills and government intervention, raw sewage continues to impact our environment and public health. Therefore, this Council resolves:*
- 2. To formally declare a Vote of No Confidence in South West Water.*
- 3. To sign the collective letter to the Secretary of State demanding the removal of South West*

Water's management through a Special Administration Order.

Formal Letter of No Confidence

TO: Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA)

CC: The Chief Executive Ofwat; The Leader of Cornwall Council; Cornwall's Members of Parliament.

SUBJECT: Formal Vote of No Confidence in South West Water (SWW) and Petition for Special Administration.

To the Secretary of State,

We, the undersigned Town and Parish Councils of Cornwall, representing the residents, businesses, and ecosystems of the Duchy, hereby formally issue this **Vote of No Confidence** in the management of South West Water (SWW).

We are no longer requesting "improvements" or "consultations." South West Water has failed for more than a decade to show its capability and willingness to manage our water and sewage system. We are formally petitioning the Government and Ofwat to remove SWW from the management of the Cornish sewage and water systems, and transfer the ownership and management of our sewage and water system to a publicly-owned organization, run as a public service.

Our decision is based on a systematic and catastrophic failure in the following three areas:

1. Failure of Infrastructure and Public Health

Despite Cornwall's residents paying the highest water bills in the UK, our coastline and rivers have become conduits for raw sewage. In 2025 and early 2026, we have witnessed unprecedented spill durations that have closed our beaches, impacted our tourism economy, and posed a direct threat to public health. The current management has proven incapable of maintaining a sewage system fit for the 21st century.

2. Financial Mismanagement and Breach of Public Trust

While our constituents face further bill increases this April, SWW continues to prioritise shareholder dividends and executive bonuses over essential capital investment. The "investment plans" touted by the company have repeatedly failed to yield results on the ground, leading to a total breakdown of trust between the utility provider and the Cornish people.

3. Inadequacy of Governance

It is the view of these Councils that SWW's leadership has lost the confidence of the Cornish communities and its "social licence" to operate. The repeated fines and enforcement cases from Ofwat have acted as a "cost of doing business" rather than a deterrent. We believe the company is now structurally incapable of delivering the environmental protections required by law.

Our Formal Demand:

We call upon the Government to intervene and make this situation stop at once, using powers such as those granted by the **Water (Special Measures) Act** to remove the offending company from operating in Cornwall. We demand that South West Water be placed into **Special Administration**, stripping the current management of their mandate. We call upon the Government to transition Cornish sewage and water assets into a publicly-owned organization, run as a public service, answerable to elected representatives of Cornish voters, that will prioritise the Cornish environment and its people over private profit.

Cornish rivers and seas are the lifeblood of our economy and our identity. We will no longer stand by while they are managed into decline.

We await your urgent response regarding the steps you will take to revoke SWW's licence in the Duchy.

Yours faithfully,

[Name of Council]

On behalf of the Collective Councils of Cornwall.

1662.14.1 RESOLVED by Majority to support the motion [Proposed by Cllr Cunningham, Seconded by Cllr Ellenbroek] Cllr H Biscoe abstained.

PART II – PRIVATE SESSION – Exclusion of the Press and Public

The Council is invited to pass the following resolution: - That pursuant to the provisions of the Public Bodies (Admissions to the Meetings) Act 1960, the press and public be excluded from the Meeting for the following item of business, by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted [Proposed by Cllr Ellenbroek; Seconded by Cllr H Biscoe].

1662.15 To receive a presentation from CAD Heritage Architects regards the Clocktower.

The CAD Heritage Architects gave a presentation regarding the Clocktower.

Chair