



Redruth Civic Centre, Alma Place, Redruth, Cornwall TR15 2AT

Tel No: 01209-210038 e-mail: admin@redruth-tc.gov.uk

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 29th September 2025**

Present:

Cllr A Biscoe
Cllr P Broad
Cllr E Allen
Cllr H Biscoe
Cllr K Cunningham
Cllr B Ellenbroek
Cllr R Jolly
Cllr R Major
Cllr J Morrison
Cllr M Selwood
Cllr I Thomas
Cllr W Tremayne

Chair
Deputy Chair

In attendance:

Mrs C Williams
Mrs H Bardle
Ms C Welsh
Miss K O'Dell
Cornwall Cllr R Tarrant

Town Clerk
RFO/Deputy Town Clerk
Strategic Projects Officer
Administrator

10 members of the public were also in attendance

PART I – PUBLIC SESSION

1634.1 To receive apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs Barnes and Reeve who were both attending the Labour Party Conference and Cornwall Cllrs Harrison and Donnithorne.

1634.2 Members to declare any disclosable pecuniary interests or non-registerable interests (including details thereof) in respect of any item(s) on this Agenda

None

1634.3 Public participation session – to enable members of the public to put questions to the Council relating to any items on the agenda

A member of the public explained she was speaking on behalf of a group of parents also in attendance. She wanted to inform the Town Council of an incident that occurred on the previous Friday where a small group of young people, aged 11–15, were set upon by ten older teens and adults at the site near to Kresen Kernow around 6pm when it was still light. Two of the boys, aged 14 and 15, were seriously hurt. This was a completely unprovoked attack on children who were just having fun. The older group ran off after the attack and parents called the police via 999. The police asked if the children were safe, the parents responded that they were now, and the police responded it wasn't an emergency and to report it via 101. They did this but were extremely disappointed in the police response especially with the lack of care or follow up, they did not take any witness statements, not even the following day. One of the children spent the night in A&E due to the incident. Whilst on their way home, one of the victims spotted the same group running across the road and up into the main town centre. They appeared to be 'looking for trouble' and were clearly pumped up. The police were called again and were very abrupt. It took one parent nearly all day on the Saturday to get through and when they did, they were not given any opportunity to explain what had happened. The children are now too scared to walk anywhere in the town. The member of the public wanted to ask if the response was normal procedure, and if not, why not.

The Town Clerk responded that she had been made aware of this by a couple of our councillors and expressed how sorry she was to hear about this horrendous incident and extended our shock and sympathy to all the victims and their parents. She has already contacted Louisa Brown, the Sector Inspector for Devon and Cornwall Police with concerns over how this was handled and had asked that the Police attend the meeting, however this was not possible due to staffing availability. The Town Clerk asked the parents to pass on any log numbers to her, and she would follow up. Another parent present stated that he felt the lack of police response was a failure of a duty of care to all residents of Redruth. Cllr Jolly said that she knows the young people who were attacked, and they are "good kids". She feels the police need to step up as there are two other recent similar instances she is aware of, and it needs to be stopped. Another parent pointed out that as these young people are minors, they cannot understand why police did not attend. These children are now bruised and traumatised and don't trust the authorities. Cllr Ellenbroek said that she would be raising this as an agenda item at the next Safer Towns meeting, as she sits on that committee, it is important that we discover why it is happening. Cllr Cunningham thanked Cllr Ellenbroek and added that with dashcams and ring doorbells being used more, appeals online could encourage footage to be submitted via the online 101 system. She said we don't want to get to where communities are policing themselves. Cllr Thomas said his advice would always be ring 999 if someone is being attacked or property being damaged. The Town Clerk added that there are other crimes that have been committed in Redruth, and that dynamic action is needed. One parent added that a post she put online generated the names of 4 people and some CCTV footage before police even responded.

1634.3.1 Unanimously RESOLVED that the Town Clerk write a letter to Louisa Brown, the Sector Inspector for Devon and Cornwall Police to express Redruth Town Council's concerns and offer support to the families affected. [Proposed Cllr Tremayne; Seconded Cllr Ellenbroek]

Another member of the public said that she had received a polling card regarding a referendum but had no idea what it was about and asked Members to enlighten her. Cllr Ellenbroek explained that she had been chair of the Neighbourhood Planning Development (NDP) steering group. It had started back before covid-19, which also delayed it significantly. The NDP was completed 18 months ago, and Cornwall Council have just completed the legal side so it could now go to referendum. With regards to voting, Cllr Ellenbroek said that if people agree that the NDP should influence local government planning then vote yes and if not then vote no. It is a way that the community of Redruth can protect inappropriate development in their area. The Town Clerk explained that she had not been involved in the NDP as has only been in post for the last 18 months. She said that it would help chart where development should and shouldn't happen, help steer appropriate development due to the introduction of design guides, decide what facilities are needed and where and that any development is sympathetic to the area. On the 15th October 2025, Redruth Town Council would be hosting a drop-in session between 6pm and 8pm and that anyone would be welcome to attend, and all the policies would be explained so that everyone could fully understand the NDP and why the referendum is happening. Communities without these kinds of plans are more unprotected. Cllr Selwood added that the full document is accessible via the Town Council website. The Town Clerk said there was a hard copy in the library anyone could view. We have had conversations with several neighbouring parish and town councils including Carn Brea, Illogan and Camborne. We could also use the NDP to lobby for change.

A third member of the public asked if there was a plan to get a Post Office back into Redruth town centre. He has a business that involves sending a lot of parcels and would help him to have one. Cllr A Biscoe replied that there were not any plans at the moment. The banking hub was now in place and being well used and there are post offices at Close Hill and Mt Ambrose. Cllr Broad said the Mt Ambrose one was being closed temporarily for personal reasons but would be reopening again in a few weeks. The Town Clerk added that they should complete the Resident's Survey, we have had a lot of people asking about the post office and if enough do then our position could change. It has been previously suggested that a community one could be run via the town council as we have the General Power of Competence.

Cllr A Biscoe thanked everyone who spoke and attended the public session for their time.

1634.4 To receive a report from the Town Mayor

The report was circulated prior to the meeting. Cllr H Biscoe said that if anyone goes to Illogan Parish Church, the war graves there are well worth a visit as they are immaculate and a wonderful tribute to the fallen.
The remainder of the report was noted.

1634.5 To receive correspondence:

1634.5.1 Letter regards Horizon Post Office Scandal from Falmouth Town Council

The correspondence was circulated prior to the meeting.

1634.5.1.1 Unanimously RESOLVED to send a letter to add support for accelerating full and fair compensation for those affected individuals [Proposed Cllr Ellenbroek; Seconded Cllr H Biscoe]

1634.5.2 Letter regards a call for a Cornwall Needs Budget

The correspondence was circulated prior to the meeting. Cllr Thomas suggested they write to the Chamber of Commerce. The letter was noted.

1634.5.3 Further response on Air Quality Control

The correspondence was circulated prior to the meeting. The Town Clerk said it was a prompt and interesting reply. The letter was noted.

1634.5.4 Response from Cornwall Council regards High Street Auctions Motion

The correspondence was circulated prior to the meeting. The Town Clerk said she had received a call from Seb Noble, a political journalist from the BBC who was interested in this. She then read out further correspondence she had received on the subject that afternoon. Cllr Ellenbroek said we should follow up with Cornwall Councillor Tim Dwelly on this as it is an opportunity we should take advantage of. Cllr Morrison said he would be happy to speak to the press about the motion and Cornwall Cllr Tarrant said he is the shadow portfolio holder and asked to be included in all further correspondence.

1634.5.5 Cllr Cunningham read an email from a resident of North Country requesting help with parking issues and speeding on a busy stretch of road.

Cornwall Cllr Tarrant said that the matter had not been raised with him as Divisional Member, but that he would look at the matter. The Town Clerk agreed to pass all correspondence on to him.

1634.6 To receive reports from the divisional Cornwall Councillors

The report from Cornwall Cllr Donnithorne was noted. It noted that the Post Office at Mount Ambrose will be closed temporarily for a family matter, but that the business owners are fitting a self-service parcel distribution point.

The report from Cornwall Cllr Harrison was noted.

Cornwall Cllr Tarrant gave his report to the meeting, stating that his main workload to date has been dealing with land enquiries and traffic/parking issues. Cllr H Biscoe asked about his attendance at a Planning Committee meeting where planning had been approved by Cornwall Council for a HMO on Station Hill although Redruth Town Council had opposed it.

The report was noted.

1634.7 To confirm the Minutes of the Monthly meeting of the Council held on 28th July 2025.

1634.7.1 *RESOLVED by Majority to confirm the minutes of the monthly meeting of the Council held on 28th July 2025 [Proposed Cllr H Biscoe; Seconded Cllr Thomas. Cllrs Jolly, Major, Tremayne and Selwood abstained as they had not been present at the meeting. Cllr Cunningham abstained.].*

1634.8 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:

Community Committee – 4th August 2025

1634.8.1 *RESOLVED by Majority that the minutes of the Community Committee meeting on 4th August 2025 are received, and that the Recommendations and Resolutions are accepted and approved. [Proposed Cllr Thomas; Seconded Cllr Ellenbroek].*

Planning Committee – 11th August 2025

1634.8.2 *RESOLVED by Majority that the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting on 11th August 2025 are received, and that the Recommendations and Resolutions are accepted and approved. [Proposed Cllr H Biscoe; Seconded Cllr Thomas].*

Planning Committee – 8th September 2025

1634.8.3 *RESOLVED by Majority that the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting on 8th September 2025 are received, and that the Recommendations and Resolutions are accepted and approved. [Proposed Cllr H Biscoe; Seconded Cllr Tremayne].*

1634.9 To consider a Motion; Protection of 4 Penryn Street, Redruth.

Number 4 Penryn Street is a Grade II listed building in a poor state of repair. The Motion brought by Cllrs Morrison, Allen and Jolly requested that the Council;

1. Formally requests Cornwall Council's Planning Enforcement and Conservation teams to review the condition of 4, Penryn Street.
2. Requests that Cornwall Council clarifies what action, if any, has been taken to secure and preserve the building.
3. Authorises the Town Clerk to send a formal letter or email on behalf of the Council to Cornwall Council, expressing the Council's concern and requesting urgent attention to this matter.

1634.9.1 *Unanimously RESOLVED to support the motion and for the Town Clerk to write to Cornwall Council accordingly. [Proposed Cllr Jolly; Seconded Cllr Allen].*

1634.10 To consider the Town Clerk's report

The Town Clerk summarised her report for the meeting, and requested approval for a number of matters;

1634.10.1 Devolution of Victoria Park, Trefusis Park and Strawberry Fields freehold interest. The Town Clerk reported that Cornwall Council had proposed a one-off capital payment of £40,000 in respect of any works required at all three sites being considered for

devolution. The Council discussed the proposal, stating that the amount offered was 'derisory'. Cllr Cunningham asked if the Town Clerk was aware of the amount that Cornwall Council would save by devolving the parks to the Council, and asked that the Town Clerk request the figure. Cllr H Biscoe suggested that the Town Clerk ask for a higher offer from Cornwall Council. Cllr Ellenbroek suggested that the Town Clerk requests that the Divisional Members, MP and Portfolio Holder lobbies Cornwall Council for a higher capital sum on behalf of the Council.

Unanimously RESOLVED to refuse the offer of £40,000 from Cornwall Council, and to ask for a reconsideration of a higher amount. [Proposed Cllr Allen; Seconded Cllr H Biscoe].

1634.10.2 Membership of Planning Committee

Cllr Tremayne requested that members considered the importance of the Planning Committee and Cllrs Selwood volunteered to become members and the RFO/Deputy Town Clerk stated that Cllr Barnes had also expressed an interest in re-joining the Committee.

Unanimously RESOLVED that Cllr Selwood should be appointed to the Planning Committee [Proposed Cllr Jolly; Seconded Cllr Broad].

Unanimously RESOLVED that Cllr Barnes should be appointed to the Planning Committee [Proposed Cllr A Biscoe; Seconded Cllr H Biscoe].

1634.10.3 Review of the Publication Scheme

Cllr Thomas made the observation that there was some information missing from the Publication Scheme and asked that we consider publishing 'Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)'. The Town Clerk stated that FAQ's could be included elsewhere on the Council website.

Cllr Allen stated that the current website is not up to date, that it is sometimes difficult to find information and that it is not user-friendly. Some registers of interests are not included on the website. Cllr Allen stated that all information included in the Publications Scheme should be included on the website.

Cllr Cunningham asked whether the website was searchable. The Town Clerk confirmed that the website is not searchable at present and acknowledged that it could be a lot better. A new website is being commissioned, and proposals will be brought to the Council in due course. The Town Clerk also stated that Cornwall Council maintains the register of interests.

The Town Clerk requested that Members notify the Communications Manager if there is any information missing from the website so that it can be included in the proposal.

Unanimously RESOLVED to approve the Publications Scheme once updated. [Proposed Cllr A Biscoe; Seconded Cllr H Biscoe].

1634.10.4 Redruth Town Council Grants Scheme

The Town Clerk reported that the Deputy Town Clerk/RFO would set up a working party to review the current Grants Scheme and requested that Members put themselves forward if interested. Cllrs Morrison, Thomas and Allen volunteered to join the working party. The Deputy Town Clerk/RFO will contact them in due course to arrange a meeting.

1634.10.5 Police and Crime Commissioner Funding

The Town Clerk outlined the opportunity to apply for funding of £10,000 per Parish from the Police and Crime Commissioner for Devon and Cornwall. It is suggested that the Council submits an application alongside other Councils included in Redruth's CCTV partnership (Camborne Town Council, Truro City Council and Perranzabuloe Parish Council).

The Town Clerk's report outlined a number of suggestions for ways in which any funding could be used to boost the CCTV operation, and the Town Clerk invited Members to contact herself or the Strategic Projects Officer if they had further suggestions.

Unanimously RESOLVED that the Council should submit an Expression of Interest to the Police and Crime Commissioner [Proposed Cllr Ellenbroek; Seconded Cllr A Biscoe].

1634.11 Youth Council Update

- 1634.11.1 The Town Clerk passed on an apology from the Communications Manager who was unable to attend the meeting and gave a verbal update on the activities of the Youth Council.

The Youth Council is keen to move the date of the Youth Festival in 2026 to earlier in the summer to allow a larger gap between the Festival and the International Mining and Pasty Festival in September. Cllr A Biscoe agreed that it was a very short gap, and suggested a date nearer to the end of the school summer term. Cllr Major agreed, suggesting that an earlier Youth Festival might encourage the Young People to find an activity they could continue throughout the summer.

Cllr Ellenbroek asked that the Council congratulate the Youth Council for their commitment to the Youth Festival, noting that they had been there all day, in horrible weather.

Unanimously RESOLVED to approve the report. [Proposed Cllr Ellenbroek; Seconded Cllr A Biscoe].

- 1634.12 To receive brief verbal updates from Members as representatives on outside bodies.

Community Safety Partnership

Cllr Ellenbroek has brought back information cards which include contact details to assist with a variety of situations. The cards will be available in the Library.

Redruth and District Twinning Association

Cllr Allen is holding a fundraising ceilidh in the Crypt which will include authentic Breton cuisine. Cllr Allen also reported that the Twinning Association will receive an award for its contribution to Redruth, in October.

Real del Monte Association

Cllr Jolly reported that at a recent meeting, Mr Hernandez was voted Chair, Ms Reeve elected as Secretary and Mr Garrick elected Vice Chair.

The bank account issues have now been resolved so the Association has access to the bank account again. There will be a fundraising event at St Rumon's Club.

Climate Emergency and Geothermal Group

Cllr Cunningham has attended a meeting and arranged a follow-up meeting. Cllr Cunningham will forward the formal presentation to the Town Clerk to share amongst the Members.

1634.13 To consider and approve the schedule of payments

Cllr Allen asked questions, which the Deputy Town Clerk/RFO answered as follows;

Spotify payment - £6 is a one-off payment to provide music for a silent disco at the Youth Festival

Scientific Services Ltd – a monthly payment to provide Legionella testing across six sites, each month.

1634.13.1 *Unanimously RESOLVED to approve the schedule of payments [Proposed Cllr H Biscoe; Seconded Cllr Ellenbroek].*

1634.14 To consider the Management Accounts to August 2025

The Deputy Town Clerk/RFO presented a one-page summary of the Management Accounts for five months to August 2025. As a whole the Council expenditure is slightly less than budgeted for the year to date, despite the annual salary increase being paid in July, rather than in October (when it was budgeted to be paid).

Cllr Allen raised a number of points about the changes in format between the Budget for 2025/26, the management accounts in previous years and the accounts being presented to the meeting.

The Deputy Town Clerk/RFO agreed that some changes had taken place, primarily due to the different organisational structure in 2025/26. She agreed that a more detailed review of the format of the management accounts for the remainder of the year could be presented to the Finance Committee meeting in October for consideration, and that this would include reinstatement of the full year budget information and forecast for the current year.

The Deputy Town Clerk/RFO reported that a clean audit report had been received from BDO (external auditors), which would be included on the website the next day.

Chair