

Fr Michael Brown led prayers before the meeting, former MP Ann Widdecombe was remembered in prayers. [Cornwall) Councillor Mrs. K Ewert was in the public gallery.

MINUTES of the meeting of Torpoint Town Council held on Thursday 16th July 2026 at 7.00pm in the Committee Room, 4 York Road, Torpoint.

Present: - Town Mayor (Councillor Mrs. J M Martin) Chairman, Deputy Town Mayor (Councillor Mrs. C E Goodman), Councillors Mrs. S G Bickle, S A Clark, G J Davis, Miss R A Evans BEM, Mrs. L Fellows, L Hogan, K J Moon, Mrs. J L Reeves, M G Spurling, C R Still, J Tivnan BEM and Mrs. C Webber. The Town Clerk & RFO (Clerk), the Town Council Support Officer / Assistant to the Town Clerk were also in attendance.

	ACTION
69-26 Apologies for absence: - Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Mrs. K Brownhill and L E Keise also [Cornwall] Councillor R Parsonage.	
70-26 Declarations of Interest relating to matters on the agenda: - a) To receive any declarations from Members of any registerable (5A of the Code of Conduct) and/or non-registerable (5B) interests in matters to be considered at this meeting. None. b) The Town Clerk to receive written requests for dispensations prior to the start of the meeting for consideration. None.	
71-26 Planning Applications: - a) PA26/04382 – Single storey rear and side extensions, 3 Jago Avenue, Torpoint PL11 2HG. It is resolved there are no objections or observations.	Clerk
72-26 Cornwall Council Reports: - Town Mayor (Councillor Mrs. J M Martin) thanked [Cornwall] Councillors Mrs. K Ewert and R Parsonage for their written reports. Councillor Ewert referred to the Cornwall Council Individual Decision Day [‘Determining the future of sufficient, suitable and sustainable education within Torpoint and its immediate locality’] which had taken place yesterday and to which she had virtually attended. Referring to the consultations and feedback received from the community town, also the SEND proposal paper prepared by Mrs. L Fellows [in her capacity as Director of Beat4autism], Councillor Ewert highlighted that Cabinet Member Councillor Frank had signed off the proposals. Councillor Ewert continued, the Cabinet Member has an ‘open-mind’ regarding the future of the Torpoint Nursery and Infant School building. Councillor Ewert reiterated the main reason for the amalgamation of the two schools (Torpoint Nursery and Infant School and Carbeile Junior School) is the declining birth rate and the future on-roll predictions, which are also due to decline. Referencing her report, Councillor Ewert explained the Cornwall Local Plan is set to run until 2030 and details how a new plan will need to respond. At her recent Rame Cluster meeting Neighbourhood Priority Statements had been discussed and the follow up meeting has been arranged for Monday 20 th July, Councillor Davis and Councillor Fellows are planning to attend from this council to look at how the Parishes and Torpoint might work together. Councillor Ewert encouraged engagement in the process. Councillor Ewert gave an update on the Community Highways Improvement Programme	

(CHIP) explaining the decision has been pushed back to August; however, it is looking like there is the possibility of all the agreed schemes being funded. Town Mayor (Councillor Mrs. J M Martin) recorded thanks to Councillor Ewert and Councillor Frank, who had both contacted the Mayor ahead of the Individual Decision Day meeting, asking whether she had anything further to add to the proposals. Making reference to the statement in Councillor Parsonage's report: <i>"There is a process to be followed in identifying stakeholders to take the TNIS (Torpoint Nursery and Infant School) forward into the next decade and beyond that as, your Councillor I will be championing to ensure the best use of the TNIS, for Torpoint and the community; this was agreed with Torpoint's Mayor"</i>. Councillor Evans sought clarification that a more "joined up approach" is the best way forward, with the community involved in the decision making around the future use of the building. Councillor Parsonage has already indicated he plans to arrange a stakeholder meeting about the TNIS building in due course. Councillor Moon referred to the Development and Localism committee meeting, where it had been mentioned that Councillor Parsonage plans to include everyone together [in a meeting] who has an interest in the building. In the absence of Councillor Parsonage, Councillor Spurling posited a question regarding why he challenged [at the Tamar Crossings Joint Committee meeting (TCJC)] why bus operators continue to receive free crossings, seeking an explanation. The question will be raised to Councillor Parsonage. The debate continued around motorbikes not being charged to cross the bridge when motorbikes are charged to cross the Torpoint Ferry. Councillor Tivnan, [as a former member of the TCJC] explained, it is too time consuming for motorbike riders to be stopped and then charged at the Tamar Bridge, making the comparison to the Ferry, as motorbike users are stationary for the crossing time.	
73-26 Police Activity Report Town Mayor (Councillor Mrs. J M Martin) thanked the Police for providing the statistics, the new version is very much welcomed.	
74-26 Minutes of the previous meeting: - a) It is resolved the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 18th June 2026 as circulated, are adopted.	
75-26 Matters arising from the minutes: - a) To update: request to Cornwall Council re turning street lighting back on, Goad Avenue and Trevithick Avenue: - Pursuant to minute number 56-26, Town Mayor (Councillor Mrs. J M Martin) was disappointed to feedback that the request to Cornwall Council to turn the street lighting back on in Goad Avenue and Trevithick Avenue had been turned down. Following discussion, the Clerk is directed to correspond with Cornwall Council's Portfolio Holder again maintaining the position of this council's, which is to request to have the street lighting turned back on, across the whole of the town. b) To update: Cornwall Council Individual Decision Day – 'Determining the future of sufficient, suitable and sustainable education within Torpoint and its immediate locality': - Pursuant to minute number 66-26 (e) the Town Mayor (Councillor Mrs. J M Martin) said: "Yesterday the Clerk and I virtually watched the Individual Decision Day meeting to see Councillor Hilary Frank approve the proposal to amalgamate the Nursery and Infant School with Carbeile School to create a new all through primary school. Following Councillor Frank's visit to Torpoint earlier this year she does fully understand the importance of the Albion Road	Clerk

building to the community and the meeting agreed that due consideration to its future will include the Town Council at the appropriate time. Next steps are for the requested planning approvals to be sought in order to develop the Carbeile site hopefully for a September 2027 amalgamation.

"It was rather concerning that *Cornish Stuff* (whoever they are) and *The Conservative Party* published on Facebook a press release from Councillor Parsonage before Cornwall Council Officers had informed the Head Teachers. As he has not been involved at all with the process it wasn't his news to tell, I think he may have overstepped the mark with the powers that be. What is more concerning is that he is commenting and making statements about things he clearly knows very little about or has any control over. I don't wish him any ill, however I think he may be struggling to understand his role and the appropriate protocols."

Councillor K J Moon responded to the Mayor's comment, and said "the irony now is that the secondary school senior leadership team [Torpoint Community College] is now consulting on the closure of its 6th Form provision." The Mayor replied that this is an agenda item for discussion at this meeting, Councillor Moon then said "The secondary school should consider themselves to be inept", and asked the Clerk to "record that in the minutes."

c) To update: Eliot Square Lantern works: -
Pursuant to minute number 66-26 (h) the Clerk explained the parts are on order with no firm delivery date yet.

d) To update: Bénodet Park and Skate Park renewal of lease with Cornwall Council: -
The Clerk explained the documentation has been signed off and is due for final completion in the next few days. [For the minutes the renewal of lease is complete.]

76-26 Mayor's communications: -

Town Mayor (Councillor Mrs. J M Martin) gave her Mayor's Communications.

On Saturday 20th June I was invited to open the Torpoint Mosquito Sailing Club's Open Day. It was a well-supported event on a beautiful day with quite a few people taking the opportunity to have a go on the water.

On Friday 26th June Andy and I were delighted to be guests of Col. Chris Hall for lunch at Trevol House and the passing out parade at HMS Raleigh. It is always such a lovely occasion. That evening I held my first fundraising event of this civic year, a quiz at the Comrades Club. It was a fun evening and I thank everyone who supported it in any way and helped raise £237 to kick start my Mayor's Charity Fund.

On the 29th June the Deputy Mayor and Consort attended a Civic Reception at New County Hall in Truro in honour of the Cornwall ladies winning the Gill Burns County Championship 2026 and the Cornwall men winning the Bill Beaumont County Championship 2026. The Head Coach of the Women's Team and the Lead for Women's Rugby in Cornwall is Jo Holden a former student of the Deputy Mayor.

On Friday 3rd July, along with the Deputy Mayor, I was delighted to attend the 35th anniversary celebration of CHAT. It was a lovely evening and I congratulate CHAT on their longevity and thank them for all the support they provide to our community.

On Monday 6th July a workshop was held with Torpoint Community College Governors,

Councillors and the Consultant working on the 3G Pitch Project. Thank you to those Councillors who attended. It was a positive meeting and we await the next steps. On Tuesday 7th July I was delighted to be invited to the Awards Evening at Torpoint Community College. A range of awards were presented and all recipients are to be congratulated on their achievements. Last Saturday the Deputy Mayor attended the annual awards evening of The Coppola School of Performing Arts. All students are to be congratulated on their successes and achievements. On Tuesday Andy and I visited The Parish Church of St Nun at Pelynt for the biennial Trelawney Plate Award and Service. The Lord-Lieutenant presented The Trelawney Plate to Ross Williams MBE who has devoted the last 35 years of his life to Cornwall's artistic and cultural heritage. Also yesterday, Councillor Fellows and the Diverse Advisory Panel launched the Inclusive Community Partner scheme. Congratulations to all involved with the scheme with stickers and doorbells available to businesses and community spaces helping them to become more accessible to all. This morning the Deputy Mayor and I visited the Play Tots group usually held here at the Council Chambers on a weekly basis, but this week they were having a "festival" at Bénodet. The volunteers involved are running a very welcoming space for very young children and their adults to enjoy soft play, company and a drink and biscuit. A much needed facility in Torpoint which I am pleased to support. <u>Dates for your diary</u> Torpoint Mini-Fest - Saturday 8th August from 3.00pm in Bénodet Park in aid of the Mayors Charity and the 2nd Torpoint Sea Scouts to include BBQ, Bar, children's activities and Live Music. I will be running a raffle tombola and any donation of prizes would be most welcome. Family Games Night – Saturday 5th September at the Council Chambers. Bring your own drinks and nibbles and some cash for an evening of fun for all the family. Civic Service - Sunday 20th September, formal invites out soon. Halloween Evening – Saturday 31st October, Council Chambers. Hot Buffet, dancing to a live band, tickets £25 available soon.	
77-26 Personnel Committee: It is resolved the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 29th June 2026 and the recommendations in the minutes: 5-26Pers (a) Research Employees Assistance Programmes, 6-26Pers (c) Accept Pay and Conditions Policy, 6-26Pers (d) Accept Resolution Policy, 6-26Pers (e) Accept Training, Learning and Development Policy and 6-26Pers (f) Accept Dignity at Work Policy, are adopted.	Clerk
78-26 Finance and Operations Committee: It is resolved the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 29th June 2026 and the recommendations in the minutes: - 36-26F&O (b) Adopt the updated Business Continuity Plan, 36-26F&O (d) Adopt the updated Flag Flying Policy and Protocols, 41-26F&O (b) Adopt both versions of the Budget Variance in the future, 48-26F&O (d) To give free of charge use of the Council Chambers, for CWC Solicitors to give a talk on Wills and Lasting Powers of Attorney and 50-26F&O For Councillor Mrs. C Webber to become a member of the Finance and Operations committee, are adopted.	Clerk

79-26 Development and Localism Committee It is resolved the Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 2 nd July 2026, there were no recommendations in the minutes.						
80-26 Question of which notice has been given or notice of motion None.						
81-26 Torpoint Ferry Statistics: Town Mayor (Councillor Mrs. J M Martin) thanked the Torpoint Ferry staff for the statistics. Members' minuted praise to the Ferry staff for handling the high volume of traffic due to the A38 closures, keeping a shuttle service operating. Councillor G J Davis gave praise to the Ferry team as an earlier ferry time is being run in the mornings [Monday to Friday] starting at 6.15am. However, he asked the Clerk to seek clarification whether this is an official start time, as it is not detailed on the website, and the Ferry has occasionally left slightly earlier than 6.15am.						Clerk
82-26 Financial Information: It is resolved that the revised June 2026 Budget Variance is received and adopted.						
83-26 Accounts for Payment: -						
Contact Name	Invoice Number	Total	VAT	NET	Description	
Cornwall Council - Bus Rate Chambers	802311466	1,503.00	0.00	1,503.00	Cornwall Council - Bus Rate Chambers August	
Cornwall Council - Bus Rate Library	802715760	657.00	0.00	657.00	Cornwall council - Bus Rate Library August	
Cornwall Council - Bus Rate Tennis Courts	802923069	51.00	0.00	51.00	Cornwall Council - Bus Rate Tennis Courts August	
Cornwall Council Bus Rates Room 4	802980235	63.00	0.00	63.00	Cornwall Council Bus Rates Room 4 August	
ITEC	1212426	61.09	10.18	50.91	Xerox Meter Readings	
SJ SLC	20260603	3,518.68	586.45	2,932.23	Consultancy support in accordance with the proposal and resource plan as agreed (3G pitch)	
Isla Lacey Education	57	630.00	0.00	630.00	Provision of Pilates Classes at Library & Community Hub	
MPLC	746863	484.90	80.82	404.08	MPLC Blanket Licence 2026 - 2027	
BT	Q071GZ	886.75	147.79	738.96	BT Telephone and Internet provision (quarterly)	
ACF Cleaning	25648	72.98	12.16	60.82	Laundry Services	
Biffa	522C159778	59.08	9.85	49.23	Recycling Collection Library	
Biffa	522C159779	89.46	14.91	74.55	General Waste Collection Library	
Biffa	522C159780	59.08	9.85	49.23	Recycling Collection Chambers	

Biffa	522C159781	77.62	12.94	64.68	General Waste Collection Chambers
Don Benson	77	56.00	0.00	56.00	Clock Winding St James
SMP Pipe Systems Limited	4223	368.35	61.39	306.96	Remove defective water heater and replace with new - Library & Community Hub
TOTAL		8,637.99	946.34	7,691.65	
Amazon	CC Amazon	26.46	4.41	22.05	Amazon - Hand Towels
Amazon	CC Amazon	26.46	4.41	22.05	Amazon - Hand Towels
Clifford Motors	CC R36174	41.94	6.99	34.95	Clifford Motors - Fuel for the Machinery
Amazon	CC Amazon	7.58	1.26	6.32	Amazon - AAA Batteries
XERO	CC July 2026 subscription	44.40	7.40	37.00	XERO - Monthly accounting software subscription July 2026
Amazon	CC Amazon	44.96	7.49	37.47	Amazon - Strimmer Cord
Amazon	CC Amazon	40.49	6.75	33.74	Amazon - Ergonomic Foot Rest
SAINSBURYS S/MKTS	CC R34065	27.99	4.66	23.33	SAINSBURYS S/MKTS - Cafe Supplies
SAINSBURYS S/MKTS	CC R34065	1.30	0.22	1.08	SAINSBURYS S/MKTS - Newspapers
Amazon	CC Amazon	60.99	10.16	50.83	Amazon - Galvanised Steel Primer Spray
Amazon	CC Amazon	17.99	3.00	14.99	Amazon - Washing Up Liquid
Adobe Systems Software Ireland Ltd	CC July 2026	16.64	0.00	16.64	Adobe Systems Software Ireland Ltd - Monthly subscription July 2026
Amazon	CC Amazon	59.99	10.00	49.99	Amazon - Cool Box for Staff Drink Storage - In Van - Outside Working
Amazon	CC Amazon	5.38	0.90	4.48	Amazon - Freezer Blocks
Amazon	CC Amazon	99.96	16.66	83.30	Amazon - Kernow Flags
Amazon	CC Amazon	8.34	1.39	6.95	Amazon - Black Gloss Masonry Paint
Booker	CC 0447109	353.16	58.86	294.30	Booker - Cafe supplies
Booker	CC 0447109	195.98	0.00	195.98	Booker - cafe supplies
Amazon	CC Amazon	31.24	5.21	26.03	Amazon - A Frame

SAINSBURYS S/MKTS	CC R54377	30.09	5.01	25.08	SAINSBURYS S/MKTS - Cafe Supplies
SAINSBURYS S/MKTS	CC R54377	1.30	0.22	1.08	SAINSBURYS S/MKTS - Newspapers
Amazon	CC Amazon	115.63	19.27	96.36	Amazon - Toilet Rolls
Amazon	CC Amazon	115.63	19.27	96.36	Amazon - Toilet rolls
CO-OP GROUP 380558	CC Co-op	234.48	39.08	195.40	Café Supplies and Newspapers Library
Total		1,608.38	232.62	1,375.76	
ENGIE Electricity Council Chambers	DD 2-06190154	736.07	122.68	613.39	ENGIE Electricity Council Chambers - ENGIE POWER electricity supplied to Council Chambers June 2026
ENGIE Electricity Public Conveniences	DD 2-06190152	162.06	27.01	135.05	ENGIE Electricity Public Conveniences - ENGIE POWER electricity to Public conveniences June 2026
ENGIE Electricity Cambridge Field	DD 2-06190153	55.63	9.27	46.36	ENGIE Electricity Cambridge Field - ENGIE POWER Electricity Supplied to Cambridge Field June 2026
ENGIE Electricity Library	DD 2-06190151	403.15	67.19	335.96	ENGIE Electricity Library - Electricity Supplied to Library June 2026
ENGIE Gas Library and Community Hub	DD 1-02173510	89.12	14.85	74.27	ENGIE Gas Library and Community Hub - ENGIE GAS Supplied to Library June 2026
EE	DD V02493785 758	44.30	7.38	36.92	EE - Mobile Phone Charges July 2026
Corona Energy - Chambers- Gas	DD 20192266	709.60	118.27	591.33	Corona Energy - Chambers- Gas - Gas Supplied to Chambers June 2026 - July 2026
ALD Automotive Limited t/a Ford Lease	DD July 2026	747.42	124.57	622.85	ALD Automotive Limited t/a Ford Lease - Monthly lease payment for vehicle July 2026
Everflow Water	DD 5754935	222.03	13.80	208.23	Everflow Water - Library Water Rates
Everflow Water	DD 5754935	112.26	6.56	105.70	Everflow Water - Chambers Water Rates
Everflow Water	DD 5754935	302.13	18.02	284.11	Everflow Water - Public Conveniences Water Rates - Water 18/08 - 17/09
Total		3,583.77	529.60	3,054.17	

84-26 Correspondence:

a) To note: Employer Newsletter June 2026 – Cornwall Pension Fund: -
Noted.

b) To note: No Cold Calling Zone, being implemented at Chapeldown Road, Trading Standards Team at Cornwall Council: -

Members' were pleased that Torpoint is included in the implementation in the 'No Cold Calling Zone'. However, the Clerk is directed to ask Cornwall Council to explain the criteria for Chapeldown Road to be selected, mentioning other roads in the town which have had residents' who have been affected by Cold Callers.

c) To note: CALC NEWS BULLETIN 1/7/2026 – CALC: -
Noted.

d) To consider: Application for free of charge use (retrospective) for one off usage Torpoint Under 8s Football Team: -

It is **resolved** to grant retrospective free of charge use for the one off use of Bénodet Park to Torpoint Under 8s Football Team.

e) To consider: Future of Sixth Form Provision – Torpoint Community College, proposal documentation and feedback can be submitted via: [Future of Sixth Form Provision - Torpoint Community College / Let's Talk Cornwall](#): -

Town Mayor (Councillor Mrs. J M Martin) introduced the agenda item, highlighting this is an opportunity for the Town Council to give feedback of the consultation, as well as reminding members that individuals can also feedback.

It is **resolved** to complete the online consultation, giving this feedback:

Torpoint Town Council does NOT support the proposed decision to permanently discontinue Torpoint Community College's post 16 provision.

The following observations were made: -

1 – Discontinuing post 16 provision will deter families from moving into Torpoint as this will reduce the range of available education opportunities.

2 – This proposal directly contradicts the decision taken at Cornwall Council's Individual Decision Day (Wednesday 15th July) titled 'Determining the future of sufficient, suitable and sustainable education within Torpoint and its immediate locality' to merge Torpoint Nursery and Infant School with Carbeile Junior School.

3 – The Torpoint community fought long and hard to secure the delivery of the dedicated post 16 provision at the College.

4 – Removal of the provision will mean that students from Torpoint and the wider Rame Peninsula will have to travel to either Plymouth, Bodmin, Liskeard, Saltash or further afield to have access to the similar provision. Journey times exceed an hour each way to reach these locations. Extra travel distance will incur extra costs to families.

5 – Travelling to study impacts on those students who are less confident and becomes a barrier to learning as options are subsequently limited.

6 – Has Torpoint Community College Governing Body looked at bridging the gap in student numbers by forging links with Plymouth and neighbouring towns to encourage students or link provision across sites and have other qualifications pathways been explored?

7 - Has Torpoint Community College Governing Body considered the long term impact on the community of Torpoint and the wider Rame Peninsula should this proposal proceed? Did the senior leadership team offer any alternative solutions before presenting this as a 'fait accompli'?

f) To consider: Community Sponsorship Opportunity | Torpoint Community College Art Project: -

Town Mayor (Councillor Mrs. J M Martin) introduced the agenda item, reminding all members

Clerk

Clerk

Clerk

that they may wish to individually financially support this project. Following consideration, it is **resolved** to delegate to the Clerk to correspond with E Foster-Gandey, requesting completion of the grant application form; upon receipt and confirmation that conditions will be met, this council will award £100 grant funding towards the Torpoint Community College Art project, *Aprons of Work: Voices of Value*.

g) To note: UK Town of Culture 2028 Expression of Interest Application Outcome - DCMS UK Town of Culture team: -

Town Mayor (Councillor Mrs. J M Martin) introduced the agenda item, it is disappointing that our application has not been selected for the shortlist however there had been 398 applications, with the panel selecting 15 for the shortlist. Thanks were recorded in the minutes to Jonny Birkett and everyone else who participated in the submission of the expression of interest to the UK Town of Culture 2028 competition.

85-26 Reports:

a) To receive: Torpoint Town Partnership (TTP) update.

Deputy Mayor (Councillor Mrs. C E Goodman) gave a summary of the recent meeting, held on Tuesday 14th July. A report from the Treasurer was given. The diary dates were updated with additional events being planned. Councillor Tivnan reminded the Clerk to book St. John Ambulance for Remembrance Parade and Service, as there are additional requirements of St John Ambulance for this event.

Christmas celebrations were discussed again, with other opportunities for children at the Christmas lights switch on event being discussed, this included the suggestion of 'The Grinch' being in Fore Street. At the meeting Councillor Fellows explained that CHAT has offered the use of CHATLINK/Macey Street for a sensory space. Councillor Fellows had put together and circulated a paper regarding instructions on how to make and then decorate a Christmas wreath or swag, to be mounted on lamp posts. Katie-Marie Martin is going to set up dedicated social media pages for Christmas in Torpoint and has also offered with production of any posters for future events. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 18th August, 7.00pm, all are invited to attend.

b) To receive: Town Team Project Board (TTPB) update.

No further update, likely the next meeting will be scheduled for early in September.

c) To receive: Reports from delegates to outside bodies.

i) Torpoint Archives & Heritage Centre – June 2026: - Noted. Thank you to Torpoint Archives and Heritage Centre for the report.

ii) Councillor C R Still, on behalf of Friends of Thanckes Park, from Monday 27th July and for five weeks during the Summer holiday's from 3.00pm to 5.00pm there is an event being run at Thanckes Park with Rooted Futures and Beat4Autism, called Micro Adventures.

On 6th August, from 7.00pm, a Quiz night is being planned, to be held at Torpoint AFC.

iii) Deputy Mayor (Councillor Mrs. C E Goodman) explained the Rame Peninsula Public Transport Users Group was recently postponed due to the hot weather, a provisional date for the rearranged AGM is being considered: Tuesday 8th September 6.00pm at Freathy Village Hall.

iv) Councillor G J Davis reported having attended recently attended the Cornwall Area Partnership (CAP) meeting with Councillor Parsonage. Planning reforms were discussed, Highways gave a presentation on the A38 Liskeard to Trerulefoot Safety Improvement Proposals and a written update had been provided from the Chief Officer at Tamar Crossings the notes of the meeting and presentation will be circulated by the Clerk on receipt.

v) Councillor Mrs. S Bickle explained that along with Councillor Mrs. K Brownhill, a free morning breakfast for children aged 16 and under, was being offered here for five Monday mornings in the Summer holidays for the first time, to see if it is a success.

86-26 Date of next Meeting: Thursday 20 th August 2026.	
Meeting closed at 8:28pm Town Mayor	