

DRAFT MINUTES

At a future meeting the council will consider the accuracy of these minutes, so they may be subject to change. Please check the minutes to that meeting to confirm whether or not they have been amended

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF FOWEY TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 8th APRIL 2026 AT 7.00pm IN PAVILION HOUSE, FOWEY

25/202 Present

The Mayor, Cllr Mrs L Simms
Councillors: Cllr Mrs F Day, Cllr A Dellow, Cllr I Fairweather
Cllr C Gibbon, Cllr Ms K Longman

In Attendance

The Town Clerk, Sally Vincent

25/203 Apologies

Cornwall Cllr I Wilson

25/204 Declaration of Interests

- α. Pecuniary – None.
- β. Non Registerable – None
- χ. Dispensations – None.

25/205 Public Participation & Questions

None

25/206 Minutes of the Meeting held on 17th March 2026

It was proposed by Cllr Gibbon, seconded Cllr Dellow and RESOLVED that the minutes be confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

25/207 Matters Arising not on the Agenda (for report only)

- OGS Garden. Ongoing.
- Squires Field Car Park. Cllr Fairweather would try to get a quote for a permeable surface
- Town of Culture. Cllr Fairweather gave the following report. The Expression of Interest has been submitted by Rachel Roberts. I collaborated on this document with Rachel in so far as reading through several drafts and offering advice and comment. The document is impressive and gives a good account of why we should be short listed to the next stage. It has already generated much discussion amongst the community and promoted the development of ideas to move forward on. Fingers crossed when the results for this stage are announced later in the Spring. I attended the Fowey Networking Event at FRYC 2nd April 2026: I attended this partly in my business role and as a member of the FTC. I answered some questions regarding the Town Councils support for the Town of Culture bid which seemed to be enthusiastically received by all those present.
- Town Hall. Cllr Fairweather gave the following report. I met with James Coggan who had contacted me. He showed me the problems with the cast iron guttering to the roof which has fallen off in places and is now saturating the walls leading to damp ingress and a more rapid decline in the structure. I noted that the guttering had been replaced by plastic guttering which I expect is not adequate to satisfy the Listed Building status required. In my opinion we need to move quickly to make the remaining guttering safe - ideally replace all the guttering and downpipes with conservation standard cast aluminium and replace and redecorate the fascia

boards. This will necessitate scaffolding around the building, and therefore the roof should be inspected and serviced as required as well.

- FTC Energy Supply. Myriam to be asked to chase up the installation of the new meter in Pavilion House
- Emergency Plan. Cllr Longman had circulated a first draft for information but expressed concern that the Plan could become too complex and noted that the Cornwall Council template suggests a lot of possibly unnecessary detail. The Town Clerk suggested that the Fowey Plan could possibly simply contain links to the Cornwall Council Emergency Plan in respect of actions not just applicable to Fowey parish.
- Roll of Honour. Cllr Fairweather gave the following report. The War Memorials Trust have responded to our initial application. The further Grants Application Form is a very protracted document that I am still getting my head around. They require all the quotes for work to be submitted with the form and I am still organising those.

25/208 To Receive and note the Minutes (if any) of FTC Committees

Planning – minutes noted

Finance – no report

Environment – no report

25/209 Accounts for Approval

It was proposed by Cllr Longman, seconded Cllr Fairweather and RESOLVED that accounts to the value of £17,957.07 be approved.

25/210 Correspondence

Correspondence was left ‘on the table’ for Councillors attention.

25/211 Resolutions from Councillors

Cllr Fairweather had registered a resolution ‘*FTC submits a FoI request to Cornwall to ascertain if CC sold, rather than gifted, Alldays Fields to the National Trust and, if so, the price paid.*’ However, the Town Clerk reported that Cllr Wilson had already confirmed that the Fields were sold to the National Trust for £75,000 in July 2025. Consequently the resolution was not tabled but Cllr Fairweather undertook to establish if any conditions were attached to the sale.

25/212 To Receive the Mayor’s Report

The Mayor reported:

Work on the MUGA to fit soft closers on the gates has been going on over the Easter weekend. I expect that the keys will be returned to me today and that the MUGA will now be re-opened. After Storm Goretti I was contacted by an elderly member of the community who had been left with debris from a dilapidated shed which had been blown into her garden from a nearby empty property. She was worried that it might happen again and had been unable to find the owner of the property. I am glad to say that with help from a number of people the owner was eventually found and I recently had a phone call from the lady saying the debris and shed had been removed.

I am pleased to say that Dr Gwen Maggs from Cornwall Wildlife Trust has agreed to speak at the Annual Parish Meeting next week about the Tor to Shore project. Thanks to Cllr Fairweather for arranging this.

25/213 To Receive the Town Clerk’s Report

The Town Clerk reported:

- Polruan Ferry Company has agreed to cancel the invoice for the recent repairs to the TQ steps
- Champagne Chorus will be singing on the quay on 26th July and 1st August
- Gary A'Lee has looked at the damaged floor inside the Town Hall door and I have authorized urgent repair. He has also looked at the work needed to the door but this is not so urgent and can be left until after the summer season.
- I have ordered the seven new seats for the Town Quay
- KOP have asked if they can have outside seating on the quay this summer and RBL have asked if they can have additional space. Members discussed this but concluded that both requests should be refused as the additional seating areas permitted on the quay during Covid had resulted in very negative feedback from the public as people felt their access to the quay was being unfairly restricted.
- I received a complaint about raw sewage leaking on to an area adjacent to Readymoney car park. I reported this to SW Water and they responded immediately; apparently it was caused by root ingress onto an unmapped drain cover.
- I have received the business rate demands for the permit parking spaces in the town controlled by FTC and they have increased from last year. Members agreed that the cost of a permit space should increase to £780.00 plus vat reflect this

25/214 To Receive the Report from the Cornwall Councillor – Cllr I Wilson

No report:

25/215 Election of Mayor Elect 2026/2027

The Town Clerk confirmed that she had received one nomination by the cut-off date. Cllr Day proposed, Cllr Longman seconded and it was RESOLVED that Cllr Simms should serve as Mayor for the Civic Year 2026/2027

25/216 Election of Deputy Mayor for the Civic Year 2026/2027

The Town Clerk confirmed that she had not received any nominations by the cut-off date. It was agreed that the vacancy should be considered again at the Annual Meeting of the Council.

25/217 Town Quay

Cllr Gibbon reported he had arranged for a pro-forma invoice to be sent to the Town Clerk regarding the production of a scope of works. In the meantime he had noted that the steps had deteriorated further.

25/218 Main Car Park Toilets

The Town Clerk reported that the devolution had completed and she had met with Cormac to read the meters and collect the keys. However, a few problems had been encountered

1. Cormac use a set of Master keys for all the toilets they clean in Cornwall so they are arranging for the locks to be changed
2. A water meter to the right of the property had been read but there was a second meter to the left and it was not obvious what supply this meter related to
3. It had not been possible to get a reading from the electric meter as the display was changing frequently and randomly
4. CC had removed the equipment for the Pay & Display machines to the left of the building as they were in the space transferred to FTC (and also had never been used) but there was now no delineation between FTC and CC property, It was likely that this would result in

confusion as to which parking spaces were FTC's and where the disabled parking provision ended.

5. KP Cabs now had access to the toilets and will look after them and open them during the hours the Town Bus is running. KP Cabs have agreed to undertake an initial deep clean including repainting as necessary, supply consumables and keep the premises clean. Cllr Gibbon queried if there was a formal contract in place covering this. The Town Clerk confirmed that there was not, it was currently simply a verbal agreement. Cllr discussed this issue at some length but concluded that it would not be appropriate to formalise anything at this stage as KP Cabs were simply doing the work on a voluntary basis. However, the Town Clerk was instructed to ascertain if there were any insurance implications with this arrangement.

25/219 Annual Parish Meeting

The speaker had been confirmed and arrangements for the refreshments were all in hand.

25/220 Reports from Councillors – *at the discretion of the Mayor and including decisions on matters that the Mayor considers to be urgent*

Cllr Fairweather reported that he had inspected the Town Hall and a considerable amount of maintenance work was required. In particular the guttering and downpipes needed renewing and the roof must be inspected. This work would clearly necessitate scaffolding to be erected and Cllr Fairweather agreed to obtain quotes for both the guttering/downpipes and scaffold.

Cllr Day reported that there was a lot of debris on the steps leading to Readmoney beach. The Town Clerk confirmed that the left hand side of the steps belonged to FTC but she had been advised by Cornwall Council that the ownership of the right hand side of the steps was unclear and not recorded on the Land Registry. Cllr Fairweather suggested that given that the debris was largely wood and seaweed a chipper and flatbed truck could be used to clear it up and deliver it to the allotments. Cllr Day agreed to investigate a price to do this work.

Cllr Day reminded the meeting that a request for a grant towards the cost of sending a child/children on the Binic trip had been received. The Town Clerk advised members that FTC no longer enjoys the General Power of Competence as insufficient people had stood for election in 2025 so if they wished to consider this request they would have to use the power of S137 of the Local Government Act 1972. The Act allows councils to incur expenditure for purposes that benefit their community where no other specific statutory power is available. Spending under this power for 2026/2027 is capped at £11.60 per elector and any funds allocated must benefit the community and must be proportional to the cost. Before incurring expenditure members must be satisfied that it is justified and there is a direct benefit to the area or part of the area or to some or all of the inhabitants. The use of the term 'some' means that it cannot be used to benefit a single individual. Any funds allocated using this power must be accounted for individually and separately for audit purposes and if the benefit to the area is not commensurate with the expenditure it can be challenged by the auditor or by an objector at audit.

Notwithstanding these restrictions members agreed that they would like to help if possible and Cllr Day agreed to contact Ken to see if there were any children living in the parish who may be in particular difficulty with funding for the trip.

Date of Next Meeting Annual Meeting of the Council, Wednesday 20th May 2026

Meeting Closed 8.24pm

