



The Annual Parish Meeting of St Dennis Parish Council Thursday 23rd April 2026

Those present: - Cllr Clarke (Chairman), Cllr Burnett (Vice Chair), Cllr Kelsey, Cllr A Griffin, Cllr J Griffin, Lynn Clarke- Clerk, Tamsyn Moore – Senior Office Administrator, Cornwall Cllr Dick Cole, Police Sgt Martin Easter, 6 representatives for various organisations and businesses, and 4 members of the public.

1. Introduction and Welcome

Cllr J Clarke (Chair) welcomed and thanked those present for attending. Favouritism

2. Apologies

None

4. To approve Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on the 22nd May 2025.

The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on the 22nd May were approved. Proposed seconded all present in favour.

5. Short Report from Cornwall Councillor Mr Dick Cole

CC Cole presented a written report a copy can be found using this [link](#).

CC Cole highlighted a few points from the report such as:

Seeking views of residents to enable better support during the Cornish Lithium Consultations.

Representation at the upcoming hearing for Trevice Solar Farm.

The proposed resurfacing of various sections of highway including Carne Hill, Fore Street, and Trelavour Road scheduled in for August 2026.

The transfer of Hall Road play area to the Parish Council.

CC Cole invited questions from those present.

The new section of traffic calming at the top of Hendra Road was raised, concerns were put forward for potential accidents as priorities for drivers are not stipulated and parking behind the built out section is blocking visibility for drivers. It was highlighted that drivers are speeding up to get through this section and there is a high potential for accidents to occur due to the existing layout.

CC Cole advised that these issues have been fed back to Cornwall Council. The design was supposed to slow traffic down but it was agreed that in this instance it has not worked. However, there is funding available for a project to install double yellow lines in various areas throughout the village, the traffic calming on Hendra Road will be considered within this package of works. Public consultation on the proposals will be rolled out soon.

Cllr Clarke raised concerns with the two way traffic on the section of Fore Street between ClayTAWC and the Spar Shop. Highlighting that the road is no longer suitable for two way traffic, and the increased potential for accidents due to a lack of pavement. Informing that this evening on the way to the meeting Cllr Clarke could not get through due to parked vehicles and vehicles traveling in the opposite direction causing her to reverse on several occasions which was difficult and dangerous with pedestrians also on the road.

A member of the public enquired about the data being collected from the mobile speed signage, asking if additional readings could be gathered from the bottom of Roabartes Road near the green as the speed of traffic in this area was concerning. They had recently experienced a vehicle travelling at excessive speed nearly not making the bend.

It was explained that the data from the speed signs is being gathered to evidence the need for further actions to reduce speeding. Reports from the signage are being shared with the public and other stakeholders.

CC Cole informed that Cornwall Council have a 20 MPH promise which involved studying the data to identify areas where physical works would improve road safety. Unfortunately there is not a budget in place to support these plans at this point in time.

Cllr Clarke thanked CC Cole for his assistance to the Parish Council over the past year.

6. A report from the Police on crime statistics over the past year.

Police Sgt Martin Easter gave the following report:

St Dennis Parish Council AGM 2025-26 Report

At the end of the 2025 financial year the St Austell and St Blazey Neighbourhood Team currently comprises of 1 Police Sergeant (PS) known as a Neighbourhood Team Leader (NTL) 7 Police Officers known as Neighbourhood Beat Managers (NBM), 7 Police Community Support Officers (PCSO) and 2 Tri-Service Safety Officers (TSSO).

The Neighbourhood Inspector responsible for the St Austell area is currently Inspector Matt Trevivian. The Neighbourhood Team Leader (NTL) is PS Martin Easter. PC Steph Tann, PC Danielle Moore Dunstan, PC Yasmin Vokes, PCSO Alison Relf, PCSO Laura Putt and PCSO Steve Tibbles are the neighbourhood officers responsible the parishes outside of St Austell. They are assisted by TSSO Lewis Rosewell currently operating from St Dennis Fire Station.

The team also works closely with Cornwall Council Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) case worker Annabelle Lamy and the ASB and housing teams working for the various social housing associations with housing stock in the area to deal with ASB and low level crime.

There have been several changes to the neighbourhood team over the past 12 months. 3 PCSO's joined the team in April 2025 and were successful in achieving independent status following a period of tutorship. They have continued to develop their skills and knowledge in neighbourhood policing and establishing good working relationships with residents and community stakeholders.

PC Chris Wallbank, PC Ben Jones and PC Jamie Martin joined the team in March and April 2026 as NBM's for St Austell town and St Blazey respectively. They also assist in delivering neighbourhood policing outside of St Austell and St Blazey. An additional NTL will be joining the team in May 2026.

NHT activities

We continue to address and manage ASB and crime related to ASB in the community.

We recognise ongoing community concerns in regarding nuisance vehicles both on and off the road We have completed operations targeting nuisance riders in the Clay Villages and have seized a number of illegal motorcycles, electric pedal cycles and e scooters. We have also issued Section 59 warnings to drivers and riders who have been identified as driving or riding vehicles in an anti-social manner.

St Dennis crime information from April 2025 to March 2026

A total of 177 crimes were reported during this period broken down as below;

Type	Number
Stalking and harassment	44
Assaults	51
Criminal damage and arson	24
Sexual offences	15
Public order offences	12
Miscellaneous theft offences	8
Burglary offences	8
Miscellaneous crimes against the state	5
Vehicle offences	5
Arson	2
Possession of weapons offences	2
Shoplifting offences	1

There has been an increase in the number of harassment offences recorded due to how such offences are now recorded, especially regarding reported neighbour disputes. These may have been previously recorded as incidents of ASB. If information is reported where an individual allegedly engages in a course of conduct (more than one occasion) and that conduct allegedly causes alarm or distress, it is now recorded as a criminal offence of harassment.

A representative from Cornish Lithium raised concerns with PS Easter regarding young people accessing the quarry area, these incidents have been reported to the police but they raised concerns that there seems to be a lack of follow up in the reports.

An example was provided that trees planted around operations have been pulled out, re-planted and pulled out again. Several young people have been in the quarry near the edges throwing stones, it was highlighted that the main concern for those trespassing was for their safety as this is a working quarry and the dangers in this area are significant.

PS Easter advised that trespass is very difficult to police. If the people doing this could be identified then the police can speak with them but there are no guarantees.

Another representative raised concerns with this escalating over the summer following several recent incidents near the offices. Asking if there is something that could be considered that may alleviate the issue, such as a youth based projects. They went on to advise that some funding could potentially be sourced for such a venture through Cornish Lithium.

Cllr Edmunds asked about the crime numbers, seeking clarification on how these are calculated.

PS Easter informed that these are all of the reports that have been received by the police via all of the methods of reporting and clarified that they are not based on prosecutions.

Cllr Clake raised a question about the legality of motorised scooters seeking clarification about the legality of their use.

PS Easter advised that some are legal and some are not. Informing that several illegal versions have been confiscated in the area. Some are classed as a motorised vehicle and would need to have the appropriate licenses and documentation. Some can be used on private land without any stipulations.

Cllr Clarke went on to inform that there have been several issues with the use of these in the playing field. Advising that they are tearing up the grass and should not be there.

A member of the public highlighted that the playing field has a skate park that would be suitable for their use.

Clarification was given on this point as the use where damage is being caused is in the children's play area where it is not appropriate for the use of any motorised or non-motorised equipment.

7. A report from grant recipients for 2024 – 2025

A written report was provided from:

- The Community Fireworks Committee.

This were read to those present and contained information on how the grant has been utilised all of the above expressing thanks for the donations received.

8. Invitation to the public to raise any matters of interest or concerns.

No matters were raised by members of the public.

9. Chair's Annual Report

I would firstly like to thank my fellow Councillors for their support throughout the last year. Also I thank our Clerk and our Administrators for their support within the office and our 3 maintenance workers their unstinting support out and about in the Parish. Of course I cannot leave out Dick Cole our Cornwall Cllr who works extremely hard on our behalf. Many thanks to you all.

With only six Councillors at present, this means that we are all covering more meetings, both with the Parish Council and on External Bodies, and managing any issues that may occur in the Parish. WE currently have 5 spaces on the Parish Council we are always looking for more members to join us – So if you feel that you have something to give to the Parish Council please come along and speak to us.

Two of the success stories this year have been:-

The new speed signs which are moved around the Parish at regular intervals by our staff – these are showing drivers, who take notice of them, exactly what speed they are doing and if they are exceeding the restricted limits. Reports are read every month and are emailed to Councillors. Some interesting results are found.

Another success story is the Hall Road play area – this has now been handed over to the Parish Council. Currently we are meeting with play equipment suppliers and very soon we will be applying for funding to re-vamp this area. This will, hopefully, make a lot of difference to the children and their parents in the Hall Road area. It should give them a safe area to play without going down to the main recreation grounds.

There has been a lot more going on within the Parish – too many to mention separately.

As normal, there are the complaints regularly reported into the Parish office – pot holes, rubbish, dog fouling and anti-social behaviour. Most of these issues are forwarded on to the relevant services to be dealt with appropriately.

My main vote of thanks goes to yourselves for taking the time to join us this evening and to listen to what you parish council are doing for you. Thankyou.

8. Short Reports from the Committees (Planning, Cemetery, Playing Field and Education Grants)

Community Grants 2025 - 2026

Applications received: 5 applications received in 2024-25, which included funds towards costs for the community fireworks display, a Darts Tournament for the under 18', a grant for an award and equipment for the Carnival Committee, a grant to the Working Men's Club to help refurbish the games area, the purchase of a defibrillator for a local community fund, and a grant to ClayTAWC for the purchase of equipment for their holiday activities project.

Awarded for the year: £2644.93

Cemetery 2025-2026

Interments Garden of rest: 12
 Interments Grave space: 8
 Plots Purchased: 11 6 GOR 5 Burial
 EROB Transfers 8
 Income: £13,090.00
 Expenditure excluding wages: £11273.45

The above figure does not include 2 new memorial benches purchased in 2025-2026 but paid in April 2026 at a cost of £969 + VAT.

This includes the purchase of a bollard to alleviate access issues for the council to the area and the purchase of a replacement bench, installed by our staff. The 5 yearly memorial testing was undertaken.

Amenities including footpaths

Income: £2530.12
 Expenditure: £22741.45

Which includes the £1110.12 for the Christmas tree lighting event and two litter picks held in this year. £1795.50 for the purchase of two replacement benches, £14459.02 on the purchase of mobile speed signs and the post installation costs a grant for £10640 was received towards this cost from St Dennis & Nanpean Community Trust. Reports from these signs are being placed on the website for members of the public.

Public Toilets

Expenditure: £7022.74

Playing Field

General expenditure: £24907.06
 Income from PC £18811
 Bank Balance PFT £ 8743.43

This includes ground clearance at Penn-y-Darn at £2940, bank repairs due to subsidence caused by people undermining the fencing at a cost of £2500.00, wall repairs at £6850.00. play area. The boundary trees have been reduced in height and various repairs have been undertaken to equipment including new seat and

swing unit for the single point swing, new panels for the multi climb unit repairs undertaken to the zip wire and replacement fence panels installed.

Education Grants

Applications received: 29
 Applications approved: 24 (5 applications are still being processed)
 Refused or withdrawn: 0
 Total awarded: £20865.75
 Total awarded to date: £144724.73
 Administration costs £ 3053.39
 Bank Balance as of 31st March: £91917.48
 An additional £1485.14 was paid in April 2026 payment run, this is not included in the financial figures above.

Planning

Applications received: 17
 Agreed: 13
 Objected to: 3
 One application no decision was made.

Financial

Total Income: £204108.58
 Total Expenditure: £223576.84

Bank Balances as at 31st March 2026

Current: £167140.36
 Saver: £126095.95
 Unity Current £9909.10
 Unity Saver £74421.46
 Petty Cash £96.03
 Cash in Hand £290.00
 Unpresented: £399.45
 Total: £478214.13

Ear Marked Reserves Year End 2024-2025

Inclusive of the Playing Field Trust	Opening		25-26		Closing
	Balances	Additions	Releases	Re-alloc.	Balances
	01/04/2025				at 31/03/26
EARMARKED RESERVES					
Play equipment & Fencing	16,920	6,000	-11,350		11,570

