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Launceston Town Council
The Town Hall
Launceston
Cornwall PL15 7AR

MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING
held on TUESDAY 27 JANUARY 2026 at 7.00pm in the Town Hall

PRESENT Cllrs Conway (Deputy Mayor), Anston-Race, Bullen, Gordon, Harris, Heaton, Hogan, Lankston, O'Brien, Soanes, Tremain and Young
In attendance: Cornwall Cllr Dennis
Christopher Drake (Town Clerk)
Helen Gribble (RFO)
Martin Cornish (Estates and Properties Manager)

In the absence of the Mayor, Cllr Conway chaired the meeting

- 2601/23 Apologies for absence**
Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Gilbert (Mayor), Bailey and Green and Cornwall Cllr Paynter
- 2601/24 Declarations of Interest**
There were no declarations of interest
- 2601/25 Public Representation Session**
There were no representations made
- 2601/26 To confirm and sign the Minutes of the last meeting, previously circulated**
It was **resolved** to confirm and sign the minutes previously circulated;
(i) Minutes of the Meeting of Council held on Tuesday 16 December 2025 at 7.00pm
- 2601/27 To receive and adopt the minutes of committees and sub-committees, previously circulated**
It was **resolved** to receive and adopt the minutes of the following committees and sub committees:
(i) Estates and Properties held on Thursday 18 December 2025 at 10.00am
(ii) Library, Arts, Business and Information held on Tuesday 6 January 2026 at 7.00pm
(iii) Finance and General Purposes held on Wednesday 14 January 2026 at 7.00pm
- *The minutes of the Planning and Economic Development held on Thursday 18 December 2025 at 7.00pm were omitted from the agenda pack and so could not be considered*
- 2601/28 Reports from Cornwall Councillors**
Cornwall Cllr Dennis provided an update on the development plans for the Link Road and advised that works on the consented housing scheme were ongoing, and contracts were being finalised for infrastructure implementation. Cllr Dennis gave details of the tourism summit to discuss the Cornwall visitor economy and for a replacement for Visit Cornwall, with the aim to make Cornwall a year round visitor attraction.
Cllr Dennis also advised that there was no further update regarding the application for a zoo at Polson and that the works at Race Hill were awaiting the submission of the landowners report

Cllr Conway requested that the Launceston VIC be included in future discussions regarding Cornwall tourism

Cllr Tremain spoke about the Cornwall Council budget and in particular the fact that investment was being made in many towns but with the exclusion of East Cornwall and asked what could be done about this matter. He also stated that Newquay airport should not be funded by local residents. **Cllr Dennis** agreed that the area needed investment and that he was working on this and that he would raise the point made in regards to Newquay airport

2601/29

Reports and Questions from Town Councillors

Cllr Harris provided an update on the Cornwall Association of Larger Councils (CALC) meeting and it was agreed to invite Cllr Sarah Preece, Cabinet Member for Tourism, Localism and Planning to visit Launceston. Cllr Harris also spoke about the fact that the second homes levy was deducted from other income received from the Government

Cllr Heaton spoke about the poor condition of a footpath leading to Coronation Park and that this had now been reported to Cornwall Highways who would undertake repairs. Cllr Heaton also provided an update from the Patient Participation Group (PPG) AGM held on 19 January and spoke of how continuity in services is important in the amalgamation of services and the new South West Clusters. The medical centre is working well and has a number of new staff however the dispensary volumes have nearly doubled. Outreach sessions are being planned locally to provide support for the new online forms system and work is ongoing with local pharmacies.

Cllr Soanes stated that the pavements in the town centre were covered in moss and this made them very slippery and that action needed to be taken

2601/30

Report from the Town Mayor and Deputy Mayor

The Mayor provided an update on the Mayoral Engagements

2601/31

Report from the Town Clerk

Members considered Report 04/26 concerning the above (previously circulated)

It was **resolved** that;

- i) the update of the library hub building and the process of producing a tender for the required works be noted
- ii) the update regarding Lawrence House be noted
- iii) the details regarding the grounds compound be noted
- iv) the update regarding the installation of play equipment at Priory Park be noted and officers investigate the wear of the surface beneath the fitness equipment
- v) the update on works on site at the Town Hall be noted and officers seek details regarding the installation of solar panels at Council owned buildings
- vi) the details regarding repair works to Southgate Arch and the details regarding the budget and appointing a contractor for works be noted
- vii) it be noted there is no current update on works for the multi storey car park
- viii) the details of the Cornwall Council Streetlighting Initiative be noted
- ix) the details of the Cornwall Council Public Spaces Protection Order (Alcohol Consumption in Designated Public Spaces): Renewal of the current order for June 2026 be noted subject to amendments regarding locations and place names in the town
- x) the details of the 2026 Off Street Parking Places Order be noted

2601/32

Budget and precept 2026-2027

The budget and precept request had been resolved by the Finance and General Purposes committee and had been circulated with the agenda for the Full Council.

It was **resolved unanimously**;

- i) to adopt the budget for 2026-27
- ii) that the precept for 2026-27 be £1,291,190

2601/33

Correspondence and Matters to Note

It was **resolved** to;

- i) note the venue usage
- ii) agree the request to fly the Ukrainian Flag on 24 February 2026
- iii) note the letter of thanks regarding the Municipal Charities payments

2601/34

Urgent Items

There were no matters for consideration

2601/35

Exclusion of members of the press and public

It was **resolved** that under s1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 that the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following item as it involved the likely disclosure of confidential information

2601/36

Southgate Arch Tender

Members considered the recommendation of Scott and Co for the appointment of contractors for the works to Southgate Arch (previously circulated)

It was **resolved unanimously** to appoint RM Builders to undertake the works at Southgate Arch

Date of the next meeting of the Council

The next Full Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 17 February 2026

The meeting ended at 8.08pm

Signed Date