

MINUTES of the MEETING of ST AUSTELL TOWN COUNCIL held on MONDAY 13th OCTOBER 2025 in Chi Austel, White River Place, St Austell, Cornwall, PL25 5AZ at 6pm.

Present: Councillors: Brown, Bull, Cohen, Gray, Hamilton, Kimber, Lanxon, Lingham, Marshall, Preece, Stephens, Taylor, Thompson and Young.

In attendance: David Pooley (Town Clerk) and Sara Gwilliams (Deputy Town Clerk).

C/25/71) Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors: Clemo, Pearce, Rowse, Whitehouse and Young.

Apologies were also received from Cornwall Councillors Ashton and Yelland.

C/25/72) Declarations of interests and gifts or hospitality received

None.

Councillors Lingham and Taylor arrived to the meeting

C/25/73) Dispensations

There were no requests for a dispensation.

C/25/74) Minutes of Meeting held on 1st September 2025

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on the 1st September 2025 be approved and signed as a correct record.

C/25/75) Matters to Note

Further to minute number C/25/63 the Clerk advised that the Youth Council Working Group have had their first meeting. Councillor Preece added that a meeting has been arranged with Penrice School on Thursday morning.

C/25/76) Mayor's announcements

The Mayor provided an update on his activities since the last Council meeting as follows:

- Attended the opening of STAK
- Judged the model competition at the library
- Attended the Liskeard Civic Day
- Assisted with two Remembrance Day Planning meetings
- Supported the Pump Track consultation event at Bishop Bronescombe School
- Attended the St Austell Healthcare AGM at Charlestown
- Opened the CASA Cheaper and Greener Event
- An interview with CHAOS Radio
- Supported the Press Day at White River Cinema
- Attended the 95th Birthday celebration for Peter Cornall, Chair of SALSA
- Luna Charity Event in White River Place

- Accepted an invitation to the opening of the ladies facilities at St Austell Rugby Club
- Attended the Pondhu School Nursery opening
- Presented certificates at the Phoenix Passing Out Parade
- Took part in the Trafalgar Parade in Charlestown

C/25/77) Public Participation

None

C/25/78) Members' questions

There were no questions from Members.

C/25/79) Ocean Housing

The Clerk advised that Ocean Housing has postponed their presentation to the Town Council until later in the year. Date to be arranged.

C/25/80) St Austell Healthcare

The Mayor welcomed Doctor James McClure, Alan Lawler, Angela Taylor and Sandra Heyward representing St Austell Healthcare to the meeting.

Doctor McClure advised that St Austell Healthcare had acquired Carlyon House from Cornwall Council and they were developing plans for the creation of a health hub at the site. Doctor McClure advised that the St Austell Healthcare sites at Foxhole, Mevagissey and Wheal Northey will not be re-located to this building but other sites in St Austell would be.

He outlined a vision for future proofing health services in St Austell and co-locating a number of partnership services with them to provide a more co-ordinated and comprehensive health service for the town.

Doctor McClure advised that they are currently engaging with the staff of St Austell Healthcare and have a number of meetings planned with other stakeholders. A planning application for the re-configuration of Carlyon House to accommodate the services is due to be submitted shortly.

During discussion, Members raised the following:

- The potential population growth, particularly from the Garden Village;
- Whether there is any conflict with the services provided at Penrice Hospital;
- The re-location of "We Are With You" from Carlyon House to the Registrars Office;
- The proximity of the building to the bus routes and the need for the bus stops to be reviewed to ensure that the health hub is fully accessible.

Members thanked Doctor McClure for his presentation and expressed support for the proposals outlined.

C/25/81) Draft Annual Report – 2024/25

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the 2024/25 draft annual report.

C/25/82) Councillor Kimber

Councillor Kimber advised that he is seeking a leave of absence from the Town Council with immediate effect until January 2026 to allow him to concentrate on his business and young family. He added that he will still attend one off events such as Remembrance Day.

It was **RESOLVED** that Councillor Kimber be granted a leave of absence from the Town Council with immediate effect until January 2026.

C/25/83) Members appointed to outside bodies update reports

Councillor Kimber advised that there is a Young People Cornwall Steering Group meeting next week. Councillor Gray added that young people are keen to have a forum to discuss current affairs.

Councillor Lanxon advised that the Community Area Partnership is due to meet on Wednesday 22nd October and they are keen for Town and Parish Councils to provide examples of community led improvement projects.

Councillor Gray advised that a feasibility study on the potential for the Arts Centre to relocate to Unit 3C in White River Place has commenced. It is hoped that the report will be concluded by Christmas.

Councillor Brown advised that CALC has announced that there are likely to be some vacancies on the CALC Executive Board after its AGM on the 11th November and that he would like to be considered to join the CALC Executive Board. He added that applications from Councillors have to be endorsed by their respective Town or Parish Council.

It was **RESOLVED** to endorse Councillor Brown's application to be appointed to the CALC Executive Board.

It was **FURTHER RESOLVED** that Councillor Brown's attendance at any future CALC Meetings or CALC Executive Board meetings should be an approved duty.

C/25/84) Cornwall Councillor update reports

Members noted the written update report from Councillor Jack Yelland.

C/25/85) Community Committee

It was **RESOLVED** to note the minutes of the Community Committee meeting held on 8th September 2025.

C/25/86) Planning and Regeneration Committee

It was **RESOLVED** to note the minutes of the Planning and Regeneration Committee meeting held on 22nd September 2025 and approve the **RECOMMENDATION** contained therein.

Arising from a question, the Clerk confirmed that the Town Council was consulted twice on the 20mph proposals.

He added that Members objected to the first consultation as the arterial routes through the town were proposed as 20mph. The second consultation proposed the arterial routes through St Austell remaining at 30mph and the Town Council made no objection to this proposal.

Strong concern was expressed with regard to the speed of traffic on the section of Bodmin Road that leads from the town centre to the entrance of Menacuddle Well and a proposal was put forward that Cornwall Council should be asked to consider making this section of road 20mph. The Clerk advised that Cornwall Council has been asked to consider the speed on this section of road, as well as improving the junction to Menacuddle Well, on a number of times have declined to carry out any speed restrictions or improvements to the junction.

It was **RESOLVED** to write to Cornwall Council Highways Officers expressing strong concern with regard to the speed of traffic on the section of Bodmin Road, from the town centre to the entrance to Menacuddle Well and request that Cornwall Council reconsider making that section of road 20mph.

C/25/87) Finance and General Purposes Committee

It was **RESOLVED** to note the minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting held on 29th September 2025 and approve the **RECOMMENDATIONS** contained therein.

C/25/88) Staffing Committee

It was **RESOLVED** to note the minutes of the Staffing Committee meeting held on 6th October 2025 and approve the **RECOMMENDATIONS** contained therein.

C/25/89) Schedule of Payments

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the Schedule of Payments for the period 16th of August 2025 to 3rd October 2025 totalling £258,997.75 (net of refunds) and the transfer between bank accounts amount to £100,276.78.

C/25/90) St Austell Town Centre Revitalisation Partnership

The Clerk advised that the groundwork for the piazza is almost complete which will allow the final stage of laying pebbles and bound resin to take place. The contractors are reasonably confident that it will be finished in time for Remembrance Day on Sunday 9th November 2025.

The Regeneration Officer is progressing the TRIP funded town centre projects. Final designs, quotations and permissions are nearly all in place which should result in the projects being completed by the 31st December 2025.

High Street Rental Auctions Legislation

Following the High Street Rental Auctions legislation that came into force last year, Cornwall Council has appointed consultants to produce a High Street Vacancy Register for St Austell. Further information is awaited from Cornwall Council.

Arts Centre

A feasibility study to assess the potential to re-locate the Arts Centre to Unit 3C in White River Place has commenced. The Clerk is pressing Cornwall Council to include a review of the Arts Centre in the study to ascertain its sustainability at the current site.

CCTV

The Clerk advised that 5 additional CCTV cameras are due to be installed later this week and the Deputy Clerk reminded Councillors of the arrangements for a visit to the CCTV suite in Newquay on Thursday 16th October 2025.

It was **RESOLVED** that the visit to the CCTV suite on Thursday 16th October be an approved duty.

C/25/91) Dates of Meetings

It was noted that the next Town Council meetings are due to take place on the 15th December 2025 and 26th January 2026.

The meeting closed at 7:37pm.