

MEETING OF MARY TAVY PARISH COUNCIL
HELD AT THE CORONATION HALL, MARY TAVY
ON 8th September 2026 AT 7:00PM

Present:

Cllr P Reid Cllr M Griffiths
Cllr Dunn Cllr A Grindey

In attendance:

Cllr Fife-Cook – County Councillor
Cllr Oxborough - District Councillor

The meeting was chaired by the Chair, Cllr Reid

FC.26/105 Welcome and Formal Opening of the Meeting by the Chair:

Cllr Reid opened the meeting at 7.00pm.

FC.26/106 Apologies for absence

Cllr Honey – Annual leave
Cllr Banks – Annual leave
Ms A Christie – Parish Clerk - Unwell

FC.26/107 Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensations:

Cllr Dunn declared an interest in agenda item 26/113

FC.26/108 Business Raised by the Public

Cllr Dunn spoke in relation to two issues raised with her by member of the public.

- i) Hedge on Bal Lane on left before junction before Warren Road overgrown and encroaching on road. PR will put note on FB to remind about hedge cutting.
 - ii) Reading Room site and potential planning application and support from MTPC. Noted that MTPC fully supports a future planning application and it will be discussed further at the October meeting.
- Cllr Griffiths spoke in relation to issues raised by member of public
- iii) hedge encroaching white line on A386 by Edgemoor. PR will raise with Highways
 - iv) issues with Gurgy – Cllr Griffiths to contact Highways.
 - v) MFC - LGR – advised it had been paused for two years. Also the pause has opened prospect for more engagement on Parishes.
 - vi) MFC – Down's Garage site – Planning application is outside the DNPA planning policy.
 - vii) It had forgotten the idea of a roundabout.
 - viii) Suggested '20 is plenty' could be explored and although DCC supports the idea it has no money to fund it.

FC.26/109 Minutes:

- i) The minutes of the meeting of 14th July 2026 (copy previously circulated) were approved with amendments.
- ii) Members received the following updates on actions/items from the previous meeting:

- a) Waste at the Royal Standard – no report
- b) Fencing land behind Bal Lane/Grace & Favour – fencing has been repaired.
- c) Cemetery bin and bench – in place and new bench bolted down.

FC.26/110 Standing Item – Climate and Ecology Emergencies:

Councillors noted that the council resolved to become a signatory of the Devon Climate Declaration and will focus on those activities where we as a parish, can make a difference to climate change, biodiversity and the environment.

Matters arising since the last council meeting

FC.26/111 Highways

Members received and considered any updates in relation to Highways.

- i) Flooding & drainage in the parish – no reports of flooding. Cllr. Griffiths to speak to Highways
- ii) Gibbet Hill water run off –
 - a) nothing has been done on main leats/ditches. Cllr.Reid to contact Commoners for an update.
 - b) along A386 – work has been done by Landowner.
- iii) Gritting of the Brentor Road- no report
- iv) New Gritter funding – Resolved that a new gritter was needed and need to get costings. Approach to Highways to be made for grant towards costs.
- v) VAS sign 30mph limit near Down's Garage – appears to be now working again but is on Highways list to replace. Discussed the possibility of moving it to south of the Shop. Cllr. Reid to raise with Highways.
- vi) Tree A386 Direction Tavistock – The landowner has been written to twice with no response. Cllr. Reid has passed this to Highways.
- vii) A386 pedestrian crossing – a Survey was undertaken on 2nd September. 225 people were recorded crossing. It was a wet day and it is likely the figure would be greater on a dry day. Resolved to undertake another Survey in early October. Cllr. Dunn to organise
- viii) A386-Brentor Road junction mini-roundabout or Highways scheme – discussed under item 9) Planning Application. Cllr. Reid to raise with Highways.

New items of business

FC.26/112 Councillor Reports

- i) Emergency Warden – No Report
- ii) Mary Tavy & Horndon Broadband Champion - as ftp now available to most of village this item to be removed.
- iii) Mary Tavy Community Field & Hall Representatives – Cllr Reid updated that a supplier has been agreed for the installation of solar panels and they will be doing a survey on roof timbers before installation. The annual Mary Tavy bonfire will be on Sunday 1st November and sponsorship has been obtained. The open day at Moorland Hall was a success and raised c.£900 for the Hall roof fund.

- v) Members noted West Devon Matters – Southern Parish Link. Cllr. Reid to attend on 23rd September 2026.

FC.26/113 Planning Application 0360/25 Down's Garage

Councillors discussed the planning application.

Observations:

The parish council strongly support the proposed residential development of the Former Downs Garage site providing the technical issues particularly in relation to drainage are resolved, and that sensitive comprehensive measures are introduced for traffic calming which we note are yet to be concluded.

The parish council are very much in favour of a mini roundabout being introduced at the A386/Brentor Rd junction as originally allowed for in the planning application for the Higman Close residential development, and as considered appropriate now by Michelle Davies, Principal Highway Development Management Officer for West Devon and Dartmoor National Park.

The parish council also believe road safety measures should be installed on both carriageways south of the village centre (between the Brentor Road junction, the shop and the Station Rd junction) specifically that a Zebra crossing should be introduced to serve pedestrians crossing between the shop and the recreation field/village hall.

It would additionally help if the 30mph speed check camera at present located north of the Brentor Road junction (on the north bound carriageway of the A386), be relocated south of the village shop. Our ideal though would be to have most of the central village area from Station Road to Bal Lane made a 20 mph zone.

To further support our thoughts parish councillors conducted a survey of pedestrian crossings on Wednesday 2nd September 2026. Despite the mainly wet conditions we recorded 225 crossings between 7am and 7pm highlighting the nature of our village and its facilities. The village is divided approximately in half by the A386 with a thriving shop on the western side and a very well used Recreation Area and Village Hall on the eastern side. Both are regularly accessed on foot. Our intention is to carry out a further survey during school term, and we will come back to you with the findings.

FC.26/114 Local Plan South Hams & West Devon and Scoping Consultation

Council **considered** the Scoping Consultation and Call for Sites as part of the preparation of a South Hams and West Devon Joint Local Plan. Noted that the Plan excludes Dartmoor National Park as it has its own Local Plan. Resolved to complete consultation as individuals.

FC.26/115 Local Government Reorganisation

Noted the Government had just announced that LGR has been paused. We await further information.

Noted that the proposal for Unitary authorities that Government had made were least favoured by the people of Devon and that the proposed Ward structure was not ideal.

Noted that the elections for WDBC will now go ahead in May 2027

FC.26/116 Parish Council noticeboard A386

Options were discussed. Resolved to leave in situ and replace with metal legs. Resolved to spend up to £100 to repair.

FC.26/117 Grounds Maintenance Contract Tender

Noted that two Bids had been received and these were discussed. Resolved to award the Grounds Maintenance Contract to Man Van and Moor. To start 1st October 2026.

FC.26/118 Code of Conduct

Members discussed re-adopting the Code of Conduct.

Resolved: Following discussion, Councillors resolved to re-adopt the Code of Conduct.

FC.26/119 Freedom of Information Policy

Members discussed re-adopting the Freedom of Information Policy.

Resolved: Following discussion, Councillors resolved to re-adopt the Freedom of Information Policy

FC.26/120 Biodiversity Policy

Members discussed re-adopting the Biodiversity Policy.

Resolved: Following discussion, Councillors resolved to readopt the Biodiversity Policy.

FC.26/121 Remembrance Day Donation

Councillors discussed the arrangements for Remembrance Day regarding the zebra crossing and loud speaker system. Cllr Reid to liase with Clerk to contact the Church regarding who to take the service.

Resolved: To make £100 donation to Royal British Legion.

8.15pm DCC Cllr. Michael Fife Cook and WDBC Cllr. Robert Oxborough entered the meeting.

FC.26/122 Compost bin and post caps

- i) Members discussed purchasing a replacement compost bin for £57.98.
- ii) Members discussed purchasing post caps for the cemetery fence for £24.26

Resolved: To purchase the above.

FC.26/123 Defibrillator replacement pads

Members discussed purchasing three replacement defibrillator pads as they are now out of date. The cost will be between £100 and £120 each.

Resolved: to purchase three replacement pads. WDBC Cllr Oxborough may be able to help with funding. Cllr. Reid to contact him.

FC.26/124 Accounts & Financial Statement

i) Council resolved to **approve** the following payments:

Chris Ball Grounds Maintenance August	£ 468.00
Clerks Salary September	£ 827.82
DALC Invoice Conference attendance	£ 60.00
Banking Service Charge	£ 7.00
Parish Council Websites domain renewal	£ 248.40
HMRC P30	£ 64.20

ii) Councillors **received** and **approved** the Treasurer's payment and receipt transactions between 1st July 2026 and 30th July 2026.

Treasurer's Account

Date	Details	Payments	Receipts
17.07.26	ICO	£ 47.00	
17.07.26	C Ball Grounds Maintenance	£ 649.00	
17.07.26	Salary Clerk	£ 827.82	
17.07.26	HMRC P30	£ 43.20	
17.07.26	Tindle News Devon	£ 108.86	
17.07.26	P Russel Audit	£ 175.00	
17.07.26	Coronation Hall Room Hire	£ 40.00	
17.07.26	Coronation Hall Room Hire	£ 20.00	
17.07.26	SLCC CILCA training	£ 495.00	
21.07.26	DD Nest Pension	£ 92.56	
31.07.26	Banking service charge	£ 7.00	

iii) Councillors **received** and **approved** the Treasurer's payment and receipt transactions between 1st August and 31st August 2026.

11.08.26	DD Nest pension	£ 92.56
12.08.26	C Ball grounds maintenance	£ 468.00
12.08.26	Clerk salary	£ 827.82
19.08.26	DM Payroll	£ 79.20
31.08.26	DD Banking service charge	£ 7.00

iv) Councillors **noted** the council's monthly budget monitoring report (copy circulated 'spend against budget').

FC.26/125 Exclusion of the Press & Public – Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960:

Council **resolved** to move into a closed session to consider confidential matters in the following agenda item(s) in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 Section 1(2).

Cllr. Michael Fife Cook and Cllr. Robert Oxborough left the meeting at 8.55pm.

FC. 26/126 NJC for Local Government Services (NJC) Pay Agreement

Council noted and approved the NJC (2025/2026 & 2026/2027) Pay Agreements.

FC. 26/127 SCP (Contractual term)

Councillors discussed awarding SCP increment to the Clerk. Council noted that following the annual Appraisal in March and a review in July that there had been improvements and the key performance indicators had been met. Council **resolved** to award the Clerk the salary scale point increase, back dated to February 2026.

FC.26/128 Matters brought forward by Councillors: (for information only).

Budget & precept 2027-2028 draft for October Full Council
Village Newsletter
Co option

Trees in Cemetery
Remembrance Day
Reading Room plans – support from MTPC

The date of the next Full Council meeting is Tuesday 12th October 2026 at the Coronation Hall, Mary Tavy (council meetings are no longer be held at the Reading Rooms).

Meeting closed at X:XX pm

Signed **Date**

DRAFT