



Probus Parish Council

Annual Report 2025-2026

28 ROSELAND CRESCENT, TREGONY, TR2 5SA

APRIL 2026

Members of council 2025-26

Chair:

**Cllr. Nicholas Gillard 01726 883926 /
07763 519044**

Vice- Chair:

Cllr. Alison Cook (Apr-Dec)

Cllr. James Faull

Cllr. Chris Dutton

Cllr. Ian Peters

Cllr. Jack Burr

Cllr. Wendy O'Callaghan

Cllr. Jo Vincent

Cllr. Ivan Myles

**Cornwall Cllr. Karen Glasson
07980 975527 or
cllr.karen.glasson@cornwall.gov.uk**

**Clerk: Maria Roper (Apr – Nov)
Locum Clerk: Adrian Webster (Dec –
Apr).**

**clerk@probusparishcouncil.gov.uk
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Finance Report & How the Precept was spent 2025-26

Account Balance - as at the **1st April 2026** stands at **£86,402.34**, of which:

- Earmarked for specific projects: **£35,451.72**
- CIL money – **£14,635.67**
- General reserves - **£36,314.90**

Explanations:

*The **precept** is the council tax that the billing authority (in this case, Cornwall Council) collects on behalf of a parish council. The precept is calculated as part of the parish council's budget; it fills the gap between the parish council's planned expenditure and its estimated income.

**The CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy) is a charge that local authorities can set on new developments in order to raise funds to help pay for the infrastructure, facilities and services for the local community which are needed to support new homes and businesses.

INCOME: The main income of a Parish Councils is provided by local residents via the Parish Precept, an element of your Council Tax.

Source	£
Parish Council Precept	£77,990
Bank Interest	£181.32
CIL Monies	£0.00
Cemetery Fees	£1,079.00
Car Park Income	£1,095.00
Cornwall Council SLA/LMP	£2,534.78
VAT refund	£5,277.06
Other Income	£2,062.45
	£90,219.60

Income streams:

It can be noted from the above that the greatest proportion of the parish council's income (90%) is derived from the parish Precept. *

Cemetery fees – 1.2%,

Car park - 1.2%,

SLA contributions -2.8%,

VAT refund – 5.8%,

Other income account for 2.3% of total income.

EXPENDITURE: Total expenditure for the municipal year 2025-26 amounted to £85,583.59 (gross).

Staff costs (including training and expenses)	£34,755.43
Hall Rent	£870.58
Equipment	£911.73
Insurance	£2,250.90
Subscriptions	£1,159.99
Website	£592.88
Audit Charges	£804.00
Grants	£5,800.00
Open spaces & Verges Maintenance	£9,471.84
Play Area/ Muga Maintenance	£5889.40
Infrastructure improvement	£2,292.84
Waste Removal and weed treatment	£886.39
Public Toilets (Excl. Cleaning)	£842.01
Contributions from CIL funds	£7,524.14
Other, including assets maintenance	£6304.40
Including VAT	£5,227.06
	£85,583.59

Probus Parish Council Chair's Report 2025-2026

Hold yourself responsible for a higher standard than anybody else expects of you. Be a hard master to yourself and be lenient to everybody else. Persistence and resilience only come from having been given the chance to work through difficult problems.

When I sat down to write a draft of this report my first thoughts were of the difficult issues that were faced and dealt with. I also thought that perhaps it had been a quiet year with not much going on. Having taken some time to reflect and read back through the agendas and minutes I realised it had been no less busy than previous years.

The parish council Clerk deferred completing the Certificate in Local Council Administration (CiLCA) until later in the year. The council has continued to contract with Algaard Renshaw Business Solutions (ARBS) covering the function of 'responsible financial officer' until June. ARBS also provided internal audit to ensure the council's duties were met for the municipal year.

The council had welcomed back Glen Brunsden into the role of maintenance officer alongside Brent Charesworth, and both continued to serve the community well through litter picking, caretaking for the public convenience, and carrying out maintenance jobs. The council co-opted and welcomed Mr Jack Burr.

Grants totalling £5,800 were awarded to community organisations. The council acknowledges the importance of community organisations in supporting the parish through the work carried out by all the volunteers involved. The parish council continued to meet the costs of a Christmas tree erected on the Church cobbles, many thanks to all the residents involved for organising this. The council arranged for a road closure in support of the "Carols on the Cobbles" event at Christmas.

A new memorial was approved commissioned and funded by the parish council. The memorial commemorates the role of local residents in the home guard as the line of voluntary defence of the village during WW2.

Village infrastructure and general upkeep included further repairs to fencing at the rear of the MUGA along with repairs to the additional high-level netting designed to keep balls away from neighbouring properties. Repairs were also needed to the artificial playing surface at the MUGA.

Although village square improvements had been completed last year, difficulties continued with vehicles failing to avoid colliding with planters. Further measures were agreed for the installation of "granite vehicle stops" to prevent this from happening. Installation is expected to take place in the first part of 2026/7. The new bus shelter was installed on Fore St, just beyond the filling station. Potholes at the entrances to the village hall car park and the cemetery on Ladock Road were repaired.

The parish council's contract for grass cutting services was renewed following a successful tendering process and the contract was awarded to a new provider, Ace Of Spades, which commenced at the end of December.

Consultation took place over the introduction of an "off street parking order" which was agreed at the end of the municipal year. This gives the parish council control over its two car parks (village hall and playing field/MUGA). The car parks will continue to be accessible under the current terms of use.

The "Future for Probus" was the theme for a project to produce "**Neighbourhood Priority Statements**" for the parish. These are statements about what the parish needs to see in terms of development and improvement over the next 20 – 25 years. The statements are generated from and by residents on different themes including:

- New housing and the feel of the village
- Roads, services, and transport
- Nature and the environment
- Health and wellbeing

A steering group ran the project throughout the summer months This included publicised engagement events held at the village hall along with a comprehensive survey made available to all residents to complete. The project for producing and using “neighbourhood priority statements” to form a new “Parish Plan” remains an important goal for the parish. It was disappointing to observe a low level of engagement from residents in the project. Better efforts with different ideas on how to do this will be necessary.

The Clerk to the council tendered her resignation in October and left employment at the end of November. Interim arrangements were made with the services of a locum clerk whilst the process of advertising & recruiting went ahead, and an appointment was made for a new Clerk to begin in April 2026. In December Cllr Alison Cook tendered her resignation. The council is grateful for her service not only as a councillor but also as vice chair.

In January Storm Goreti inflicted some damage to trees and hedgerows the council is responsible for. On balance the damage was light in comparison to other areas and estates in the parish.

Regular Parish Council business continued throughout the year with regular meetings, including providing consultation responses to over 25 planning applications. Councillors continued to fulfil their representative roles on various committees and liaising with other local bodies and groups. In addition to the general work council agreed resolutions to:

- switch energy supplier to achieve lower rates and a three year fixed term contract.
- sign its “civility and respect” pledge for the national initiative against bullying, harassment intimidation in local government.
- update the land registry in respect of its land ownership at the cemetery, Ladock Road.

Cllr Chris Dutton tendered his resignation in May this year. Consequently, at the time of writing this report there are 4 vacancies. The newly appointed Clerk was unable to take up post, however, the council has appointed to the post again and the new person is due to start in September.

The current interim Clerk would be delighted to receive expressions of interest and/or applications from residents interested in becoming a parish councillor.

Thank you to all the staff & Cllrs (past and present) for their time, effort, and commitment to the parish throughout the year.

**Cllr N Gillard Chair
Probus Parish Council**