



Calstock Parish Council

Miss Clare Bullimore, Clerk to the Council,
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Environment and Climate Emergency Committee, 16 December 2025

Minutes of Calstock Parish Council's Environment and Climate Emergency Committee which was held on Tuesday 16 December 2025 in the Tamar Valley Centre at 1900.

Those present were:

Councillors: Ben Marley, Richard Newton Chance (Chair), Jim Wakem,
Community members with voting rights: Gill Court, Pete Thompson, Peter Bloomfield
Others: Andrew Brown, Roger Harris, Kate Goodman, Janine Falle,
Visitor: Kate Royston (Tamar Energy Community)

1. **Apologies**

Alison Freshney

2. **Public Participation**

All present participated during the meeting

3. **Declarations of interest**

Richard reminded people that his son works for Dartmoor Energy (he had previously declared this when the tenders had been put in and he had left any discussions about it).

Andrew Brown promoted some workshop being held at his farm but these are purely informative and not of a pecuniary interest to him

4. **Approve minutes of last meeting 18-11-2025**

Proposal/resolution: to approve the minutes from the meeting held on 18 November 2025. Proposed: Gill Court, seconded: Ben Marley – unanimous.

5. **Matters Arising:**

- Drop In Event: EV charging points: possible partnership with Stoke Climsland Parish Council. Clare was asked to follow up the expression of interest put into Cornwall Council.
- Money from Capital Works reserve approved to go towards solar panels
- Heads of Term Agreement with TVNL approved for three pieces of equipment (Cut and Collect Mower, Hay Bob, Drum Mower) - progressing
- Local Food Sustainability Initiative – actual cost more than had originally been thought, it was agreed to investigate whether we could put this on ourselves and to invite someone from Tamar Grow Local to talk at a subsequent meeting.
- Tree Warden – defer, little interest shown.
- Flood Warden – so far Kate Goodman (Gunnislake) and Pete Thompson (Calstock) have offered support in their communities: Clare will follow this up in the New Year.

6. **New Correspondence/Clerk's Information:**

- Richard Newton Chance wrote to Anna Gelderd MP about the government subsidising fossil fuel produces – Clare will circulate the correspondence

7. **Kate Royston – Tamar Energy Trust and Renewable Energy Feasibility Study**

Kate Royston gave a presentation outlining some community initiatives including energy local clubs and how parish councils can set up renewable energy initiatives that can support people experiencing fuel poverty. It was agreed to make this a focus discussion at the next meeting.

8. **Town Farm Field**

Pete Thompson reported that the fencing has been put in. Some interested parties are due to meet on site to discuss where trees can be planted. Clare is waiting for confirmation of when the plants are needed before confirming a delivery date. The latest survey had 92 responses – the results will be fed back once the steering group has reviewed them.

9. Let's Talk Water session and Drip Drip

Ken Finn – attended the Let's Talk Water session on 11-12-2025 but did not feel there was anything of note to report. Another's People's Assembly will be held in February to review the work of Drip Drip and what their objectives may be going forward.

10. Andrew Brown

- Andrew talked through some events that are happening at Newton Farm (attached to the minutes).

11. Review of cost centre income/expenditure to date

This was noted.

The meeting closed at: 2025

Signed:

Date: 2025

Farm and Land-Based Educational Visits

Inspiring Action Through Landscape, Farming, and Nature

First Event: Friday 19th December | 10:00–12:00

Location: Newton Farm, Metherell, Cornwall, PL17 8DQ

About the Programme: This series of farm and land-based educational visits uses working farmland as a classroom, helping people understand the deep connections between farming, conservation, food production, and landscape management.

Visits are designed to inspire practical action, encourage wellbeing, and reconnect communities with the land.

What to Expect: The first event focuses on the ancient craft of hedge laying, a vital countryside skill that supports livestock, wildlife, and landscape resilience.

Participants will:

- Take part in a guided walk around Newton Farm
- Watch live hedge-laying demonstrations, using both traditional hand tools and modern chainsaw techniques.
- Learn how hedgerows function as wildlife corridors, stock management tools, and carbon-rich landscape features.
- Explore how farming and conservation work together on the ground.

The demonstration will be followed by a guided tour of the farm, placing the hedgerow work in its wider farming and ecological context.

Sustainable Farming in Practice: This event showcases how the government's Sustainable Farming Incentive (SFI) is working in real landscapes.

We will explain how SFI grants support farmers in managing hedgerows not just for agriculture, but as essential lifelines for wildlife, contributing to healthier ecosystems and more resilient farms.

The visit also supports SFI wellbeing goals by encouraging people to explore the countryside and connect with its natural and cultural history.

Event Details

- **When:** Some Fridays in December, January, February, and March
- **Time:** 10:00am (2-hour visit)
- **Who:** Small groups (minimum of four people) with a responsible adult acting as group leader
- **Where:** Newton Farm, Metherell, PL17 8DQ

Preparation & Practical Information

- Group leaders will receive a risk assessment document in advance.

- The farm is wet underfoot at this time of year.
- Waterproof footwear is essential — wellington boots strongly recommended.
- Please dress appropriately for outdoor winter conditions

Learning More

To explore the importance of hedgerows further, visit:
People's Trust for Endangered Species – Hedgerow Survey
<https://hedgerowsurvey.ptes.org/healthy-hedgerows-survey>

Cost & Accessibility

This is a free community event.
All are welcome.

Future Events (Over the Next 3 Years)

Planned topics include:

- Bats
- Birds
- Wildflower meadows
- Orchards
- Woodland management
- Pigs and sheep
- Conservation grazing with native breeds using NoFence collars.
- Scything
- Polytunnel and allotment growing.
- Forest gardening
- Art, song, and poetry inspired by the land.

A Cut Above: Discover Hedge Laying

Join FWAG and Calstock Parish Council for a free, event showcasing how traditional skills are delivering for nature through farming grants.

Hedge expert Bobby Crabb will demonstrate different approaches of hedge laying using traditional tools and chainsaw techniques.

This event is a perfect example of how the government's Sustainable Farming Incentive (SFI) can work to help farmers manage hedgerows not just for livestock, but as vital lifelines for wildlife which contribute to a healthier landscape.



Newton Farm
Metherell
Callington,
Cornwall
PL17 8DQ

QR code
here

Friday 6th Feb 2026
10AM 'TIL 2PM

Book your place at
www.fwagsw.org.uk

This is a free community event. All are welcome. Please dress for the weather with sturdy footwear.

To learn more about the importance of hedgerows, you can visit:
People's Trust for Endangered Species - <https://hedgerowsurvey.ptes.org/healthy-hedgerows-survey>

Calstock Parish Council
Summary of Receipts and Payments
 Cost Centre 7

10 December 2025 (2025-2026)

Environment & Climate Emerg

Code	Title	Receipts			Payments			Net Position
		Budgeted	Actual	Variance	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	+/- Under/over spend
57	Forest for Calstock Parish							(N/A)
60	Public engagement, publicity & r	1,000.00		-1,000.00	5,000.00	1,374.76	3,625.24	2,625.24 (43%)
62	Precept	4,000.00	4,000.00					(0%)
68	Food Action							(N/A)
SUB TOTAL		5,000.00	4,000.00	-1,000.00	5,000.00	1,374.76	3,625.24	2,625.24 (26%)

Summary

NET TOTAL	5,000.00	4,000.00	-1,000.00	5,000.00	1,374.76	3,625.24	2,625.24
V.A.T.					241.27		
GROSS TOTAL		4,000.00			1,616.03		