



CAMELFORD TOWN COUNCIL

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Meeting of the Full Council

2nd December 2025

TO MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL:

Councillors: S Bond (Mayor), M Coombes, J Gilbert, E Grigg, M Robins, R Rotchell, A Scawn, A Shaw, K Smeeth, J Thomson.

Dear Members

I hereby give you notice that an Ordinary Meeting of Camelford Town Council will be held on **2nd December 2025 at Town Hall, Camelford at 7pm**

All Members of the Council are hereby summoned to attend for the purpose of considering and resolving upon the business about to be transacted at the meeting as set out hereunder.

Yours sincerely,

Laura Murphy

Laura Murphy, Town Clerk.

Press and Public are invited to attend. Meetings are held in public and could be filmed or recorded by broadcasters, the media or members of the public.

1. To note Councillors present	Cllr Bond, Cllr Coombes, Cllr Robins, Cllr Rotchell, Cllr Thomson, Cllr Smeeth, Cllr Shaw, Cllr Scawn, Cllr Callcut.					
2. To receive Apologies for absence with reasons	Cllr Grigg, Cllr Gilbert – Personal. Proposed to accept					
	Proposed	Cllr Thomson	Seconded	Cllr Coombes		Unan
3. To receive Declarations of Interest & Approve Dispensations	Cllr Scawn- Personal choice to abstain from the vote.					
4. Public question time (15 minutes allowed for this)	Four members of the public were present. James Symons read a letter on behalf of the Town Trust, stating that no opportunity had been given to the Trust to discuss the possibility of amending the building to suit the library and asked the Council to think this through carefully. James then spoke as a member of the public, raising concerns about removing footfall from the Town Centre. Steve Heard, speaking as a business owner in the town, expressed that he would be disappointed if the Council proceeded with relocating the library and Council offices and stated that he would consider closing his store if the move went ahead.					

Signed:
Date: 16-12-25

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	<i>Diane Taylor raised concerns about the space being left empty, as well as concerns about leaving the Town Hall vacant. Simon Final, also raised concerns about the building being left empty.</i>
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5. To receive and approve the Minutes of: Ordinary meeting 18th November 2025	Proposed to accept the minutes of 18 th November 2025					
	Proposed	Cllr Rotchell	Seconded	Cllr Callcut	1 abs, 8 in favour.	

10. Agenda Items	A. To discuss and resolve on relocation to the building formerly occupied by the adult education centre <i>Cllr Shaw shared a list of questions for the Clerk and the Mayor. Cllr Robins stated that he is torn on the decision, acknowledging that the move could create a great facility but also expressing concerns about the impact on the town. Cllr Smeeth raised that the decision feels rushed and that there are unanswered questions about costs. Despite the survey, she has concerns about what non-library users think. Cllr Bond noted that when the Council previously looked at relocating to Camelford Hall, it was voted and resolved that the Council would move there. The proposed location now is in close proximity to that site. Cllr Coombes expressed the view that the Town Council should remain in the town, highlighting that the Council previously held a meeting discussing footfall and now appears to be abandoning the town. Cllr Smeeth added that the previous decision to move was made under a different administration. Cllr Thomson asked where the library and Council offices were located before moving into the current building. Cllr Shaw clarified that the library was in the Town Hall and the Council rented offices around the town. Cllr Rotchell stressed the need for a balanced discussion, noting that while some people disagree with the move, others support it. He reminded members that the Council is a tenant and does not own the current building, which is held by the Town Trust on behalf of the people of Camelford. He explained that negotiations to maximise benefit from the building have been unsuccessful, and demand for space is growing. Larger meetings would require renting additional space. He highlighted that town centre challenges are influenced by high rents and other factors. He is not against staying or moving but noted that staying would involve significant costs, such as replacing the lift, while moving would also be costly. Cllr Shaw commented that the previous decision to move to Camelford Hall was intended to help with the hall's costs. Cllr Bond referred to grants that could assist the Town Trust in finding a use for the building. The Clerk clarified that the Heritage Trust grant deadline is 31 March 2026 and that preparing an application of that size would take time. Cllr Rotchell suggested that a counterproposal could be made if the Council still had unanswered questions. Cllr Callcut stated that she is new to the Council and believes more time is needed, including a meeting with the Town Trust. Cllr Smeeth proposed deferring the decision to allow time to gather answers to the outstanding questions.</i>
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	<i>Cllr Rotchell proposed amending the deferral to three months. Cllr Shaw proposed deferring to the February meeting.</i> <i>Cllr Smeeth adjusted her proposal to defer the decision for three months, during which time the Council would seek community and business opinions, obtain firmer cost estimates, and meet with the Town Trust. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Coombes and carried with eight votes in favour and one abstention.</i>				
	Proposed	Cllr Smeeth	Seconded	Cllr Coombes	8 in favour 1 abs

12 Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.

To **resolve** that in view of the confidential or special nature of the business about to be transacted, it is advisable that the press and public be excluded and instructed to withdraw during the discussions for the following items:

Proposed Cllr Rotchell, Cllr Thomson

Tesco Update from Cllr Rotchell.

Items for next meeting:

Budget

Meeting closed:

20.19

Signed:

Date:

8/12
9-12-25

Date:

Signed: