

Churchtown Farm, 26th June 2025

Members present:

- **STC**
Richard Bickford
Rachel Bullock
Sarah Gillies (online)
Lisa Mortimore
Brian Stoyel
- **Antony Estate**
Tremayne Carew-Pole
William Trinnick
- **Friends of Churchtown Farm**
Bob Austin
Hilary Frank

The lease with Cornwall Wildlife Trust will finish at the end of September.

Antony Estate: Churchtown Farm is a challenging site to farm, particularly due to public access and the presence of dogs, which make livestock management difficult. However, if grant funding becomes available in the future, we would look to install fencing and reintroduce livestock.

We've reviewed the land and considered how best to steward it. Our current intention is to allow Higher and Marsh Meadow to return to scrub. The permanent pasture will remain untouched, but we are considering ploughing Little Field and Valley Park. Some areas may require restrictions on dog walking and public access, but we are exploring the idea of creating a designated dog enclosure in the future, potentially with an agility course.

We are also looking to employ a Ranger for half a day per week to act as our eyes and ears on the ground. All the existing public footpaths at Churchtown Farm would remain open and accessible.

Friends of Churchtown Farm

This could be a good catalyst to lead a transformation of the Friends.

Funding

Antony Estate: we've crunched the numbers, and we are fully aware that if we were to try and manage it as a farm, then it would run at a loss.

We're resigned to the fact that we won't get a rent from this, but equally we don't want to lose money.

We'd like to employ a Ranger and invest in the area, so we'd like to suggest an annual fee of £14,000. This would not be on a lease - it would be a contract with an annual fee.