

Liskeard Unlocked 2025 Wash Up - draft

Wednesday 5th November 2025 at 2.00 pm in the Mayor's Parlour at the Public Hall, Liskeard

Present: Councillor Rachel Brooks (Chair), Rachel Bennett (Stuart House and Churches Together), Ann Kinahan (Market Makers) and Lesley Strong (WHS), Katie Deegan (Epworth Studios), Brian Oldham (Museum and OCS) and Mandy Hancock (Liskeard Town Council)

Festival dates Friday 12th – Sunday 21st September, 2025

Theme: Architecture

1	Welcome and Apologies Rachel welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received from Mary Utton (Liskeard Arts) and Iga Webb (Museum).	
2	What Went Well The group discussed what went well including: • New audiences at The Museum who used the 3D scan • Welcoming and enthusiastic volunteers at the venues • Boost House - new venue and talk - Market Makers c250 people - Friday night refreshments - Good to have in the town – new people - Artworks featuring buildings provoked reminiscences - Lots of sales • Good marketing and awareness of the event • Good numbers of people at Epworth Studios • Trewithan House 300+ visitors • Henry Rice and Richard Coad talks well attended • Re-scheduled walk around town good • Attracted people from elsewhere • Stuart House went well - Sold Henry Rice items - had to re-print trail - well attended - Rathik trails were taken - Food went well and posters were great • Good group working and everyone looking after their own section • New contacts made • Radio Cornwall – visited different buildings giving publicity	
3	What To Do Differently The group discussed what we could do differently including: • Not over commit for too many activities	

	• Be aware of the possibility of digital gremlins • Ask if venues can offer previews to the team who otherwise wouldn't be able to see what's on offer. This would also enable them to give visitors details on open days • Taste The Past - hard to get info in advance - cafes struggled a bit with the theme - need point of sale info • Possibly change the theme of the Stuart House exhibition • Focus on the main weekend – 11th - 13th September, unless we have a real focus for other weekend	
4	Next Year Theme - A little heads up had been given that next year's theme will be based around the everyday histories of working lives. From factory floors to kitchen counters, school desks to sailors' docks, and all the corners of a grand estate: house and gardens! More details to come in the new year. The group considered this could include: • Churches – congregations • Servants – where did they come from • Tradespeople • Watercress seller and her children • Buildings - courts - places for tradespeople - 1 Trevecca Cottages - Lodging house on Cannon Hill had people from everywhere • Cemeteries Copper Lives Natural LandScapes Cornwall has obtained grant funding for a project called Natural Beauty and the Beast. As part of this they are offering community grants of £500-£5000 for projects which deliver increased public engagement with, understanding of, or access to cultural or natural heritage of Bodmin Moor. The deadline is 30 November and the project has to be complete by 31 May 2026. It was agreed to put forward a project Rachel Br has been developing called Copper Lives – Voices from the Moor. The project will engage the local community in discovering the lives of people who worked in and around mining on Bodmin Moor. On the 20th anniversary of the Cornish Mining World Heritage Site, it will link Liskeard and the Moor and make this cultural heritage accessible to people who wouldn't normally think heritage was for them, including young people. The outputs will be a set of short videos, set in the landscape of Bodmin Moor. In each one, viewers will come face to face with someone from the past. Historic photographs and artifacts will	

	come to life to draw the viewer into the past, with links to the present. A map will show key locations, which can be visited today. They will be launched during Liskeard Unlocked in September 2026 to tie in with this year's theme for Heritage Open Days, around celebrating the history of ordinary workers. Rachel Br will speak to Lesley about some possible funding from the WHS to show the videos in villages in the Caradon mining District. Brian offered to assist with the research into the 18th – 19th Century. Any filming on the moors would require the landowner's permission. Rachel Be confirmed the importance of the chapels for the workers at this time. Rachel Br will keep the team updated on the application and seek help if needed.	
5	Next Meeting A meeting will be scheduled for February to start discussing next year's event. Registration opens on 2nd March, 2026 and the event directory goes live on 1st June.	