

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HELSTON TOWN COUNCIL
HELD IN THE GUILDHALL, HELSTON
ON THURSDAY 15TH APRIL 2010 AT 7.15 PM

Councillors: N J C Devenish (Town Mayor) in the Chair

R Williams
Mrs S M E Swift
R J L Boase
K Reynolds

Mrs V J Matthew
D C Swift
Mrs F N E Boase
M H Thomas

J P Radford-Gaby
Mrs W A Radford-Gaby

Officers: Mr C Dawson (Town Clerk)
Miss P J Lavelle (Assistant to the Town Clerk)
Mr C Bowcutt (Town Warden)

550. Prayers

The Meeting opened with Prayers offered by the Mayor's Chaplain, Reverend Dorothy Noakes.

551. Apologies

An apology for non-attendance was received from Councillor Pryor as he was recovering from an operation.

On the proposition of the Mayor, seconded by Councillor Mrs Swift, it was

RESOLVED – that the Apology be received and accepted.

552. Presentation from Helston Community Fire Station

The Mayor extended a welcome to Mr A Barrett and Mr K Stringer from the Cornwall Fire & Rescue Service. Mr Barrett advised that they had asked to attend the meeting to give a flavour of the activities of the local Station and presented a report which included details of the number of operational incidents attended over a twelve month period and information regarding Home Fire Safety Checks. Mr Stringer then spoke on the activities of the Phoenix Project.

Mr Barrett responded to Members' questions and extended an invitation to Councillors and their families to visit the Station and agreed to contact the Town Clerk to arrange a convenient date.

The Mayor and Members thanked Mr Barrett and Mr Stringer for attending the meeting.

553. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Mrs Matthew declared a personal interest in Agenda item 15 as she was a member of Transition Helston.

Councillor Thomas declared a personal interest in item 15 of the Town Clerk's report (Agenda item 17) as an employee of Helston Community College.

554. Police Matters

The Mayor extended a welcome to WPC Butcher who presented a detailed report which included recent crime figures and informed Members of a residents meeting for the Bulwark Area on Monday 19th April and a Youth meeting on Monday 26th April.

555. Public Participation

Mr M Blewitt expressed concern that the road widening scheme by the new Sainsbury's development did not appear to include a footpath and expressed the opinion that a lot of pedestrians would be using the road. The Mayor advised that the details of the road widening were not included in the original application as they were still under negotiation and whilst the Town Council had expressed concern with the width of the road, Members had not been consulted and the works had been agreed by Cornwall Highways. The Mayor further advised that the main entrance for Flambards would be via the new Sainsbury's entrance with several pedestrian crossings. Councillor Mrs Matthew further advised that the section of Gay's Hill that was closed at present would be permanently closed to vehicles and made into a pedestrian route.

Mr I Perry queried if there would be a form of traffic control on Clodgy Lane near the Sainsbury's development. The Mayor advised that there would not be any traffic lights but confirmed that there would be several zebra crossings so the traffic would be self regulating. Mr Perry then expressed concern regarding the sum of money allocated for the proposed works at Horse & Jockey Lane and also queried if the grass verge where the shrubs had been removed in Trengrouse Way would be grassed before Flora Day. The Mayor confirmed that he was not aware as the verge was maintained by Coastline Housing.

Mr Harris thanked the Town Clerk for contacting South West Water regarding the condition of the pumping station and advised that the area had now be tidied up.

Mr R Clotworthy advised that in addition to the points raised in his letter he believed that the Town should have some parking concessions such as 1 hour free parking. Mr Clotworthy also expressed concern with the condition of the entrance to the Coinage Ope where the walls were covered with graffiti. Councillor Reynolds advised that he believed that it was the tenants' responsibility to maintain the walls on either side of the entrance to the Coinage Ope. The Mayor informed Mr Clotworthy that his letter was included as an item on the Town Clerk's report and would be discussed at that point.

556. Minutes

On the proposition of Councillor Mrs Swift, seconded by Councillor Mrs Matthew, it was

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on the 18th March 2010 and the Special Full Council meeting held on the 11th March 2010 be approved and signed as a true record.

557. Minutes of the Planning Committee

On the proposition of Councillor Reynolds, seconded by Councillor Mrs Matthew, it was

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on the 18th March and 1st April 2010, be received.

558. Minutes of the Harvest Fair Committee

On the proposition of Councillor J.P. Radford-Gaby, seconded by Councillor Mrs Boase, it was

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Harvest Fair Committee meeting held on the 1st April 2010, be received.

559. Minutes of the Amenities Committee

On the proposition of Councillor Mrs Swift, seconded by Councillor Mrs Boase, it was

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting held on the 25th March 2010, be received.

560. Announcements

The Mayor welcomed Councillor Mrs Radford-Gaby and advised that he hoped she enjoyed her time on the Council. The Mayor then reminded Members that the Continental Market would take place on Saturday 24th April in Meneage Street.

561. Reports from Local Cornwall Councillors and the Community Network Manager

a) Local Cornwall Councillors

The Mayor advised that apologies for non attendance had been received from Councillors Robertson and Mrs Haycock and confirmed that copies of reports provided by both had been circulated in Members' folders.

Councillor Wallis congratulated Councillor Mrs Radford-Gaby on her election and then gave a report during which he made particular mention to the painting of railings in Gwelmeneth nearing completion, a new Cornwall Council Planning Portal and the first live broadcast of a Cornwall Council meeting. Councillor Wallis further advised that he was Chair of the Advisory Parking Panel which was looking at all issues of parking, and confirmed that the Panel wished to reduce parking charges as much as possible to assist local businesses. Councillor Wallis then responded to Members' questions regarding the live broadcast, works by Cornwall Council in the Helston Area, problems with Poll Cards at the Town Council by-election and the removal of weeds within the town.

b) Community Network Manager

Mrs C Chadwick provided Members with a detailed report (circulated in Members' folders) and drew Members' attention to the sections regarding bid writing and her work supporting the local Credit Unions. Mrs Chadwick further advised that Cornish Community Banking would be available in Isaac House every Tuesday morning from 27th April.

The Mayor requested an update on the verification of the survey for a Loyalty Card Scheme. Mrs Chadwick advised that the Loyalty Card Scheme was a South Kerrier Alliance project and she had agreed to analyse the survey data but it had not been possible to electronically transfer the information to Cornwall Council. A detailed debate then ensued.

562. Town Council's website

Councillor J.P. Radford-Gaby advised that he had not had sufficient time to research this subject. It was then proposed by Councillor J.P. Radford-Gaby, seconded by Councillor Thomas, and

RESOLVED – that this item be deferred to the Full Council meeting on 20th May.

563. Energy Monitor Loan Scheme

Councillor Mrs Matthew informed Members of Transition Helston's proposed Energy Monitor Loan Scheme to advise that Transition Helston would provide £150.00 to enable the Town Council to purchase six energy monitors which would be available for loan to the public to enable them to monitor their energy consumption. Following a detailed debate it was proposed by Councillor Reynolds, seconded by Councillor R.J.L. Boase, and

RESOLVED – that Helston Town Council:

- a) accepted the £150.00 from Transition Helston to purchase the energy monitors and agreed that the Energy Monitor Loan Scheme be operated from the Town Clerk's Office; and
- b) requested that Transition Helston be responsible for pursuing monitors that were not returned.

564. Town Guide

Councillor Thomas spoke on the Town Guide and made suggestions to improve future editions. Councillor Thomas then expressed the opinion that the Foreword ought to be written by the Mayor for the years that the Guide related to. A detailed debate ensued at the conclusion of which Councillor R.J.L. Boase advised that due to the following day deadline he did not have sufficient time available to write the Foreword for the 2010/12 Town Guide.

565. Report of the Town Clerk

(1) White Wash Walls

The Town Clerk drew Members' attention to a comment contained in a quotation from Clayworks advising that their price did not include any remedial works required once the surface had been removed.

Following a detailed debate it was proposed by the Mayor, seconded by Councillor Reynolds, that the Council contribute a maximum of £500.00 from the Community Payback Budget.

An amendment was proposed by Councillor R.J.L. Boase, seconded by Councillor Mrs Matthew, that the Council contribute a maximum of £500.00 from the General Reserves. The amendment was carried and became the substantive motion and it was

RESOLVED – that the Council contribute a maximum of £500.00 from the General Reserves for scraping and white washing the Meneage Street wall.

The Mayor and Councillor Thomas voted against the motion.

(2) Cornwall Council (Off Street Parking Places) Order 2010

This item was noted.

(3) Helston Leats and Kennels

Councillor Thomas queried if the Kennels were to be turned off for Flora Day. Following a brief debate it was proposed by Councillor Thomas, seconded by Councillor Reynolds, and

RESOLVED – that the Town Clerk write to Cornwall Council to ask that they turn the appropriate Kennels off for Flora Day.

(4) Cornwall Countryside Access Forum

This item was noted.

(5) Youth Forum

This item was noted.

(6) Town Centre Manager

The Town Clerk expressed concern that attempting to divert funding from the Section 106 Agreements could result in the funding being withheld by the Supermarkets.

Following a detailed debate it was proposed by the Mayor, seconded by Councillor Reynolds, and unanimously

RESOLVED – that the Town Clerk write to Cornwall Council to express the desire that the funding for a Town Centre Manager be secured for spending by Helston Town Council for the benefit of Helston.

(7) NALC Conference

On the proposition of the Mayor, seconded by Councillor D.C. Swift, it was

RESOLVED – that the Town Clerk be given permission to attend the NALC Conference at a cost of £90 plus travel expenses.

(8) SLCC Clerk's Training Day

The Town Clerk advised that the Training Day had been postponed and a branch meeting was to be held instead. It was proposed by the Mayor, seconded by Councillor Mrs Matthew, and

RESOLVED – that the Town Clerk attend the SLCC Branch Meeting.

(9) Working with Your Council

On the proposition of Councillor Mrs Matthew, seconded by Councillor D.C. Swift it was

RESOLVED – that Mrs Price be enrolled on the SLCC ‘Working with Your Council’ course at a cost of £195 for course materials and £200 for training by CALC.

(10) Community Network – Proposed Structure

The Mayor explained the proposed structure of the Helston & Lizard Community Network Panel and responded to Members’ questions. Following a detailed debate it was agreed that all Members should be able to attend and participate in the discussions but only the nominated representative have a vote. The Mayor agreed to take the comments raised back to the following Community Network Panel meeting.

(11) Bus Shelter – Godolphin Road

This item was noted.

(12) Flora Day – Decoration of the Guildhall

This item was noted.

(13) Local Council Planning Group

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs Radford-Gaby, seconded by Councillor Mrs Boase, and

RESOLVED – that Councillor Reynolds be nominated as the Town Council’s representative to attend the Local Council Planning Group meetings.

(14) CALC Training Calendar 2010

It was proposed by the Mayor, seconded by Councillor Reynolds, and

RESOLVED – that those Councillors that wished to attend a training event notify the Town Clerk and training be authorised to up to a maximum total of £1000.

Councillor Mrs Radford-Gaby indicated that she wished to attend the New Councillor training on 12th May and Councillors R.J.L. Boase and Mrs Matthew indicated that they wished to attend the New Chairman training on 22nd June.

(15) Road Safety – Church Hill and Belmont Road

This item was noted.

566. Report of the Town Warden

This item was noted.

567. Schedule of Accounts for Payment

On the proposition of Councillor J.P. Radford-Gaby, seconded by Councillor Mrs Boase, it was

RESOLVED – that Account Nos. 1-31 inclusive as listed and set out as an Appendix to these Minutes, be certified for payment in the total sum of £24,550.93.

(Councillor Williams declared an interest in Account No. 30.)

It was agreed that the cheques would be signed by Councillor Williams and Councillor Mrs Swift.

568. Attendance at Meetings

Councillor Mrs Boase had attended the Helston Street Festival meeting on behalf of Councillor Mrs Matthew and advised that the Group was willing to move the date of the festival to coincide with Helston Harvest Fair in 2011.

Councillor Mrs Matthew had attended a Nansloe Governors meeting.

Councillor Mrs Swift circulated a report in Members' folders which advised she had attended a CALC Executive meeting and the West Cornwall Healthwatch AGM. Councillor Mrs Swift then presented Councillor D.C. Swift and the Town Clerk each with a certificate for attending the CALC Conference and explained about Continuing Professional Development.

569. Items for the next Agenda

The Mayor requested that Members contact the Town Clerk's office to place items on the following Full Council Agenda.

570. Exclusion of the Press and Public

On the proposition of Councillor D.C. Swift, seconded by Councillor Mrs Matthew, it was

RESOLVED – that pursuant to the provision of the Public Bodies (Admissions to meetings) Act 1960, the press and public be excluded from the Meeting for the following items of business by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

571. Coronation Park and the Penrose Amenity Area

Members considered the notes of a private meeting with Cornwall Councillor Wallis (previously circulated) and the Town Clerk informed Members of a letter he had received from Mr M Barton, Localism Area Manager (West). Following a brief debate it was proposed by Councillor Mrs Matthew, seconded by Councillor Mrs Boase, and

RESOLVED – that:

- a) a meeting with Mr M Barton and Mrs C Chadwick be arranged at the earliest opportunity; and
- b) Councillors Devenish, Mrs Swift and R.J.L. Boase together with the Town Clerk attend the meeting.

572. Hanging Baskets for 2010

Members considered a report by the Town Clerk (previously circulated) regarding the provision of Hanging Baskets for Coinagehall Street and the Guildhall.

On the proposition of Councillor R.J.L. Boase, seconded by Councillor Mrs Boase, it was

RESOLVED – that the quotation to supply, install and maintain 26 baskets from RTS Garden Maintenance Services be accepted at a total cost of £2,275.00.

Meeting closed at 10.30pm

Confirmed

Town Mayor