

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HELSTON TOWN COUNCIL**  
**HELD IN THE GUILDHALL, HELSTON**  
**ON THURSDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2019 AT 7.15 PM**

**Councillors:** J Martin (Town Mayor) in the Chair

R Williams  
R J L Boase  
Mrs F N E Boase

M H Thomas  
Mrs G A Geer  
Mrs N Roberts

D J Potter  
T E Grattan-Kane  
R F Edgcumbe

**Officers:** Mr C Dawson (Town Clerk)  
Miss P J Lavelle (Deputy Town Clerk)  
Mr M Searle (Projects Officer)

**351. Prayers**

The Meeting opened with Prayers offered by Councillor Thomas.

**352. Apologies**

Apologies for non-attendance were received from Councillors Reverend Reed and Kenchington.

**353. Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest

**354. Reports from Local Cornwall Councillors**

Cornwall Councillor Martin advised that he had been involved in meetings for the Miscellaneous Licensing Committee and the West Sub Area Planning Committee, both of which had dealt with contentious applications. Councillor Martin further advised that Licensing was also consulting with taxi companies across the county as to whether there should be a common policy on the number and pricing of licences across Cornwall with the results due to be announced in May. Cornwall Councillor Martin further advised that he was a member of the Cornwall (Cycle) Tour of Britain Group and confirmed that the towns involved in the 'Grand Depart' route for the Cornwall section of the Tour of Britain in 2020 were due to be announced the following day. Councillor Martin then advised that the Helston and South Kerrier Community Network Panel was considering how to allocate its Highways Fund for the area and confirmed that there would be a tour of the developing Goonhilly site at the June meeting. Cornwall Councillor Martin advised that he had also been involved in casework regarding planning issues, parking, drainage, pollution and anti-social behaviour.

Cornwall Councillor Thomas advised that he was involved with a planning enforcement issue, a variety of projects in partnership with Helston Town Council, projects involving other community groups and individual case work regarding road adoption, road safety issues and an electric taxi. Councillor Thomas further advised that he was continuing to try and engage with South West Water to arrange a second meeting regarding the leats and kennels and he had also attended the Community Network Panel meeting which was now being held in Isaac House. Councillor Thomas advised that he had chaired his first meeting of Inclusion Cornwall giving brief details of its role, making particular mention to its

involvement with addressing fuel poverty. He advised that he continued to be involved with Planning West and had recently took part in training on the way the Planning Inspectorate worked. Cornwall Councillor Thomas advised that he had been involved in the Neighbourhoods Overview and Scrutiny Committee which was considering a draft Road Safety Strategy document and expressed concern with the level of deaths on Cornish roads. Councillor Thomas advised that together with the Town Clerk and his fellow Cornwall Council Division Members he had lobbied the Director of Services for Transport and Infrastructure for better connectivity for the town and improvements and monitoring had been agreed for the B3297. He then briefly outlined the proposed work which included a reduction in speed limit along the road. Councillor Thomas advised that he had also attended the Electoral Review Panel meeting and outlined the guidance they had received for Members who were also Town/ Parish Councillors. He further advised that he had been involved with the Children & Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee and confirmed that three senior staff were leaving the department. Councillor Thomas advised he had attended a meeting for the Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education and would also be supporting a Member's Motion regarding the lack of NHS dentistry in Cornwall.

Councillor R J L Boase queried if apologies had been received from Cornwall Councillor Wallis. The Town Clerk advised that apologies had not been received.

Councillor Williams expressed disappointment with the lack of Police presence at the meeting and queried what progress had been made regarding anti-social behaviour in the town. Cornwall Councillor Martin advised that he understood that some of the protagonists had been removed from the town which had eased the situation. Councillor Thomas advised that Safer Cornwall had been invited to attend a Full Council meeting and understood that Alison Hernandez had also agreed to attend a meeting. Councillor Williams then gave details of a confidence trick which had been attempted and requested that the Cornwall Councillors gave this consideration when dealing with matters.

Councillor R J L Boase queried if the reduction in speed limit on the B3297 would go to consultation and asked how the speed for the road had been determined, expressing concern that the proposed reduction could cause cars to queue more potentially causing frustration and more accidents. Cornwall Councillor Thomas advised that it was a proposal and it was possible the limit could start further along the road confirming that the changes would be located in Wendron Parish. Councillor Thomas advised that he took the point that some sections could be driven faster but he regularly received concerns with road safety issues on the Redruth Road and many believed that if vehicles approached the Lowertown roundabout at a slower speed it would assist the situation.

### **355. Public Participation**

Several members of the public spoke in respect of Agenda item 14 regarding the climate emergency. They thanked the Councillors for listening to their concerns at the previous meetings, for taking the matter seriously and deliberating to come up with the Motion that they fully supported.

### **356. Minutes**

On the proposition of Councillor Thomas, seconded by Councillor R J L Boase, it was unanimously

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Town Council meetings held on the 21<sup>st</sup> February and 28<sup>th</sup> February 2019 be approved and signed as a true record.

### **357. Minutes of the Planning Committee**

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

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on the 21<sup>st</sup> February and 7<sup>th</sup> March 2019, be received.

### **358. Minutes of the Policy, Finance & Resources Committee**

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

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Policy, Finance & Resources Committee meeting held on the 12<sup>th</sup> March 2019, be received.

### **359. Announcements**

The Town Clerk reminded Members that an invitation to tour the Coastline Development at Roundhouse Way had been circulated via e-mail and the date had been confirmed as 9<sup>th</sup> April 2019 at 5.15pm. He requested that Members let him know urgently if they wished to attend.

The Mayor advised that he was attending the Mayor's Ball in Falmouth the following night and reminded those present that measurements for Flora Day suits were being taken on 26<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> March. The Mayor further advised that he hoped to have his own Mayors event in the summer at a date to be announced and confirmed that he had been invited to join Councillor Potter at the Tour of Britain Launch Event.

### **360. Climate Emergency**

Councillor Potter advised that he was pleased to Chair the Helston Climate Action Group and expressed the opinion that it was a good Motion which had been specifically drafted for Helston by all Members of the Action Group. He advised that a carbon footprint survey was being organised to review the situation and he believed that the Council should lobby the MP and Cornwall Council who should in turn lobby Government.

On the proposition of the Mayor, seconded by Councillor R J L Boase, it was unanimously

RESOLVED – that Helston Town Council:

- a) Declare a climate emergency;
- b) Pledge to work towards making Helston carbon neutral by 2030;
- c) Work with Cornwall Council to assist them with their declaration to make Cornwall carbon neutral by 2030;
- d) Act as a voice for the community to lobby for action on climate change, raise the profile and share lessons with higher levels of government;

- e) Continue to work with the community of Helston and its surrounding parishes to deliver this new goal through all relevant strategies and plans; and
- f) As a member of the Helston Climate Action Group, assist with the preparation of an Action Plan within six months to address this emergency.

### **361. Informal Discussion Meetings**

The Mayor advised that he was proposing to hold informal discussion meetings for Members either monthly or bi-monthly. It was agreed that the meetings did not need to be clerked and several venues were considered. The Town Clerk confirmed that it was acceptable to make a decision to bring a topic to either Full Council or a Committee but cautioned Members regarding pre-determination and reminded Members that they must attend meetings with an open mind. The Mayor advised that the first informal discussion meeting would take place on 15<sup>th</sup> April at 7pm at a venue to be agreed.

### **362. Report of the Projects Officer**

The Projects Officer updated Members on his report (circulated prior to the meeting) to advise that the Projects Group was suggesting the inclusion of an additional tariff of £25 for food stalls for the Monument Walk Market. Following a detailed debate it was proposed by Councillor Edgcumbe, seconded by Councillor Potter, and

RESOLVED – that:

- a) the market be trialled on Thursdays, with a launch date of Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> April;
- b) the frequency of markets initially be monthly on the second Thursday;
- c) the market operate between 10am and 2pm; and
- d) the market be free to stallholders for the first two months and reviewed after this time with the Town Clerk given delegated authority to decide the frequency and tariffs.

The Projects Officer further advised that he had received two quotations for the empty shopfront signs which he would bring to the April meeting. He also advised that, in respect of ‘Our Granite Heart’, he had only received one quotation and the relevant item in his confidential report would need to be deferred to the April meeting.

### **363. Report of the Town Clerk**

#### **(1) Museum**

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

RESOLVED – that budgeted contribution of £2,500 be paid to the Museum of Cornish Life, Helston.

#### **(2) Polling District and Polling Station Review**

Councillor Edgcumbe expressed concern that the Library/ One Stop Shop building was not being used as a polling station as he was of the opinion that the building being busy could encourage people to vote and it was convenient with parking located close by. Following a brief debate it was proposed by Councillor Edgcumbe, seconded by Councillor R J L Boase, and unanimously

RESOLVED – that the Town Clerk write to suggest the use of the Library/ One Stop Shop building instead of the Chapel to make use of Cornwall Council’s own building with better access and parking provision.

**(3) Planning Committee**

On the proposition of Councillor Grattan-Kane, seconded by Councillor R J L Boase, it was

RESOLVED – that Councillor Edgcumbe be appointed onto the Planning Committee.

**(4) Helston Climate Action Group**

This item was noted.

**(5) Internal Audits by Members**

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs Boase, seconded by Councillor Grattan-Kane, and

RESOLVED – that the number of Internal Checks by Members be reduced from four to three per year.

**(6) Village Works**

It was proposed by Councillor Thomas, seconded by Councillor Mrs Geer, and

RESOLVED – that the Mayor be appointed as the Town Council’s representative on the Village Works Steering Group and Councillor Grattan-Kane be appointed as the Deputy.

**(7) Plastic-Free Communities Information Evening**

This item was noted.

**364. Schedule of Accounts for Payment**

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

RESOLVED – that Account Nos. 688-743 inclusive as listed and set out as an Appendix to these Minutes, be certified for payment in the total sum of £48,514.77.

**365. Items for the next Agenda**

The Mayor requested that Members contact the Town Clerk’s office a minimum of ten days prior to the meeting to place items on the following Full Council Agenda.

**366. Exclusion of the Press and Public**

On the proposition of Councillor Mrs Geer, seconded by Councillor Grattan-Kane, 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.

**367. Confidential Report of the Projects Officer**

**The Mayor declared an interest in the following item as he worked with one of the companies involved.**

**(1) Monument Walk – Proposed Markets**

On the proposition of Councillor Mrs Geer, seconded by Councillor Mrs Roberts, it was

RESOLVED – that the quotation for printed banners from Phoenix Signs be accepted at a cost of £145 plus vat.

**(2) Our Granite Heart**

This item was deferred to the April Full Council meeting.

**368. Trenance Close Open Space**

Councillor Thomas updated Members on his continuing research regarding the Trenance Close Open Space. It was agreed that Councillor Thomas continue to pursue the matter for another month.

**Meeting closed at 9.07pm**

**Confirmed**

**Town Mayor**