

ANNUAL ASSEMBLY OF THE TOWN MEETING OF HELSTON
HELD AT THE METHODIST CHURCH HALL,
COINAGEHALL STREET, HELSTON
ON THURSDAY 11TH APRIL 2013 AT 7.00 P.M.

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PRESENT: Councillor J P Radford-Gaby (Town Mayor) in the Chair

Helston Town Councillors:

R J L Boase

Mrs F N E Boase

J Martin

N J C Devenish

M H Thomas

M Upton

Cornwall Councillors:

Mrs J Haycock

A Robertson

Residents:

Mr Beard

Mr R Greig

Mrs Beard

Miss R Khan

Mr R Clotworthy

Mrs V J Matthew

Mrs H Greig

Representatives of Organisations:

Mr M Ryan – CHICKS

Mr A Bell – Cornwall Air Ambulance Trust

Mr D Peters – Cornwall International Male Voice Choral Festival

Mr D Jones – Helston Business Improvement Partnership

Mrs R Jones – Helston Business Improvement Partnership

Ms M Stubbings – Sithney Cornish Wrestling Club

Mr B Deacon – Sithney Cornish Wrestling Club

Miss S Goodfellow – The Pollen Count

In Attendance:

Mr C Dawson (Town Clerk)

Miss P J Lavelle (Assistant to the Town Clerk)

Mrs S Price (Administrative Assistant)

Mrs E Ferguson (Helston Packet)

1. MINUTES

It was proposed by Councillor Upton, seconded by Councillor Mrs Boase, and

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the last Annual Town Meeting held on 12th April 2012 be approved and signed as a correct record.

2. TOWN MAYOR'S REPORT

The Mayor presented a resume of the affairs of the town during the preceding twelve months and made special reference to:

- (a) The arrival of the Olympic Torch into Culdrose and the Torch Relay travelling through Helston the following day;
- (b) A number of events held to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee which included a street tea party in Meneage Street which he had had the pleasure of opening;
- (c) The sale of the former Community Centre building at 3 Penrose Road to the Cornubian Arts and Science Trust for the formation of an arts centre;
- (d) The formation of the South Kerrier Heritage Trust, a group of volunteers who had come together to bid for, and take over, the management of Helston Museum;
- (e) The Town Council taking over the management of the public conveniences in the town to prevent them from closing;
- (f) The centenary of the Coronation Lake which had been organised by a large group of volunteers for the people of the town; and
- (g) The formation of the Helston Business Improvement Partnership (HBIP) advising that he had not seen the businesses of the town working together so cohesively to achieve so much in such a short time. The Mayor then outlined some of the projects carried out by the HBIP which included the production of a new Helston guide, the re-launch of the street market and hanging baskets for businesses who wished to participate.

3. MAYOR'S YOUNG CITIZEN'S AWARDS

The Mayor awarded Mr Reece Greig the Young Citizen's Award for 2012/13 for his fundraising activities for charity and his activities as a valued member of the Senior Prefect Team and a member of the local Air Cadets.

4. CHARITY ACCOUNTS: TREVENEN EXHIBITION

The Town Clerk reported details of the Accounts of the Trevenen Exhibition Charity which showed balances on the 31st March 2013 of £4,783.17 representing £3,471.74 in shares currently held and £1,311.43 in the Charity's bank account.

The Town Clerk advised that the current recipient, Mr A Jose, had been selected at the end of the previous year and would receive £140 per year.

5. REPORT ON THE DOWNSLAND TRUST

Councillor Martin passed on the apologies of Councillor Reynolds, Chairman of the Helston Downsland Trust, who was on holiday and gave a report on his behalf relating to the activities of the Trust. Councillor Martin made particular mention of the improvements to Meneage Green confirming that the remedial works had been completed and the plots had been offered for sale. In respect of a question raised at the previous year's meeting, Councillor Martin confirmed that the plots would only be sold to adjacent properties and not separately. Councillor Martin further advised that the Downsland Trust had given grants to a number of groups which included Helston Town Band, South Kerrier Alliance, Phoenix Project, Helston Christmas Lights, Helston Bowling Club and Helston Football Club.

6. TOWN AFFAIRS

A member of the public advised that he believed the Town Council had received permission from the Conservation Officer for bus shelters in Coinagehall Street and queried if they could be funded from the Section 106 monies received from the supermarkets. The Town Clerk confirmed that the Town Council had not sought planning permission and it had not been decided if Helston Town Council wished to provide the bus shelters or whether this was something the Helston Business Improvement Partnership might wish to provide.

A member of the public queried whether any money from the sale of 3 Penrose Road would be going back for repairs. The Mayor confirmed that the current resolution was that the money from the sale of 3 Penrose Road would be used to provide a new community building advising that the Council felt the town was expanding but there were no facilities in the north of the town.

A member of the public expressed the opinion that money was not being spent on what the people wanted. Councillor Upton advised that the results from the Town Plan Questionnaire Survey were available to the Council in draft form and he believed the Council would take the issues into consideration. The Mayor advised that the Town Clerk could be contacted if there were further ideas that members of the public would like to be considered. The member of the public queried whether the Council considered the 25% level of response to the questionnaire to be good. The Mayor advised that the Town Council could only ask for a response and could not be held responsible if people chose not to reply. The member of the public expressed the opinion that there was a chasm between the Council and the public. The Town Clerk advised that there was public participation at most Council meetings. Councillor Upton advised that the response was higher than would normally be expected.

A member of the public expressed concern regarding travellers living in the Quarry Car Park and the number of homeless in the town. The Mayor confirmed that the Quarry Car Park was a Cornwall Council matter. Cornwall Councillor Mrs Haycock advised that Cornwall Council was meant to provide sites for travellers and was looking at locations. She advised that Cornwall Council could not move travellers from land until they had another site to take them to. Councillor Upton advised that he had spoken to three homeless people around the town and confirmed that they had indicated they were living how they chose to live.

7. **PRESENTATIONS FROM ORGANISATIONS**

Presentations were made by the following organisations that had received financial support from the Town Council over the past year:

- Can-Do
- CHICKS
- Cornwall Air Ambulance
- Cornwall International Male Choral Festival
- Sithney Cornish Wrestling Club
- The Pollen Count
- Helston Theatre Company

The Meeting closed at 8.41pm

Confirmed

Town Mayor