



HELSTON TOWN COUNCIL
Konsel an Dre Hellys

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17th November 2022

To: Members of the Amenities Committee

Copy to Members of the Town Council for information

Dear Councillor,

A Meeting of the Amenities Committee will be held in The Guildhall, Helston on **THURSDAY 24TH NOVEMBER 2022 at 7.00 p.m.** for the purpose of transacting the undermentioned business.

Yours faithfully

Pamela Lavelle
Town Clerk

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence.
2. Declarations of Interest.
3. At this juncture the Meeting will adjourn for a period of up to fifteen minutes to permit members of the public present to make observations in respect of any items on this Agenda.
4. To approve and sign the Minutes of the Meeting held on 3rd October 2022 (**Page 3**).
5. Matters Arising from the 2nd October 2022 Minutes (for information exchange only).
6. To receive a presentation from rom Lea Thomas, Community Partnership Officer at Cormac, regarding the process to set up a Friends of Coronation Gardens group.
7. At the request of the Chair to consider investigating the replacement and potential expansion of the Guildhall sound system.

8. To consider the Report of the Town Clerk (**Page 7**).

9. Exclusion of the Press and Public

The Council is invited to pass the following resolution:-

“That pursuant to the provisions of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act, 1960 the press and public be excluded from the Meeting for the following item of business by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.”

10. To consider the confidential report of the Town Clerk (**Page 9**).

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE AMENITIES COMMITTEE
HELD IN THE GUILDHALL
ON MONDAY 3RD OCTOBER 2022 AT 7.00PM

3

Councillors: Councillor Ramsden in the Chair

R Williams
R J L Boase

Mrs F N E Boase
M H Thomas

M Benyon
P Webb

Officers: Miss P J Lavelle – Town Clerk
Mr C Bowcutt – Town Warden

142. Absent

Councillor Reverend Reed was absent without giving apologies.

143. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Mrs Boase declared an interest in item 4 of the Town Clerk's Report (Agenda item 8) as a member of one of the trading organisations at the Indoor Market.

144. Public Participation

A member of the public advised that there was a good level of hedgehog activity in Helston with a lot of sightings in the area surrounding the Culdrose Community Centre. She expressed the opinion that there could be better habitation in domestic gardens and spoke in support of projects to assist with the creation of hedgehog highways and the support of hedgehogs within the town.

145. Minutes

The Town Clerk advised that the Minutes contained an error and confirmed that it was Councillor R J L Boase who had proposed the Resolution for Min. No. 95 ii)/2022 not Councillor Benyon.

On the proposition of Councillor Thomas, seconded by Councillor Webb, it was

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 28th July 2022 be approved subject to the above amendment and signed as a true record.

146. Hedgehog Friendly Policy

Ms Tracy Sargent, from Porthleven Harbour Hedgie Rescue, gave a presentation during which she outlined the problems faced by hedgehogs. She then outlined ways that the hedgehogs could be helped by avoiding the use of pesticides, making checks before cutting long grass or lighting bonfires, creating log piles & overgrown areas and introducing hedgehog nests. Ms Sargent then answered Members questions. Following the presentation Members considered the support that Helston Town Council could offer. It was then proposed by the Chair, seconded by Councillor Benyon, and unanimously

RESOLVED – that the Town Council:

- a) assist with awareness of the issues faced by hedgehogs and possible solutions via the Town Councils Social Media pages; and
- b) consider the inclusion of hedgehog nests and nature piles in Town Council maintained open spaces where appropriate.

147. Making Space for Nature Project

Ms Melissa Ralph, the Making Space for Nature Project Lead at Cornwall Council, updated Members on the Making Space for Nature Projects which were due to commence in Helston at the end of October. She outlined the scope of the works at both Coronation Gardens and Helston Cemetery, showings plans for the proposals, and advised that the planned works would not impede the Town Council's plans for Coronation Park which were being developed by the Projects Officer.

148. Report of the Town Clerk

i) Bench at Bosnoweth

The Town Clerk confirmed that Council officers had not detected any signs of anti-social behaviour in the area of the bench and there had been no reports of issues from neighbouring residents. It was agreed that no action be taken with the bench at that time and the situation continued to be monitored.

ii) Hedgehog Conservation

This item was noted.

iii) Memorial Bench

Following a detailed debate it was proposed by Councillor Thomas, seconded by Councillor Benyon, and unanimously

RESOLVED – that the Town Council:

- a) approach the Cornwall Council local Member to seek consultation with local residents and obtain permission from Cornwall Council; and
- b) in principle, accept the offer of a memorial bench.

Councillor Mrs Boase declared an interest in the following item and left the meeting at 8.43pm.

iv) Indoor Market

Following a brief debate it was proposed by Councillor Thomas, seconded by Councillor Benyon, and

RESOLVED – that the operating times for the Indoor Market be amended to 10am to 2pm.

Councillor Mrs Boase returned to the meeting at 8.46pm.

v) Carbon Offsetting

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs Boase, seconded by the Chair, that the Town Council offset 32 tonnes of carbon in relation to the Councils gas usage for the current year and the previous three years with the Seaweed Farming Project in Cornwall via earthy.org. Following a tied vote and the use of the casting vote of the Chair this item was referred to Full Council for consideration.

149. Exclusion of the Press and Public

On the proposition of Councillor Benyon, seconded by Councillor Thomas, 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.

150. Confidential Report of the Town Clerk

Members considered the confidential report of the Town Clerk circulated prior to the meeting.

i) Council Chamber Committee Table

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

RESOLVED – that this item be deferred to the November Amenities Committee meeting.

ii) Guildhall Building Survey

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

RESOLVED – that the quotation for a BIM 3D model be accepted from SW Topography at a cost of £4,750.

iii) Photocopier Renewal

It was proposed by Councillor R J L Boase, seconded by Councillor Thomas, and

RESOLVED – that the Council proceed with a 6-year lease of a 4 Tray machine supplied by First Office including the enhanced support.

Meeting closed at 9.36pm

Confirmed

Chair

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Amenities Committee Meeting 24th November 2022

REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK

1. Bench at Bosnoweth

Following Members request Council staff have visited the site of the bench at various times of day and have not detected any indication of anti-social behaviour taking place and have received no reports from neighbouring residents.

2. Hedgehog Houses

Further to Min. No. 146 /2022 the Town Council resolved to consider the inclusion of hedgehog nests and nature piles in Town Council maintained open spaces where appropriate. Advice has been obtained from a representative of the Porthleven Harbour Hedgies which has confirmed the following criteria for a hedgehog house:

- The houses need a base and stand on feet to stop damp getting in.
- Need to be waterproof.
- Need to be predator proof i.e. have an internal or external tunnel 5" square so they can get in but cat or foxes can't.

Unfortunately, many pre-made hedgehog houses do not meet this criteria however it is possible to obtain a handmade hedgehog houses at a cost of around £45.00 (pictured below). A hedgehog house of this nature would also need securing to prevent the hedgehog being disturbed whilst the house is in use.



Members are requested to consider number and locations should the Council be minded to purchase hedgehog houses. Should Members wish to proceed it is recommended that one hedgehog house be purchased initially to allow resolution of security fixing prior to purchasing additional houses.

**Town Clerk
17th November 2022**

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