

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF HELSTON TOWN COUNCIL**  
**HELD AT HELSTON METHODIST CHURCH**  
**ON THURSDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2021 AT 7 PM**

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

R Williams	T Grattan-Kane	G T Looker
R J L Boase	Rev D P Reed	S L Ramsden
Mrs F N E Boase	M J Kenchington	C L D Real
M H Thomas	M Benyon	P M Webb

**Officers:** Miss P J Lavelle (Town Clerk)  
Miss A D Retallack (Deputy Town Clerk)  
Mr M Searle (Projects Officer)  
Ms J Heath (Mayor's Secretary and Administrative Assistant)

The Meeting was preceded with Prayers offered by Councillor Reverend Reed.

**1. Election of Town Mayor for 2021/22**

(1) The Mayor declared his Term of Office ended and thereupon invited nominations for the Office of Town Mayor for the ensuing year. It was proposed by Councillor Martin, seconded by Councillor Reverend Reed, "That Councillor Timothy Grattan-Kane be elected Town Mayor for the year 2021/22".

There being no other nominations, the Town Clerk advised that the election would be conducted by means of the 'long vote' and upon an open call of the Members present, the voting was recorded as follows:-

Councillor R Williams	-	Voted for Councillor T Grattan-Kane
" R J L Boase	-	- ditto -
" Mrs F N E Boase	-	- ditto -
" M H Thomas	-	- ditto -
" J Martin	-	- ditto -
" T Grattan-Kane	-	- ditto -
" Rev. D P Reed	-	- ditto -
" M J Kenchington	-	- ditto -
" M Benyon	-	- ditto -
" G T Looker	-	- ditto -
" S L Ramsden	-	Abstained
" C L D Real	-	Voted for Councillor T Grattan-Kane
" P M Webb	-	- ditto -

It was thereby

RESOLVED – that Councillor Timothy Grattan-Kane be elected Town Mayor for the ensuing year.

- (2) The retiring Mayor, the newly-elected Mayor and the Town Clerk were conducted by the Town Beadle to the Dressing Room for the robing of the new Mayor.
- (3) The Members of the Council signed the record indicating the manner in which they had voted.
- (4) Upon returning to the meeting room, the newly-elected Mayor took the Chair and made his Declaration of Acceptance of Office.
- (5) The Mayor then made his speech following which he formally appointed Canon David Miller as his Chaplain for the ensuing year.
- (6) A vote of thanks to the retiring Mayor and Mayor's Consort proposed by the Mayor, was seconded by Councillor Kenchington and the Mayor presented Councillor Martin with a Town Plaque. Councillor Martin responded.
- (7) The Mayor then presented the retiring Mayor with a bouquet for the retiring Mayoress.

## **2. Appointment of Deputy Town Mayor**

On the proposition of Councillor Martin, seconded by Councillor Williams, it was RESOLVED – that Councillor Kenchington be appointed as Deputy Town Mayor for the ensuing year.

The Deputy Mayor then made his speech.

## **3. Apologies**

An apology for non-attendance was received from Councillor Gilbert.

## **4. Cornwall Councillor Reports**

(a) Cornwall Councillor Foreman thanked the Members for his invitation and said that he was new in post but was happy to help and work with the Council in any matters he could assist with.

(b) Cornwall Councillor Thomas gave a report mentioning the broken leat at Church Street, new traffic measures at Belmont Road and advised that he has lobbied for a complete resurfacing of Meneage Street. Councillor RJJ Boase asked whether Cornwall Council had been monitoring traffic whilst Church Street has been closed. Cornwall Councillor Thomas replied that as the closure was due to works and not a planned scheme it would not have been monitored. He suggested that a 20 mile per hour speed limit trial in residential streets may be an answer to current issues.

At this point Councillor Benyon commented that the Climate Emergency has an impact on traffic, health and the water in the leats and stressed the importance of climate change education. She advised she was keen to see how the Cornwall Councillors would promote these issues. Councillor Thomas confirmed that there has been a change of administration at Cornwall Council to a Conservative led Council and they had a detailed response on their website. He further advised that he was waiting to see what the new administration proposed.

## **5. Public Participation**

A representative of Helston Climate Action Group (HCAG) reminded Councillors that in 2019 Helston Town Council declared a climate emergency. He expressed the opinion that the climate emergency overrode all other matters and informed members that HCAG met every week by Zoom and that Councillors were very welcome to attend. He informed members that HCAG considered themselves a critical friend to the Council and looked to inform and support the Council when making decisions. He requested that the Cornwall Councillors present support the Climate Emergency Development Plan Document.

A member of the public suggested that a speed limit of 20 miles per hour would assist with the traffic issues on Cross Street.

A student on placement with HCAG then spoke to Members regarding a report she had produced about pesticide usage as part of her degree (circulated prior to the meeting). She asked the Members to consider how becoming pesticide free would influence others to take similar steps. The Town Clerk advised that she was producing a policy for the Town Council's Pesticide and Herbicide use which would be considered by the Policy, Finance and Resources Committee. She confirmed that the Town Council did not use pesticides and only used herbicides to deal with invasive species, in line with guidance, within its open spaces.

A member of HCAG confirmed that was aware that Helston Town Council did not use pesticides in their open spaces and urged Members to take the final step and publicise this.

## **6. Minutes**

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

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> May 2021 be approved and signed as a true record.

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

It was proposed by Councillor Thomas, seconded by Councillor Martin and

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> May 2021, be received.

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

The Projects Officer updated Members on his report (circulated prior to the meeting) including:

- Town Vitality Funding (TVF) – suggested amendments to the agreement had been submitted.
- Welcome Back Fund – further details relating to management of the funds and the bidding process had been requested from Cornwall Council.
- Helston Cultural Quarter – Alison Bunning would be commissioned as soon as the TVF Agreement was in place.
- Wendron Leats and Helston Kennels – They were continuing to review content for the digital exhibition and drone footage had been added.

- Helston Energy Scoping Study – there was a potential issue with the strength of the system which could act as a restraint when connecting to it. The Project Team was meeting next week to discuss the issue.

It was proposed by Councillor Reverend Reed, seconded by Councillor Martin and unanimously

RESOLVED – that the Council approved submission of an RCEF bid for a single solar PV site to the South West Energy Hub by 14<sup>th</sup> June 2021 and that authority be delegated to the RCEF Project Team to authorise submission of the bid once prepared, with costs informed by the preferred tender.

- Coronation Gardens/ King George V Playing Fields – it was intended that the consultation programme be completed by 4<sup>th</sup> June, after which the findings would be used to produce a concept plan to guide improvements.

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

### **(1) Annual Audit of Accounts for 2020/21**

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

RESOLVED – that Section 1 of the Annual Return be approved and be signed by the Mayor and Town Clerk.

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

RESOLVED – that the Accounting Statements for the financial year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021 as set out in the Annual Return, be approved, and duly signed on this Council’s behalf by the Mayor and Town Clerk.

### **(2) General Power of Competence**

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

RESOLVED – that Helston Town Council adopted the General Power of Competence from 20<sup>th</sup> May 2021 until the next relevant Annual Meeting of the Council, having met the conditions of eligibility as defined in the Localism Act 2011 and SI 963 The Parish Councils (General Power of Competence) (Prescribed Conditions) Order 2012.

### **(3) Bank Signatories**

It was proposed by Councillor Reverend Reed, seconded by Councillor Martin, and unanimously

RESOLVED – that Councillor Reverend Reed be added as a signatory to the Town Council’s bank accounts.

### **(4) Helston Theatre Company Grant**

It was proposed by Councillor Thomas, seconded by Councillor RJJ Boase, and unanimously

RESOLVED – that permission be given for the grant funding previously awarded to be used for Helston Theatre Company’s summer production of James and The Giant Peach.

**10. Schedule of Accounts for Payment**

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

RESOLVED – that Account Nos. 59-134 inclusive as listed and set out as an Appendix to these Minutes, in the total sum of £52,716.95 be received.

**11. To agree the dates and times of Council Meetings for the ensuing year**

On the proposition of Councillor Kenchington, seconded by Councillor Martin, it was unanimously

RESOLVED – that the Council proceed with meetings in person as set out on the Calendar of Meetings.

**12. To reappoint Trevenen Exhibition Governors**

On the proposition of Councillor Mrs Boase, seconded by Councillor Williams, it was  
RESOLVED – that the whole Council be appointed as Governors.

**13. Appointment of Representatives to Committees and Outside Bodies**

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs Boase, seconded by Councillor Thomas, and unanimously

RESOLVED – that:

a) Councillors Mrs F N E Boase; M H Thomas; M Benyon; S L Ramsden; C L D Real and P M Webb be appointed to the Amenities Committee;

b) Councillors R J L Boase; J Martin; Rev D P Reed, M J Kenchington; M Benyon; A G Gilbert; G T Looker, C L D Real and P M Webb be appointed to the Planning Committee;

c) Councillors T Grattan-Kane (Town Mayor); R Williams; R J L Boase, Mrs F N E Boase, M H Thomas; M J Kenchington; M Benyon; A G Gilbert; G T Looker; S L Ramsden and C L D Real be appointed to the Policy, Finance and Resources Committee;

d) The Mayor (Councillor T Grattan-Kane), the Chair of the Amenities Committee, the Chair of the Policy, Finance and Resources Committee and the Chair of the Planning Committee be appointed to the RCEF Project Team.

e) Councillors T Grattan-Kane (Town Mayor); R J L Boase, Mrs F N E Boase; M H Thomas; Rev D P Reed; G T Looker; M Benyon and C L D Real be appointed to the Youth Engagement Working Party.

f) Councillors Mrs F N E Boase; A G Gilbert; S L Ramsden and C L D Real be appointed to the Keep Helston Tidy Working Party

g) Councillors T Grattan-Kane (Town Mayor); R Williams; R J L Boase; M H Thomas; J Martin; and A G Gilbert be appointed to the Traffic Regulation Order Working Party

h) Councillors T Grattan-Kane (Town Mayor); F N E Boase; J Martin; M J Kenchington; P M Webb; M Benyon; S L Ramsden and C L D Real be appointed to the Carbon Footprint Reduction Working Party

It was further proposed by Councillor Reverend Reed, seconded by Councillor Real, and unanimously

RESOLVED – that representatives be appointed to Outside Bodies for the ensuing Municipal year as detailed below:-

a) **Cornwall Association of Local Councils**

Councillor M J Kenchington (Deputy – Councillor J Martin)

b) **Helston and South Kerrier Community Network Panel**

Councillor J Martin (Deputy – Councillor A G Gilbert)

c) **Helston & the Lizard Works**

Councillor M Benyon

d) **Helston Christmas Lights Committee**

Councillor C L D Real

e) **Helston Climate Action Group**

Councillors J Martin, A G Gilbert; G T Looker; M Benyon; S L Ramsden; C L D Real; PM Webb

f) **Helston Community College**

Councillors M H Thomas, J Martin, T Grattan-Kane, Reverend D Reed; and C L D Real

g) **Helston Community Interest Company**

Councillor M J Kenchington (Deputy – Councillor M Benyon)

h) **Helston in Bloom**

Councillor S L Ramsden

i) **Helston Welfare Trust: Nominated Trustees**

Request to not appoint at this time.

- j) **Loe Pool Management Forum**  
Councillor R Williams
- k) **Marketing Group**  
Councillors J Martin, M J Kenchington and G T Looker
- l) **Plastic Free Helston Steering Group**  
Councillor S L Ramsden
- m) **The Furry Youth Café Corporate Directorate**  
Councillor M H Thomas
- n) **West Cornwall CCTV Group**  
Councillor M H Thomas (Deputy – Councillor T Grattan-Kane)
- o) **Projects Group**  
Councillor T Grattan-Kane (the Mayor) and Councillors F N E Boase and J Martin
- p) **Town & Parish Council Police Liaison Group**  
Councillor T Grattan-Kane (the Mayor)
- q) **West Cornwall CCTV Group**  
Councillor M H Thomas (Deputy – Councillor M J Kenchington)
- r) **Youth Cafes Cornwall Corporate Directorate**  
Councillors M H Thomas and M Benyon
- s) **Place Shaping Board**  
Councillor J Martin

**Meeting closed at 9.26pm**

**Confirmed**

**Town Mayor**