

MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING OF HELSTON TOWN COUNCIL
HELD IN THE GUILDHALL, HELSTON
ON MONDAY 14TH JUNE 2010 AT 7.00 PM

Councillors: R J L Boase (Town Mayor) in the Chair

Mrs S M E Swift
N J C Devenish
K Reynolds

D C Swift
Mrs F N E Boase
R R Pryor

J P Radford-Gaby
Mrs W A Radford-Gaby

Officers: Mr C Dawson - Town Clerk

59. Apologies

Apologies for non-attendance were received from Councillor Mrs Matthew who had guests from Italy and Councillor Thomas for family reasons.

On the proposition of Councillor D C Swift, seconded by Councillor Mrs Boase, it was
RESOLVED – that the apologies be received and accepted.

Councillor J P Radford-Gaby entered the meeting at 7.02pm

60. Town Plan

Members of the Focus Groups reported on their meetings as follows:-

i) Environment and Heritage

Councillor J P Radford-Gaby advised that he and Councillor Mrs Matthew had agreed twelve questions for a questionnaire in response to comments made at the two public consultations. Councillor J P Radford-Gaby read the questions out to Members.

ii) Local Economy and Transport

Councillor Devenish stated that this Focus Group had reached a point where it could go no further without additional consultation. He advised that issues relating to transport had been put to the Community Network Meeting and the next meeting was dedicated to the subject. This Focus Group had not produced a questionnaire and queried if the Council was minded to survey every household.

Councillor Mrs Swift suggested it would be prudent to devise the questions after the Community Network Meeting on Transportation.

iii) Community Facilities

Councillor J P Radford-Gaby read a list of six questions that the Group had drafted for a questionnaire.

iv) Recreation, Leisure and Healthy Life Styles

The Mayor tabled a questionnaire that required both tick box answers and narrative.

At this point the Town Clerk updated Members on accessing a questionnaire from the Council's website. He advised that the web provider could only quote for additional work when it knew exactly what was required. A discussion then ensued regarding the use of the Council's website as a means of accessing a questionnaire.

v) Older People

Councillor Mrs Swift circulated a report that highlighted three main areas of concern to older people; health, transport and community facilities. She advised that she had access to the results of a number of surveys that had been carried out recently and there was no need to survey again.

vi) Housing

Councillor J P Radford-Gaby read a list of eleven questions that the Group had drafted for a questionnaire. The Mayor suggested that the order of questions be changed. After a brief discussion, it was agreed that a questionnaire would require a page of general questions at the beginning.

vii) Children and Young People

The Town Clerk read an email from Councillor Thomas advising that he had a number of ideas that he was still pursuing.

viii) Community Safety

Councillor Thomas advised by email that, in his opinion, this Focus Group needed to be reconvened and brought to the table for a full debate with clearer goals.

It was agreed that the Council as a whole needed to know what the concerns of the town were. Councillor Devenish advised that he would contact the Chairman of Partners & Communities Together (PACT) for information on the priority issues over the last two years.

Focus Groups

The Town Clerk informed Members that Councillor Pryor had requested to stand down from the Recreation, Leisure & Healthy Life Styles Focus Group. Councillor Mrs Radford-Gaby agreed to join this Group.

Members then agreed to disband the Community Safety Focus Group as community safety issues would be highlighted by the other Groups and discussed by the Full Council.

Questionnaire

Councillor Devenish expressed the opinion that a survey was required. Councillor Mrs Swift suggested producing a paper questionnaire delivered to every household initially and then to assess alternative methods of consultation. A debate then ensued regarding the drafting and circulation of a questionnaire following which it was proposed by Councillor Devenish, seconded by Councillor Pryor, and unanimously

RESOLVED – that

- (a) the Council produce a survey with input from all Focus Groups to be hand delivered by Members to all households in Helston, and
- (b) the Town Clerk investigate costings to make the survey available for download from the Council's website.

Meeting closed at 8.35pm

Confirmed

Town Mayor