

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HELSTON TOWN COUNCIL
HELD IN THE GUILDHALL, HELSTON
ON THURSDAY 16TH APRIL 2009 AT 7.15 P.M.

Present: Councillor N.J.C. Devenish (Town Mayor) in the Chair

Councillors:

R. Williams	K. Reynolds	R.R. Pryor
Mrs S.M.E. Swift	Mrs V.J. Matthew	M.H. Thomas
N.C. Martin	D.C. Swift	
R.J.L. Boase	Mrs F.N.E. Boase	

Officers: Mr C. Dawson (Town Clerk)
Miss P.J. Lavelle (Finance and Committee Assistant)

471. PRAYERS

The Meeting opened with Prayers offered by the Mayor's Chaplain, Reverend Dorothy Noakes.

Councillor Williams entered the meeting at 7.17pm

472. APOLOGIES

An apology for non-attendance was received from Councillor Phillips who was unwell.

On the proposition of the Mayor, seconded by Councillor Reynolds, it was

RESOLVED – that the Apology be received and accepted.

473. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Mrs Swift declared an interest in item 1 of the Town Clerk's Report (Agenda item 15) as the Chairman of CALC.

Councillor Mrs Matthew declared an interest in item 4 of the Town Clerk's Report (Agenda item 15) as a member of Transition Helston.

474. POLICE MATTERS

The Town Clerk advised that the Devon & Cornwall Constabulary had submitted apologies and read a report on their behalf which included recent crime figures and those for the corresponding period from the year previous and an update on the results of the PACT meeting. Following a brief debate it was proposed by the Mayor, seconded by Councillor Reynolds, and

RESOLVED – that the Amenities Committee liaise with the Police and consider the suggestion of a fold away bench outside the Post Office.

475. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr I Perry conveyed his best wishes to Councillor Thomas and then referred to the recent PACT meeting and Flora Day.

Mrs Haycock asked if Members had received details from Andrew George MP regarding the proposed loyalty card scheme. She also advised that Transition Helston were happy to give a presentation to the Town Council regarding Low Carbon Cornwall. Mrs Haycock further expressed concern over the weeds in the town enquiring if the Town Council had entered into negotiation with Cornwall Council regarding their treatment. The Mayor and the Town Clerk confirmed that the subject had not been discussed with Cornwall Council.

476. MINUTES

On the proposition of Councillor Mrs Swift, seconded by Councillor Pryor, it was

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on the 19th March 2009 and the Special Town Council meeting on 23rd March 2009 be approved and signed as a true record.

477. MINUTES OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE

On the proposition of Councillor R.J.L. Boase, seconded by Councillor D.C. Swift, it was

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on the 19th March and 2nd April 2009, be received.

478. MINUTES OF THE AMENITIES COMMITTEE

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

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Special Amenities Committee meeting held on the 27th March 2009, be received.

479. MINUTES OF THE PLAY COMMITTEE

On the proposition of Councillor Mrs Matthew, seconded by Councillor R.J.L. Boase, it was

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Play Committee meeting held on the 30th March 2009, be received and the recommendations approved.

480. MINUTES OF THE HARVEST FAIR COMMITTEE

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

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Harvest Fair Committee meeting held on the 2nd April 2009, be received.

481. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor advised that at the Special Full Council Meeting regarding the Town Plan held the previous evening, it had been agreed to hold the initial public consultation during week commencing 8th June 2009 and confirmed that further details would be provided over the coming weeks.

The Mayor further advised that the Town Clerk had received an e-mail from Phillip Mason, Head of Planning and Regeneration at Cornwall Council, to confirm that the Tesco and Sainsbury Section 106 funding for the provision of a Town Centre Manager and Public Realm Works would be transferred to the Town Council. The Mayor expressed his gratitude to Councillor Mrs Swift for her assistance in resolving the issue.

Councillor Mrs Swift advised that former Town Councillor Mr J Hocking's mother had passed away. At the Mayor's request Members held a minute's silence.

Councillor Thomas thanked Members for making him welcome and advised that he was looking forward to working for the town. Councillor Thomas further advised that in his opinion the lack of polling cards had caused confusion for the public at the recent by-election.

482. REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES OF HELSTON ATTENDING CORNWALL COUNCIL MEETINGS

Councillor Mrs Swift advised that she was part of a countywide group looking at all aspects of the new Council and gave a detailed report making particular mention to economic development of towns and car parking. Councillor Mrs Swift further advised that a meeting had been held with Mr Tom Flanagan – Director of Regeneration, Ms G Steward – Director of Communities and Mary Cooper – Head of Localism. Councillor Mrs Swift then spoke on the information events held by Cornwall Council for prospective Councillors and informed Members that three Area Network Managers had been appointed and two Community Network Managers had been offered posts.

483. REVIEW OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF INTERNAL CONTROLS

Members considered a report by the Town Clerk regarding the Review of the Effectiveness of Internal Controls. Following a brief debate it was proposed by Councillor Williams, seconded by Councillor D.C. Swift, and

RESOLVED – that Members:

- a) accepted that a suitable and effective system of internal control was in place; and
- b) the Town Clerk follow-up the areas noted for development.

484. REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK

(1) CALC Affiliation 2009/10

On the proposition of Councillor Reynolds, seconded by Councillor Williams, it was

RESOLVED – that the additional voluntary donation of £50 be paid.

Councillor Mrs Swift declared an interest in this item and took no part in the debate or voting thereon.

(2) The Law of Parks and Open Spaces

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs Swift, seconded by Councillor Pryor, and

RESOLVED – that the Town Clerk be authorised to purchase the book.

(3) Coastline Housing Limited

This item was noted.

(4) Low Carbon Cornwall

Following a detailed debate it was proposed by Councillor Reynolds, seconded by Councillor R.J.L. Boase, and

RESOLVED – that:

- a) the Town Council deferred making a decision and requested that the applicant body make a written request for the use of the Corn Exchange free of charge; and
- b) this policy be adopted for future requests.

Councillor Mrs Matthew declared an interest in this item.

(5) Could You be a Councillor for Cornwall Council?

This item was noted.

(6) Flora Day - Kennels

Following a detailed debate it was proposed by the Mayor, seconded by Councillor Reynolds, and

RESOLVED – that the Town Council supported the turning off of the kennels on Flora Day.

(7) Cornwall Council Electoral Review

This item was noted.

485. REPORT OF THE TOWN WARDEN

Following a detailed debate it was proposed by the Mayor, seconded by Councillor Reynolds, and

RESOLVED – that the Town Warden be asked to give priority to litter removal in and around the town over the subsequent months.

It was further proposed by the Mayor, seconded by Councillor Reynolds, and

RESOLVED – that a letter be sent to Top Marks to express the Town Council's appreciation for the graffiti removal.

486. SCHEDULE OF ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

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

RESOLVED – that Account Nos. 1-35 inclusive as listed and set out as an Appendix to these Minutes, be certified for payment in the total sum of £65,318.05.

(Councillor Williams declared an interest in Account No. 33 and Councillor Mrs Swift declared an interest in Account No's 12 and 13.)

It was agreed that the cheques would be signed by Councillor Williams and Councillor Mrs Swift.

487. ATTENDANCES AT MEETINGS

Councillor Mrs Swift had attended a CALC Executive meeting, a Citizens Advice Bureau Board Meeting, a Police Authority Liaison meeting and together with Councillor Pryor the Cornwall Council Ceremony at Isaac House.

The Mayor had attended the PACT meeting and confirmed that it had been very interesting.

The Town Clerk had attended the Planning Focus Group meeting and advised that he would circulate the Minutes as soon as they had been approved.

488. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

The Mayor requested that Members contact the Town Clerk's office to place items on the following Full Council Agenda.

489. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

On the proposition of Councillor Pryor, seconded by Councillor D.C. Swift, 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.

490. HELSTON COMMUNITY CENTRE

Members considered correspondence from the Council's Solicitor. Following a detailed debate it was proposed by Councillor Reynolds, seconded by Councillor D.C. Swift, and

RESOLVED – that the Town Council's contribution to the surveyor be capped at £800.00 plus vat.

It was further proposed by the Mayor, seconded by Councillor D.C. Swift, and

RESOLVED – that Councillor Mrs Swift, Councillor Reynolds and the Town Clerk attend a meeting with the Town Council's solicitor.

Meeting closed at 8.43pm

Confirmed

Town Mayor