

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HELSTON TOWN COUNCIL**  
**HELD IN THE GUILDHALL, HELSTON**  
**ON THURSDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2015 AT 7.15 PM**

**Councillors:** M H Thomas (Town Mayor) in the Chair

R Williams  
R J L Boase  
Mrs F N E Boase

J P Radford-Gaby  
J Martin  
Mrs G A Geer

Mrs N Roberts  
D Potter

**Officers:** Mr C Dawson (Town Clerk)  
Miss P J Lavelle (Deputy Town Clerk)  
Mr M Searle (Town Centre Regeneration Officer)

The Mayor welcomed Councillor Potter to his first meeting.

**269. Prayers**

The Meeting opened with Prayers offered by Reverend Dorothy Noakes.

**270. Apologies**

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

**271. Police Matters**

The Town Clerk advised that apologies had been received from the Devon & Cornwall Constabulary and read a report on behalf of WPC Butcher which included recent crime figures and those for the corresponding period from the year previous.

**272. Reports from Local Cornwall Councillors and the Community Link Officer**

a) Local Cornwall Councillors

Cornwall Councillor Mrs Haycock gave a report during which she advised that she had attended a car parks meeting in Camborne, a Planning Inspectors meeting, a meeting with Derek Thomas MP and a Cornwall PAC meeting. Councillor Mrs Haycock further advised that she had been contacted regarding a number of parking issues advising that yellow lines would assist but Cornwall Council did not have funding available. Councillor Mrs Haycock then confirmed that the mixed plastics recycling scheme would be commencing shortly for the areas involved which included half of Helston and gave further details on the scheme. Councillor Mrs Haycock then confirmed that the cannon at the rear of the Guildhall would be removed the following week for repairs by RNAS Culdrose.

Cornwall Councillor Wallis congratulated Councillor Potter on his election advising he looked forward to working with him. Councillor Wallis informed Members that together with Councillor Mrs Haycock he had been investigating costings and traffic flows for a school crossing on Meneage Road to assist with access to Nansloe School. Councillor Wallis then updated Members on the Helston Community College rebuild advising that Cornwall Council had written to the Department of Education requesting further information on the situation.

b) Community Link Officer

The Mayor advised that the Community Link Officer had provided a report (circulated prior to the meeting).

**273. Public Participation**

A member of the public expressed his best wishes to Councillor Potter. He then expressed his sadness over the recent terrorist attacks in France and expressed concern over proposed cuts to the Police.

**274. Reports from Local Cornwall Councillors (Cont.)**

Cornwall Councillor Martin advised that he had attended a Police Commissioners meeting in Plymouth and updated Members on potential changes to the policing strategy.

Councillor Williams queried whether the use of the police station building had been considered as part of any devolution schemes. Cornwall Councillor Martin advised that the use of the police station had not yet been considered but Cornwall Council was investigating all the options. In response to a question from the Mayor, Cornwall Councillor Wallis advised that Cornwall Council was in discussion with all emergency services and health services regarding the devolution of assets. Councillor Wallis expressed concern that the Police Force needed to make budget cuts and when the funding formula was announced there could still be significant cuts. He further advised that the Police were reviewing the funding model as it had been based on an outdated model which did not take into account the rurality of the area and the late night economy. Cornwall Councillor Mrs Haycock advised she had had informal discussions with the local Police Officers and had passed the issue onto the officer dealing with the devolution of Libraries and One Stop Shops. She advised that Helston Police Station had been closed to the public for a number of years but an office or desk in the town would be better than no presence expressing the opinion that the Police might not be the only body interested in sharing office space within the Library or One Stop Shop. Cornwall Councillor Martin expressed the opinion that it was important to retain a hub in the town.

**275. Report from the Helston Business Improvement Partnership (HBIP)**

The Mayor welcomed Mrs S Moralee (HBIP BID Development Manager), Mr A Perry (Chair of HBIP) and Mr A Ferrie (Company Secretary and Treasurer of HBIP) to the meeting. Mrs Moralee offered to answer questions in respect of her report (circulated prior to the meeting). Councillor Martin wished to make Members aware of the commitment that HBIP has had for events and issues in the town over the last three years which was likely to end shortly and expressed the opinion that the Town Council needed to take responsibility for continuing some of the good work. Mrs Moralee advised that the members of the HBIP were putting together a proposal which they hoped would be ready for the December Full Council meeting. The Mayor thanked the HBIP for their hard work and all they had done for the town and queried what help they needed to move forward. Mrs Moralee confirmed that the HBIP needed funding to continue, briefly outlining the Christmas events due to take place and expressing concern that the HBIP may not be able to repeat the events the following year.

**276. Minutes**

On the proposition of Councillor Radford-Gaby, seconded by Councillor Mrs Boase, it was

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on the 15<sup>th</sup> October 2015 be approved and signed as a true record.

**Councillor Potter abstained from the vote as he had not been present.**

**277. Minutes of the Planning Committee**

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

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on the 15<sup>th</sup> October and 5<sup>th</sup> November 2015, be received.

**278. Minutes of the Policy, Finance & Resources Committee**

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

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Policy, Finance & Resources Committee meeting held on the 10<sup>th</sup> November 2015 and the Special Policy, Finance & Resources Committee meeting held on the 29<sup>th</sup> October 2015, be received.

**279. Minutes of the Amenities Committee**

On the proposition of Councillor Radford-Gaby, seconded by Councillor Mrs Boase, it was

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Special Amenities Committee meeting held on the 11<sup>th</sup> November 2015, be received.

**280. Notes of the Youth Engagement Working Party**

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

RESOLVED – that the Notes of the Youth Engagement Working Party meeting, be received.

**281. Announcements**

The Town Clerk advised that the deadline for the current co-option was at noon on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2015. He further advised that the final vacancy was going through the process of determining whether residents wished to request an election with the deadline for requests being the following day, confirming that if an election was not requested this vacancy would also be filled by co-option.

The Town Clerk then congratulated the Deputy Town Clerk on achieving her AAT qualification and becoming a member of the Association of Accounting Technicians. The Mayor expressed his congratulations on behalf of the Town Council.

The Mayor informed Members that the new Town Council website should be live by the end of the week, thanking Councillor R J L Boase and the Deputy Town Clerk for their work on the project. The Mayor then advised that he had attended the following events:

- The launch of the Poppy Appeal and the Poppy Appeal Concert confirming that he had also judged the pictures from the schools for Remembrance;
- The Mayor of Truro's Tea Dance in aid of the Emmaus Cornwall;
- A meeting with the Head Teacher of Helston Community College;
- A Mayor's meeting in Bodmin
- A meeting with the MP and the local Cornwall Council Division Members to discuss Helston;
- The Mayor's Ball which had been a great success; and
- A Big Up Helston event organised by Helston & the Lizard Works.

The Mayor then reminded Members that the latest Mayoress' Crossword was for sale with a 30<sup>th</sup> November 2015 closing date.

**282. Update regarding the Furry Café**

The Mayor advised that there had been no progress with the Youth Café advising that he was trying to move the project forward.

**283. Strategic Plan 2016-2020**

The Town Clerk advised that Full Council had agreed to produce a Strategic Plan which was something the Council had not had in place previously. The Town Clerk advised that it was beneficial to have a Strategic Plan which laid out the Council's aims and aspirations and confirmed that the Policy, Finance and Resources Committee had considered the document in detail and made a few changes before passing it for Full Council's consideration. The Town Clerk further advised that the Town Centre Regeneration Officer had requested the inclusion of the Helston Public Realm Framework and Helston Traffic & Urban Public Realm Study in the associated documents section.

A detailed debate ensued during which it was agreed that the priority of the Wedding Venue and the Flora Day Street Market be increased to high priority. At the conclusion of the debate it was proposed by the Mayor, seconded by Councillor Mrs Boase, and unanimously

RESOLVED – that the Strategic Plan 2016-2020 be adopted subject to the above amendments.

The Mayor expressed his thanks to the Town Clerk for the production of a comprehensive document.

**284. Report of the Town Centre Regeneration Officer**

The Town Centre Regeneration Officer updated Members on his report (circulated prior to the meeting) and responded to Members' questions.

The Mayor thanked the Town Centre Regeneration Officer for his report.

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

**Councillor Williams declared an interest in the following item as a Trustee of the Godolphin Club and left the meeting at 8.30pm.**

### **(1) Christmas Lights**

Following a detailed debate it was proposed by Councillor Martin, seconded by Councillor Mrs Geer, and

RESOLVED – that the Council supported the Mayor’s action to pay for electrical improvements at the Godolphin Club to enable them to power the Christmas lights in Wendron Street and agreed to refund the Mayor’s Fund £155 + vat from General Reserves.

**Councillor Williams returned to the meeting at 8.36pm.**

### **(2) Transport Matters – Meeting with Cornwall Councillor Biscoe**

The Town Clerk confirmed that the meeting to discuss transport issues was being held on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December at 2pm. This item was noted.

### **(3) Community Health Service**

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

RESOLVED – that Standing Order 1.14 be suspended to allow Cornwall Councillor Mrs Haycock to speak.

Cornwall Councillor Mrs Haycock confirmed that Cornwall Council had already considered this item and it had been agreed to support a consortium of organisations in Cornwall to run the facility.

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

RESOLVED – that Standing Order 1.14 be resumed.

The Town Clerk confirmed that this item was no longer required.

### **(4) Committee Membership**

The Town Clerk confirmed that Councillor Potter had not yet decided which Committees he wished to stand on. This item was noted.

## **286. Schedule of Accounts for Payment**

For the benefit of Councillor Potter the Town Clerk advised that where possible questions regarding the accounts should be asked prior to the meeting when he had all the information available.

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

RESOLVED – that Account Nos. 369-438 inclusive as listed and set out as an Appendix to these Minutes, be certified for payment in the total sum of £29,506.34.

**287. Attendance at Meetings**

Written reports were submitted by the Mayor and Councillor Mrs Boase prior to the meeting. The Mayor and Councillor Mrs Boase then updated Members on their reports.

Councillor Williams advised that he had attended the St Just Feast Parade and Service on behalf of the Mayor. The Mayor thanked him for his attendance.

Councillor Martin advised that he had not submitted a report as the Helston Business Improvement Partnership meeting had been postponed.

**288. Items for the next Agenda**

At the Mayor's request the Town Clerk outlined the process for requesting items on the Agenda.

**Meeting closed at 8.47pm**

**Confirmed**

**Town Mayor**