

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HELSTON TOWN COUNCIL**  
**HELD IN THE GUILDHALL, HELSTON**  
**ON THURSDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2024 AT 7.00 PM**

**Councillors:** M J Kenchington (Town Mayor) in the Chair

R Williams	T Grattan-Kane	S L Ramsden
R J L Boase	J Martin	P M Webb
Mrs F N E Boase	M Benyon	M P Andrew
M H Thomas	G Looker	P Williams

**Officers:** Miss P J Lavelle (Town Clerk)  
Miss A Retallack (Deputy Town Clerk)  
Miss C L Caldwell (Projects Officer)

**249. Prayers**

The Meeting opened with Prayers offered by Councillor Andrew.

**250. Apologies**

An apology for non-attendance was submitted by Councillor Willey.

**251. Swearing in of Sergeant-at-Mace**

Mr Larry Poultney, having been appointed by the Mayor as Sergeant-at-Mace for the remainder of the civic year, was duly sworn to Office by the Town Clerk.

**252. Cornwall Councillors' Reports**

Cornwall Councillor Thomas gave a report during which he made particular mention to:

- His involvement with a number of casework issues;
- The consultation stage for the agreed Traffic Regulation Orders for Helston North has completed. A timeline for delivery should emerge in the weeks ahead;
- The roll out of the new waste service for Helston would be July; and
- New bus flags had been installed around the route of the 37 and 37A services.

Cornwall Councillor Foreman gave a report during which he made particular mention to:

- His concern that the Helston Household Waste and Recycling Centre had not been selected as a centre to receive DIY waste. He requested that residents report any incidences of fly tipping with Cornwall Council, whether the fly tipping occurred on Cornwall Council owned land or private land so the impact could be monitored;
- His pleasure at seeing new traders opening in town and his hope the community would support them; and
- Work would begin soon to build the island at the Meneage Road pedestrian refuge which was likely to cause traffic delays.

The Cornwall Councillors then responded to Members questions.

### **253. Public Participation**

Members of the public spoke regarding the potential use of the former Budgens building to make the following points:

- The town centre needed a 'destination' to attract people to come to town and that other business would benefit from increased footfall.
- Observation that Aldi had most likely already been approached as the company that owned the lease for the former Budgens building were involved in the previously proposed development elsewhere in town;
- A member of the public who had wanted to buy the building and site a business there had his offer turned down by Cornwall Council. He would have created thirty jobs at the business and would still be interested in doing so if Cornwall Council supported his purchase of the building.
- A member of the public queried whether Councillor Grattan -Kane had an interest in item 1 of the Town Clerk's Report discussing a suggested use for the former Budgens building by a member of the public. Councillor Grattan-Kane declined to comment.

A member of the public spoke to urge that consideration be given to the design of the new Scout Hut building to enable it to also be used as an extreme weather refuge.

### **254. Presentation from HCIC regarding year 1 of the Digital Media Manager Project**

Representatives from HCIC gave a presentation to Members about year one of the Digital Media Manager Project which supplemented the written report that had been previously circulated. They then answered questions from members.

### **255. Minutes**

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

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> December 2023 be approved and signed as a true record.

**Voting: For – 12, Against – 0, Abstain – 1**

### **256. Minutes of the Planning and Licensing Committee Meeting**

On the proposition of Councillor Thomas, seconded by Councillor Andrew it was unanimously

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Planning and Licensing Committee meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> January 2024 be received.

### **257. Announcements**

The Town Clerk welcomed the new Administrative Assistant and Mayor's Secretary, Mrs Claire Thomson, to her first Meeting.

The Mayor expressed his sadness at the passing of Freeman Martin Mathews, and mentioned his attendance at the funeral where he noted that the enormous attendance matched Freeman Mathew's contribution to the community. The Mayor informed Members that he attended the CALC Larger Councils briefing that morning where a thought provoking presentation about Dementia Friendly Towns had been given. The Mayor confirmed his intention to follow this up.

**258. Report of the Projects Officer**

The Projects Officer updated Members on her report (circulated prior to the meeting) to advise that together with the Mayor and Town Clerk she had held interviews with students from the University of Exeter who would be assisting in the preparation of the Business Plan for the Community Café as part of their course.

On the proposition of the Mayor, seconded by Councillor Grattan-Kane it was unanimously

RESOLVED – that Richard Gowan Consultant be instructed to carry out the Site Investigation Works at a cost of £5,250 + vat.

**259. Report of the Town Clerk**

**(1) Former Budgens Building**

This item was noted.

**260. Payment of Accounts**

On the proposition of Councillor Ramsden, seconded by Councillor R Williams, it was

RESOLVED – that Account Nos. 651-710 inclusive, as listed and set out as an Appendix to these Minutes, in the total sum of £53,213.24 be certified for payment.

**Voting: For – 12, Against – 0, Abstain – 1**

**261. Report on Attendance at Meetings**

The Town Clerk advised Members that a report from Councillor Looker regarding his attendance at the Helston CIC Marketing meeting had been received today and would be circulated. Councillor Looker gave a brief verbal update regarding his attendance at the meeting.

**Meeting closed at 8.37 pm**

**Confirmed**

**Town Mayor**

**BLANK PAGE**