

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HELSTON TOWN COUNCIL
HELD IN THE GUILDHALL, HELSTON
ON THURSDAY 17TH FEBRUARY 2011 AT 7.23 PM

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

R Williams
Mrs S M E Swift
N J C Devenish
K Reynolds

Mrs V J Matthew
D C Swift
Mrs F N E Boase
R R Pryor

M H Thomas
J P Radford-Gaby
Mrs W A Radford-Gaby

Officers: Mr C Dawson (Town Clerk)
Miss P J Lavelle (Assistant to the Town Clerk)

471. Prayers

The Meeting opened with Prayers offered by the Mayor's Chaplain, Canon David Miller.

472. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Thomas declared an interest in item 1 viii) of the Town Clerk's Report (Agenda item 14) as an employee of Helston Community College.

Councillor Mrs Matthew declared an interest in Agenda item 12 as a member of the Cattle Market project team for the South Kerrier Alliance.

The Mayor and Councillor Mrs Boase declared an interest in item 1 iv) of the Town Clerk's Report (Agenda item 14) as Town Council representatives on the Gorsedd Local Organising Committee.

Councillor Mrs Radford-Gaby declared an interest in Agenda item 12 as a member of the South Kerrier Alliance.

Councillor Mrs Swift declared an interest in item 1 viii) of the Town Clerk's Report (Agenda item 14) as she was closely involved with the Phoenix Project.

473. Police Matters

The Mayor extended a welcome to WPC Butcher who presented a report which included crime figures for the previous month.

Councillor Mrs Swift expressed concern with the speed of vehicles using Clodgey Lane particularly when combined with pedestrians who were not using the traffic crossing points to cross the road, and requested that the Police monitor the situation.

Councillor Devenish queried if there were any statistics on the number of accidents on Clodgey Lane and expressed the opinion that there had seemed to have been an increase in accidents on that stretch of road in the past year. WPC Butcher advised that she did not have the information but confirmed she would contact the Statistics Department for details.

Councillor D C Swift advised that there appeared to have been an increase of speeding along the by-pass late at night and asked if the Police could monitor the situation. WPC Butcher agreed to pass the request on.

474. Public Participation

Mr I Perry expressed concern with the level of speeding within the town and advised that he would like to continue to see a police presence at meetings despite the imminent cuts in police numbers. Mr Perry also expressed concern regarding pot holes, empty shops within the town centre, the upheaval within the Town Council and the possibility that the current Mayor may not be appointed to serve a second year.

Mr Harris advised that the new crossing on the Porthleven Road was nearly completed but expressed the opinion that it would be a hazard as he did not believe articulated lorries, combine harvesters and other large vehicles could get through. Mr Harris advised that he was pleased to see Cornwall Councillor Robertson at the meeting and confirmed that he had been disappointed when the Cornwall Councillors had left the meeting the previous month.

Mr Clotworthy advised that he had raised a concern regarding the visual appearance of the walls in the Coinage Ope and, whilst Councillor Reynolds had agreed to take action, the walls remained in the same condition. Councillor Reynolds advised that he had spoken to the tenant and had asked that the walls be repainted but they had not done so. It was agreed that the condition of the walls in the Coinage Ope be included as an Agenda item for the meeting in March to allow Members to debate the issue.

Mr J Wallis spoke on behalf of the Gunwalloe Surf Life Saving Club to update the Council on the membership of their group and advised that their request for a grant was to fund two new rescue boards for the training of older members.

On behalf of Sithney Cornish Wrestling, Mr B Deacon spoke to thank the Council for the excellent condition of the Sunken Garden during the Cornish Wrestling event in September and to thank the Mayor for attending.

Mr S Palmer spoke on behalf of the One and All Judo Club to explain the aims of the club and to advise that one of their members was the AJA National Champion and one of the Senseis was the Great Britain Number 1 Junior Champion.

Cornwall Councillor Robertson advised that he did not believe there was a disagreement between Helston Town Council and Cornwall Council but simply a misunderstanding regarding the relationship and the role of Cornwall Councillors, confirming that a meeting was being arranged to resolve the issue.

475. Minutes

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

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on the 20th January 2011 be approved and signed as a true record.

476. Minutes of the Planning Committee

On the proposition of Councillor J P Radford-Gaby, seconded by Councillor Mrs Matthew, it was

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on the 20th January 2011 and 3rd February 2011, be received.

477. Minutes of the Amenities Committee

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

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting held on the 27th January 2011, be received.

478. Announcements

The Mayor reported that at a private meeting of Members, held immediately prior to the Council Meeting, Councillor N J C Devenish had been proposed as Mayor and Councillor J P Radford-Gaby as Deputy Mayor for the civic year 2011/2012.

The Mayor advised that he was willing to stand down from the Council and called for all Members to resign so that the entire Council could be re-elected to regain public confidence.

The Mayor further advised that he intended to hold a function for the Mayor's Charity on Friday 8th April 2011 and confirmed that further details would be available in the near future.

479. Reports from Local Cornwall Councillors and the Community Network Manager

The Town Clerk advised that a daytime meeting had been arranged for the following week to discuss the misunderstanding with the Cornwall Councillors but confirmed that some Members had requested an evening meeting. The Town Clerk requested confirmation from Members on whether they wanted the meeting re-arranged. On the proposition of Councillor Reynolds, seconded by Councillor Mrs Matthew, it was

RESOLVED – that the Town Clerk cancel the meeting for the following week and arrange an evening meeting.

The Town Clerk further advised that Mrs C Chadwick had given her apologies for absence as she was caring for a relative who was unwell.

480. Congratulations to the South Kerrier Alliance

Councillor Thomas advised that he had been inspired by Canon Miller's article in a local paper regarding volunteering and requested Members' support to send a letter of congratulations to the South Kerrier Alliance. Councillor Thomas expressed the opinion that a successful bid of that size was unheard of in Helston in recent history and advised that he believed the members of the South Kerrier Alliance should be thanked for their tireless work for the town. It was proposed by Councillor Thomas, seconded by the Mayor, and

RESOLVED – that a letter of congratulations be sent to the South Kerrier Alliance for their success in securing the £1.7 million investment that would bring a new facility to the town.

481. Dog Fouling

Councillor Thomas advised that he had requested this item be placed on the Agenda before becoming aware that the issue was being investigated by the Amenities Committee. Councillor Thomas suggested that the issue could benefit from discussion by the Full Council and suggested some actions that the Amenities Committee could follow-up.

It was noted that this issue was being considered by the Amenities Committee.

482. Report of the Town Clerk

(1) Grants

Nine grant applications were individually considered.

a) 3 Sqn (Helston) Air Training Corps

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

RESOLVED – that, in pursuance of the powers conferred by Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) and being of the opinion that the expenditure satisfies the requirements of that Section, the Council approves expenditure in the sum of £250.00 in respect of replacement rechargeable batteries and antenna for hand held radios.

b) Friends of Halwin

On the proposition of Councillor J P Radford-Gaby, seconded by the Mayor, it was unanimously

RESOLVED – that no grant be awarded to the Friends of Halwin and that the Town Clerk contact the organisation to explain the reasons why the Council considered it was unable to give financial assistance.

c) Gorsedh Kernow

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs Swift, seconded by Councillor J P Radford-Gaby, and

RESOLVED – that, in pursuance of the powers conferred by Section 144 of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) and being of the opinion that the expenditure satisfies the requirements of that Section, the Council approves expenditure in the sum of £300.00 in respect of the production of a book for the Helston Gorsedd.

d) Gunwalloe Surf Life Saving Club

It was proposed by Councillor D C Swift, seconded by Councillor Mrs Matthew, that the Gunwalloe Surf Life Saving Club be awarded a grant of £500.00.

An Amendment was proposed by Councillor Devenish, seconded by Councillor Reynolds, that the Gunwalloe Surf Life Saving Club be awarded a grant of £250.00. The Amendment was carried and became the Substantive Motion.

A further amendment was proposed by Councillor Williams, seconded by Councillor Thomas, that the Gunwalloe Surf Life Saving Club be awarded a grant of £450.00. This Motion failed and it was

RESOLVED – that, in pursuance of the powers conferred by Section 19 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 and being of the opinion that the expenditure satisfies the requirements of that Section, the Council approves expenditure in the sum of £250.00 in respect of the purchase of rescue boards.

e) One and All Judo Club

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs Swift, seconded by Councillor D C Swift, and

RESOLVED – that, in pursuance of the powers conferred by Section 19 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 and being of the opinion that the expenditure satisfies the requirements of that Section, the Council approves expenditure in the sum of £250.00 in respect of judo mats.

f) Phoenix Project

It was proposed by Councillor Devenish, seconded by Councillor Reynolds, that the Phoenix Project be awarded a grant of £250.00.

An Amendment was proposed by Councillor J P Radford-Gaby, seconded by the Mayor, that the Phoenix Project be awarded a grant of £500.00. The Amendment was carried and became the Substantive Motion and it was

RESOLVED – that, in pursuance of the powers conferred by Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) and being of the opinion that the expenditure satisfies the requirements of that Section, the Council approves expenditure in the sum of £500.00 in respect of equipment and clothing.

g) Sithney Cornish Wrestling Club

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

RESOLVED – that, in pursuance of the powers conferred by Section 19 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 and being of the opinion that the expenditure satisfies the requirements of that Section, the Council approves expenditure in the sum of £400.00 in respect of replacement jackets.

h) Cornwall Blind Association

It was proposed by the Mayor, seconded by Councillor Williams, that the Cornwall Blind Association be awarded a grant of £100.00.

An Amendment was proposed by Councillor D C Swift, seconded by Councillor Reynolds, that the Cornwall Blind Association be awarded a grant of £200.00. The Amendment was carried and became the Substantive Motion and it was

RESOLVED – that, in pursuance of the powers conferred by Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) and being of the opinion that the expenditure satisfies the requirements of that Section, the Council approves expenditure in the sum of £200.00 in respect of the volunteer transport service.

i) Helston Age Concern

It was proposed by the Mayor, seconded by Councillor J P Radford-Gaby, and

RESOLVED – that, in pursuance of the powers conferred by Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) and being of the opinion that the expenditure satisfies the requirements of that Section, the Council approves expenditure in the sum of £600.00 in respect of replacement of the minibus wheelchair lift.

Councillor Pryor voted against the Motion.

(2) White Wash Wall – Meneage Road

This item was noted.

(3) Police Reform and Social Responsibility Bill

Following a brief debate it was proposed by Councillor Devenish, seconded by Councillor J P Radford-Gaby, and

RESOLVED – that the Town Council write to the Chairman of the Devon and Cornwall Police Authority to advise that at the present time the Council did not support an elected representative as Members were of the opinion that they would be too distant and not accountable but Members were also not supportive of the current Police Authority as it was also too distant and not accountable.

(4) Review of Public Conveniences

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

RESOLVED – that the Town Council confirmed that it did not wish to undertake the responsibility for managing the public conveniences in Helston, as previously agreed.

(5) Flora Day – St John Ambulance Service

It was proposed by Councillor J P Radford-Gaby, seconded by Councillor Thomas, and

RESOLVED – that the part-funding of the St. John Ambulance cover on Flora Day be authorised at a cost of £268.06.

The Mayor declared a personal interest in this item as President of the Flora Day Association and abstained from the vote.

483. Schedule of Accounts for Payment

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

RESOLVED – that Account Nos. 374-406 inclusive as listed and set out as an Appendix to these Minutes, be certified for payment in the total sum of £17,333.55.

(Councillor Williams declared an interest in Account No. 404.)

It was agreed that the cheques would be signed by Councillor Mrs Swift and Councillor Reynolds the following day.

484. Attendance at Meetings

On the proposition of Councillor Mrs Matthew, seconded by Councillor Pryor, it was RESOLVED – that the written reports submitted by Councillors Mrs Swift and Mrs Boase be received.

485. 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.

486. 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.

487. Helston Community Centre

Members considered correspondence from the Town Council's Solicitor and the Helston & District Community Association (circulated prior to the meeting).

Following a brief debate it was proposed by Councillor Reynolds, seconded by Councillor Pryor, and

RESOLVED – that the Town Clerk be given delegated authority to arrange the security of the building at his discretion.

The Assistant to the Town Clerk left the meeting at 9.37pm.

488. Staff Report

Members considered the elements of the Staff Report prepared by the Town Clerk (previously circulated).

Following the debate it was agreed that the Town Clerk produce a report for a future meeting on the impact of Harvest Fair on the office.

It was also proposed by Councillor Devenish, seconded by Councillor Pryor, and

RESOLVED – that Members complimented the diligence of the Assistant to the Town Clerk for carrying out her studies for the AAT qualification in her own time and endorsed the provision of in-house training by the Town Clerk.

The Town Clerk left the meeting at 9.58pm.

Following consideration of the Staff Report relating to the Town Clerk by the Mayor, it was proposed by Councillor Devenish, seconded by Councillor Thomas, and unanimously

RESOLVED – that the Policy, Finance and Resources Committee investigate the current workload of the office staff.

The Town Clerk and Assistant to the Town Clerk returned to the meeting at 10.12pm

489. Confidential Report of the Town Clerk

i) Mayoral Chain of Office

Further to Min. No. 424/ 2010 Members considered quotations for the transportation of the Mayoral Chain via secure courier (circulated prior to the meeting).

Following a brief debate it was proposed by Councillor J P Radford-Gaby, seconded by Councillor Thomas, and

RESOLVED – that the Mayor be given permission to wear the Mayor’s Chain of Office on the occasion of the London Cornish Association’s 125th Anniversary Dinner held in London.

Councillors Devenish, D C Swift and Pryor voted against the Motion.

Meeting closed at 10.22pm

Confirmed

Town Mayor

		Town Council Meeting 17th February, 2011				
Month	February				Nett	
Voucher	Payee	Description	Amount	VAT	Total	Cheque Number
	Barclaycard					
374	Fast.co.uk	Broadband	19.92	3.91	23.83	C/Card
375	Argos	Replacement camera	71.96	14.32	86.28	C/Card
376	Manchester Safety Services	Replacement traffic cone sleeves	27.35	5.40	32.75	C/Card
	Direct Debits					
378	British Telecom	565761	17.89	3.57	21.46	D/D
379	Siemens Financial Services Ltd	Fire Alarm lease	121.20	24.24	145.44	D/D
	Routine Payments					
380	Bowcutt, C M	Salary				109423
381	Bowden, W	Cleaning Materials, etc.	32.92	6.27	39.19	109424
382	Concorde Copiers	Photocopying	20.99	4.20	25.19	109425
383	Cornish Linen Service	Mat hire	26.40	5.28	31.68	109426
384	Comwall Association of Local Councils	Annual Conference	193.38	38.68	232.06	109427
385	Cornwall Council	Superannuation				109428
386	Dawson, C	Salary				109429
387	Dawson, C	Travel Expenses	128.60		128.60	109430
388	D J Taylor & Son	Council Chamber repairs & decoration	2,450.00		2,450.00	109431
389	Goss, Mrs S	Salary				109432
390	HM Revenue & Customs	Income Tax & National Insurance				109433
391	Key Express	Replacement keys for archive cupboards	10.50		10.50	109434
392	Johns, Mrs J	Salary				109435
393	Martin Luck Group	Stationery	21.65	4.33	25.98	109436
394	Mole, S.C.C.	Street Stall Superintendent	80.00		80.00	109437
395	Newsquest Media	Advertisements	32.40	6.48	38.88	109438
396	Petty Cash	Postages etc	66.20		66.20	109439
397	Price, Mrs S	Salary				109440
398	Price, Mrs S	Travel Expenses	37.00		37.00	109441
399	Randle Thomas	Professional Fees	850.00	162.00	1,012.00	109442
400	SEO Computers	Maintenance to Computer	54.96	10.99	65.95	109443
401	SLCC Enterprises Ltd	Conferences	488.00	97.60	585.60	109444
402	Technical Electrical Engineering Ltd	Annual service of fire alarm & lighting	150.00	30.00	180.00	109445
403	Thomas Fattorini Ltd	Repairs to pendant	1,660.38	332.08	1,992.46	109446
404	Williams, Mrs D	Salary				109447
405	W.P.S. Insurance Brokers	Additional Fidelity Guarantee premium	69.91		69.91	109448
406	Lavelle, Miss PJ	Salary				109449
		Salary related expenses	9,952.59		9,952.59	
			16,584.20	749.35	17,333.55	