

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HELSTON TOWN COUNCIL
HELD IN THE GUILDHALL, HELSTON
ON THURSDAY 20TH JUNE 2024 AT 7.00 PM

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

R Williams
 Mrs F N E Boase
 M H Thomas

J Martin
 M Benyon
 P Webb

M P Andrew
 D Willey
 P E Williams

Officers: Miss P J Lavelle (Town Clerk)
 Miss A Retallack (Deputy Town Clerk)
 Mr R A James (Projects Officer)

41. Prayers

The Meeting opened with Prayers offered by Councillor Andrew.

42. Apologies

Apologies for non-attendance were submitted by Councillors R J L Boase and Grattan-Kane

43. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Benyon declared an interest in Agenda item 13 and the grant applications made by Helston Climate Action Group (Item 1 of the Town Clerk's report, Agenda item 15) as a member of their Steering Group.

Councillor Willey also declared an interest in Agenda item 13 and the grant applications involving the Helston Climate Action Group (Item 1 of the Town Clerk's report, Agenda item 15) as the Council's representative on the group.

Councillor R Williams entered the meeting at 7.03pm

44. Dispensations

The Town Clerk advised that Councillor Benyon had submitted a request for a dispensation for the current meeting to remain in the meeting to speak but not vote in respect of Agenda item 13 and the grants involving the Helston Climate Action Group (Agenda item 15).

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

RESOLVED – that the Town Council awarded Councillor Benyon a dispensation for the current meeting to remain in the meeting to speak but not vote in respect of Agenda item 13 and the grants involving the Helston Climate Action Group (Agenda item 15).

The Town Clerk further advised that Councillor Willey had submitted a request for a dispensation for the current meeting to remain in the meeting to speak but not vote in respect of Agenda item 13.

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

RESOLVED – that the Town Council awarded Councillor Willey a dispensation for the current meeting to remain in the meeting to speak but not vote in respect of Agenda item 13.

45. Cornwall Councillors' Reports

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

- A proposal to sell part of Newquay Airport which had been challenged and a request to call it in had been submitted;
- The condition report regarding the Leats and Kennels confirming the clearing work that Mr Brickhill carried out whilst undertaking the survey had resulted in the kennels flowing again.

Cornwall Councillor Thomas then responded to Members questions.

46. Public Participation

Members of Helston Climate Action Group and Helston Athletic Football Club spoke in support of their grant applications.

A Member of the Helston Royal British Legion spoke to express support for item 16 on the agenda.

47. Minutes

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

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Town Council meetings held on 14th May 2024 and 16th May 2024 be approved and signed as a true record.

It was further proposed by Councillor Mrs Boase, seconded by Councillor Webb, and

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Special Town Council Meeting held on 10th June 2024 be approved and signed as a true record.

Voting: For – 7, Against – 0, Abstain – 3

48. Minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee

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

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting held on 23rd May 2024 be received.

Voting: For – 6, Against – 0, Abstain – 4

49. Minutes of the Staffing Committee

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

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Staffing Committee meeting held on 3rd June 2024 be received.

Voting: For – 5, Against – 0, Abstain – 5

50. Minutes of the Planning & Licensing Committee

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

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Planning & Licensing Committee meeting held on 6th June 2024 be received.

Voting: For – 9, Against – 0, Abstain – 1

51. Announcements

The Town Clerk informed members that Mrs Thomas was leaving due to relocation and that interviews had been conducted that week and Mrs Snell would be joining the Council in July.

52. Community Energy Plus and Helston Climate Action Group Drop in advice Sessions

Councillors Benyon and Willey left the meeting at 7.40pm

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

RESOLVED – that in principle, the Town Council supported a joint proposal from Community Energy Plus and Helston Climate Action Group to run a series of drop-in advice sessions over the autumn and winter of 2024 to raise awareness with homeowners and landlord about the technology and funding available to improve their homes and reduce their carbon footprint.

Councillors Benyon and Willey returned to the meeting at 7.42pm

53. Report of the Projects Officer

This item was noted.

The Mayor and Councillor Martin gave their thanks to the Project Officer for his sterling work.

54. Report of the Town Clerk**(1) Community Environmental Grant****a) Determination of whether a grant would be awarded**

It was agreed to award a grant to each of the following organisations:

- i) The Epworth Centre – (*Voting: Unanimous*)
- ii) Helston Athletic Football Club – (*Voting: Unanimous*)
- iii) Precious Plastic CIC (*Voting: For – 7, Against – 3, Abstain 0*)

The motion to award a grant to the YMCA Cornwall failed (*Voting: For – 4, Against – 6, Abstain – 0*) and it was therefore agreed to not award a grant to YMCA Cornwall.

Councillors Benyon and Willey left the meeting at 7.51pm

It was further agreed to award a grant to the following organisations:

- iv) Helston Climate Action Group (voting For – 7, Against – 1, Abstain
- v) Trevow Helston CIC, South Kerrier Alliance CIC and Helston Climate Action Group (*voting For – 8, Against – 0, Abstain 0*)

Councillors Benyon and Willey returned to the meeting at 7.52pm**b) Determination of amount of grant funding awarded**

- i) Helston Climate Action Group

Councillor Benyon gave further information regarding the grant application.

Councillors Benyon and Willey left the meeting at 7.53pm

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

RESOLVED – that under the General Power of Competence a grant of £1,000.00 be awarded to Helston Climate Action Group for the provision of low carbon, energy efficiency and climate resilience advice day.

Voting: For – 7, Against – 1, Abstain 0

Councillors Benyon returned to the meeting at 7.54pm

- ii) Trevow Helston CIC, South Kerrier Alliance CIC and Helston Climate Action Group

Councillor Benyon gave further information regarding the grant application.

Councillors Benyon left the meeting at 7.58pm

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs Boase, seconded by Councillor Andrew, and

RESOLVED – that under the General Power of Competence a grant of £3,000.00 be awarded to Trevow Helston CIC, South Kerrier Alliance CIC and Helston Climate Action Group for the provision of the 99p film programme and the Incredible Edible urban developments & accompanying events.

Voting: For – 6, Against – 1 , Abstain 1

Councillors Benyon and Willey returned to the meeting at 8.00pm

- iii) The Epworth Centre

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs Boase, seconded by Councillor Benyon, and unanimously

RESOLVED – that under the General Power of Competence a grant of £500.00 be awarded to The Epworth Centre for the provision of two bug hotels, bird boxes and pollinator planting.

- iv) Helston Athletic Football Club

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

RESOLVED – that under the General Power of Competence a grant of £5000.00 be pledged to Helston Athletic Football Club for the upgrading to LED floodlights.

Voting: For – 7, Against – 3 , Abstain 0

An Amendment had been proposed by Councillor Andrew, seconded by Councillor Benyon, that under the General Power of Competence a grant of £3,500.00 be awarded to Helston Athletic Football Club for the upgrading to LED floodlights. The amendment failed. (Voting: For – 3, Against 6, Abstain 0)

A Motion was originally proposed by Councillor Willey, seconded by Councillor Benyon, that under the General Power of Competence a grant of £1,416 be awarded to Helston Athletic Football Club for the upgrading to LED floodlights. This Motion failed. (Voting: For – 2, Against 8, Abstain 0)

v) Precious Plastic CIC

It was proposed by Councillor Benyon, seconded by Councillor Mrs Boase, and unanimously

RESOLVED – that under the General Power of Competence a grant of £500.00 be pledged to Precious Plastic CIC for the provision of the Kennel project.

(2) Casual Vacancies – North and South Ward

This item was noted.

(3) St Piran’s Lantern Parade Tender Brief 2025

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

RESOLVED – that the Tender Brief for the St Piran’s Lantern Parade be approved.

(4) Health Support Group Links

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

RESOLVED – that the Town Council only include health and support groups links to NHS and Cornwall Council websites on the Council website.

(5) Participatory Budgeting Task & Finish Group

On the proposition of Councillor Benyon, seconded by Councillor Willey, it was unanimously

RESOLVED – that the Mayor (Councillor Kenchington) and Councillor Martin, Benyon and P Williams be appointed onto the Participatory Budgeting Task & Finish Group for the 2024/25 civic year.

(6) Campaign to Improve the Safety of Lithium Batteries

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

RESOLVED – that the Town Council support the campaign to improve the safety of lithium batteries.

(7) Veterans and Family Hub

It was proposed by Councillor Benyon, seconded by Councillor Mrs Boase, that the Veterans Regroup Project be invited to view the building and if they believed it was suitable for their needs then they be offered free use once per month.

An Amendment was proposed by the Mayor, seconded by Councillor Mrs Boase, that the Veterans Regroup Project be invited to view the building and if they believed it was suitable for their needs then they be offered free use once per month and that this arrangement be reviewed in six months. The Amendment was unanimously accepted and became the Substantive Motion and it was unanimously

RESOLVED – that the Veterans Regroup Project be invited to view the building and if they believe it was suitable for their needs then they be offered free use once per month and that this arrangement be reviewed in six months.

55. Report by the Town Clerk regarding Remembrance Events

Following a detailed debate, on the proposition of the Mayor, seconded by Councillor Martin, it was unanimously

RESOLVED – that:

- a) Helston Town Council agreed to take over the organisation of the Helston Remembrance Sunday Parade and Service based on the current format with the event continuing to take place in the morning in Coinagehall Street by the Garden of Remembrance; and
- b) Helston Town Council also agreed to take over the organisation of the Remembrance Event at 11am on 11th November (when this did not coincide with Remembrance Sunday) if this was requested by Helston Branch RBL.

56. Payment of Accounts

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

RESOLVED – that Account Nos. 148 – 216 inclusive, as listed and set out as an Appendix to these Minutes, in the total sum of £67,266.77 be certified for payment.

Voting: For – 9, Against – 0, Abstain – 1

57. Exclusion of the Press and Public

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

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 item of business by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

58. Report of the Communications Officer**(1) Town Council Website**

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

RESOLVED – that the Council accept the quotation from Aubergine as they were the most cost effective and due to their:

- a) demonstrated experience and expertise in delivering town and parish council websites; and
- b) knowledge of WCAG 2.2 AA compliant websites.

Meeting closed at 8.40 pm

Confirmed

Town Mayor