

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HELSTON TOWN COUNCIL
HELD IN THE GUILDHALL, HELSTON
ON THURSDAY 18TH JULY 2024 AT 7.00 PM

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

R Williams
R J L Boase
Mrs F N E Boase

M H Thomas
M Benyon
P Webb

M P Andrew
P E Williams
E Yates

Officers: Miss P J Lavelle (Town Clerk)
Ms A Harris (Communications Officer)

The Mayor welcomed Councillor Yates to her first meeting.

69. Prayers

The Meeting opened with Prayers offered by Councillor Andrew.

70. Apologies

Apologies for non-attendance were submitted by Councillors Martin, Grattan-Kane and Willey.

71. Cornwall Councillors' Reports

The Mayor advised that apologies had been submitted by Cornwall Councillor Foreman and confirmed he had provided a report in which he made the following points:

- His congratulations to two residents of the Helston area who had received recognition in the King's Birthday Honours;
- The approval of an uplift to the capital budget of £35 million by the previous government;
- The Fair Deal for Cornwall motion which was approved by Full Council and would be presented to the new Government; and
- The commencement of the new waste and recycling contract advising that issues should be reported via the Cornwall Council website or by contacting the Waste and Recycling Team.

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 was to be considered by the Economic Growth and Development Overview and Scrutiny Committee in the Autumn;
- A plan to devolve some of Cornwall Council's car parks to Initial Car Parks, advising that details of the specific car parks was not publicly available yet;

- A member motion for a Fair Deal for Cornwall which was unanimously supported;
- The condition survey of the Leats by Mr Brickhill; and
- Planned overnight work on the A394 during September to allow the cutting back of undergrowth.

Cornwall Councillor Thomas then responded to Members questions.

72. Public Participation

A member of the public spoke on behalf of Helston Museum to support the cessation of parking in the Drill Hall Yard allowing the area to be used as an events space as part of the Cultural Quarter Project. She confirmed that the lack of vehicles in the area would also provide a safe route to the museum and would reduce wear and tear on the historic surface of the yard.

73. Minutes

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

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 20th June 2024 be approved and signed as a true record.

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

74. Minutes of the Planning & Licensing Committee

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

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Planning & Licensing Committee meeting held on 4th July 2024 be received.

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

75. Notes of the Environmental Working Party

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

RESOLVED – that the Notes of the Environmental Working Party meeting held on 3rd July 2024 be received.

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

76. Environmental Working Party Update

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

RESOLVED – that the Environmental Working Party Update be received and accepted.

77. Environmental Working Party Terms of Reference

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

RESOLVED – that the draft Environmental Working Party Terms of Reference be adopted.

78. Leats and Kennels

Councillor Thomas advised that stakeholders had met to discuss the way forward with the Leats and Kennels with a light touch survey on the condition of the Leats being commissioned. He advised that it was suggested that a friends group be formed and confirmed that investigations were ongoing on how Cormac and a friends group could work together on future maintenance.

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

RESOLVED – that Standing Order 1.14 be suspended to allow Mr Brickhill (who had carried out the survey) to provide further detail.

Mr Brickhill outlined the areas and type of maintenance required to the Leat system confirming that the main problem was vegetation. He advised that he had needed to clear some vegetation to enable him to conduct the survey of the Leats which had enabled the water to begin flowing in the Kennels again. Mr Brickhill advised there were some leaks which should be fixed as a priority but the Leat system was in a remarkable condition and recommended that the vegetation be cleared twice a year to allow water to flow.

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

RESOLVED – that Standing Order 1.14 be resumed.

A brief debate ensued during which the Mayor thanked Mr Brickhill for his work carrying out the survey which was echoed by other Members of the Council. At the conclusion of the debate it was proposed by the Mayor, seconded by Councillor Thomas, and unanimously

RESOLVED – that, in principle, the Council supported the format and creation of a friends group.

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

RESOLVED – that a vote of thanks be given to all those who were involved in carrying out the survey of the Leats.

79. Report of the Projects Officer

Members considered the Report of the Projects Officer (circulated prior to the meeting).

A detailed debate ensued during which it was agreed that the assessment of risk be included at step 9 of the outlined process for the Cultural Quarter Project along with measures

to mitigate the risk prior to the Council allowing use of the area. Following the debate it was proposed by the Mayor, seconded by Councillor Andrew, and

RESOLVED – that the Council would cease parking in the Drill Hall Yard after 31st March 2025 and the space be made available for use within the Cultural Quarter Project.

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

80. Report of the Communications Officer

This item was noted.

The Mayor expressed his thanks to the Communication Officer for her hard work.

81. Report of the Town Clerk

(1) Helston South Ward Co-option

Councillor Yates indicated that she wished to join the Council's Staffing Committee.

(2) Christmas Free Parking

This item was noted.

(3) Tree Planting in Helston

Councillor Thomas advised that the Cornwall Councillor for the area had not been consulted on the proposals and would investigate why this was not the case. A brief debate took place during which concerns were raised regarding the lack of consultation and the suitability of the type of trees and proposed planting locations. Further concerns were raised on who would be responsible for future maintenance of the trees and the impact of the proposed planting locations on the Council's current maintenance contract.

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

RESOLVED – that the Town Council respond to the consultation to confirm that the Council supported tree planting in principle but had concerns with the specific proposals as outlined above.

(4) Let's Talk Water Webinar

This item was noted.

(5) Auction of Martin Mathews Collection

This item was noted.

82. Payment of Accounts

On the proposition of Councillor Mrs Boase, seconded by the Mayor, it was unanimously RESOLVED – that Account Nos. 220 – 284 inclusive, as listed and set out as an Appendix to these Minutes, in the total sum of £80,489.35 be certified for payment.

83. Reports on Attendance at Meetings

Members noted receipt of a copy of the Helston CIC notes as Councillor Mrs Boase had been on leave when the meeting took place.

Meeting closed at 8.16 pm

Confirmed

Town Mayor

BLANK PAGE