

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HELSTON TOWN COUNCIL
HELD IN THE GUILDHALL, HELSTON
ON THURSDAY 18TH SEPTEMBER 2008 AT 7.15 P.M.

Present: Councillor N.J.C. Devenish (Town Mayor) in the Chair

Councillors:

R. Williams	R.J.L. Boase	D.C. Swift
Mrs S.M.E. Swift	K. Reynolds	Mrs F.N.E. Boase
N.C. Martin	Mrs V.J. Matthew	R. R. Pryor

Officers: Mr C. Dawson (Town Clerk)
Miss P. J. Lavelle (Finance and Committee Assistant)
Mr C. Bowcutt (Town Warden)

190. PRAYERS

The Meeting opened with Prayers offered by the Mayor's Chaplain, Reverend Dorothy Noakes.

191. APOLOGIES

Apologies for non-attendance were received from Councillor Keay who was caring for his wife and Councillor Phillips who was on holiday.

On the proposition of Councillor Mrs Matthew, seconded by Councillor Martin, it was
RESOLVED – that the Apologies be received and accepted.

192. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Boase declared a personal interest in Agenda item 4 as an employee of the company selling the land to the Applicant. Councillor Boase advised that the Monitoring Officer at Kerrier District Council had confirmed that he had a personal interest and it was acceptable for him to take part in the debate and to vote thereon.

Councillors Mrs Swift and Mrs Boase declared an interest in Agenda item 4 as a Member of Kerrier District Council's Planning Committee and an employee of a rival supermarket respectively.

193. PLANNING APPLICATION

- i) **Planning Application PA08/00341/OM**
Erection of Class A1 foodstore, petrol filling station,
car park, servicing and associated development (amended design)
The Flambards Experience, Gay's Hill, Helston
Terrace Hill Developments Ltd

On the proposition of Councillor Mrs Swift, seconded by Councillor Martin, it was
RESOLVED – that Standing Orders be suspended to allow members of the public to make observations.

Mr D Prothero spoke in objection to the Application and made the following points:

- the extra roundabout would worsen the traffic problems in Clodgey Lane and believed there should be a reservoir of road between two roundabouts;
- the proposal would defeat the object of the by-pass;
- concerned with late night noise from deliveries and anti social behaviour;
- more traffic would use Casterills Road;
- the Sainsburys survey only had 327 responses out of a population of 10,000 most of which only used the survey to criticise Tesco;
- a large development would industrialise the area;
- the proposal would take more business away from the Town Centre;
- already have enough supermarkets and no more are needed;
- the proposal would destroy the old road to Gweek and two Listed buildings; and
- did not believe that the proposal would create extra work in the area.

Mr B Yelland spoke in objection to the Application and expressed the opinion that the Applicant had shown no consideration or sensitivity for the neighbouring residents after the extra land acquired would not be used to modify the road layout, but to increase the number of car parking spaces.

Mr L Jones spoke in objection to the Application and expressed the following concerns:

- the proposal would cause traffic problems with the exit from Gays Hill onto Clodgey Lane; and
- covering more land with concrete and roofs could potentially cause flash flooding in Pemboa.

Mr W Bowden expressed concerns that the proposal would have a negative impact on the viability of the Town Centre and on small independent businesses.

Mrs V Roddy expressed concerns that a lane which was 100's of years old and a traditional route for many people would become part of a supermarket.

Mr D Hobbs spoke in support of the Application and made the following points:

- agreed that the road layout was a problem but felt the Application needed to be considered in a wider sense;
- another supermarket was required as Tesco's had applied for planning permission because they needed a bigger store to keep up with demand;
- would create employment in the area;
- need to consider the benefit to the whole area not just Helston; and
- would like to see Casterills Road made 'no entry'.

Mr D McCewn, Mr R Pearce, Mr C White and Mr T Cook spoke on behalf of the Applicant in support of the Application and made the following points:

- a supermarket was required as 40% of people who lived in the area travelled elsewhere to shop for food;
- a new store would encourage people to do their food shopping in the locality;
- at the public exhibition many expressed the view that Tesco dominated the town and welcomed another same size shop;
- would produce approximately £1 million of spin off shopping trips as people would use the town centre for their non food shopping;

- would save 8.5 million kilometres per year by people shopping in Helston and not travelling elsewhere;
- would create 200 full & part time jobs;
- Kerrier District Council could impose conditions to restrict the time and noise level of deliveries;
- the car park would have a gated barrier to prevent access to vehicles out of opening hours;
- there were no Listed buildings affected by the proposal;
- Flambards had permission for a junction at the proposed location;
- did not believe proximity of the roundabouts would be an issue;
- was not originally their intention to close the nearest Gays Hill access road but the County Highways officer was keen to see the closure introduced into the Scheme;
- highway rights would not be removed from Gays Hill so it could still be used by pedestrians and cyclists;
- rainwater would be captured for use in toilets and other facilities and would not run off the site.

There being no other issues raised it was proposed by Councillor Mrs Swift, seconded by Councillor Reynolds, and

RESOLVED – that Standing Orders be resumed.

The Mayor visited the Application site and gave a presentation during which he expressed concerns regarding the Retail Assessment and the Road Traffic Study which was carried out in February and did not make adjustments for the traffic visiting Flambards or include any mention of the Recycling Centre.

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

RESOLVED - that the Town Council recommended approval of Application PA08/00341/OM provided that Cornwall County Highways could produce a suitable scheme for the further junction between Gay's Hill and Clodgey Lane (Grid Ref. SW 66755 26762).

An amendment was proposed by Councillor Reynolds, seconded by the Mayor that the Kerrier District Council Local Members be asked to request a site meeting to consider the application. This amendment was defeated.

The Mayor and Councillor Mrs Matthew voted against the Motion.

Councillors Mrs Swift and Mrs Boase took no part in the debate or voting thereon.

194. POLICE MATTERS

The Mayor extended a welcome to the police officers present. PC Treloar introduced PC David Cook, who would be taking over as the Neighbourhood Beat Manager for Helston, and Inspector Caroline Coad. PC Treloar then presented a detailed report which included recent crime figures and those for the corresponding period from the year previous and an update regarding P.A.C.T. Inspector Coad introduced herself to Members and thanked PC Treloar for his commitment over the years. The Mayor wished PC Treloar a long and happy retirement and welcomed Inspector Coad and PC Cook to Helston. Councillor Mrs Swift conveyed best wishes from local residents to PC Treloar.

195. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Mrs Skewes advised Members of the problems residents were experiencing in Sanctuary Lane with the volume of traffic including a number of lorries that used the lane. Mrs Skewes confirmed that a lorry had recently become stuck and a neighbouring resident had had their garden wall demolished twice by large vehicles. She advised that Argos lorries caused a regular problem. Councillor Martin agreed to contact Argos on the residents' behalf.

Mr I Perry conveyed his good wishes to the Inspector Coad and PC Treloar. Mr Perry then requested an update on the bus shelters. The Mayor advised that the proposals were out for consultation and would be discussed later in the meeting.

Mr M Upton commended the Council on making the planning application decision more democratic by bringing such a large application before the Full Council instead of the Planning Committee. Mr Upton queried if the location of the bus shelter on the south side of Coinagehall Street would affect vehicular access to Chapel Row. Mr Upton then informed Members that the Epworth Hall had obtained a Premises Licence and offered to provide further information in respect of the Management Committee's grant application.

Councillor Mrs Haycock asked the Police for their opinion regarding a bus shelter located directly outside Trelawneys front door. Inspector Coad advised that this would be a natural congregation point but it would not be an issue with a see-through design.

196. MINUTES

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

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on the 21st August 2008 be approved and signed as a true record.

197. MINUTES OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE

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

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on the 21st August and 4th September 2008, be received.

198. MINUTES OF THE AMENITIES COMMITTEE

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

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting held on the 28th August 2008, be received.

199. MINUTES OF THE POLICY, FINANCE & RESOURCES COMMITTEE

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

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Policy Finance & Resources Committee meeting held on the 9th September 2008, be received.

200. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor advised that the Keep Helston Tidy Group had met the previous evening to discuss the weed problem in Helston. It had been proposed that a volunteer litter and weed clearing day take place on Sunday 19th October at 2pm and requested that as many people as possible attend.

The Mayor further advised that the design for the play area at King George V playing field had been finalised and unveiled the plan. He thanked Councillor Clayton and Councillor Mrs Swift for their assistance and confirmed that Kerrier District Council had contributed an additional £10,000 to the scheme. The Mayor expressed the opinion that the design would look absolutely stunning. Councillor Clayton advised that the equipment had been ordered and would be installed in November.

201. COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT

a) Local District Councillors

Councillor Mrs Haycock confirmed that she had attended the Stakeholder meeting regarding the Conservation Area Consultation and advised that the Consultants were very impressed with Cross Street. She had also attended a meeting regarding the Museum. Councillor Mrs Haycock expressed the opinion that the weeds in Helston were very bad at present and suggested the Town Council had a meeting with Kerrier District Council and One Cornwall to discuss the problem.

Councillor Mrs Swift provided the Mayor with details of the seagull proof bags and garden waste bags. She advised that she had spoken with the Leader of Kerrier District Council regarding the litter pick and he had suggested that Andy Mead be contacted regarding the loan of equipment. Councillor Mrs Swift also advised that she had contacted Owen Braines who was doing a lot of community work, and she had received an e-mail from Councillor Kaczmarek who had contacted Tom Marks and Andy Mead to ask them to help with the clean up. Councillor Mrs Swift had also attended an Audit Committee meeting and had been invited to attend the Finance and Performance meetings at One Cornwall. She had also attended an Implementation Executive meeting that day and advised that she would provide Members with a written report.

The Town Clerk advised that the Leader of Kerrier District Council had arranged for the Town Council to receive a copy of event notifications which affect Helston in the future.

Councillor Clayton introduced himself and advised that, although Kerrier and other district councils would remain sovereign bodies until 31st March 2009, he was of the opinion that the decision making would diminish very quickly. Councillor Clayton advised that both he and Councillor Hicks would remain on the Implementation Executive and would probably be the sole representatives for the area. He expressed the opinion that Helston would have a pivotal role in the future as part of the biggest Community Network. He hoped Helston would take on a positive role in the future and offered his assistance. Councillor Clayton advised that he was willing to keep Helston Town Council informed if he was invited to attend. He also spoke on the opportunity for the introduction of pilot schemes which he believed would be an ideal opportunity for the town.

The Mayor thanked Councillor Clayton for attending. It was then proposed by the Mayor, seconded by Councillor Mrs Matthew, and

RESOLVED – that Councillor Clayton be invited to future Full Council meetings as the One Cornwall Local Member and the Agenda be amended accordingly.

202. PUBLIC DISPLAY OF GIFTS FROM ITALY

On the proposition of Councillor R.J.L. Boase, seconded by Councillor Martin, it was
RESOLVED – that this item be deferred to the next meeting.

203. REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK

(1) Grant Applications

The Town Clerk advised that a further application for financial support had been received (item 6 of the Supplemental Report) and should be considered along with this item. Eleven grant applications were individually considered.

(a) Carers Support Service

On the proposition of Councillor Mrs Swift, seconded by Councillor Mrs Matthew, 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 £100.00 in respect of the Carers Support Service.

(b) Epworth Hall Management Group

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

RESOLVED - that, in pursuance of the powers conferred by Section 145 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 £50.00 in respect of Phase II of the Epworth Hall Refurbishment.

(c) Helston & Kerrier Music Society

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

RESOLVED - that, in pursuance of the powers conferred by Section 145 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 £50.00 in respect of the Helston & Kerrier Music Society.

(d) Helston Shotokan Karate 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 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 transportation and accommodation costs for attendance at the Open Shotokan Karate Tournament.

(e) Home Start

On the proposition of Councillor Pryor, seconded by Councillor Martin, 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 £100.00 in respect of Home-Start West Cornwall.

(f) Kerrier DC Outreach Team

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs Swift, seconded by Councillor Martin, and

RESOLVED – that no grant be awarded to the Kerrier District Council Outreach Team and that the Town Clerk contact the organisation to explain the reasons why the Council were unable to give a grant.

(g) Shelter

On the proposition of the Mayor, seconded by Councillor Pryor, 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 £100.00 in respect of the Cornwall Housing Aid Centre.

(h) Sithney Cornish Wrestling Club

It was proposed by Councillor Martin, seconded by Councillor Mrs Matthew, and

RESOLVED - that, in pursuance of the powers conferred by Section 19 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 (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 the purchase of training mats.

(i) Victim Support Cornwall

On the proposition of Councillor Reynolds, seconded by Councillor Mrs Swift, 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 Victim Support Cornwall.

(j) WRVS

On the proposition of Councillor Williams, seconded by Councillor Mrs Swift, 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 £700.00 in respect of Cornwall Emergency Services.

(k) Carleen Church Community Care Centre

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

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 £300.00 in respect of the Carleen Church Community Care Centre.

(2) Bus Shelters

a) Coinagehall Street

Following a detailed debate it was proposed by the Mayor, seconded by Councillor Reynolds, and unanimously

RESOLVED – that the Town Clerk write to Glynn Stanley to advise that the Town Council:

- a) had no objection to the shelter on the south side;
- b) recommended deleting the shelter on the north side outside of Trelawneys and increasing the size of the shelter near Woolworths; and
- c) approved of the black and gold finish but would prefer ornate finials similar to those at Four Lanes.

b) Falmouth Road

Following a detailed debate it was proposed by the Mayor, seconded by Councillor Martin, and

RESOLVED – that the Town Council recommended that:

- a) the two bus stops be staggered to avoid traffic congestion;
- b) priority be given to a bus shelter located on the Gwealdues Estate side of Falmouth Road for the Helston – Falmouth bus route;
- c) as a secondary priority a bus shelter be located on the opposite side for the Falmouth – Helston bus route; and
- d) if funding was not available for a second bus shelter the Town Council would consider making a contribution.

(3) Temporary Prohibition of Traffic

This item was noted.

(4) Funding Application

On the proposition of Councillor Mrs Swift, seconded by Councillor R.J.L. Boase, it was

RESOLVED – that the Town Clerk write a letter in support of the South Kerrier Area Panel tenants' scheme for the installation of a picnic table and bench on the green.

(5) Staff Training

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

RESOLVED – that the Town Clerk attend the ‘Successful Bid Writing’ seminar on Wednesday 1st October 2008 and the ‘Writing Business Plans’ seminar on Thursday 23rd October 2008 at a cost of £95 each.

(6) Continental Market

It was proposed by Councillor Martin, seconded by Councillor Mrs Swift, and

RESOLVED – that the Town Clerk make further investigations regarding the hosting of a continental market.

(7) Kennels

This item was noted.

(8) Office Shelving

It was proposed by Councillor Williams, seconded by Councillor R.J.L. Boase, and

RESOLVED – that extra shelving be installed within the Reception cupboard at a cost of £60.

204. REPORT OF THE TOWN WARDEN

The Town Warden advised that following the Keep Helston Tidy Group meeting there would be a litter pick at Penrose Amenity Area on Thursday 25th September. Following a brief debate it was requested that the Town Clerk progress the complaints detailed in the Town Warden’s report. It was further requested that an item be placed on the Agenda for the Play Committee to discuss graffiti walls. This item was then noted.

Councillor Boase took the Chair at 10.29pm

205. SCHEDULE OF ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Councillor Mrs Swift raised concerns with the descriptions for the Harvest Fair reimbursements. The Town Clerk advised that he would be producing a set of accounts for the 2008 Harvest Fair.

The Town Clerk responded to Members’ questions and following a detailed debate it was proposed by Councillor Mrs Swift, seconded by Councillor Martin, and

RESOLVED - that for military memorial services all wreaths be purchased through the Royal British Legion.

An amendment was proposed by Councillor Williams, seconded by Councillor R.J.L. Boase that fresh wreaths be purchased and a donation of £25 be made to the Royal British Legion. This amendment was defeated.

The Mayor abstained from the vote.

There being no further questions it was proposed by Councillor Reynolds, seconded by Councillor Mrs Matthew, and

RESOLVED – that Account Nos. 168-207 inclusive as listed and set out as an Appendix to these Minutes, be certified for payment in the total sum of £12,432.86.

(The Mayor and Councillors Williams and Mrs Boase declared an interest in Account Nos. 185, 207 and 172 respectively.)

It was agreed that the cheques would be signed by Councillor Williams and Councillor Mrs Swift.

The Mayor resumed the Chair at 10.43pm

206. ATTENDANCES AT MEETINGS

Councillor D.C. Swift had attended a Kompan Play Seminar with the Town Clerk and gave a brief report.

Councillor Mrs Matthew apologised that she had overlooked the Stakeholder Conservation Area meeting but advised that she had attended the public consultation session instead.

Councillor Mrs Swift had attended two Citizens Advice Bureau Board meetings, a Citizens Advice Bureau Cornwall Forum and a CALC Executive emergency meeting.

The Mayor had attended the PACT Panel meeting and gave a report.

The Town Clerk had accompanied Mr T Pickett (Architect) to the Community Centre and had a meeting with the Leader of Kerrier District Council regarding the adoption of assets.

207. 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.

208. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

On the proposition of Councillor Reynolds, seconded by Councillor Pryor, 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.

209. REPAIRS TO CIVIC INSIGNIA

Members considered a report by the Town Clerk (circulated at the meeting) regarding repairs to the Mayor's and Mayoress's Chain of Office pendants. Following a detailed debate it was proposed by Councillor Martin, seconded by Councillor R.J.L. Boase, and

RESOLVED – that the repairs to the Mayor's and Mayoress's Chain of Office pendants be authorised and the Town Clerk submit an insurance claim.

210. COMMUNITY CENTRE

On the proposition of the Mayor, seconded by Councillor Martin, it was
RESOLVED – that this item be deferred to the next meeting.

Meeting closed at 11.05pm

Confirmed

Town Mayor