

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HELSTON TOWN COUNCIL**  
**HELD IN THE GUILDHALL, HELSTON**  
**ON THURSDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2012 AT 7.15 PM**

**Councillors:** J P Radford-Gaby (Town Mayor) in the Chair

R Williams  
Mrs S M E Swift  
R J L Boase  
N J C Devenish

D C Swift  
Mrs F N E Boase  
R R Pryor  
M H Thomas

Miss J A Hornsby  
J Martin

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

**232. Adjournment**

On the proposition of the Chairman, seconded by Councillor Devenish, it was

RESOLVED – that the Meeting stood adjourned at 7.15pm to allow the Planning Committee to complete consideration of Application PA12/07435 due to the level of public interest.

The Meeting resumed at 7.25pm

**233. Apologies**

An apology for non-attendance was received from Councillor Reynolds who was on holiday.

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

RESOLVED – that the Apology be received and accepted.

**234. Declarations of Interest**

The Mayor declared an interest in Account No. 277 on the Schedule of Accounts (Agenda item 15).

Councillor Williams declared an interest in Account No. 240 on the Schedule of Accounts (Agenda item 15).

Councillors Mrs Swift and D C Swift declared an interest in item 1 i) of the Town Clerk's Report (Agenda item 14) as a Director and Vice Chair of C.A.B. Cornwall and a Member of C.A.B Cornwall respectively.

Councillors Mrs Swift and D C Swift declared an interest in Account No. 278 on the Schedule of Accounts (Agenda item 15).

Councillor R J L Boase declared an interest in item 2 of the Town Clerk's Report (Agenda item 14).

Councillors R J L Boase and Mrs Boase declared an interest in Account No. 275 on the Schedule of Accounts (Agenda item 15).

Councillor Devenish declared an interest in item 1 iv) of the Town Clerk's Report (Agenda item 14) as he had relatives who worked for the organisation. He further advised that due to his interest in one of the grants he did not feel it appropriate to have an input into any of the grants and confirmed that he would leave the room whilst all of the applications were considered.

Councillor Pryor declared an interest in item 1 i) of the Town Clerk's Report (Agenda item 14).

Councillor Miss Hornsby declared an interest in Account No's 269 and 276 on the Schedule of Accounts (Agenda item 15).

Councillor Martin declared an interest in the Town Centre Manager's Report (Agenda item 13).

### **235. Police Matters**

The Mayor extended a welcome to WPC Butcher who presented a detailed report which included recent crime figures and those for the corresponding period from the year previous. WPC Butcher advised that she was investigating the possibility of requesting an extension to the taxi rank by using the bus stop after midnight when the buses had stopped running and asked if the Council had any objections.

Councillor Thomas enquired if the suggested extension to the taxi rank would stop taxis parking on the other side of Coinagehall Street. WPC Butcher confirmed that the Police would expect the taxis to remain in the taxi rank.

Councillor Williams advised that he did not believe there was a problem after midnight and understood that the issue was earlier in the evening. He queried if the bus stop was used in the evening and suggested that the taxi rank should be extended earlier. WPC Butcher advised that there were still some buses running in the evening and confirmed that the bus stop could not be used to extend the taxi rank whilst the buses were running. She further advised that it was the responsibility of the Police to resolve the issues with double parking.

Councillor R J L Boase asked WPC Butcher if the Police could monitor the parking on the pavements in Church Street as he was aware that it caused difficulties for the blind and visually impaired attempting to use the pavements.

### **236. Reports from Local Cornwall Councillors and the Community Network Manager**

#### **a) Local Cornwall Councillors**

Councillor Robertson advised that he had heard the conclusion of the debate for Application PA12/07435 and confirmed that he had received a large number of objections to the proposal. He advised that the Application was not going to receive Officer support and would be refused under delegated powers.

Councillor Devenish spoke on the recent resurfacing of Church Street and Church Hill to advise that the worn hatch markings on the road near the Church had only been repainted on the patch which had been resurfaced despite the remaining markings being faded. Councillor Robertson advised that the issue was in Councillor Mrs Haycock's Division but he had taken note of the comments and they would resolve the issue between them.

Councillor Devenish then requested an update on the Helston Business Park. Councillor Robertson advised that a meeting which had been arranged with the Homes and Communities Agency, who were responsible for the running of the Business Park, had been cancelled due to illness and confirmed he would re-arrange another meeting and come back with an update when he had further information.

Councillor Thomas stated that Councillor Robertson should have received an invitation to attend the Play & Young People Committee meeting in December. He then advised that he understood that Councillor Robertson had delivered letters to the residents of Carey Parc regarding the Play Area and suggested that he might wish to attend the Committee meeting. Councillor Robertson advised that knowing the Carey Parc Play Area was on the Agenda he had taken it upon himself to carry out an informal consultation with residents.

Councillor Thomas queried if the Community Chest Grant funding was available for use on play areas. Councillor Robertson confirmed that the grant funding was available for individual projects up to a maximum of £1000 and applications had to be received by the end of November.

Councillor Williams advised that he had been contacted by a member of the public regarding the problem of vehicles parking in Station Road blocking the visibility for vehicles exiting Hillcrest. He confirmed that the member of the public had been unable to contact Councillor Mrs Haycock after witnessing a near miss where a vehicle taking avoiding action had been required to mount the pavement narrowly missing pedestrians. Councillor Williams advised that he wished to make Councillor Mrs Haycock aware of the issue.

Councillor Mrs Haycock advised that it was unfortunate the problem with parking around the Hillcrest/ Station Road junction had not been mentioned previously when it could have been included in the recent consultation for yellow lines. She further advised that the yellow lines had yet to be marked in Church Street. Councillor Mrs Haycock then advised that the Portfolio Holder had confirmed he would make an offer of Seagull-proof bags to coastal towns at the conclusion of the Pilot Scheme and Helston would be included. Councillor Mrs Haycock then advised that she had been dealing with issues regarding overgrown hedges and also that she had met representatives of Helston Community College regarding problems with the markings on the road. In respect of the potential extension of the taxi rank, she advised that taxis and buses could not use the same area and there were coaches that used the bus stop as late as 10.30pm.

Councillor Devenish advised that part of the black capping on the old section of white wash wall on Penhellaz Hill had been damaged exposing the stone underneath and asked if remedial work could be carried out before the problem became worse.

Councillor Pryor advised that there were a number of cars for sale parked in the lay-by on Clodgey Lane preventing its use by other vehicles and asked if action could be taken to resolve the issue. Councillor Mrs Haycock advised that she would check the wording of the sign at the lay-by and would speak to the relevant department. Councillor R J L Boase advised that previously he had been told there was no way of enforcing the use of the lay-by as it was difficult to compile evidence and suggested using footage from the camera that monitored the traffic lights for evidence.

Councillor D C Swift advised that it was in the public domain that Councillor Mrs Haycock had voted against Councillor Wallis' proposal objecting to the Cabinet's decision to out-source front line staff and asked if she could explain her reasoning. Councillor Mrs Haycock advised that Cornwall Council's budget was currently small and would be smaller next year which could potentially cause more frontline services to be cut confirming that the proposed strategic partnership was all part of balancing the budget.

Councillor Wallis advised that there was a third bloom of algae on the Boating Lake which was currently being dealt with. He also confirmed that Cornwall Council had agreed to pay for a detailed survey of the Lake, which required it to be partially drained, and was anticipated to commence at the beginning of October. Councillor Wallis then advised that the Youth Café had been awarded slightly over £32,000 from the MOD. He then referred to the Bulwark Group's entry into the Harvest Fair Carnival expressing the opinion that it was a good competition and congratulated all those involved in the organisation and running of the event in addition to those who took part.

The Mayor advised that he welcomed the survey on the Lake and expressed his congratulations to the Youth Café.

Councillor Devenish queried if the study of the mud at the bottom of the lake would also take in the watercourses to the lake as increased water flow would break up the algae. Councillor Wallis advised that the survey was just to determine the condition of the mud and the water courses would be taken into consideration at the next stage.

Councillor Thomas queried if the people conducting the survey would speak to local residents who may be able to offer valuable information. Councillor Wallis advised that it was a professional company and he believed they would speak to local people if further information was required. Councillor Thomas asked if the local Press would be notified of the start date so that the public were made aware. Councillor Wallis advised that he would notify the local Press and confirmed that he would also notify the Town Clerk's Office.

Councillor Mrs Swift expressed her concerns having witnessed a car being driven along the footpath to Events Square and then park at the rear of the café the previous weekend. Councillor Wallis advised that the café leaseholder had access but normally only did so when people were not present and confirmed that he would speak to the Police about the issue. He suggested that the Police be contacted if vehicles were seen being driven on the pavement again.

Councillor Miss Hornsby advised that she understood there were potential ecological solutions with the introduction of specific plants or animals that could assist in resolving the algae issue and asked if all options were being considered. Councillor Wallis confirmed that all options were being considered and environmentally friendly options would be beneficial as they were more sustainable and would also assist in securing grant funding.

#### b) Community Network Manager

Mrs C Chadwick advised that the Youth Café had been awarded £32,253 from the MOD and the young people would be designing a Welcome Pack to help young people from military families adjust to the move to Helston. Mrs Chadwick further advised that the Youth Café was opening an extra evening each week and was now open on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Mrs Chadwick then advised that a further Citizenship 4 Life day had taken place and was very successful with the young people having the opportunity to meet Terry Waite which made an impact on them.

The Mayor queried how the extension of the Youth Café opening hours was being funded. Mrs Chadwick confirmed that the additional night was being financed from existing funds adding that the young people were also buying and selling their own food and so generating their own profits. Mrs Chadwick confirmed that the new funding was being used for the Welcome Pack project and travel for trips. She further advised that they were also looking to open the garden area for the following year and Warrens were currently drafting a Legal Agreement.

Councillor Thomas queried the situation with the Food Bank and asked if she had met with them. Mrs Chadwick advised that she had met with two members of the Food Bank and gave an update on the meeting. She confirmed that she was waiting for them to submit a Community Chest application and had offered bid-writing support in the future.

**237. Public Participation**

A member of the public advised that he was appalled with the condition of Helston Town Centre. He advised that he was not supportive of the supermarkets but suggested if the shops in the town centre were open when the parents took the children to school they might get additional trade. He then queried the speed limit on Clodgy Lane and expressed the opinion that there was a lack of signage. Cornwall Councillor Mrs Haycock advised that there was a consultation approximately a year ago to reduce the speed limit to 30mph which was waiting to be brought in.

The Chairman of the Epworth Hall Management Group spoke on the partnership working that had been carried out with the Harvest Fair Committee and Hellysardh Committee for their recent events. He then congratulated Mr Riding on a recent charity gig he had held and gave details of the footfall through the hall for all the various events. As a member of the public he then asked a number of questions regarding the schedule of accounts and the Town Clerk and the Town Centre Manager responded accordingly.

Mr McGill spoke in support of the grant application for McGill's Music to advise that his music business was a not-for-profit organisation and the equipment would allow him to provide music workshops. In addition he confirmed that the equipment would be available to other organisations and then drew Members' attention to the supporting letter he had included with his application.

A representative of Helston Cricket Club spoke in support of its grant application to advise that they needed to construct a second changing room if they wished to progress further up the Leagues. He further advised that they now also had a girls team which increased the requirement for a second changing room. He then outlined the support they had received in the form of pledges of material and funding.

A member of the public congratulated those involved in the organisation of Harvest Fair and Hellysardh but expressed the opinion that Coinagehall Street should have been closed for Hellysardh. She further advised that she had seen an article in the local Press which had indicated that the Committee were considering holding the Hellysardh event in Coronation Park advising that she believed they should give this careful consideration as it could affect the footfall in the town centre and be against the work of the Helston Business Improvement Partnership.

The Treasurer of the Harvest Fair Association advised that they had a successful weekend and thanked the Mayor and Councillors for attending. She then also spoke as Treasurer of the Helston & District Town Twinning Association – Plougasnou to thank the Mayor for kindly hosting a group during their recent visit to Helston.

A representative of the Helston Theatre Company spoke in support of its grant application to advise that the stands would be available for use by any other organisations which used the Epworth Hall.

**238. Minutes**

Councillor Devenish advised Min. No. 182 a)/ 2012 should read ‘Councillor Williams entered the meeting at 7.17pm’ and not 6.17pm as recorded.

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

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on the 16<sup>th</sup> August 2012 be approved, subject to the above amendment, and signed as a true record.

**239. Minutes of the Policy, Finance & Resources Committee**

Councillor Mrs Swift referred to Min. No. 173/ 2012 to express the opinion that due to the complexity of licensing she believed that Licensing Applications should be dealt with by the Members who had attended the licensing training until further Members could attend.

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

RESOLVED – that the recommendation under Minute No. 173 be deferred for further consideration at the October Full Council meeting.

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

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Policy, Finance & Resources Committee meeting held on the 14<sup>th</sup> August 2012, be received.

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

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Policy, Finance & Resources Committee meeting held on the 11<sup>th</sup> September 2012, be received.

**240. Minutes of the Planning Committee**

On the proposition of Councillor Devenish, seconded by Councillor Thomas, it was

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on the 16<sup>th</sup> August and 6<sup>th</sup> September 2012, be received.

**241. Minutes of the Play & Young People Committee**

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

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Play & Young People Committee meeting held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2012, be received.

**Councillor Martin declared an interest in the following item and left the meeting at 8.38pm.**

**242. Report of the Town Centre Manager**

The Town Centre Manager apologised for his absence from the previous Full Council meeting and advised that the current month’s report was a review of the previous six months. He then expressed his thanks to the Town Council for working with the Helston Business Improvement Partnership on the Midsummer Markets and gave his particular thanks to the Mayor and Councillors Mrs Swift, R J L Boase, D C Swift and Thomas for their specific assistance. He then advised that the Partnership was encouraging businesses to complete a survey to lobby Cornwall Council which could lead to a reduction of Rate Relief. He further advised that the Partnership was currently investigating events for Christmas and beyond.

Councillor Mrs Swift thanked the Town Centre Manager for the work he had carried out since he had joined the Council. The Mayor advised that he concurred with the comments and expressed the opinion that a lot had been achieved in the first six months.

Councillor Thomas referred to comments from a member of the public during public participation regarding the condition of the town and asked if this issue could be dealt with. The Town Centre Manager advised that the front of the buildings were the shop front for the Town. He advised that there were difficulties with the empty shops but confirmed that he was working on the problem and should be able to bring further details to the next meeting.

Councillor Devenish advised that he understood Water-Ma-Trout and Helston Business Park were within the Town Centre Manager's remit but asked how they were being included in the way forward. The Town Centre Manager advised that there was a Board member on Helston BIP to represent Water-Ma-Trout and confirmed that he had organised meetings with the businesses to discuss what they needed. He also advised that the Business Park required further investigation. Councillor Devenish advised that he could offer some assistance with Helston Business Park as he had been involved with that area. Councillor Mrs Swift confirmed that both herself and the Mayor had ensured that information had been delivered to Water-Ma-Trout and Tresprison Industrial Estates to ensure they were involved.

**Councillor Martin returned to the meeting at 8.54pm.**

**243. Report of the Town Clerk**

**(1) Grants**

**Councillors Mrs Swift, Devenish, D C Swift and Pryor declared an interest and left the meeting at 8.54pm.**

The Town Clerk informed Members that from the current year's Grants budget £500.00 had been awarded to the Jubilee Event and £250.00 to the Coronation Lake Centenary Event which left a balance of £3,350 available.

**i) C.A.B Cornwall**

It was proposed by Councillor Thomas, seconded by the Mayor, and 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 £280.00 in respect of improvements to the telephone system.

**Councillors Mrs Swift, D C Swift and Pryor returned to the meeting at 8.57pm.**

**ii) Can-Do**

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs Swift, seconded by Councillor Miss Hornsby, and 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 £50.00 in respect of the Can-Do Conference.

**iii) Chicks**

It was proposed by the Mayor, seconded by Councillor Williams, that the Town Council were unable to support the request for a grant.

An Amendment was proposed by Councillor D C Swift, seconded by Councillor Pryor, that a grant of £50.00 be awarded to Chicks. 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 £50.00 in respect of respite breaks for children from Helston.

**iv) Helston A.F.C.**

It was proposed by the Mayor, seconded by Councillor Thomas, that a grant of £500.00 be awarded to Helston AFC.

An Amendment was proposed by Councillor R J L Boase, seconded by Councillor Miss Hornsby, that a grant of £350.00 be awarded to Helston AFC. The Amendment was carried and became the Substantive Motion and it was unanimously

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 £350.00 in respect of building improvements for Helston AFC.

**v) Helston Cricket Club**

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

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 £350.00 in respect of the addition of a second changing room.

**vi) Helston Theatre Company**

It was proposed by Councillor Thomas, seconded by Councillor Martin, 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 £500.00 in respect of Music Stands and a Conductor Stand.

An Amendment had been proposed by Councillor D C Swift, seconded by Councillor Mrs Swift, that a grant of £250.00 be awarded to Helston Theatre Company. The Amendment failed.

A further Amendment had been proposed by Councillor Williams, seconded by Councillor D C Swift, that a grant of £50.00 be awarded to Helston Theatre Company. The Amendment failed.

**vii) McGill's Music**

It was proposed by Councillor D C Swift, seconded by Councillor Miss Hornsby, 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 £342.00 in respect of Public Address equipment.

**viii) Shelter Cornwall**

It was proposed by Councillor Thomas, seconded by Councillor R J L Boase, that a grant of £100.00 be awarded to Shelter Cornwall.

An Amendment was proposed by Councillor Mrs Swift, seconded by the Mayor, that a grant of £100.00 be awarded to Shelter Cornwall and the grant be ring fenced for use for the residents of Helston. The Amendment was carried and became the Substantive Motion and it was unanimously

RESOLVED – that:

- a) 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 Shelter Cornwall; and
- b) the grant be ring-fenced for use for residents of Helston.

**Councillor Devenish returned to the meeting at 9.26pm.**

**Councillor R J L Boase declared an interest and left the meeting at 9.26pm.**

**(2) Christmas Lights**

Following a brief debate it was proposed by Councillor Mrs Swift, seconded by the Mayor, and

RESOLVED – that:

- a) 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 satisfied the requirements of that Section, the Council approves a £500.00 grant towards the Christmas Lights; and
- b) the Christmas Lights Committee be given permission to utilise electricity from the Guildhall to power lights in that vicinity.

**Councillor Mrs Boase requested that her abstention from the vote be recorded.**

**Councillor R J L Boase returned to the meeting at 9.30pm.**

**(3) Community Network Panel**

This item was noted.

**244. Schedule of Accounts for Payment**

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

RESOLVED – that Account Nos. 225-268 and 270-274 inclusive as listed and set out as an Appendix to these Minutes, be certified for payment in the total sum of £33,792.01.

**The Mayor and Councillors Mrs Swift, R J L Boase, D C Swift, Mrs Boase and Miss Hornsby declared an interest and left the meeting at 9.36pm.**

**Councillor Thomas (Deputy Mayor) took the Chair at 9.36pm**

It was further proposed by Councillor Thomas, seconded by Councillor Martin, and

RESOLVED – that Account Nos. 269 and 275-278 inclusive as listed and set out as an Appendix to these Minutes, be certified for payment in the total sum of £828.49.

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

**The Mayor and Councillors Mrs Swift, R J L Boase, D C Swift, Mrs Boase and Miss Hornsby returned to the meeting at 9.41pm.**

**The Mayor resumed the Chair at 9.41pm.**

**245. Attendance at Meetings**

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

RESOLVED – that the written report submitted by Councillor Thomas be received.

**246. Items for the next Agenda**

The Mayor requested that Members contact the Town Clerk's office ten clear days prior to the meeting to place items on the following Full Council Agenda.

**Meeting closed at 9.44pm**

**Confirmed**

**Town Mayor**