

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HELSTON TOWN COUNCIL
HELD IN THE GUILDHALL, HELSTON
ON THURSDAY 21ST JANUARY 2010 AT 7.15 PM

Councillors: N J C Devenish (Town Mayor) in the Chair

R Williams
Mrs S M E Swift
P Phillips
R J L Boase

K Reynolds
Mrs V J Matthew
Mrs F N E Boase
R R Pryor

M H Thomas
J P Radford-Gaby

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

387. Prayers

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

388. Apologies

An apology for non-attendance was received from Councillor D.C. Swift who was working.

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

RESOLVED – that the Apology be received and accepted.

389. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Mrs Matthew declared an interest in items 6 and 7 of the Town Clerk's Report (Agenda item 13) as a member of Transition Helston and a Board Member of South Kerrier Alliance.

390. Police Matters

The Mayor extended a welcome to PCSO Pascoe who presented a detailed report which included recent crime figures and those for the corresponding period from the year previous.

391. Public Participation

Mrs Woodhouse spoke on recent articles in the local press to advise that she had accepted an invitation to attend the previous Council meeting and had raised several suggestions which she felt might interest the public. She further advised that she had raised a question regarding prayers and not given an opinion and reminded Members present that they were public servants.

Councillor Powell advised that he had a property in Five Wells Lane that was used as a holiday let and he was currently experiencing problems with dog fouling in the area. Councillor Powell further advised that he had spent a large sum of money ensuring that the property's garden area was securely fenced and he had been proactive in contacting neighbours. Councillor Powell then requested additional signage and dog bins in the area and increased visits from the Cornwall Council Dog Wardens.

392. Minutes

On the proposition of Councillor Phillips, seconded by Councillor Pryor, it was

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 17th December 2009 and the Special Full Council meeting held on 10th December 2009 be approved and signed as a true record.

393. Minutes of the Planning Committee

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

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on the 17th December 2009, be received.

394. Announcements

The Mayor spoke of the Town Council's aspirations to take on more responsibilities and advised that a bid document for management of Coronation Park and Penrose Amenity Area by Helston Town Council had been updated and re-submitted.

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

a) Local Cornwall Councillors

Councillor Robertson gave a detailed report during which he made particular mention to the Cornwall Council 2010/11 Budget and a Building Schools for the Future application.

Councillor Wallis gave a report during which he informed Members of changes to licensing consultation and advised that a questionnaire was being sent out regarding parking issues.

Councillor Mrs Haycock gave a report during which she made particular mention to the traffic related problems experienced in Cross Street, damage to the verge in Kingsley Way and a problem with the signage in Parc an Dower.

Councillor Radford-Gaby spoke regarding a recent e-mail to Councillor Wallis relating to strict parking enforcement by civil parking Enforcement Officers, and also enquired as to the possibility of a scheme for residential parking. Councillor Wallis advised that whilst the Police had discretionary powers when they were responsible for parking enforcement, the Civil Parking Enforcement Officers did not. Councillor Wallis further advised that areas could apply for a residential parking scheme and explained how a scheme would operate.

b) Community Network Manager

Mrs C Chadwick provided a detailed report (circulated prior to the meeting) in which she made particular mention to the youth café/ dry bar, the media bus and the Bulwark Community Action Day. Mrs Chadwick then gave a brief update during which included the times that the media bus would be present and advised that she was organising a Transport Solutions survey.

396. Dog Fouling

Councillor Thomas advised that he had been contacted by Councillor Powell following the problems he had experienced with dog fouling. Councillor Thomas then spoke in detail on the problem of dog fouling and its repercussions. Following the debate it was proposed by Councillor Thomas, seconded by Councillor Reynolds, and unanimously

RESOLVED – that:

- a) the Town Clerk write to the Dog Wardens to request more waste bins and correctly worded signs and more robust enforcement of dog fouling;
- b) The Amenities Committee consider areas where additional bins and signage were required; and
- c) the Town Clerk pursue the possibility of the Town Warden issuing Fixed Penalty Notices on behalf of Cornwall Council.

397. Severe Weather Arrangements

Councillor Thomas raised concerns regarding Helston's ability to cope during the recent bad weather and the requirement for additional grit bins. Following a detailed debate it was proposed by Councillor Thomas, seconded by Councillor Reynolds, and

RESOLVED – that the Town Clerk contact Cornwall Council to explore the possibility of additional grit bins in Helston.

398. Report of the Town Clerk

(1) Review of Designated Public Places Order 2009/2010

This item was noted.

(2) Training and Seminars

(a) Health & Safety Briefing

This item was noted.

(b) SLCC 2010 Practitioners' Conference

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

RESOLVED – that the Town Clerk attend the SLCC 2010 Practitioners' Conference.

(c) 'Rising to the Challenge' Seminar

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

RESOLVED – that the Town Clerk attend the 'Rising to the Challenge' Seminar.

An amendment was proposed by Councillor Reynolds, seconded by Councillor Mrs Matthew that Councillor R.J.L. Boase and the Town Clerk attend the 'Rising to the Challenge' Seminar. This motion failed.

(d) CALC Annual Conference and AGM

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

RESOLVED – that the Mayor and the Town Clerk be given delegated authority to book places at the CALC Annual conference and AGM for Members who expressed an interest in attending.

(3) Certificate in Local Council Administration

This item was noted.

(4) Communities Together Seminar

This item was noted.

(5) National Training Strategy Review

This item was noted.

(6) Local Food Guide

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

RESOLVED – that the Town Council:

- a) allowed the Guildhall to be used as an outlet for the Local Food Guide; and
- b) provide a letter of support for the Local Food Guide.

Councillor Mrs Matthew abstained from the vote.

(7) Former Cattle Market Site

On the proposition of Councillor Phillips, seconded by Councillor Reynolds, it was

RESOLVED – that:

- a) Helston Town Council accepted South Kerrier Alliance's offer of a presentation on their plans to re-develop the former Cattle Market Site; and
- b) a Special Full Council meeting be held on Thursday 11th February for the presentation.

Councillor Mrs Matthew abstained from the vote.

(8) Insurance – Revised Sums Insured

The Town Clerk advised that following a review of the Assets Register and the insurance policy it was necessary to increase the premium by £166.31 to 31st March 2010. He further advised that two alternative quotations had been requested for the financial year commencing 1st April 2010. It was proposed by Councillor Phillips, seconded by Councillor Pryor, and

RESOLVED – that the increase in the insurance premium of £166.31 be ratified.

399. Report of the Town Warden

Following a detailed debate it was proposed by Councillor Phillips, seconded by Councillor Radford-Gaby, and

RESOLVED – that a heavy duty wheelie-bin be purchased up to a maximum cost of £150.00

It was further proposed by Councillor Phillips, seconded by Councillor Mrs Matthew, and

RESOLVED – that the Town Warden attend the South West Neighbourhood Warden Network meeting on 26th March 2010.

400. Schedule of Accounts for Payment

On the proposition of Councillor Phillips, seconded by Councillor Radford-Gaby, it was

RESOLVED – that Account Nos. 331-356 inclusive as listed and set out as an Appendix to these Minutes, be certified for payment in the total sum of £11,926.31.

(Councillor Williams declared an interest in Account No. 356.)

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

401. Attendance at Meetings

Councillor Phillips had attended the West Cornwall Health Watch meeting and advised that he would produce a written report for Members. He further advised that he had attended a Helston and Lizard Health Board meeting and gave a detailed report.

Councillor Mrs Swift circulated a report in Members' folders which advised that she had attended a Citizens Advice Bureau Cornwall Board meeting in addition to two sub group meetings and two Cornwall Association of Local Council Executive meetings.

The Town Clerk had attended a CALC Larger Council's Committee Meeting with Councillor Mrs Swift and a Society of Local Council Clerk's meeting.

The Mayor advised that he had not attended the scheduled Cornwall Area Network Panel meeting as it had been cancelled due to the adverse weather conditions.

402. 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.

Meeting closed at 9.44pm

Confirmed

Town Mayor