

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HELSTON TOWN COUNCIL**  
**HELD IN THE GUILDHALL, HELSTON**  
**ON THURSDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER 2010 AT 7.15 PM**

**Councillors:** R J L Boase (Town Mayor) in the Chair

R Williams  
Mrs S M E Swift  
N J C Devenish  
Mrs V J Matthew

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

J P Radford-Gaby  
Mrs W A Radford-Gaby

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

**267. Prayers**

The Meeting opened with Prayers offered by the Mayor's Chaplain, Canon David Miller.

**268. Apologies**

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

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

**269. Declarations of Interest**

The Mayor and Councillors Mrs Matthew and Mrs Boase declared a personal interest in Agenda item 13 as Members of the Helston & District Town Twinning Association.

The Mayor declared a personal interest in item 3 of the Town Clerk's Report (Agenda item 14) as a Member of the Christmas Lights Committee.

**270. Public Participation**

Mr Busby expressed concerns with the response from a number of Members when the Cornwall Councillor reported on the Number Plate Recognition System for the Recycling Centres to prevent the illegal disposal of trade waste.

Mr M Bywaters advised that townspeople were talking about whether twinning was good for them, but suggested they also needed to consider if twinning benefited the town. Mr Bywaters advised that people needed to be educated on the benefits of twinning and confirmed that if the Town Council promoted twinning then twinning could promote the town.

WPC Butcher entered the meeting at 7.27pm and the Mayor invited her to present her report which included recent crime figures and those for the corresponding period from the year previous.

Mr I Perry queried if the Police Authority cuts would affect the conduct of people in the Town. WPC Butcher referred Mr Perry to the Statement made by the Chief Constable that day.

Mr P Phillips suggested that, in addition to the obvious social and cultural benefits of twinning, Members needed to consider the vast educational benefits.

Mr Harris thanked Councillor Devenish for raising the issue of Standing Order 1.27 as he was of the opinion that meetings could be lengthy.

Ms H Thorn offered her support, as a local resident, for the twinning with Plougasnou and was of the opinion that it would be a benefit to schools and the town.

Mr I Perry spoke regarding the Town Centre Manager, the location of public disabled toilets and the proposed bus shelter in Coinagehall Street. The Town Clerk advised that he had met with the Cornwall Council Conservation Officer that week who had indicated a preferred design and he had also met with a company regarding a quotation for the fabrication of a shelter.

**271. Minutes**

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

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on the 16<sup>th</sup> September 2010 be approved and signed as a true record.

**272. Minutes of the Planning Committee**

On the proposition of Councillor J P Radford-Gaby, seconded by Councillor Mrs Matthew, it was

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on the 16<sup>th</sup> September and 7<sup>th</sup> October 2010, be received.

**273. Minutes of the Play Committee**

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

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Play Committee meeting held on the 13<sup>th</sup> September 2010, be received.

**274. Minutes of the Amenities Committee**

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

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting held on the 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2010, be received.

**275. Announcements**

The Town Clerk congratulated Miss Lavelle on achieving the AAT Intermediate Level qualification. The Town Clerk then advised Members that Code of Conduct Training would be taking place on 28<sup>th</sup> October and training on staffing matters was being held on 15<sup>th</sup> November and encouraged Members to attend.

The Mayor thanked the Deputy Mayor for representing him at the service for the laying up of the RAFA Helston Branch Standard.

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

### a) Local Cornwall Councillors

The Town Clerk advised that apologies had been received from Councillor Mrs Haycock and confirmed that a report had been provided which was circulated in Members' folders. The Town Clerk further advised that apologies had also been received from Councillor Robertson.

Councillor Wallis gave a detailed report during which he made particular mention to the Review of Car Parking which was going out for public consultation at the end of the month, a crossing to the fairground car park and available funds in his Community Grant Budget. Councillor Wallis then expressed concern regarding the bus service and requested Members' support for a better bus service for the town and surrounding areas. Councillor Mrs Swift advised that she agreed with the concerns raised by Councillor Wallis and, following a brief debate, it was proposed by Councillor Mrs Swift, seconded by the Mayor, and

RESOLVED – that the Town Council supported Councillor Wallis in pursuing the issues with First Bus Company.

Councillor Devenish raised concerns regarding the condition of the kennels, advising that several large granite kerb stones had been dislodged. He further expressed the opinion that Cornwall Council needed to acknowledge that the walls of the kennels were listed and it had a responsibility to maintain them. Councillor Devenish requested the support of Councillor Wallis and asked that he raise the issue with the other local Division Members.

Councillor J P Radford-Gaby queried what had happened to the road sweeper. The Town Warden advised that it had returned the previous day after a breakdown but it had broken down again and was expected to be back in service that day.

### b) Community Network Manager

Mrs C Chadwick provided a detailed report (circulated prior to the meeting) during which she made particular mention to the Youth Café 'Peoples Millions' Bid, the Citizenship for Life programme and the launch of the Loyalty Card Scheme. Mrs Chadwick then updated Members on the Credit Union launch, Active Partnering and the Citizenship programme. Mrs Chadwick also confirmed that the next Community Network Panel meeting to discuss Infrastructure would take place on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> November in the Breage area. Mrs Chadwick further advised that she had received a number of complaints regarding weeds growing around and out of the top of the Monument, which was being resolved with the assistance of the Phoenix Project and Mr K Stringer from the Fire Service.

Councillor Mrs Radford-Gaby thanked Mrs Chadwick for her assistance with the recent Youth meeting.

## **277. Questions from Members pursuant to Standing Order 8.1**

The Town Clerk advised that two questions had been received from Councillor Devenish. The Town Clerk confirmed that Councillor Devenish had sought an update on the request for information from Cornwall Council to allow Helston Town Council to progress the Active Partnering Bid. The Town Clerk advised that Mrs Chadwick had obtained some information and he was meeting with her on 12<sup>th</sup> November to discuss it.

The Town Clerk further advised that Councillor Devenish had queried if there had been any further communication with Mr S Wallace, Cornwall Council's Strategic Green Space Officer, regarding the Manor Close/ Tremenheere Avenue Play Area. The Town Clerk advised

that he had received a detailed response from Mr Wallace which indicated that there was Section 106 funding available for works to certain play areas and which also explained the demands placed on his department and the expected timescale for improvements to a play area generally. The Town Clerk confirmed that he would copy Mr Wallace's response to Members.

**278. Town Twinning arrangement between Helston and Plougasnou**

Councillor Mrs Matthew spoke on the potential twinning with Plougasnou to outline the benefits of the arrangement advising that, as it was located much closer to Helston, it was easier for sports groups and other community groups to visit and meet with their counterparts. Councillor Mrs Matthew further advised that a number of schools were interested in twinning with schools in Plougasnou. Councillor Mrs Matthew then confirmed that the Helston & District Town Twinning Association intended to hold a public meeting for volunteers to join a Plougasnou Twinning Committee if the Town Council supported the proposed twinning arrangement.

Following a detailed debate it was proposed by Councillor Mrs Matthew, seconded by Councillor J P Radford-Gaby, and

RESOLVED – that the Town Council supported a town twinning arrangement with Plougasnou within its Town Twinning budget.

**279. Report of the Town Clerk**

**(1) Cornwall Affordable Housing Development Plan Document**

Councillor Devenish advised that he had attended the Special Community Network meeting on affordable housing as the Town Council's representative and advised that Cornwall Council intended to encourage and facilitate the development of affordable housing. He then suggested that the Consultation be passed to the Planning Committee for consideration and reminded Members that all could attend to express their views. On the proposition of Councillor Devenish, seconded by the Mayor, it was unanimously

RESOLVED – that the consultation of the Cornwall Affordable Housing Development Plan Document be referred to the Planning Committee for completion on behalf of the Town Council.

**(2) 'Engaging Cornwall's Future' Event**

This item was noted.

**The Mayor declared a personal interest in the following item and requested that the Deputy Mayor took the Chair at 8.26pm.**

**(3) Christmas Lights**

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

RESOLVED – that 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 grant towards the Christmas Lights.

It was further proposed by Councillor J P Radford-Gaby, seconded by Councillor Thomas, and

RESOLVED – that the Christmas Lights Committee be given permission to utilise electricity from the Guildhall to power lights in that vicinity.

## **The Mayor resumed the Chair at 8.34pm**

### **(4) Pavements**

Following a brief debate it was proposed by Councillor Devenish, seconded by Councillor Pryor, and unanimously

RESOLVED – that the Town Clerk write to remind the Community Highway Steward that the Town Council had previously requested that the pavements within the town centre were not repaired with bitmac.

### **(5) Passmore Edwards Centenary**

This item was noted.

### **280. Report of the Town Warden**

The Mayor observed that the issue of discarded cigarette butts had decreased in various areas and expressed the opinion that the majority of premises owners had taken notice of the comments.

Councillor Devenish queried the blockage of the kennels and suggested that leaves be bagged up when cleared to prevent them re-entering the kennel.

Councillor Thomas expressed concern regarding the recent incidents of graffiti and enquired if the Police had been involved. The Town Warden replied in the affirmative.

### **281. Schedule of Accounts for Payment**

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

RESOLVED – that Account Nos. 213-263 inclusive as listed and set out as an Appendix to these Minutes, be certified for payment in the total sum of £23,761.95.

(Councillors Williams and Pryor declared an interest in Account Nos. 261 and 255 respectively.)

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

### **282. Attendance at Meetings**

Councillor Mrs Boase had attended a South Kerrier Alliance Core Group meeting and a Bulwark Road Residents Association meeting.

Councillor Mrs Matthew had attended a Nansloe Governors meeting and a Helston & Lizard Health Board meeting.

Councillor Devenish had attended the Special Community Network Panel meeting. Councillor Devenish advised that, on behalf of the Mayor, he had also attended a meeting with Truro City Council regarding Active Partnering and gave a detailed report.

Councillor Mrs Swift circulated a report at the meeting which indicated that she had attended three CALC Executive meetings, a CALC General Meeting, a Larger Local Councils Conference, a Larger Local Councils Liaison Group meeting and a West Cornwall Healthwatch meeting.

**283. 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.

**284. Exclusion of the Press and Public**

On the proposition of Councillor D C Swift, seconded by Councillor Mrs Boase, 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 item of business by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

**285. Helston Community Centre**

Members considered correspondence from the Helston & District Community Association (circulated prior to the meeting). A detailed debate ensued and it was then proposed by Councillor Devenish, seconded by Councillor D C Swift, and

RESOLVED – that the Motion be put to the vote.

It was proposed by Councillor Devenish, seconded by Councillor D C Swift, and

RESOLVED – that the Town Clerk write a letter to the Helston & District Community Association to advise that Members would consider a meeting if an offer in the region of £275,000 was received, as previously indicated, and the Council would continue to pursue the Court Hearing date.

**The Mayor and Councillors Mrs Matthew, Mrs Boase, Thomas, J P Radford-Gaby and Mrs Radford-Gaby abstained from the vote.**

It was further proposed by Councillor Devenish, seconded by Councillor D C Swift, and

RESOLVED – that the Council's solicitor instruct Counsel and be authorised to expend up to a maximum of £450.00.

**Councillor Thomas voted against the Motion.**

**Councillor Mrs Matthew, J P Radford-Gaby and Mrs Radford-Gaby abstained from the vote.**

**Meeting closed at 9.40pm**

**Confirmed**

**Town Mayor**