

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HELSTON TOWN COUNCIL
HELD IN THE GUILDHALL, HELSTON
ON THURSDAY 20TH SEPTEMBER 2018 AT 7.15 PM

Councillors: J Martin (Town Mayor) in the Chair

R Williams
R J L Boase
Mrs F N E Boase

M H Thomas
Mrs N Roberts
D J Potter

T E Grattan-Kane
R F Edgcumbe
M J Kenchington

Officers: Miss P J Lavelle (Deputy Town Clerk)
Mrs K Best (Administrative Assistant)
Mr M Searle (Projects Officer)

137. Prayers

The Meeting opened with Prayers offered by the Mayor. A Minutes silence was then held for Mr R Winfrey who had passed away that week.

138. Apologies

Apologies for non-attendance were received from Councillor Mrs Geer, Councillor Reverend Reed and the Town Clerk.

139. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Thomas declared an interest in account number 370 (Agenda item 20) on the Schedule of Payments.

140. Reports from Local Cornwall Councillors

Cornwall Councillor Martin advised that the Appeals had been allowed for the demolition of garages and construction of four dwellings at Oates Road and Trelawney Road. He then expressed concern with issues of vandalism within the town. Councillor Martin informed Members that he was investigating issues concerning noise and flooding at Degibna. He had attended the West Sub-Area Planning Committee and the Licensing Committee meetings during which the latest National and Local policy changes had been debated. He advised that, together with Councillor Thomas, he had met with senior Licensing Officers and discussed a strategy for taxis specifically for Helston. He confirmed that Cornwall Council's Full Council had debated the merger of Devon and Cornwall Police with Dorset and decided not to support the proposal.

Councillor Williams advised that the pathway between the hospital and Gunwalloe was becoming overgrown. Councillor Mrs Boase observed that there was insufficient directional signage when entering the town from the Lizard. Cornwall Councillor Martin advised that he would investigate the issues.

Cornwall Councillor Thomas advised that he had been involved in a number of individual case issues and had attended meetings of Cornwall Council committees. He confirmed that the lack of water in the kennels was due to water levels in the River Cober but they would remain closed on Godolphin Road due to the forthcoming resurfacing works.

The Deputy Town Clerk advised that apologies had been received from Cornwall Councillor Wallis who had reported that he was working to resolve parking issues in the residential estate near Coronation Park.

141. Public Participation

A resident of Trenance Close thanked the Council for considering taking over the maintenance of the area of unused land outside her house.

A member of public advised that the kennels would go dry every summer as there was insufficient supply to meet the demand for water. Councillor Thomas thanked him for explaining and expressed concern as this was an important issue.

142. Minutes

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

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 19th July 2018 be approved and signed as a true record.

Councillor Kenchington abstained from the vote as he had not been present at the meeting.

143. Minutes of the Planning Committee

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

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on 19th July, 2nd August and 6th September 2018, be received.

144. Minutes of the Amenities Committee

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

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting held on 26th July 2018, be received.

145. Minutes of the Policy, Finance & Resources Committee

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

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Policy, Finance & Resources Committee meeting held on 11th September 2018, be received.

146. Announcements

The Mayor advised Members that he had attended the Helston Harvest Festival and Hellys International Guitar Festival thanking the organisers for all their hard work. He also thanked everyone who was involved in the Football Golf, organised by the Mayoress, which raised £320.00 for his chosen charities. The Mayor also encouraged everyone to visit the ‘Helston Makes It’ exhibition and thanked those who had attended the Freedom Parade held that morning.

The Deputy Town Clerk read a letter of thanks from a member of public regarding the new bench that was installed outside St Michael’s Church in dedication to two Police men who lost their lives in a storm in 1978.

147. Adoption of Trenance Close Open Space

Councillor Thomas advised that the Trenance Close open space was in a very poor condition and was no longer maintained confirming that there appeared to be no records of ownership. He suggested that the Town Council take over maintenance of the area. The Projects Officer confirmed the procedure for taking over the land under the General Power of Competence advising that notices would need to be placed in the area for 28 days to allow anyone who owns the land to object. He also advised that if the Town Council took over this area it would have a legal responsibility to keep it maintained. Councillor Thomas advised that, if the area was taken over by the Town Council, residents would be consulted on proposals for the area.

Following a brief debate it was proposed by Councillor Thomas, seconded by Councillor Mrs Boase, and unanimously

RESOLVED – that the Town Council take action pursuant to the General Power of Competence regarding the maintenance of the Trenance Close Open Space.

148. Provision of Footpath/Cycleway

Following a brief discussion and on the proposition of Councillor Thomas, seconded by the Mayor, it was unanimously

RESOLVED – that on behalf of Helston Town Council, the Town Clerk write to Cornwall Council requesting that, in line with the ‘Connecting Cornwall Implementation Plan 2015-2019’ (Pub 2015), the provision of a footpath/cycleway on the A394 between Gwealdues Roundabout and the Rugby Club Roundabout be placed on a future work list as soon as possible.

149. Devon and Cornwall Police with Dorset Police Merger

Councillor Thomas advised that he had requested the item on the Agenda to give Members the opportunity to express their views regarding the proposed merger. A brief debate ensued during which Councillor Grattan-Kane expressed the opinion that there was no detail of how the merger would reduce crime or increase the police presence in Helston.

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

RESOLVED – that a letter be sent to the Police and Crime Commissioner to express the Town Council’s concerns with the lack of consultation and the lack of available information regarding the proposed merger of Devon and Cornwall Police with Dorset Police.

150. Report of the Projects Officer

The Projects Officer updated Members on his report (circulated prior to the meeting) to advise that the Heritage Trail leaflets were ready to be printed and confirmed that the launch would be on Friday 19th October 2018 which would include a shortened tour of the trail, a presentation and refreshments. He also advised that Phase 2 of the Heritage Trail Project would be to improve the website and introduce a phone app.

The Mayor thanked the Projects Officer for his efforts.

151. Report of the Town Clerk

(1) Grants

a) Determination of whether a grant would be awarded

It was agreed to award a grant to each of the following organisations:-

- i) 3 (Helston) Squadron, RAF Air Cadets
- ii) Helford River Children's Sailing Trust
- iii) Helston – Lizard Rotary Club
- iv) Helston Town Band
- v) Merlin MS Centre
- vi) South Kerrier Alliance CIC
- vii) St Michael's C of E Primary School

The Council decided not to award a grant to the following organisations on this occasion:-

- i) Argyle Community Trust
- ii) Kernow Credit Union
- iii) Portheden CIC

b) Determination of amount of grant funding awarded

- i) 3 (Helston) Squadron, RAF Air Cadets

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

RESOLVED – that a grant of £100.00 be awarded to 3 (Helston) Squadron, RAF Air Cadets for the purchase of replacement rechargeable batteries for Hand Held Radios.

- ii) Helford River Children's Sailing Trust

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

RESOLVED – that a grant of £440.00 be awarded to Helford River Children's Sailing Trust for the contribution to sailing fees for pupils from Parc Eglos School and St Michael's School.

- iii) Helston – Lizard Rotary Club

It was proposed by Councillor Potter, seconded by Councillor Kenchington, and unanimously

RESOLVED – that a grant of £1,000.00 be awarded to Helston – Lizard Rotary Club for the supplies needed to clean the white wash walls.

- iv) Merlin MS Centre

It was proposed by Councillor Thomas, seconded by Councillor Kenchington, and unanimously

RESOLVED – that a grant of £300.00 be awarded to Merlin MS Centre for transportation of people with neurological conditions to Merlin MS Centre.

v) South Kerrier Alliance CIC

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

RESOLVED – that a grant of £1,500.00 be awarded to South Kerrier Alliance CIC for the refurbishment of Coronation Park Skate Park.

Councillor Grattan-Kane requested that his abstention from the vote be recorded.

vi) St Michael's C of E Primary School

It was proposed by Councillor Kenchington, seconded by Councillor Williams, that a grant of £800.00 be awarded to St Michael's C of E Primary School for play equipment.

An Amendment was proposed by Councillor Mrs Boase, seconded by Councillor Thomas, that a grant of £500.00 be awarded to St Michael's C of E Primary School for school equipment. The Amendment was carried and became the Substantive Motion and it was unanimously

RESOLVED – that a grant of £500.00 be awarded to St Michael's C of E Primary School for play equipment.

vii) Helston Town Band

It was proposed by Councillor R J L Boase, seconded by Councillor Potter, and unanimously

RESOLVED – that a grant of £1,000.00 be awarded to Helston Town Band towards the costs of attending contests and competitions and the cost of the band's professional Musical Director.

(2) Storage Unit

The Deputy Town Clerk advised that the Mayor and Deputy Mayor had agreed to the reservation of a twenty foot storage container at Helston Fabrications at a cost of £120 per month. The Deputy Town Clerk answered questions regarding the unit. This item was noted.

152. Schedule of Accounts for Payment

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

RESOLVED – that Account Nos. 264-318 inclusive as listed and set out as an Appendix to these Minutes, in the total sum of £66,873.78 be received and Account Nos. 319-376 inclusive as listed and set out as an Appendix to these Minutes, in the total sum of £33,221.09 be certified for payment.

Councillor Thomas requested that his abstention from the vote be recorded.

153. Attendance at Meetings

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

RESOLVED – that the written reports submitted by Councillors Potter and Grattan-Kane be received.

154. Items for the next Agenda

The Mayor requested that Members contact the Town Clerk’s office at least two days prior to the agenda being distributed to place items on the following Full Council Agenda.

Meeting closed at 9.15pm

Confirmed

Town Mayor