

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HELSTON TOWN COUNCIL**  
**HELD IN THE GUILDHALL, HELSTON**  
**ON THURSDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2019 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 G A Geer  
Mrs N Roberts  
D J Potter  
T E Grattan-Kane

R F Edgcumbe  
M J Kenchington

**Officers:** Mr C Dawson (Town Clerk)  
Miss P J Lavelle (Deputy Town Clerk)  
Mr M Searle (Projects Officer)

**273. Prayers**

The Meeting opened with Prayers offered by Councillor Thomas.

**274. Apologies**

An apology for non-attendance was received from Councillor Reverend D P Reed.

**275. Declarations of Interest**

Councillors R J L Boase and Mrs Boase declared an interest in A/c no. 609.

Councillor Thomas declared an interest in A/c no. 617 but advised that this was an authorised expense.

**276. Reports from Local Cornwall Councillors**

Cornwall Councillor Martin advised that it had been a busy month for the West Sub-Area Planning Committee and gave details of a contentious planning application for Penryn. He informed Members that he had been involved in Licensing Committee meetings which were discussing amendments to update the Licensing Act Procedures. He confirmed these amendments would be presented at the following week's Full Council meeting and advised that Cornwall Council would also be considering the climate change proposal at that meeting. Councillor Martin advised that he still had some Community Chest funding remaining and encouraged anyone interested to apply.

**Councillor Williams entered the meeting at 7.19pm**

Cornwall Councillor Thomas advised that he had also attended the West Sub Area Planning Committee meeting and had been involved in several casework items. Councillor Thomas advised that he continued to pursue the connectivity for Helston in respect of the B3297 and his investigations with the leats and kennels was ongoing. He advised that concerns had been raised as the kennels were not flowing currently and confirmed that this was due to a break in the kennel which Cornwall Council was investigating with a camera being used to view the damage. Councillor Thomas advised that he also had Community Chest funding available. Councillor Thomas advised that he was a Member of the Community Governance Review Panel at Cornwall Council and confirmed that the role of Cornwall Councillors who also were members of Parish and Town Councils was to be discussed at the first meeting. He advised that he had also agreed to be a Digital Advocate, briefly outlining the role, and had also attended a Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee which had discussed budgetary issues and were considering the issue of transport for young people with a suggestion that travel cards be provided for people aged 16 to 19.

**277. Public Participation**

A member of the public expressed concern with Cornwall Council's proposed increase in car parking charges throughout Cornwall which had been reported in the local newspaper and expressed the opinion that if the parking fee was reduced more people would use the car parks. He also expressed concern that possibly charges might be imposed on the Fairground Car Park which was currently free. The Town Clerk advised that he had seen no indication that there would be a charge imposed on the Fairground Car Park confirming that the only change he was aware of was a restriction on overnight parking for motor caravans. Councillor Thomas advised that he would investigate the concerns further.

A member of the public and a representative of Transition Helston raised concerns with the impact of climate change giving details of current and future effects both globally and locally. They advised that it was not too late to mitigate the change briefly giving examples of methods that could be used and requested that Helston Town Council declare a climate change emergency and take action to help resolve the issue. The Mayor advised that Cornwall Council was discussing the subject the following week and he felt it would only be appropriate for the Town Council to discuss it after this time so the countywide strategy could be developed before drafting the town strategy.

**278. Minutes**

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

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on the 20<sup>th</sup> December 2018 be approved and signed as a true record.

**279. Minutes of the Planning Committee**

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

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on the 20<sup>th</sup> December 2018, be received.

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

The Town Clerk advised that the Minutes included a recommendation that Standing Order 1.14 be amended to allow non-Committee Members to attend a committee meeting, take part in a debate but not vote.

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

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Policy, Finance & Resources Committee meeting held on the 8<sup>th</sup> January 2019, be received and the recommendation accepted.

It had been proposed by Councillor R J L Boase, seconded by Councillor Kenchington, that the recommendation be called in for further discussion. The Motion failed.

**281. Announcements**

The Mayor advised that he had visited Helston Community Hospital and the Care Homes in December for his Christmas visits and expressed his respect for the efforts of the staff who gave their patients and residents the best possible support. He advised that he had also enjoyed giving out the prizes and certificates for the best Christmas shop window display, expressing his thanks to the Helston CIC for organising the competition which he understood would be repeated the following year. The Mayor further advised that he had been pleased to present Helston Food Bank with £785 raised during his Christmas collection.

**282. Community Governance Review**

The Town Clerk queried if the Members wanted Helston to be included in the review and if so what they wanted reviewed. Following a brief debate it was proposed by Councillor Grattan-Kane, seconded by Councillor Kenchington, and

RESOLVED – that Helston Town Council requested that Helston be included in the Community Governance Review and the parish boundary, the number of Councillors and the parish warding arrangements be reviewed.

**283. Strategic Plan 2019-2023**

The Town Clerk advised that the Policy, Finance and Resources Committee had considered and amended the Strategic Plan at their last meeting and were recommending the revised document to Full Council. A brief debate ensued during which it was agreed to increase both Green Helston and Plastic-Free Helston to high priorities.

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

RESOLVED – that the Strategic Plan 2019-2023, as amended, be adopted.

**284. Report of the Projects Officer**

The Projects Officer updated Members on his report (circulated prior to the meeting) to advise that details of the request for Expressions of Interest to trade at the proposed market events had been included in the local press. Councillor Mrs Geer expressed the opinion that it would be useful to know the days, times and costings for the proposed market to obtain further interest. The Projects Officer advised that a specific day or tariff had not yet been set as he wanted to discuss the options with the interested parties.

The Projects Officer further advised that he had met with an app developer regarding Phase 2 of the Heritage Trail, with other meetings arranged, and hoped to be able to report back in the near future. The Projects Officer confirmed that he was still seeking funding for the ‘Our Granite Heart’ initiative and expressed the opinion that it was good news that Cornwall Council had committed funding to the resurfacing of the Castle Hill steps in the current financial year.

**285. Report of the Town Clerk**

**(1) Plastic Free Communities**

Following a brief debate it was proposed by Councillor Mrs Geer, seconded by Councillor Kenchington, and

RESOLVED – that Helston Town Council:

- a) supported the Plastic Free Communities campaign;
- b) endorsed the Resolution of the Amenities Committee to limit the Council’s usage of single use plastics and source sustainable alternatives; and
- c) encouraged plastic free initiatives within the town and committed to promoting the campaign and supporting its events.

The Mayor agreed to be the Town Council’s representative on the Plastic Free Community Steering Group and Councillor Thomas agreed to act as Deputy.

**(2) Cornwall Council 2019 Off-Street Parking Order**

Following a brief debate it was proposed by Councillor Williams, seconded by Councillor Mrs Roberts, and unanimously

RESOLVED – that Helston Town Council accepted the proposed amendments to the Cornwall Council 2019 Off-Street Parking Order in respect of Helston.

### **(3) Helston CIC Representative**

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

RESOLVED – that Councillor Mrs Geer be appointed as a representative of Helston Town Council on the Helston CIC.

Councillor Kenchington advised that he had resigned as the Town Council's representative due to time constraints confirming that he did not have any problems with the CIC who were an excellent group of people that were very dedicated to their aims and he hoped to continue to work with the group in the future.

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

On the proposition of Councillor Mrs Geer, seconded by Councillor Kenchington, it was

RESOLVED – that Account Nos. 572-625 inclusive as listed and set out as an Appendix to these Minutes, be certified for payment in the total sum of £27,519.29.

### **287. Attendance at Meetings**

Members considered a report by Councillor Potter on the activities of Helston CIC (circulated prior to the meeting). Councillor Potter explained the CIC's request for the Council to underwrite the cost of selling advertising opportunities for the 'Discover Helston' magazine to a maximum of £500. The consensus view was to support the request and the Town Clerk confirmed that an item would be placed on the following Full Council Agenda to ratify the decision.

### **288. Exclusion of the Press and Public**

On the proposition of Councillor Thomas, seconded by Councillor Grattan-Kane, 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.

### **289. Confidential Report of the Projects Officer**

#### **(1) Trenance Close Amenity Land**

Members considered the Project Officer's report (circulated prior to the meeting) and Councillor Thomas updated Members on his research. Following a detailed debate it was agreed that Councillor Thomas continue to pursue the matter for another month.

**Meeting closed at 9.14pm**

**Confirmed**

**Town Mayor**